



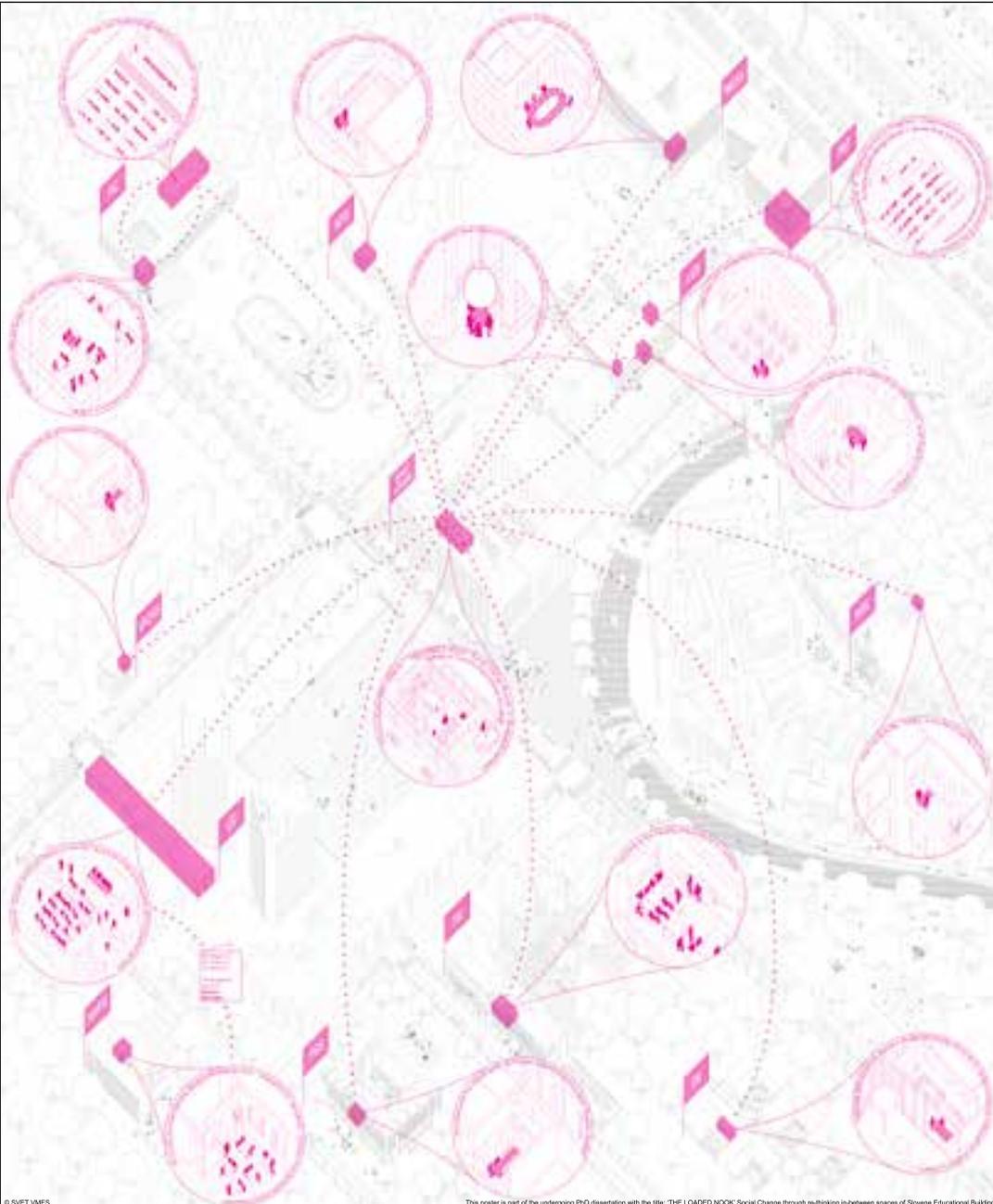
## Ana Kreč

### 'Bridging the Gap: Architecture Practice as a Bridge Between Parallel Approaches to similar Problematics

Within my practice based doctoral research I am investigating the spatial and social potential of neglected, 'sore', left-over 'in-between' space in educational buildings, by exposing, re-mediating, healing and transforming them into places of events, joy, comfort, interaction, negotiation, seclusion and delight – what we call the 'loaded nooks'. By healing the 'left-overs' and transforming them into 'loaded nooks', we wish to physically improve the existing spatial and social climate of educational buildings from the inside out and at the same time build numerous case studies, that would help us improve the existing social reality and rigid typologies of educational architecture, that is (at least in Slovenia) governed by the strict, non-flexible normative and legislation for designing educational buildings.

The forthcoming presentation at Berlin CA2RE Conference will give an insight into a series of research interviews where I am (as an architect-researcher) acting like a bridge between various groups of people and realms in order to evaluate and position our built work among a wider audience and stakeholders. Interviews with our clients (headmasters) and users (pupils and pedagogical staff) who are experiencing and observing our 'loaded nooks' daily, can help me demonstrate the non-quantifiable notion of delight in our work in a more 'touchable', visible, 'hands on' way, through describing materials, light, colour, positive and negative experiences, their emotions, ... In this way I might develop a common language that all stakeholders: designers, pedagogues, politicians, etc. can understand and work together towards the improvement of the rigid legislation for designing school buildings, that should look beyond the A+B+C formula and mere quantification of space.

Above all, this practice-based research wants to put the material source of our practice (built case studies together with studied documents, strategies, legislation and interviews with our stakeholders) into service of improvement of architectural interventions and help create a political readiness, to support, finance and liberate the context in which we work as architects from a number of constraints.



This poster is part of the ongoing PhD dissertation with the title: 'THE LOADED NOOK' Social Change through re-thinking in-between spaces of Slovene Educational Buildings.