







**II Congresso Internacional do CIEG** 

Estudos de Género, Feministas e sobre as Mulheres: Reflexividade, resistência e ação

**II International Congress of CIEG** 

Gender, Feminists and Women Studies: Reflexivity, resistance and action

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**Theme 5.** Analyse other themes related to gender equality, feminist and women's and studies, within the scope of the social sciences, the humanities, the health sciences, and other artistic and scientific areas.

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## **ABSTRACT**

## FEMINISTS' EPISTEMOLOGIES AND THE HISTORY OF ARCHITECTURE

The reinforcement of diversity in the way we see and understand the built environment is vital for research, teaching and practice in architecture, cities and territories. The multiple processes of silencing voices and actions, upon their intersectional dimension, build a semireality accepted, feeded and reproduced by academics, institutions and professionals. Through this, fundamental rights of seeing, understanding and including diversity in professions related to space and built environment production - are threatened.

Our research context is the W@ARCH.PT project, Female Architects in Portugal: Building Visibility, 1942-1986. Considering geographical and cultural specificities, during the proposed timeline, the two main objectives are, on one hand, the construction of a critical feminist vision according to the Portuguese context, aiming for alternative perspectives and praxis. On the other hand, to reveal "who?", "when?", and "how?" Portuguese female architects participated in the construction of the profession.









To accomplish this, firstly, concepts should be developed and applied in order to feminists' theories and epistemologies could refocus objects, players and contexts. Intersectionality (Crenshaw, 1989), situated knowledges (Haraway, 1988) and invisibility as oppression (hooks, 1984) should be put together with spacial and built realities. Such applied concepts will be relocated and used for this field of knowledge and action: architecture, cities and territories. To answer to the second objective there are two main resources that complement the traditional archives and material that correspond to the more orthodox historical research. Oral narratives and personal histories are part of an amplified reality that should be analyzed and worked as any other sources. Also as a feminist approach to research, the collective biography will framework emerging strategies in the rewriting of the history of architecture.