

Miquel Fisac in Madrid

Local Heroes #1
Miquel Fisac Serna
1913-2006

By Joost Hovenier,
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English translation by
Menora Tse

Local Heroes is
an initiative of
Office Winhov

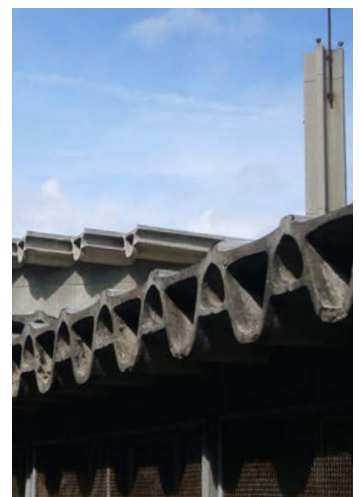
Miquel Fisac's 2003 AV Monograph was, for me, "love at first sight". Although Fisac's work is best-known for the use of prefab roof constructions, the treatment of the facade surface is just as interesting. Few architects have examined the materials surrounding their buildings as intensively as Fisac. For example, Fisac's earliest works are made of masonry [6], but when the supporting function of brick was phased out in the late 1950s, the role of brick evolved. Therefore, he developed a hollow potted stone for the Instituto de Microbiologia Ramon y Cajal [3]. The stone is still manufactured as "Ladrillo Fisac" at HDR-ICD.

Throughout his career, Fisac aimed for a good expression using concrete. This can be seen in the flowing forms of the columns and pergolas in the Centro de Formacion [21] in 1957. He did not want the concrete to be structurally limited by the wooden frame, but wanted instead to express the liquid nature of the concrete. The Jorba pagoda [22] and St. Ana Church [23] in Madrid still showed the traditional formwork concrete, which Fisac was dissatisfied with. In the 1970s, he experimented with flexible formwork elements, which was applied for the first time in the Mupag Building [15], the Casa Juan Pascual de Juan [14] and the enormous Hotel Tres Islas on Fuerteventura (Canary Islands)

All three of these buildings are still in fairly good condition. The Juan Pascual House, near Fisac's studio in the Cerro del Aire, is impressive. In addition to the convex shapes in white concrete, Fisac also uses large areas of solid glass with rounded corners, with the ventilation controlled through concealed shutters in the wooden facade sections.

In 1969, the IBM Building [02] was completed in

Parroquia de Santa Ana
1965-1971 (23)



Madrid. The facade consists of hollow beams (huesos) that Fisac used for roofs for a number of years. Fisac started developing these hollow beams at the roof of the Centro de Estudios Hidrográficos [20]. The roof spanned 22 meters and had particularly even lighting in the space below. Fisac would use the beams in numerous variations until he delivered his last building in 2003, the Sports Center in Getafe [19], spanning 51 meters.

Fisac remained relatively unknown in Spain, but many people knew the exuberant Jorba building from 1965. It stood at a prominent position along the A2 motorway between the airport and the city, and was designed to be experienced from within the car. Unfortunately, the building was demolished in 1999, sparking a controversy that led to a renewed interest in his work. This event was indirectly responsible for the establishment of the Fundação Fisac in 2006.

In Fisac's work, the expression of space and materials is always closely linked to technology. Innovation and experimentation are important for the work, but at the same time he uses and continues to develop his discoveries for decades, applying for numerous patents for his inventions - the Fisac brick, various concrete beams, and the flexible formwork system. Miquel Fisac left a huge oeuvre. He designed more than 130 buildings between 1941 and 2003, including 57 in Madrid. In 2007, I made a small travel guide for 23 works by Miquel Fisac in this city. The guide is now - in a slightly modified form - the opening number in the Local Heroes series.



