



BETÜL UÇKAN

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I am a researcher and architect focusing on form design and making, experimental spatial design, immersive and immaterial space, and computational strategies for post-disaster architecture. Currently pursuing a PhD in Architectural Design Computing, I also teach design studios and co-lead İlişimler Collective, exploring spatial perception through the intersection of material and immaterial elements.

Research Interests:

- Experimental Spatial Design – *exploring hybrid physical-digital environments.*
- Immersive & Immaterial Space – *multisensory and phenomenological approaches to spatial experience.*
- Form Design & Making Practices – *generative processes, material experiments, and computational fabrication.*
- Computation for Post-Disaster Architecture – *adaptive housing and spatial organization in the aftermath of the 2023 Turkey Earthquake.*

EDUCATION

Istanbul Technical University <i>Ph.D. in Architectural Design Computing</i> GPA: 3.93 / 4.0 - Completed coursework and passed the Qualifying Exam. - Discontinued program due to being awarded the YLSY Scholarship (Turkish Ministry of National Education), which requires doctoral studies abroad.	Istanbul, Turkey 2023- 2024
Istanbul Technical University <i>Master of Science in Architectural Design</i> GPA: 3.75 / 4.0	Istanbul, Turkey 2019-2023
Istanbul Technical University <i>Bachelor of Science in Architecture</i> GPA: 3.43 / 4.0	Istanbul, Turkey 2013-2018
Amasya Science and Art Center (BILSEM) <i>Special Program for Gifted Students- Cognitive Talent Track</i>	Amasya, Turkey 2004-2013

EXPERIENCES

Istanbul Medipol University <i>Research Assistant, Department of Architecture</i> Supporting undergraduate architectural design studios and conducting research in immersive space design.	Istanbul, Turkey 2024-Ongoing
SPACE Studies <i>Academic Content Coordinator</i> Developing academic content and coordinating organizational processes for symposiums and events.	London, UK 2023-Ongoing
FMV Isik University <i>Research Assistant, Department of Architecture</i> Supported undergraduate architectural design studios, organized student workshops, and participated in funded research projects.	Istanbul, Turkey 2021-2024
Ilis-im-ler Collective <i>Co-founder</i> Conducting experimental spatial design workshops and immersive design practices in collaboration with universities and organizations.	Istanbul, Turkey 2019-Ongoing

Nisantasi University Research Assistant, Department of Interior Architecture Supported undergraduate interior design studios and organized student workshops.	Istanbul, Turkey 2019-2021
Iser Construction Firm Architect & Site Chief	Istanbul, Turkey 2018-2019
Ronesans Holding Intern Architect, Construction Site Maltepe Piazza Project on Serkan Kayisoglu's team	Istanbul, Turkey 2016
EMAAR Holding Intern Architect, Design Office Address Hotel Project by Foster+Partners under the supervision of Ebru Gozdasoglu's team	Istanbul, Turkey 2015

PUBLICATIONS

Betul Uckan. *A Form Design and Making Library Based On Contemporary Practices For Use In The Architectural Design Process*. Paper to be presented at SIGraDi 2025 - XXVII International Conference of the Ibero-American Society of Digital Graphics, Cordoba, Argentina, November 19-21, 2025. **(In progress)**

<https://acrobat.adobe.com/id/urn:aaid:sc:AP:6b02975c-5319-45e0-bca7-aab9e8872beb>

Betul Uckan, Aycin Atukeren, Tolga Aydogdu, & Ethem Gurer. *An immersive space design through the material and the immaterial: Toward a multisensory spatial experience*. Paper to be presented at SIGraDi 2025 - XXVII International Conference of the Ibero-American Society of Digital Graphics, Cordoba, Argentina, November 19-21, 2025. **(In progress)**

<https://acrobat.adobe.com/id/urn:aaid:sc:AP:51ac3a67-a897-4bca-8eef-977afc2ac064>

Betul Uckan, Gulen Cagdas, & Gulce Kirdar Bakrac. *Designing A Customized Search Engine For Precedent Analysis In The Architectural Design Process*. Paper presented at MSTAS 2025 - The 19th Symposium on Digital Design in Architecture, Antalya, Turkey, June 30, 2025.

<https://acrobat.adobe.com/id/urn:aaid:sc:AP:ff61eaa5-64e8-4ab6-ab7a-55f0f74b23de>

Betul Uckan, Sevil Yazici, & Caglar Isbilir. *Design Of Formwork System For A Single Curved Structure Made Of Rammed Earth*. In Proceedings of SIGraDi 2024 - XXVI International Conference of the Ibero-American Society of Digital Graphics, Barcelona, Spain, November 13-15, 2024. https://papers.cumincad.org/cgi-bin/works/paper/sigradi2024_111

Betul Uckan. *Incremental solutions for post-disaster living units: Transitioning from emergency shelters to temporary ones*. Paper presented as online at SPACE International Conference, London, UK, July 11-12, 2024.

