

Baumit Life Challenge 2024  
302 Buffalo & Grey Cattle Shelter – Dévaványa  
Architect: András Füzes (co-architect: László Feke)

### **Revival Of The Ancient, So Called "Barely Buildings"\* Of Puszta (Hungarian Plain)**

The building complex, designed by András Füzes for the National Park named "Körös-Maros", is ancient and modern at the same time. The architect created this unique gray cattle and buffalo stable site rooted in the past and unfolded **in** the present.

The two buffalo shape buildings, turned towards each other, form the main entrance of the site. The gate structure is the symbol of the interdependence of man and animal living here together. The complex shows both anthropomorphic and zoomorphic characteristics, carries the signs of a shelter raised from soil and gives decisive character to this agricultural site.

The road, between the two buffalo gate structures, leads and invites to a spacious space. The form of the stables resembles the wind shield and the horn of the buffalo and and the gray cattle at the same time, while carefully takes care of the worthy details of the huge buildings. The carpentry delights the eye.

The well house, the machine shed or even the morgue conform to the landscape. Their adaptation is to such an extent, that one can think, they have always been here, that they are part of the timeless and endless puszta (or Hungarian Plain); that they bear the lanky beauty, the cold and the heat, which carve the furrow onto the herdsman's face.

Land and building, environment and human merge into each other in harmony here. It is a particularly deep, not comparable to anything music, beating the rhythm of our hearts, when, on St. George Day, the hooves of the gray cattle drum through the gates towards the widely embracing, inviting horizon. The architect, while drawing the sketches, was hunting for this special rhythm, this special heartbeat: to find that form, that inherence which echoes the fragile balance of the land and its people.

\*It was used by László Kunkovács