”Slashus– Examensarbete”
”Slashus– Degree Project”

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Examensarbete inom arkitektur, avancerad nivå 30 hp
Degree Project in Architecture, Second Level 30 credits

05 june 2014
Nytorget, Södermalm, Stockholm.

Nytorget is a public square in Stockholm at eastern Södermalm. It is bounded on the north by Särgatan and to the east of the neighborhood “Bondehovet”, at Nytorget there are several coffee shops and popular bars and restaurants. The square’s lawn gets very crowded in the spring. The square is mentioned as "Nytorghet" as early as 1671. Even today there are workers housing in wood preserved along with the square’s east side. Formerly the square was a hopelessly desolate square, surrounded by not particularly remarkable buildings. Nytorget nowadays is a park with a wading pool and with a Bror Hjorth sculpture "Play" at the center. The site is the parking lot between Nytorgets southern end and the adjacent building Malongen. The location is well suited for this purpose since Nytorget today has become a bit of a hub in Södermalm where there is constantly people moving. However, it is a place that for many represents the new, gentrified Södermalm while Malongen is the building in which the Stig Claesson since the 1960s until his death had his studio. Malongen, built in the late 1600s is Stockholm’s oldest factory building, this has since housed many different functions before it finally became to artists’ studios; glove factory (the employees were orphans), cholera hospitals, residential and folk high school.

Introduction and background, Nytorget & Stig Claesson

Stig Claesson, Slas.

Stig John Claesson (SC), the signature Slas, born June 2, 1928 in Huddinge, Stockholm County, died January 4, 2008 in Stockholm, was a Swedish author, illustrator and artist. SC studied at the Academy of Arts from 1947 to 1952. As a young man he traveled in postwar Europe and spent a lot of time in various European cities, especially Paris. SC developed a singular talent and style, both as a cartoonist and storyteller. He was both “söderkisen” (the kid from södermalm, loosely translated) with firm roots in his hometown and the traveler who clear-sighted and with a sense of the bizarre caught and reflected the impressions of foreign countries and cities. He also told stories and of, and depicted the Swedish countryside. His books are often middle ground of factual reportage and fiction, illustrated with delicate and precise drawings. As an illustrator, he starred in the newspapers Joker and "Folket i Bild" with small portraits of Swedish cities.
The Stig Claesson Centre at Nytorget is a foundation and a meeting place with focus on Stig Claesson’s life’s work and artistic achievements. The Stig Claesson Centre manages the public legacy of Stig Claesson at Nytorget, Södermalm. The Stig Claesson Centre offers a relevant and challenging experience to both Claesson enthusiasts, locals, tourists, architecture fans and other curious visitors. The site, adjacent to Nytorget, is a natural junction between the new, gentrified Södermalm and the old working-class Södermalm that Claesson represents. The building facing the entrance to the Stig Claesson Centre called Malongen is where Claesson had his studio and where he worked for the most part of his life.

The Exhibitions, 360 m²
The exhibitions explore the breadth and ambiguities of this celebrated yet quite unknown writer and artist; his modernist narrative, his restless, wandering characters, his tales of love and everyday life. Claesson’s sympathies for the city and his fellow humans are central elements in the exhibitions. The exhibitions tell of the writer’s life, his childhood years, his schooling, debut as a writer and career as an author and artist, old age and death. You can follow the writer’s acquaintances, love life, artistic career and his many journeys. The exhibitions take you back to the age out of which Claesson’s work originated. You will be presented with the person Stig John Claesson, his characteristic appearance and his cast of mind as well as the world surrounding him. The writer’s creative range is illustrated in his paintings, drawings and papercuts. The exhibitions allows you to explore Claesson’s creative process. The Stig Claesson Centre has all modern facilities and you can set off exploring Claesson’s universe, leaf through his books via computer, listen to his stories at the many listening posts and watch his films and television shows alone or in groups. The exhibitions area also hosts guest exhibitions on other writers, painters or artists that deal with the same themes as Claesson, or that in some way are related to Claesson or Södermalm.

The Library, 70 m²
In the library you will gain an impression of his comprehensive authorship. This is where the Claesson collection is located. You can find different editions of Claesson’s works, translations and literature about Claesson. The library also features extensive literature on Södermalm and all the different places around the world where Claesson lived and worked. The library features areas to sit and relax and work areas with wireless internet access. The library also sells books and other media about Södermalm’s natural and cultural heritage and about Claesson’s life and achievements.

The Archives, 100 m²
The archives hold many of Claesson’s original paintings as well as sketches, notebooks, articles, and objects that deal with Claesson’s work. Many of these objects will be on display in the exhibitions, others will be available to students and people doing research. The goal is to build up a collection that encompasses everything written and painted by and about Claesson.

The Excursions
From the Stig Claesson Centre there are guided excursions to locations featured in the life and stories of Claesson. Introductions to unescorted Claesson excursions are available as well.

Statement of intent – Slashus/Stig Claesson Centre
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Preparing exhibition, from left to right: Per Anders Fogelström - author, Stig Claesson - artist and author and Jan Lindkvist - designer.
1. North elevation
2. West elevation
3. South elevation
4. East elevation
1. Upper level exhibition space
2. Lower level exhibition space

3. Model, 1:50
4. Early site model, 1:200
5. Light study, 1:100
6. Early sketch, relation to surroundings
7. Early sketch, movement in building
8. Early diagram, different scales
9. Early sketch, different levels same light.
10. Early sketch, relation to Malangen
11. Façade sketches