

THE
LABORATORY_CITY:
SUSTAINABLE RECYCLE
AND KEY ENABLING
TECHNOLOGIES

EDITED BY
CONSUELO NAVA

"For the younger generations of South"

Publishing and design project of Consuelo Nava with Federica Ciccone and Valentina Palco

Copyright © MMXVI

Gioacchino Onorati editore S.r.l. - unipersonale

www.gioacchinoonoratieditore.it
info@gioacchinoonoratieditore.it

via Sotto le mura, 54
00020 Canterano (RM)
(06) 93781065

ISBN 978-88-548-9345-0

The rights of translation, of electronic memorization,
of reproduction and of partial adaptation also, with any mean,
are reserved for all the Countries.

The photocopies are not absolutely allowed
without written permission from the author.

The volume contains research about the PRIN 2011 "Recycle Italy. New life cycles for architectures and infrastructures of the city and the landscape", with contributions of the research unit of the Università degli Studi "Mediterranea" di Reggio Calabria.

In the "tactics", laboratory actions making by C. Nava with Pensando Meridiano association, in research of "third mission". Preparing materials presented in "tactics" and "metropolitan shots" by G. Mangano, A. Procopio, A.R. Palermiti, D. Emo, F. Ciccone, took place during the workshop "city making and rural making" direct training with the Reggio Calabria Province - Education Department (Oct 2015-2016 March).

1st edition: 2016, may

RE-CYCLE ITALY

PRIN 2013/2016

PROGETTI DI RICERCA

DI INTERESSE NAZIONALE

Area Scientifico-disciplinare

08: Ingegneria civile

ed Architettura 100%

Unità di Ricerca

Università IUAV di Venezia

Università degli Studi di Trento

Politecnico di Milano

Politecnico di Torino

Università degli Studi di Genova

Università degli Studi di Roma

“La Sapienza”

Università degli Studi di Napoli

“Federico II”

Università degli Studi di Palermo

Università degli Studi

“Mediterranea” di Reggio Calabria

Università degli Studi

“G. d’Annunzio” Chieti-Pescara

Università degli Studi di Camerino

Unità di ricerca di REGGIO CALABRIA

Vincenzo GIOFFRÈ

Responsabile Scientifico

Vittorio AMADIO

Gianni CELESTINI

Claudio MARCIANÒ

Consuelo NAVA

Adriano PAOLELLA

Rita SIMONE

Giuliana QUATTRONE

Franco ZAGARI - consulente

Mauro Francesco MINERVINO - consulente

Giamila QUATTRONE

Anna Irene DE LUCA

Antonia DI LAURO

Emanuela GENOVESE

Piera GERMANÒ

Venera LETO

Elisabetta NUCERA

Valentina PALCO

Dalila RUSSO

Nicola SAPONE

Cristina SCIARRONE

Laura ZAMPAGLIONE

Giuseppe Giovanni ZUMBO

Partecipanti Unità di Ricerca

Consuelo NAVA

Responsabile Laboratorio Recycle

INDEX

00_FOREWORDS

Augmented City is where the ideas have sex: urbanism as connection Maurizio Carta	13
Leb-key Manuel Gausa	19
Future Paradigms Mosè Ricci	25
Anything goes Franco Rossi	31

01_TEORY INTRODUCTION

Re_Constructed Intention Consuelo Nava	37
---	----

02_STRATEGY

The sustainable strategy of the "laboratory-city"
Consuelo Nava 61

Re-cycling territories, territories of re-cycling
Giamila Quattrone 73

03_TACTICS

Urban social innovation, key enabling technologies and
capacity-building for the metropolitan city of Reggio Calabria
Consuelo Nava 93

Actions to test the strategy:
making, capacity building, selfbuild actions
with Pensando Meridiano, texts by Giuseppe Mangano,
Andrea Procopio, A.Rita Palermiti, Danilo Emo 127

