

Living, Eating & Cooking

A correspondence between 100 architects about housing

Chicago, February 15 2008

Dear Architects

The Col·legi d'Arquitectes de Catalunya's Cultural Activities Department of the Province of Barcelona has commissioned me to curate and design an exhibition entitled *Dwelling, Eating, Cooking*.

This exhibition is part of a series of exhibits that deal with different aspects of housing. The exhibit is intended to look at daytime domestic spaces, traditionally understood as living room, dining room and kitchen.

I had proposed to provide a selection of architectural examples of these spaces by asking a group of architects, with whom I have had dealings during my professional and academic career, both as a student and later as an educator. This selection covers professionals from different generations with experience in housing issues, in the professional field as well as in academic and theoretical ones. Given my current relationship with both Barcelona and Chicago, this exhibition offers an opportunity, with the participation of architects from these two cities, to obtain two views from the

perspective of two different cultures. Cultures that have always generated mutual fascination and desire, maybe sometimes mythicized by certain images offered by the world of cinema or TV.

It is for this reason that I am asking you for your contribution by selecting two historic or contemporary examples, not of your own work, which for you are significant as regards the living room, dining room and kitchen spaces: one in a multi-unit housing project and one in a single family house. The only conditions are that it has to be a built project, in the territory of the United States; there is no limit with regard to the period of time in which this project was built. An important part of this information is a very brief personal comment about the reason for your selection.

Thank you in advance for your response and participation

Sincerely, Xavier Vendrell

