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ATELIER CONCEIÇÃO SILVA IN PORTUGAL *Creating as a process*

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The architecture of Atelier Conceição Silva (ACS) was remarkable in the Portuguese panorama in the period from the 60s to the 70s, questioning the thinking and doctrine of Modern Architecture and rationalism experienced during this time in Europe. ACS was characterized as a multidisciplinary workspace - with various authors and participants involved, from ceramists, artists, designers, photographers, writers and filmmakers. What are the main characteristics of ACS's design methodology that made it remarkable in its time? To answer this question, two case studies were considered: i) The Hotel do Mar in Sesimbra (1960-1966); ii) and The Hotel da Balaia in Albufeira (1965-1967/1971-73). The cross-examination, analysis and synthesis of these case studies led us to conclude that the

methodological process of ACS was demarcated i) by technical and conceptual experimentation and ii) by an approach to project conception considered as a total design work. The work developed by ACS left a legacy to Portuguese architecture that we believe to be reflected in contemporaneity.