

## Editorial

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Now that 2017 has started, even the spring has arrived. It's time to take a moment to consider how we can make this year better than the last. Time is going by so fast. I am sure I am not the only one who feels this way. So, we should enjoy the life we have, and live it.

For example, the spring is the season for love. Believe me, I am scientifically speaking. In spring, birds are singing, bees are buzzing and people are falling madly in love. If you're a scientist though, the love sickness can be blamed on one very real thing.

"It's dopamine," says Helen Fischer, a neuroscientist, professor at Rutgers University and author of five books on the science of love. Fischer says dopamine is a naturally occurring chemical your brain uses to make you want things. Especially, when it comes to new love, dopamine is the main guilty. And with enough of it swirling around your system, you're prone to fall in love and fall hard.

"And there's so much novelty in the spring," said Fischer. "There is so much more color, new smells, people take their clothes off and you can see more of them. And so there is a lot of new stimuli that trigger the brain and drive up dopamine, and make you more susceptible to love."

So, it is really a good time to be in love...with somebody, with something or with your life of every minute. No matter how old are you, do not miss this opportunity as Oktay Rifat did:

Trees were abloom / Ağaçlar çiçekteydi  
Türkan, still alive, to my right / Türkan'ım sağ beraberimde  
My heart was in love / Kalbim sevda içindeydi  
İstanbul was in spring / İstanbul bahar içinde...

With the energy that spring brings, let's glance at the articles of this issue of

A|Z ITU Journal of Faculty of Architecture:

Bülent Onur Turan, Kemal Şahin and Ümit Işıklıdağ, shared one of their research on algorithmic thinking and parametric design abilities of the designers. They utilised two data collection tools, an attitude scale and a web based questionnaire, to understand the attitudes of the participants towards design-by-coding.

Kerem Beygo and Mehmet Ali Yüzer, introduce a method for energy performance assessment of a new development area in the planning phase, in their paper. They assessed energy performance of an urban plan designed for a development area of Milas by using several building parameters.

Ehsan Abshirini and Daniel Koch, syntactically analyze the resilience in cities by using the space syntax, in their essay. They innovatively introduce two measures; similarity and sameness. These measures are in relation with the syntactical properties of cities and compare the degree of resilience between different groups. The results show that the resilience, in the way they define it, is different in different cities depending on in which view and based on which parameters we are discussing the resilience. Additionally, they manifest morphological phenomena such as rivers have a great impact on the structure of cities and in turn on their resilience.

Ebru Firidin Özgür, Sinem Seçer, Barış Göğüş and Tolga Sayın discuss the basic characteristics of public spaces in terms of user profiles and user habits in Istanbul in two distinctive districts in Asian side: Kadıköy and Ataşehir. The findings of field research are interesting in terms of similar profiles of users, and quite different with regard to user habits in both cases.

Edmond Manahasa and Ahsen Özsoy study the environmental behaviors of Tirana dwellers in a former socialist period neighborhood which has been the subject of a project called "Rebirth of the City". They try to expose the relationship of the dwellers and

their place attachment to the neighborhood during the socialist and post-socialist period.

Şebnem Ertaş and Aslı Taş, examine the effect of spatial changes occurred dependent on time on frontage construct in houses where non-Muslim people who were exposed to population exchange and Muslim people who were settled to the houses which were quit after population exchange in the settlement of Sille that is connected to the city of Konya.

Seda Erdem and Nihal Arıoğlu analyze the composite material which is produced by adding polyethylene terephthalate fibers that are recycled products manufactured from recycled PET bottles. Test results show that with the addition of fiber the flexural strength of gypsum has somewhat decreased but the addition of the adherence-enhancing additive has considerably increased the compressive and flexural strength.

Tuğba Gülfem Kaya and Mustafa Erkan Karagüler, in their article, present experimentally and theoretically approach to the effect of relative humidity and moisture to the durability of spruce and laminated timber during to drying and wetting exposure.

Parmonangan Manurung, in her essay, aims to find the relationship between the spatial patterns generated through Aluk Todolo belief and the quantity/quality of daylighting obtained based on light measurements and the review of the various theories on daylighting. The method used in this research is quantitative by measuring the quantity of daylight. This is

supplemented by a review of theories about Aluk Todolo belief and architecture of Tongkonan within the framework of the theories of daylighting.

The last article of this issue, written by Murat Çetin, argues the role of interior spaces in linking the urban open space configuration. The interior space is discussed as extensions of urban spaces and urban spaces as extensions of interiors with specific reference to a case study selected in Balıkesir urban fabric. Under the light shed by these discussions, the paper questions the certainty of boundaries between exterior and interior, thus between interior design and architecture.

Finally, I would like to thank all our readers for the support they provide to the Journal. We really look forward your comments, contributions, suggestions and criticisms. Please do not hesitate to share with us your feelings and especially, let us know if you have ideas or topics that we could be focusing on.

I would like to end my lines with another poet of love, Orhan Veli. I really have no idea about the reason of my romance. Maybe, it is really related with dopamine as Fischer said, maybe just the spring mist in the air, seen from my window, or the real answer is hidden in the lines of the poetry. Enjoy your reading and meet with us again in next issue on July 2017.

It is something impossible to write a poem / *İmkansız şey şiir yazmak*  
If you are in love / *Aşıksan eğer*  
And not to write / *Ve yazmamak*  
If the month is April / *Aylardan nisan-*  
*sa...*