

- **15077 | Living in Shenzhen: a path through A+E Design office**

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The purpose of this paper is to reflect on a different cultural heritage and work process set through an internship experience in Shenzhen, China, at the A+E Design office, which provided a privileged contact with a new architectonic culture at a very high professional level. During the six months of internship, several projects were developed, allowing the confrontation with new enriching realities, complemented by an enhanced daily routine.

The office A+E Design, located in the heart of Shenzhen, stands out by depicting the city's fast track understanding of urban culture and financial boldness through its large-scale works and its technological aspect. The office seeks to understand the contemporary way of living in the southwest of China. The internship took place in the Overseas Design Studio department (ODS), with the specific objective of developing projects in the initial phase of its design, which was comprised mainly by exploration of the concept and deepening of the architectural form. The experience of working in this office enabled to approach the reality of the country and the demands of the city, through the design methodologies practiced by the ODS department.

The paper results, reflects and consolidates the intense months of work in the A+E Design office by presenting a personal exploration that seeks to understand the way of thinking and executing architecture in the A+E Design office interwoven with Shenzhen's accelerated reality and daily life. Consequently, an in-depth interpretation of A+E Design's design characteristics, methods and procedures is presented, setting a specific socio-cultural understanding, in order to grasp the architecture practiced in southwest China.

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