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He graduated from Mimar Sinan University, Department of Interior Architecture in 1994. He has been working as Yenilem Project Consulting -Manager / Interior Architect since 1998. He is a Member of the Board of the Chamber of Interior Architects, T.M.M.O.B. Istanbul Branch, Expert at the Civil Courts, Honorary Member of the Crown Foundation, Member of TÜRSAB, the Disabled Tourism Committee, Kadıköy Municipality City Council, Member of city planning Commission, Member of the Alternative Life Association.

AN INCLUSIVE OVERVIEW OF ACCESSIBILITY

CENK ÇAKIL

It is not possible to think of our environment and the places we live in independently from human life. The areas that make our lives easier and that will enable us to live in a happier, peaceful and secure way need to be planned and arranged according to our correct and current needs, using the opportunities offered by our age.

I don't want to dwell on what states, institutions and individuals should do when it comes to accessing fundamental rights and freedoms, whether they are disabled or not. I think everyone is now aware of the need, importance and what, how and when it should be done. I think it would not be wrong to say that rights are not actually given, they are obtained through struggle, and that the services provided are mostly due to the demands of the needy, the efforts of volunteers, social entrepreneurs and non-governmental organizations.

I think that this will continue in the future, and everyone will try to make their voices heard by doing their best with new awareness and initiatives. Of course, the point we are at today is not at the desired level, but it would not be wrong to say that it has made progress when compared to the past. I think it is important not to be hopeless and to continue to think and draw attention to production.

Design:

One of the solution partners in the full participation of disabled and disadvantaged individuals in life is designers. Innovations in many areas such as transportation, business, culture-arts, food and

beverage, education, entertainment, shopping are redesigned according to today's needs, making life easier for all of us.

Although the concept of accessibility is thought to be focused on urbanism, environment, building and industrial product design, nowadays accessibility has started to be more inclusive and gain a completely different dimension with the innovations brought by technology.

We can make our accessibility arrangements in our home, office or individual areas according to our own needs and economy. These are private fields; It can vary from person to person, age, disability group, economic opportunities and many other factors. However, public spaces need to be inclusive, sustainable and enable direct users without the need for help from others.

In addition to design awareness, social awareness and education have to be in parallel with all these processes, and products that are not accessible even if they fulfill their function are more obstructive, exclusionary and alienating than serving.



A design that makes life easier can complicate the lives of others if there is no awareness.

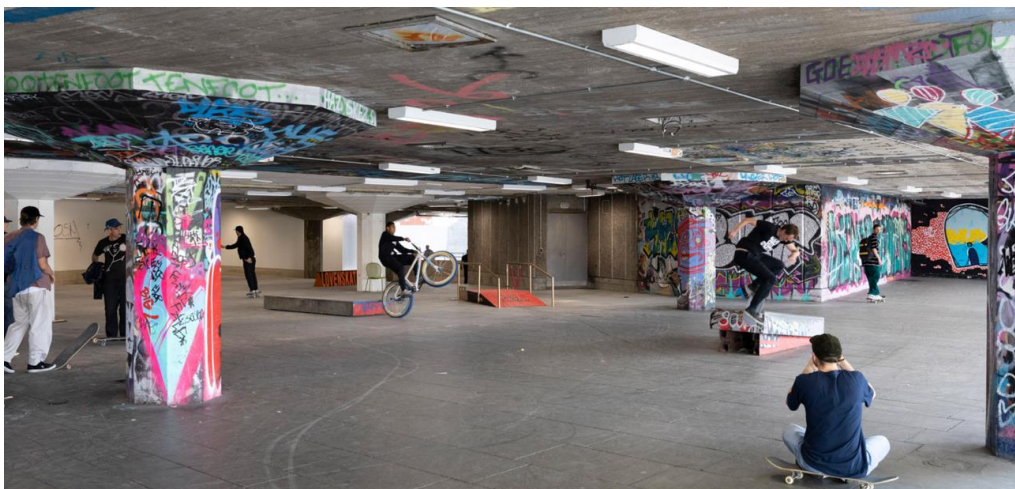
Useful transformation:

From the production process of the designs to the time they are presented to the user, architects, engineers and designers have to consider all the accessibility concerns of the disabled, apart from the demands of their customers, budget, laws, regulations and technical rules.

