

Remembrance as heritage. A view from Barcelona

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Abstract

Rescuing the social memory of a certain part of the city is a cornerstone to empower citizens and their civic pride. Much more when this rescue marks the public space in the form of public art produced by and for the citizens. The paper reviews the experience POLIS Research Center at the University of Barcelona in the implementation of two experiences in "peripheral" areas of the city: Baró de Viver and Bon Pastor. This implementation has enabled the creation of the "Monument to the *'cheap houses'*" and the "Wall of Remembrance" (http://www.ub.edu/escult/participacio/index_pastor.html) in the district of Baró de Viver and the development of an operation of public space and public art in the neighbourhood of Bon Pastor, helping to the implementation of urban cohesion processes.

The paper also discusses the difference in scope and impact between social memory and historical memory than in Spain after the Law of Historical Memory, 2010, figures prominently in the context of the politics of memory and raises some interesting problems in the process of "fixing" memory in public space with consequent difficulties in implementing heritage processes. The analysis of our projects for the Route of the Historical Memory of Les Corts (http://www.ub.edu/escult/participacio/index_corts.html) and "Future Monument to the Women's Prison", a place of Francoist repression, serve to contrast these differences (http://www.ub.edu/escult/participacio/index_historia.html)