Laboratorios Jorba 1965-1967 (22)



Current building Laboratorios Jorba

Centro de Rehabilitacion
MUPAG: 1969-1973 (15)



More Information :

Books:

AV Monografias, nmr 101 (2003), Miguel Fisac

Arquitecturas Ausentes Del siglo XX, nmr 07
Fisac Ensamblaje con vacios / Assembly with voids
ISBN 84-7207-152-9

Miguel Fisac - Huesos varios
Álex del Río e.o.
ISBN 978-84-96656-25-3

Web:

Fundación Miguel Fisac:
<http://www.fundacionfisac.org/>

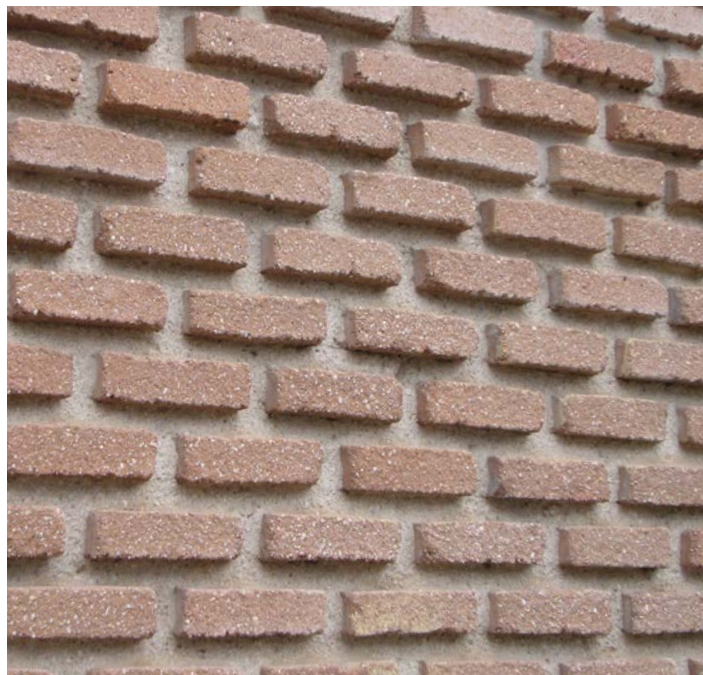
Miguel Fisac HuesOs Varios:
http://www.fisachuesosvarios.com/img/informacion/DOSIER_HUESOS_VARIOS.pdf

Las iglesias de Miguel Fisac, Eduardo Delgado Orusco:
http://www.arquitecturareligiosa.es/historial_congresos/congreso01_2007/documentos/08_eduardo_delgado_orusco.pdf

Miguel Fisac, Informes de la Construcción
Two papers by Fisac in 'Informes de la Construcción':
<http://digital.csic.es/bitstream/10261/2533/1/fisacc.pdf>

Miguel Fisac 2003, Universidad de la Laguna, Maria Isabel Navarro Segura:
<http://www.historiadelarteull.org/ficheros/File/FISAC.pdf>

Laboratorios Jorba, TDX (Theses and Dissertations Online):
http://www.tdr.cesca.es/TESIS_UPC/AVAILABLE/TDX-0317105-171559/29Icc29de39.pdf



Brick - Instituto de Microbiología Ramón y Cajal
1949-1956 (03)



Edificio IBM, 1967 (02)



Local Heroes #1

Miquel Fisac

01 CISC Libreria Cientifica 1950
Adress: Calle de Duque de Medinacelli 4

02 Edificio IBM, 1967
Adress: Paseo de la Castellana 4

03 Instituto de Microbiología Ramón y Cajal 1949-1956
Adress: calle Velazquez / calle Francesco Silveva,

04 CISC Centro de Documentaçon 1961
Adress: calle Joaquin Costa 22,

05 CISC Instituto de Quimica Organica 1963 1964
Adress: C/calle Juan de la Cierva 3,

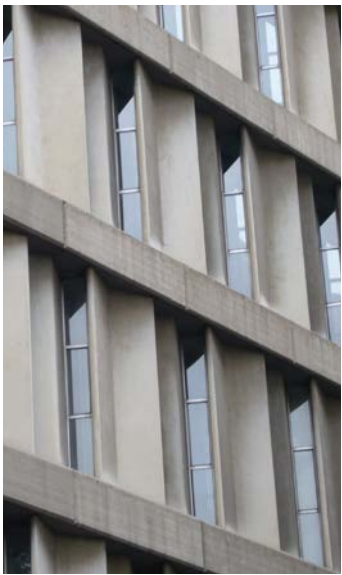
06 Capilla del Espiritu Santo, 1942
Adress: C/Serrano 125,