Today, it is not possible to obtain efficiency and user satisfaction from a shopping mall, office structure, education or a museum building that is not well designed and does not pay attention to accessibility criteria.

Building construction is not as easy as it used to be, and it is no longer possible to produce new land for housing, office and similar structures for the increasing population in metropolitan cities, in addition to rising construction costs.

The budgets of the municipalities are not sufficient for the creation, maintenance, repair, sustainability and protection of new green and public spaces. For this reason, existing structures and areas need to be renewed, transformed, and unused areas need to be evaluated



Londra / Soutbank / skateboard area in unused underpass

Digital accessibility:

Today, we have to add digital accessibility to the concept of accessibility to public spaces. It is not difficult to measure the satisfaction of visitors and staff, workforce efficiency, service quality, complaints and demands. Even digital platforms, which were used only as a socialization tool in the past, have now become the channels where companies collect statistical data, make large expenditures and follow up in market research.

Because the differences, details, planning, which provide customer satisfaction in the design of the buildings, affect the sustainability and profitability of the buildings. Especially during the covid-19 period, we all better understood the place of the digital world in our lives and what it means to be limited in movement.

As technology directs our lives in every field, the demands of users are increasing and changing. The usage time of smartphones, tablets and computers and mobile applications that we sometimes complain about, which is a part of our lives, is increasing day by day.

Today, in many areas including shopping, communication, transportation, entertainment and security, web/digital accessibility seems to rule us rather than serve us. Information companies provide more convenience to users in creating accessible spaces.

Marketing in Accessibility:

These services have been started to be used in all places open to the public. We no longer set out to learn about the traffic even before we set off, or to do research about the place when we are going to attend an event.

All information and communication in public areas are provided through these accesses. Disabled or not, we now act with these guidelines. We even make our satisfaction and complaints through these digital platforms.

The number of App applications developed for individuals belonging to different disability groups is in the hundreds, and these products have recently begun to shape design products such as sales and marketing, wearable technology.



Quick Check service in markets



McDonald's kiosk units

Wearable technology:

OrCam MyEye eyewear design that opens up a whole new world for people with visual impairments or eye disorders. With the camera system, you can read the texts on devices such as newspapers, books, mobile phones or laptops, you can recognize the faces you have defined before when they enter the camera angle, you can instantly learn the name, color, expiration date, price and shape of the objects you will buy or use.



OrCam MyEye glasses design is a design that reads printed or digital texts aloud for the visually impaired and those with reading difficulties.



Bimed's artificial intelligence-based software notifies the user of stationary or moving objects in the environment a few seconds beforehand through spatial sounds. It also warns important objects or people that have been filtered.

Renovation of buildings:

Arrangement and restoration of old buildings to meet today's possibilities and needs is a different architectural discipline. The fact that the historical buildings, which should be protected, remained in the city centers made them more valuable. We see important studies and examples on this subject in metropolitan cities of Europe.

Old buildings, which are in the historical texture and need to be protected, often acquire new identities with their new functions, which are more accessible, user-friendly and in line with international disability standards. Environmental organizations, which take into account many parameters such as consumption of natural resources, reduction of new construction, and energy, also support this effort.

Governments and local governments, who do not hesitate to bend the rules and permits from time to time in order to ensure that the building can live and transform with its new function, taking into account the environment and cultural heritage;

At the same time, they make great contributions to the tourism economy with the innovations they create. Recently, the Canadian government has launched a campaign to make the restoration of all historic buildings more inclusive and accessible.

Restoration examples ;

Apple, one of the most important of these service providers, made a difference a few years ago with a decision to open new concept stores in historical buildings that need to be preserved. The restoration of the Palazzo Marignoli building in Rome, made for the Apple Store by the world-famous Foster Partner, shows how a 150-year-old historical building has been transformed.

