



"La ciudad se apura a renovarse". La Plaza de la Cultura en San José, Costa Rica (1969-1982) [

2024

text (article)

Analítica

This article analyzes the interests and political and cultural disputes surrounding the construction of the Plaza de la Cultura in San Jose, Costa Rica between 1969 and 1982. The study is guided by Michel Foucault's genealogical strategy and post-structuralist social theory. This article makes use of newspapers, government documents, audiovisuals, and photographs of the Plaza de la Cultura. This article examines the design of this urban works project as part of a broader commitment by this nation's dominant social democratic party, Liberación Nacional, to modernize the capital city of San Jose, between 1970 and 1978 as part of this party's Entrepreneurial State political program. Secondly, this article asserts between 1970 and 1982, the construction and inauguration of the Plaza was used by Liberación Nacional's political opponents, namely members of the Partido Coalición Unidad political party, to critique the ruling party, This article reveals how both the 1980 financial crisis and the critiques by the Partido Coalición Unidad served to check Liberación Nacional's entrepreneurial state program

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Título: "La ciudad se apura a renovarse". La Plaza de la Cultura en San José, Costa Rica (1969-1982) electronic resource].]

Editorial: 2024

Tipo Audiovisual: historia cultural zona urbana arquitectura historiografía política cultural cultural history urban area architecture historiography cultural policy

Documento fuente: Diálogos: Revista electrónica de historia, ISSN 1409-469X, Vol. 25, N°. 1, 202459 pags

Nota general: application/pdf

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Enlace a fuente de información: Diálogos: Revista electrónica de historia, ISSN 1409-469X, Vol. 25, N°. 1, 202459 pags

Baratz Innovación Documental

- Gran Vía, 59 28013 Madrid
- (+34) 91 456 03 60
- informa@baratz.es