<https://acrobat.adobe.com/id/urn:aaid:sc:AP:7af80dda-1341-4a71-a7b8-5e54c7174ca7>

Betul Uckan & Ekrem Kaynar. *Spatial Organization Of Temporary Living Units: Typological Differences Through The Case Of Hatay Earthquake*. Paper presented as online at SPACE International Conference, London, UK, July 11-12, 2024.

Betul Uckan & Ahmet Gun. *Developing a scenario for post-disaster reconstruction in rural settlements: a model for spatial design practices through participatory processes*. Paper presented at 15th 4T Design and Design History Symposium, Istanbul, Turkey, October 11, 2023.

<https://acrobat.adobe.com/id/urn:aaid:sc:AP:04620a49-615f-4884-b374-56e437a22b91>

Betul Uckan & Ahmet Gun. *Alternative communication system design for post-disaster scenarios*. In Proceedings of the 5th Disaster and Resilience Congress (IDRC 2023), Turkey, October 2023. ISBN: 978-605-72775-2-7.

https://idrcongress.org/uploads/files/Papers_of_idRc_2023.pdf

Betul Uckan & Ahmet Gun. *A model proposal for spatial practices conducted through participatory processes after disasters*. In Proceedings of the 5th Disaster and Resilience Congress (IDRC 2023), Turkey, October 2023. ISBN: 978-605-72775-2-7.

https://idrcongress.org/uploads/files/Papers_of_idRc_2023.pdf

Betul Uckan, Pelin Dursun Cebi, & Fatma Ahsen Ozsoy. *The evolution narrative of architectural form and the state of vital form*. JCoDe: Journal of Computational Design, 4(2), 193-226. September 2023. <https://doi.org/10.53710/jcode.1325535>

Betul Uckan. *The evolution narrative of architectural form: The vital form*. Master's thesis, Architectural Design Graduate Program, Istanbul Technical University. August 2023.

Supervisors: Prof. Dr. Pelin Dursun Cebi & Prof. Dr. Fatma Ahsen Ozsoy.

Jury Members: Prof. Dr. Sema Alacam, Prof. Dr. Sebnem Yalinay Cinici, Prof. Dr. Tugrul Yazar.

<https://acrobat.adobe.com/id/urn:aaid:sc:AP:8f83af82-8a99-4a3b-a4fa-2db3e1493df0>

Betul Uckan, Pelin Dursun Cebi, & Fatma Ahsen Ozsoy. *The evolution of architectural form*. Paper presented at 2nd International Graduate Research Symposium (IGRS'23), May 2023.

<https://polen.itu.edu.tr:8443/server/api/core/bitstreams/7b798e2d-29c5-4334-9372-9d9b6a05d065/content>

Betul Uckan. *Evaluating the concept of flexibility in workspaces: The case of Yemeksepeti.Park*. *Isik University Journal of Art, Design and Architecture*, 1(1), 30–49. April 2023. <https://isikjada.isikun.edu.tr/images/articles/vol1no1/03.pdf>

Betul Uckan. *To build a sustainable city 'as a living organism: The city*. Paper presented at 2nd International Architectural Sciences and Applications Symposium (IArcSAS-2022), September 2022.

RESEARCH PROJECT

Design and prototyping of an alternative temporary housing unit for post-disaster use

Agency: FMV Işık University, Scientific Research Project (BAP) (Project No: 23D301, Budget: 130,000 TL, August 2023 - ongoing)

Project team: Prof. Dr. Ahsen Ozsoy (Principal Investigator), Prof. Dr. Nuran Zeren Gulersoy, Betul Uckan, Ekrem Kaynar, Prof. Dr. Ozlem Sila Durhan, Assoc. Dr. Elif Suyuk Makaklı, Assist. Dr. Gulay Kepsutlu, Dicle Zeycan.

The project focuses on the design and development of an architectural prototype for post-disaster emergency housing, initiated as a response to the 2023 Türkiye Earthquake. It integrates innovative design strategies to deliver flexible, scalable, and rapidly deployable housing solutions for communities affected by disasters.