In these restoration and renovation applications, many arrangements and planning that were not originally thought of in the past and perhaps never needed, now have to be done. Fire escapes, elevators, ramps, toilets, disabled and special needs areas, security measures, heating, cooling and even prayer areas are planned.

In addition to these, many instructions regarding visual, auditory, tactile, intuitive use and digital accessibility are offered to users and visitors.



Palazzo Marignoli / Apple Shop





The interior that offers more comfortable spaces for users and visitors



The Quarry Theatre / Bedford

Another good example of this is the English Moravian Church building, which was built in 1865 and restored by Foster Wilson Architects in England. The building, which served as a school before,

has now been transformed into a theater with a change of function and opened its doors to its visitors.



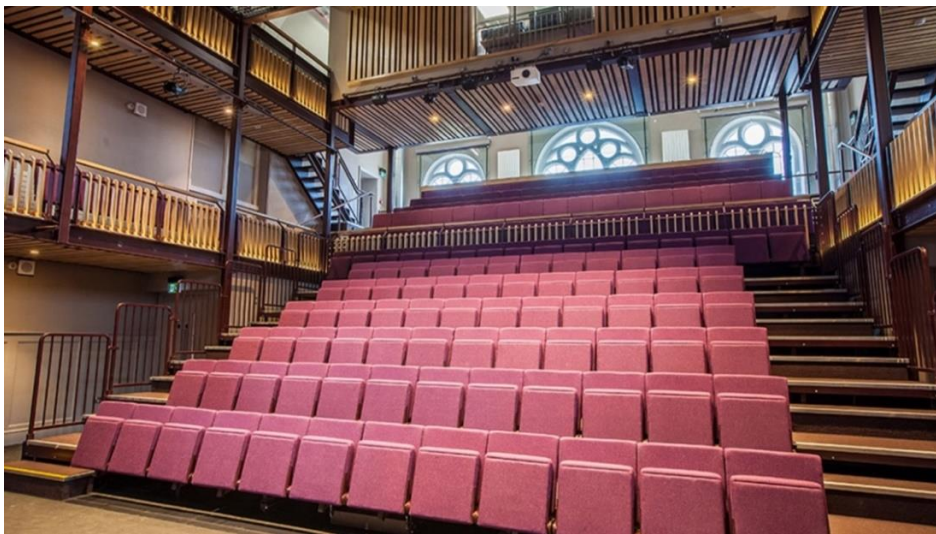
The Quarry Theater at St Luke's and the cafeteria section added to the building



Cafeteria



Auditorium for 300 people added to the building later



sits of spectators replacing the worship area



Elevator and stairs added later

Pera Museum / ISTANBUL

The building, which was built in 1893 by architect Achille Manoussos in Istanbul's favorite district of Beyoğlu / Tepebaşı, served as the Bristol Hotel for many years and then as an office building. It was completely overhauled by Architect M. Sinan Genim and turned into a museum equipped with contemporary and international standards. Pera Museum, which produces joint projects with the world's leading museums, collections and foundations such as the Maeght Foundation, Tate Britain, Victoria and Albert Museum, St. Petersburg Russian State Museum, JP Morgan Chase Collection, New York School of Visual Arts, serves as again Pera Museum, which has been working with the Suna and İnan Kıraç Foundation since the beginning of June 2005



Pera Museum/ Istanbul



Pera Museum/ indoor exhibition hall



Pera Museum / indoor exhibition hall

Narmanlı Han / ISTANBUL

The famous Narmanlı Han building in Beyoğlu, Istanbul was built in 1831 and has been used for different purposes such as embassy and prison throughout history. The building, serving with functions such as a museum, cafeteria, store, office, in accordance with today's needs and demands, designed by Yenilem Project & Consulting and Architect Dr. Sinan Genim has been restored in accordance with parking lot, elevator, fire safety and disabled standards.



Narmanlı Han



Narmanlı Han