07 CISC Edificio central, 1943
Adress: C/Serrano 117,

08 CISC Instituto Nacional de Optica Daza de Avldes,
'48
Adress: C/Serrano 121,
Madrid



(1)



(2)



(3)



(6)



09 Teologado de los PP Dominicos 1955-1958, Madrid
Adress: Calle de los Padres Dominicos
M40 / Av.de Burgos, Madrid

10 Capilla y Colagio de la Congregcion de la Asceuncion, '65,
Adress: Calle de los Padres Dominicos
M40 / Av.de Burgos, Madrid

11 / 12 Casa (1956) y Estudio (1970) de Migual Fisac
Adress: Cerro del Aire
M40 / Av.de Burgos, Madrid

13 Laboratorios farmacéuticos Made 1960-1967
Adress: Av. de Burgos 91,
Madrid
Afgebroken / Demolished

14 Casa Pascual de Juan en la Moraleja 1973-1975,
Adress: Camino Viejo - Camino Alto
La Moraleja, Alcobendas, Madrid



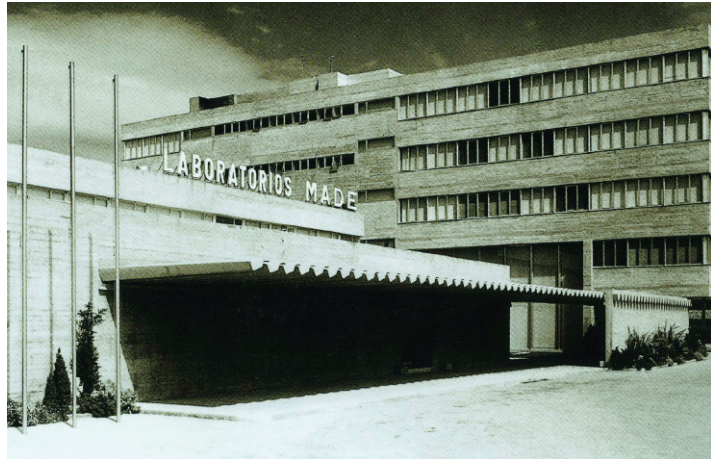
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(10)



(11)



(13)



(14)





(18)



(15)

15 Centro de Rehabilitacion MUPAG: 1969-1973,
Adress: C/ Madre de Dios 42 / Maestro Chapí 25.

16 Pabellón de Dirección Alter, 1959
Adress: C/Mateo Inuria 30,

17 Parroquia de Nuestra Señora de Altamira, '83-'91,
Adress: Av. del Ferrol 49
Madrid.

18 Centro social de las Hermanas Hospitalarias, '85-'86
Adress: Calle Reina Victoria 5
Ciempozuelos (Madrid 35 km.)

19 Polideportivo Sportscenter 2003
Adress: Carretara de Leganés,
Getafe (Madrid 15 km)



(17)



(19)





20 Centro de Estudios Hidrográficos, 1960-1963
Address: Paseo bajo de la Virgen del Puerto 3

21 Centro de Formación del Profesorado 1952-1957
Address: M30 / Avenida de Puerta De Hierro,
Ciudad Universitaria, Madrid

22 Laboratorios Jorba 1965-1967
Address: A2 / Calle de Josefa Valcarcel 30
[Demolished]

23 Parroquia de Santa Ana 1965-1971
Address: Calle de la Cañada 35,
Madrid.

(20)



