*Project Name:*

the influence of covid-19 on the dissolution of domestic boundaries

*Explanation:*

In the 19th century, cholera influenced the modern street grid. In 1855, the bubonic plague changed the design of everything, from door thresholds to building foundations, in the war against the rat. The wipe-clean aesthetic of modernism was partly the result of tuberculosis. Similarly, the current pandemic could be the driver for new approaches towards design.

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COVID-19 has shed light on the fact that the way we build is in dire need of re-evaluation, highlighting the need for rediscovery of a crucial role in architecture - to understand and respond to today's society.

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Our time in quarantine exposed new dynamics which change the notions of leisure and work, dissolving domestic boundaries. Activities which were previously separate from the home became absorbed by it, creating a new hybrid entity that exists in relation to its context. Through this environmental adaptation, the home has been restructured to respond to contemporary necessities, a phenomenon which emphasises the importance of designing for change.

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Our time in isolation has caused us to appreciate the importance of human interaction, the lack of which has produced a multitude of responses in people all over the world - singing together from private terraces, playing 'tombla' with neighbours on individual balconies, even seeking interaction through the confines of a small, damp shaft.

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Therefore, this project puts forward a strategy for residential design in a post-coronavirus world, illustrated through the implementation of said strategy to one particular site in Xghajra, on Malta's South-East coast.