

STUDIO OSLO FILIPSTAD

NTNU IBP
CHAIR OF ARCHITECTURE AND URBAN DESIGN
PROF. KERSTIN HÖGER

NTNU FACULTY OF ARCHITECTURE AND URBAN DESIGN
DEPARTMENT OF URBAN DESIGN AND PLANNING

STUDIO OSLO FILIPSTAD: ADAPTABLE WATERFRONT
MASTERSTUDIO AAR4515 URBAN DESIGN AND ARCHITECTURE
FALL SEMESTER 2015

PROF. KERSTIN HÖGER
GEIR BRENDELAND
MARIO VAHOS
MAGNUS JØRGENSEN

PARTNERS

AHO OSLO SCHOOL OF ARCHITECTURE
PBE OSLO KOMMUNE
OSLO HAVN
ROM EIENDOM
A-LAB
RODEO ARKITEKTER

STUDIO BRIEF

The studio seeks innovative urban and architectural projects for the transformation of the former harbour area Oslo Filipstad into an urban waterfront. Under the guiding theme of “The Adaptable City”, we aspire to combine informal and formal modes of urbanism, temporary and permanent structures, self-organized initiatives and top-down planning, reJecting architecture as a process and not merely as an object.

Oslo is a growing city and over the last decades its urban fabric has been extended towards the water. Filipstad is part of the Fjordbyen project, a plan to transform the harbour areas into future-oriented mixed-use developments. Yet in contrast to the high-end development of Aker Brygge, Tjuvholmen and Bjørvika, the studio envisions process-oriented proposals for a lively waterfront, in which existing and new architecture, different social groups and everyday activities can thrive and interweave.

The former container terminal on Filipstad has been relocated to the South of the city to provide space for urban development. Up till today, the area is characterized by distinctive industrial architecture, including port structures, warehouses, piers, terminals, freight lines, the ALI coffee roasting factory and the Heftye Villa. Some of the existing structures are vacant and form waiting lands to be reactivated. Based on the unique character of Filipstad, the studio will develop concepts for a diverse urban waterfront that relates to its built and natural context, by respecting the idiosyncrasies and many identities already present on the site. The water landscape serves as living place, the terminals as transition area, and the historic ensembles as reminiscence. These spaces as well as the special scenery on the fjord allow for a wide variety of places, atmospheres and sensual experiences on Filipstad. The main design task is to develop urban design and architecture proposals for the site. Major topics will be the activation through a mixture of informal and formal, temporary and permanent, small and large scale interventions.

How can we create spaces that act as catalysts for the urban transformation of Filipstad and serve the needs of the growing population of Oslo? The existing qualities and buildings on Filipstad constitute significant resources, which can be enhanced in a number of ways. Present and new actors can become urban pioneers: the ALI coffee factory could be converted into a culture house, warehouses adopted for temporary uses, harbour piers adapted for recreational activities, and the Heftye Park converted for urban gardening. In a first stage, the studio will elaborate proposal for the urban activation of Filipstad. In a second stage, the consolidated structures will then be complemented with formal urban development: new buildings for living, working and leisure can fill empty lots or be wrapped around existing spaces.

In the future, Filipstad has to be reconceived as a connective place, where the past merges with the future, and the city meets the fjord. The goal is to create an adaptable urban waterfront that transforms over time into a vanguard complement to the city’s more traditional identity. The studio asks for visionary projects that contribute to the sustainable development of Filipstad as well as foster the debate about the adaptable city and novel spaces on the water.

The studio will be conducted with the Oslo School of Architecture, DARK and Rodeo Architects as well as in exchange with the local stakeholders and actors, who are already involved in the development of Filipstad.