EDITORIAL EXPERIENCE

Editorial Team Member, IŞIK JADA (Journal of Art, Design and Architecture)(2022)

EXHIBITIONS, WORKSHOPS AND EVENTS

Medipol FADA Exhibition Design / *Curator*

Curated and designed the exhibition route for the final project presentations at Istanbul Medipol University, Faculty of Art, Design, and Architecture (2025).

2025 BIG Architecture Festival, Portoroz / *Exhibitor*

Exhibited a digital collage as part of the architectural exhibition organized by BIG SEE (Center for Creative Economy of Southeast Europe). The AI-assisted collage titled *The City of the Future* envisioned a post-earthquake reconstruction of Hatay and proposed a speculative future urban vision. May 22–23, 2025.

MimED: Staj Istanbul – 2024 [September 3–14, 2024] / *Organiser*

Served as one of the organizers of the internship program sponsored by Istanbul Medipol University and coordinated by the Architectural Education Association (MimED). The 10-day program offered students from outside Istanbul the opportunity to experience local architectural environments through panels, workshops, site visits, roundtable discussions, and a hackathon.

Organizing team: Atilla Dikbas, Levent Aridag, Betul Uckan, Ecem Altintas.

Emine Cakır Çavdar Mentorship Program / *Trainee Mentor*

Completed a year-long intensive mentorship training program, including workshops, lectures, and practical sessions (2023).

The Real and Physical Experience of Architectural Space Workshop Series/ *Organizer*

Organized workshops to explore architecture education and spatial perception in collaboration with Nil Dogerlioğlu and Elif Suyuk Makakli at FMV Işık University (2022 & 2023).

Limited Structures Workshop Series / *Organizer*

Organized and led workshops exploring the relationships between form, material, and structure through small-scale modeling experiments, in collaboration with Tolga Aydoğdu at FMV Işık University (2022 & 2023).

Experimental Spatial Research Workshop Series / *Organizer*

Organized immersive workshops with Ilis-im-ler Collective on projection mapping, generative visuals, and spatial design in collaboration with Pamukkale University (2022), MEF University (2020 & 2021), and Gebze Technical University (2020).

Computational Design Workshop Series / *Organizer*

Organized workshops on computational design practice and natural formations in collaboration with Most Design Team at Izmir (2018 & 2019).

AWARDS

YLSY Scholarship (2025)

Awarded a fully funded government scholarship by the Turkish Ministry of National Education for doctoral studies abroad.

Idea Marathon for Resilient Cities Against Disasters / *Participant, 2nd Prize*

Won second prize in a design marathon organized in collaboration with the MIMARDER Association, Sehirli Association, SANKO Holding, Rami Library, and Istanbul BTC. Focused on urban resilience strategies for post-disaster scenarios. (2023)

Innovative Ideas in Disaster Management Ideathon / *Participant*

Participated in the ideathon organized by ITU Ginova, and BTM Istanbul (2023).

INVITED PRESENTATIONS, TALKS AND LECTURES

Exploring Architectural Projects / *Seminar*

Seminar delivered at the Introduction to Spatial Theory course by Prof. Dr. Deniz Erinsel Önder and Ayşegül Hazer at Istanbul Medipol University (2025).

PLUTO, Spatial Perception / *Speaker*

Talk delivered on spatial perception at the PLUTO organized by Tolgay Keskin and Çağatay Gökhan (2023).

Social Learning Spaces / *Seminar*

Seminar delivered at the Graduation Project course at FMV Işık University (2023).

"What About Form?" / *Seminar*

Seminar delivered at the Morphology in Architecture course by Prof. Dr. Pelin Dursun Cebi at Istanbul Technical University (2021).

TEACHING

Introduction to Design – *Instructor* – Istanbul Medipol University (2025)

Architectural Design Studio IV & V – *Teaching Assistant* collaborating with Prof. Dr. Hasan Şener – Istanbul Medipol University (2024)

People and Environment in Architecture – *Teaching Assistant* collaborating with Prof. Dr. Ahsen Özsoy – FMV Işık University (2022–2023)

Architectural Foundation Studio – *Teaching Assistant* collaborating with Dr. Gülay Kepsutlu, Dicle Zeycan, Jale Gözde Kucukoglu and Nil Dogerlioglu – FMV Işık University (2022–2023)

Basic Design – *Teaching Assistant* collaborating with Prof. Dr. Özlem Sıla Durhan – FMV Işık University (2022)

Interior Design Studio I & II – *Teaching Assistant* collaborating with Prof. Dr. Ufuk Doğrusoz – Nisantasi University (2019–2020)

MEMBERSHIPS

Architecture Education Association – *Member* (since 2024)

Space Studies – *Member* (since 2023)

Turkish Architects Association – *Member* (since 2018)