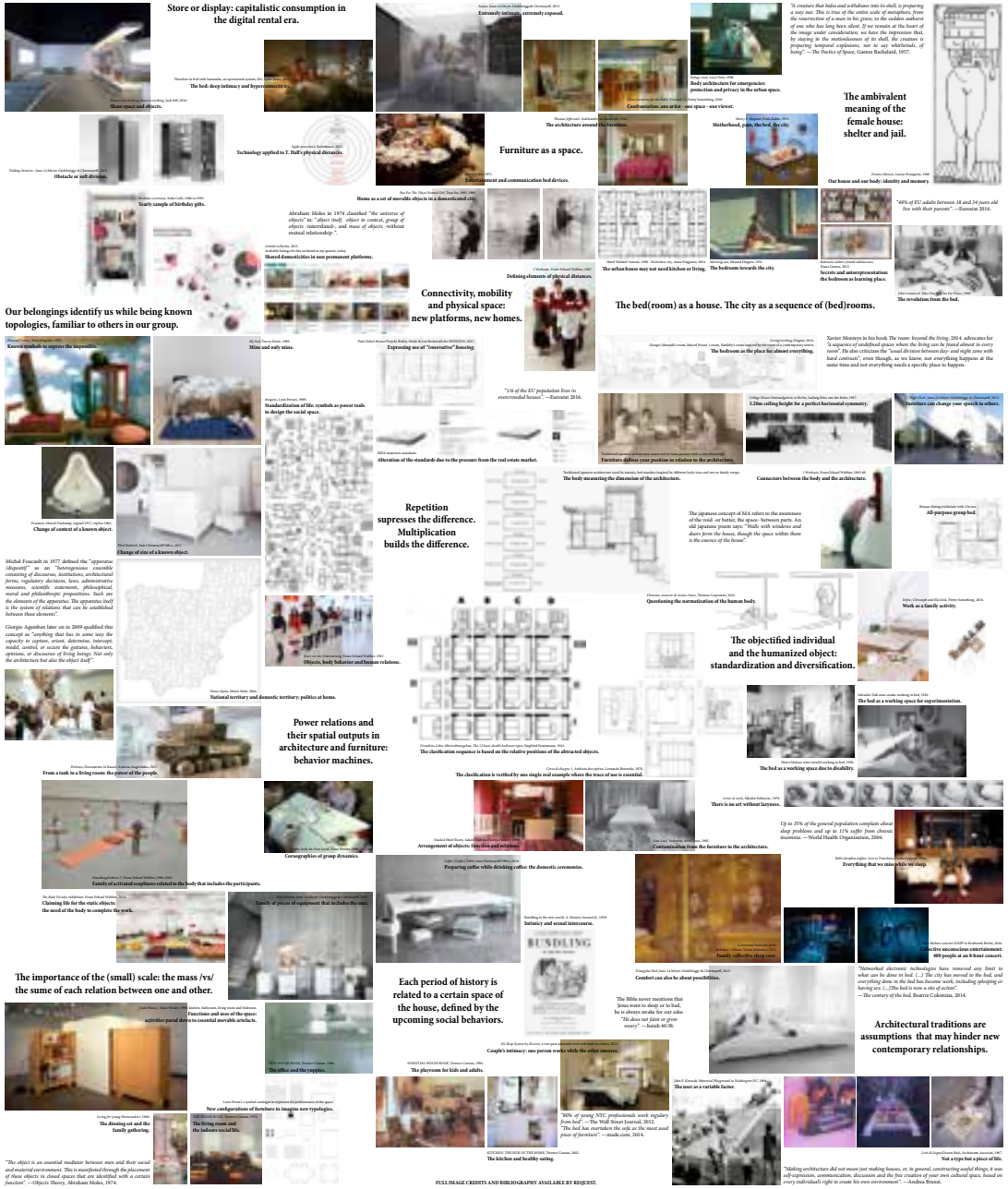
CA2RE
Conference for Artistic and Architectural (Doctoral) Research

Marta Fernández Guardado
TUBerlin

Home: Things and bodies.

This panel is a labyrinth of references and extracted ideas that illustrates the early stage of the research and builds a mind-map of thoughts in order to navigate further. Please come in and get lost.



ARENA ELIA Technische Universität Berlin PEP

Marta Fernandez Guardado

Home: Things And Bodies

My proposal is based on the belief that there is a great architectonical potential not only on the container but also in the content, conceptually detached to the first, and in some cases, essential to emotionally connect us to the space that they define together.

This content includes, in my opinion, elements that have the ability to dialogue with us through events and ceremonies, that require the effort of understanding an unexpected programmatic and/or spatial quality of any kind. They force us to a process that involves our bodies and the architecture, and that changes, once and for all, or over and over, both human body and architecture relative positions. Their main difference with pure equipment and furniture is that their primary reason is not plain comfort – although they can also offer it, but actively and alternatively to assumptions, traditions and standards. They also do not simply serve the architecture by directly equipping its surfaces – although they do program lives that happen in rooms, and not vice versa. They work with us like active bodies, being with us in the space and requiring our participation to fully inhabit it. They react and adapt to the architecture, and open up the possibility of changes and combinations. They are architectural bodies with the ability to relate people to generic or even foreign architectures, and also to other people and themselves.

After analysing the importance of this topic in my work for others during the past years, I start my practice-based doctoral project with an investigation of references and design strategies, in order to produce a series of performative artefacts that question the current domestic environment – understood as an architecture where things and bodies cohabit – and drive me through an exploration of emerging alternative ways of living.