(21)



(23)





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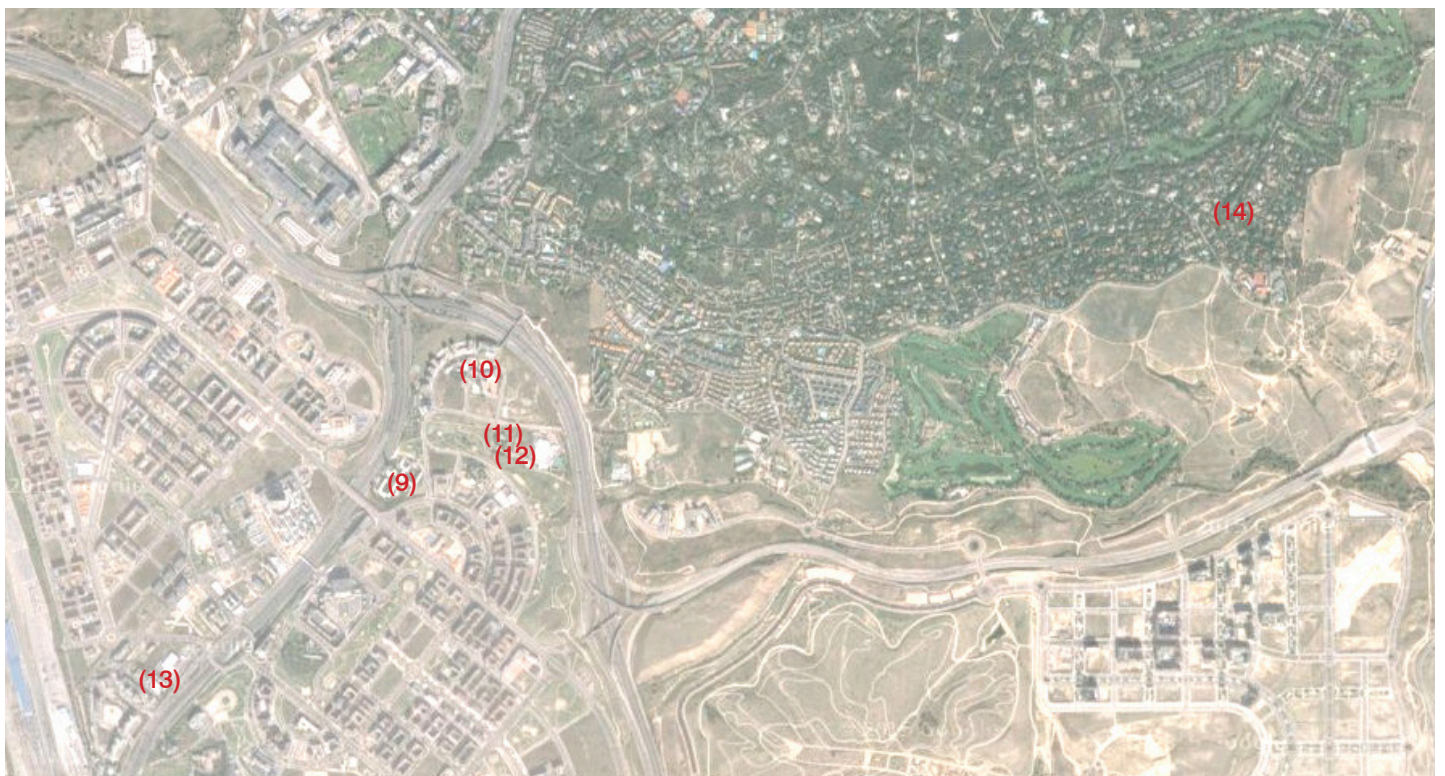
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28109, Alcobendas, Madrid





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Google Map: https://drive.google.com/open?id=1ckU4FBAUUDaKnkTW_sFylGi9c0tcA7Mp&usp=sharing



