

15 March, 2021

Letter of Reference: Deniz Güvendi

My acquaintance with Deniz Güvendi is through her contribution in two of my competition projects. Both projects are outstanding in their program and in the outcome: SCADA building for the solar farm in Konya Karapınar received Jury's Special Selection Award; Mimar Sinan commemoration project competition for Uskudar Province is still in evaluation period.

Deniz took part as designer and illustrator in the SCADA project and was responsible for the model, movie and renders in the latter one. Both projects required high level of visual and technical skills; and demanded powerful communication abilities. This was challenging to Deniz as it was to us during these remote working environments, however she handled it gracefully and diligently, working hard-headed to deadlines and presenting with attentive mood in meetings with group members. Especially the Mimar Sinan project with project members from 6 disciplines and two continents, has been a learning experience on design production and management for us all.

At our studio, Tuspa NK design practices, we deploy what I call inter-scalar systemic operations; multi-level research and design investigations that run in between scales and networks. By integrating serial sessions of diagramming that engage with the variable sets of a project we assess the physical and conceptual gradient qualities of the material, the site, and the program in a scientific methodology. Each session brings about another proposal and therefore enables to further clarify the range and the rates of the parametric setup. Rather than a formal appropriation the project is a systemic conformation, thus a process. This process has proven effective over the years when it is not a sketch to be initially designed and later represented but a negotiation platform of potentials. Deniz adapted to this multidimensional manner and is learning to resist fast decision-making, happy to provide variations and options in schematics.

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Deniz is enthusiastic about architecture and her own potential in creative endeavour, she is comfortable in digital mediums, critical for aesthetics, and keen to get in to detail. She is a natural leader among like-minded teammates and works hard when she is committed. She is resistant to accept orders per se, however, she is curious and open-minded, is willing to understand and act. She has good command of the English language.

A graduate of Istanbul Technical University and a daughter of an architect she is committed to achieving high level of quality in the intellectual as well as creative qualities of design. I am convinced that she will perform brilliantly placed in environments rich with exchange of knowledge, research, and production. She is aware of her value and will keep on pursuing her dreams.

I have my full trust in her joyful personality and her capacity to perform in even high levels of competition.

Nilüfer Kozikoğlu

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BArch, Mimar Sinan University, Istanbul, 1995

March, Architectural Association School of Architecture, Design Research Laboratory, London, 2003