

**Abstract**

In my thesis, I am researching those architectural behaviours and ways of expression that can be up-to-date and still keep and forward persistent architectural values. My thesis is based on an eighteen year long creative process, where the first emerging „architectural creative urge” formed in architectural creations. In my thesis I explore some manifestations of continuity and renovation in architecture, possibilities to represent traditional architectural values in contemporary ways. In my thesis, which I consider a part of my creative process, I explore questions and answers through buildings that I designed or visited. Through the presented examples I research how the buildings with values coming from the past can remain authentic. I make a list of some representations of tradition in contemporary architecture, analyse how tradition can be a source of treasury beside its two-facedness. The way of using tradition, defining the connection to it is a basic question. Exploring the interrelation of old and new, analysing, thinking over, and define the essential architectural elements are the base of defining contemporary ways of expressing tradition. Revival of old within new is essential for the collected experience to remain and regenerate in present. This change strongly belongs to tradition. Tradition should communicate with the constantly changing world around or else it becomes archaic. If change keeps the base that works well for a long time and led by the will to improve can lead to real progress. Timeless architecture is timeless because its strong spiritual content, or it is able to change, reform. Ability to change, reform continuously means a constant control with the environment. In this relation building react to its environment. The essential architectural qualities remain, but change in time, and this ability gives their timelessness. The contemporary architectural creation that expressed with essential architectural qualities can become sincere, uniform, and unique.

I define basic architectural qualities, that define „architectural creative urge” as silence, correlation, and context, and demonstrate these within my designs.

T I M E L E S S  
*and*  
C O N T E M P O R A R Y

*Subjective interpretation of tradition's continuity in  
contemporary architecture*

DLA thesis

Sajtos Gábor

### 1st thesis - THE TWO FACES OF TRADITION

If don't just pick something we like from the „lumber room“, but analyse context and look for reasons, we can use tradition as a treasury for contemporary architecture.



### 4th thesis - SILENCE

Silence is not equal to forgetting, silence feeds on the value of tradition. Silence is the power of being quiet. The message is not expressed with harsh exhibitionism. The essence of architecture is revealed by the power of silence, it reinforces the traditional, essential qualities of it. Silence helps to concentrate on the substance, beyond the surface.



### 2nd thesis - REPETITION, CONTINUITY

Repetition does not mean mockery, not necessarily lead to losing originality. The architect's creative self helps to keep continuity by implanting traditional elements, yet remaining original and up-to-date.



### 5th thesis - CORRELATION

Built and natural landscape has an effect on forwarding the traditional values of built environment. A contemporary building standing in a traditional environment can also be in close connection with the landscape, be authentic and become a part of the cultural heritage.



### 3rd thesis - RENEWAL

Using tradition as a starting point does not mean copying the old. Archaism is not a ones attitude, architecture should not be formalistic, tradition cannot be used mechanically.



### 6th thesis - CONTEXT

Relation to the existing is a determining architectural mean of expression. The existing is a given factor, defined condition. The emerging new is not arising from „nothing“, the relation to existing classifies the emerging new. The physical and spiritual connection between existing and new, or their context are important architectural qualities.

