PIETRA PRASETYA

PROGRESSIVE TECTONIC

This thesis project started from the initial research of the prevalent authoritarian paradigm in designing social housing that is derived from the modernist idea of a well-planned city and buildings. The proposal derived from it is a plug-in that allows anyone to propagate an interconnected system of buildings that grows incrementally on any chosen site.

Our top-down planning in design has created one solution fits all that ignores the human qualities of the urban fabric and its specific local conditions. Most of the proposals seek to displace existing residents and put them into constrictive modular boxes. The result is the diminishing individual agency in their environment and the un-fulfillment of individual expression. Many of the buildings designed using this idea ended up being derelict and finally torn down.

This plug in is intended to shift the role of architects from designers into system designers, thus, giving more agency in the decision-making of the final form of the building to the users. It allows for anyone to generate a network of a dynamic system of collective housing on any site that is made from autonomously linked individual parts.

At any point in time, the building is in the state of being both finished and unfinished. They are made from networks of aggregates that are interconnected on multiple levels and incrementally grows, signifying continuity and openendedness. The same ruleset and module can be applied to generate infinite variations which will never produce the same output.

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