



Recetas Urbanas
Santiago Cirugeda

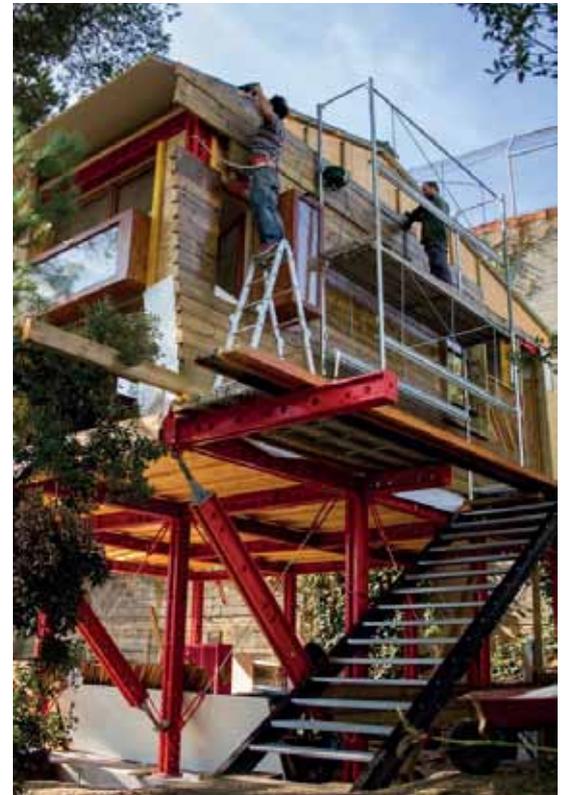
TRETZEVENTS

Self-Building Classrooms for Primary and Secondary School - 1st phase

Promoter: Tretzevents Association
Building Company: Self-Building
Location: Sant Cugat del Vallès
Area: 90 m²

Cost: 67.500 €
Design Start Date: June 2013
Construction Start: July 2013
Inauguration: October 2013

The Tretzevent educational association contacted Recetas Urbanas after being asking to many local architecture studios, in Catalonia, to develop its school's project. The project premise included the group self-building as part of the plan but they did not find any other studio available to accept the lack of legal and technical support. While developing the global plan of the whole school and exploiting the enthusiasm and the energy of the families involved, it began the construction of two first classrooms through self-building workshops. Using the summer holidays because of the availability of the students, parents and teachers, the plan is to start working through constructions systems allowing the participation of children, young people and adults, without any frustrations nor excessive fatigue. Reusing public and private materials create a research made by the involved people, changing them to promoters and builders, while the self-building process is constantly modifying the plan of the first two classrooms. After three months working, with the help of other collectives and friends, it reached the eighty per cent of the complete process. Nevertheless we faced the uncertainty of a no supporting administration, due to some regulations and legal guaranties not favoring this kind of architecture, it unavoidably produces doubts and absenteeism of some of the involved people. This is one the risks of these kinds of process.



Finally the educational process to build the two first classrooms was amazing. It shows that the will to work together to develop a socio-educational research project can create very strong collective and personal links, always promoting a careful, safe, clever and creative way of working. This experience, together with others starting from ten years ago in educational centers, can create protocols perfectly conforming to ease the self-imposed restrictions through the current laws about education and self-building.