

Andrea Soós

*Provisional Architecture*

*Temporary Spaces in László Rajk's work*

Doctoral dissertation

Supervisor: András Beck PhD

Moholy-Nagy University of Art and Design  
Doctoral School

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## Theses

1. From the 1970s onwards, László Rajk's work was defined by the triad of concept, theory, and drawing. This dissertation begins its analysis with his 1977 work *5 Projects* and examines the first two decades of his career at the intersection of conceptual art and architecture.
2. The influence of Russian Constructivism on Rajk's works became significant from the late 1970s, and is related to the growing international popularity of the Russian avant-garde from the late 1960s onward, as well as its rediscovery in art history and its boom on the art market.
3. Rajk's early work was not only embedded within the context of the Hungarian neo-avant-garde, but also connected to international trends that sharpened the social critique inherent in architecture and approached the built environment as a theoretical question.
4. Between 1970 and 1979, the primary issue of the Hungarian construction industry was to alleviate the housing shortage, mainly through large-scale standardized housing projects. Since the state architecture companies offered limited opportunities, a group of Hungarian architects—including Rajk—found their creative ground in film set design and collaborations with experimental directors.
5. Through the concept of provisional architecture, this dissertation examines the transformative power of Rajk's temporary spaces on both society and the environment. It argues that his oeuvre was not only ephemeral because of his political activism and the censorship of his work under socialism, but also because his artistic practice was fundamentally conceptual in nature.