

From Form to Metamorphose on the Architecture of Portuguese Estado Novo

Luís Cunha JORGE

PhD candidate in Architecture, Lisbon School of Architecture, University of Lisbon, Portugal. E-mail: lcljorge@gmail.com ORCID: 0000-0002-7233-4283

Pedro JANUÁRIO

Auxiliary Professor, Research Group OBATI, CIAUD Research Center, Lisbon School of Architecture, University of Lisbon, Portugal. E-mail: arq.pedro.januario@gmail.com ORCID: 0000-0002-8363-461X

Abstract

By possessing the intrinsic ability to reflect social, political, and cultural changes, architecture constitutes a privileged means of expression for understanding the ideas and values of a society, simultaneously influencing and transforming both culture and society through the construction of images and identities. In the 20th century, these attributes were widely explored by European nationalist regimes, of which the Portuguese *Estado Novo* was no exception, despite the constraints and unfavorable landscape that prevailed in Portugal.

In this sense, architectural form acquires relevance through the appropriation that the State establishes with Architecture, recognizing its potential and effectiveness in constructing and expressing identities and aesthetics. As a result of this strategy, the Portuguese *Estado Novo* transformed and adapted pre-existing forms and elements, as well as values that were considered more representative of the nation, to express and legitimize its ideology and vision of society.

To understand the metamorphoses and transformations of the architectural forms present in the initial phase of the *Estado Novo*, it is important, in the first phase, to analyze the issue of form in a theoretical sense. In a second phase, directed towards the Portuguese case, we seek to evaluate the practical application of these arguments to understand the context's role in the formation of the architectural language of the *Estado Novo*.

Keywords: Architecture; Identity; Estado Novo; Transformation; Architectural language