

MANIFESTO

Cultura Ciudadana

by
Eva Rodriguez

Antanas Mockus was the mayor of Bogotá city for two terms, in 1995 and 2000. He was known for being eccentric and communicating through symbols, humor, and metaphors.

"As mayor I felt that I assumed a fascinating pedagogical task: learning and teaching in a community of seven million people. I decided to confront the culture of the city, its languages, perceptions, customs, clichés and especially people's excuses." -Mockus

"What would an artist do?" was his motto. If that one failed, a humanist motto came to the rescue: "When you are stuck, reinterpret."

Doris Sommer, in her book *"The work of Art in the World"*, states how Mockus' creativity brought culture close to morality and the law.

"We governed with a combination of imagination and freedom, with classical administrative rationalism: planning, specifying objectives, providing timely responses, consulting affected parties and then budgeting and monitoring the execution of our policies." -Mockus

He began to discover how to transform the cultural regulation of interactions among citizens and between citizens and government officials, and how to adjust these interactions and bring them closer to the law.

"Bogotá is a city of great moral and cultural diversity, but we were learning to operate por las buenas, using positive incentives and a baseline of shared norms." -Mockus

He described Cultura Ciudadana as a piano with six main keys: Legal Sanctions, Protection of Rights, Guilt, Moral Sanction, Social Recognition, and Shame.

"We were changing what I call the citizenship culture. The term *"citizenship culture"* reflects our efforts to strengthen and harmonize the three regulatory systems of human behavior: law, morality and culture. This means reducing moral and cultural justifications for illegal behavior and increasing moral and cultural support for the law. -Mockus

Mockus, Antanas. "Building Citizenship Culture in Bogotá." *Journal of International Affairs* 65, no. 2 (2012): 143-46. <https://doi.org/https://www.jstor.org/stable/24388227>.

MAELSTROM

More Ethics in Architecture

by
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The first day of class we were asked: "What is important to you?". At first, I struggled a bit to come up with just one thing, as there are many things that are important to me, but after a few minutes I remembered why I chose to study architecture. I found architecture as the career aligned with the things that really matter to me: protection of the environment, development of my community and art.

With this video I want to raise awareness of how Architecture has the power to transform our communities and build sustainable environments; but sometimes this power is lost when we fall into the realm of unethical issues. Sometimes our actions and desires are guided by the perception we have of what a successful architect looks like, and we admire those architects who are praised in architectural magazines for building the tallest buildings in the world, without worrying about the social, economic, and environmental impact those buildings have; we forget that acclamation and aesthetics are not everything. It is true that a beautiful building can inspire people and transform communities, but what about the environmental cost? Sometimes architects get carried away by their personal interests and forget what is important and fall into the world of the unethical.

This manifesto is a call to all architects and future architects, that it is time to wake up and follow the ethical foundations of our profession, to always seek the good of the community. We have a duty to our society and the world we are living in. So, I ask: what are we building? Are we thinking of the people we are designing for? I challenge architects to design buildings which speak to their context and community, considering their place in the environment, upholding justice and equality of access to build the health and happiness of the people and place which will be impacted by their work.

A **maelström** is a powerful whirlpool – a dangerous swirling of the sea that sucks everything down into its watery spiral. In this seminar, the maelstrom is a model for architectural theory, imagination and agency – an integrative and creative force – a risky and revelatory mode of panoramic vision.

A **manifesto** is a short, punchy declaration of desires and demands, provocations and protests: a call to action and/or a call to pause, think and act differently.

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