04_CHALLENGES

Recycling waste landscapes : experimentals projects for
Reggio Calabria Metropolitan City
Vincenzo Gioffrè 203

Demolition activitiy as a form of resilience
in the metropolitan context
Rita Simone e Venera Leto 211

Metropolitan policies and landscapes recycle:
an opportunity to re-humanize city in times of crisis
Giuliana Quattrone 227

Four(+) qualities of an anarchic landscape.
Learning from Reggio Calabria
Cristina Sciarrone 237

Cultivating connections.
Flexible agriculture to link landscape and community 247
Elisabetta Nucera

Landscape lab: participation and recycle between
thought and action 255
Antonia Di Lauro

Replacement vs reuse 265
Adriano Paoella

000_AFTERWORDS

Futurama. The language of innovation and the body of architecture 277
Sara Marini

From Unitary Urbanism (UU) to Convivial City (CC) 283
Chiara Rizzi

0000_METROPOLITAN SHOTS

Photos by: 290
A.Rita Palermiti, Danilo Emo, Federica Ciccone

00

—
FÖRE

WORDS



PALERMOFABCITY

MAPPA DEI TALENTI, DELLA CREATIVITÀ
E DELL'INNOVAZIONE



Palermo FabCity
Map of talent, of Creativity and Innovation

AUGMENTED CITY IS WHERE THE IDEAS HAVE SEX: URBANISM AS CONNECTION

Maurizio Carta
→ UNIPA



M. Carta

Architect and planner.
Full Professor of Urbanism and Territorial Planning
at the Department of Architecture, University of the Studies in Palermo.

The city has been the best place to live because allowing a community life that build fruitful relationships, generate fertile synapses, producing new economies and accelerating innovation. In his history of innovation, Steven Johnson draws on seven centuries of scientific and technological progress to show what sorts of environments nurture creativity.

He finds that great creative environments are like coral reefs, teeming of diverse colonies of creators who interact with and influence one another, because in nature cooperation is just as important as competition. That is the secret of the coral reef model: everything is recycled in a limited space on a matrix of raw material (the calcium carbonate built up by the coral). It's the ultimate example of "bootstrapping": a self-sustaining process able to proceed without external input.

So, we are conscious that the key to both natural, social and technological evolution is bricolage: recycling spare parts, taking an object from one context and placing it in another. And the most creative environments are those that create a platform for innovation, allowing the greatest number of spare part add-ons, resources to recycle, raw material to remake.

The city is the best place where several innovation could find necessary tangible/intangible re-sources, as long as it able to recover his propensity for creativity and collective intelligence.

Cities as powerful creative habitats "are platforms to open doors to the adjacent possible" (Johnson, 2010) and each new urban innovation opening up new ideas to explore.

What is it that leads to innovation nature, technology or cities?

In my opinion and in my experience as urbanist it's the sharing of ideas and building upon them. Matt Ridley describes it as "ideas having sex", arguing that socio-economic growth comes from the collision of information and new ideas, shared openly.

"The secret of the modern world is its gigantic interconnectedness. Ideas are having sex with other ideas from all over the planet with ever-increasing promiscuity. The telephone had sex with the computer and spawned the Internet" (Ridley, 2010).

So, if innovation is a fertile connection of elements, and urbanism needs to be an effective connection enabler, then I want introduce the concept of **Au-gmented City as the best place where ideas have sex**: it has to be planned and created to facilitate the fertile collision of ideas and people, of identity and innovation.

The Augmented City is a post-technological smart city, it's a human smart city. An Augmented City is a connecting device for the sustainable city and it can be considered a vibrant organism which connects places and services, data and information, local and global economic resources, social sensors and actuators, in a permanent human and urban metabolism.

Cities were born and have resisted all alternative proposals – and the storms of post-urban – becoming the prevalent form of human settlement due to their ability to continually create a platform for innovation, allowing the greatest number of spare part, offering recyclable materials with which to build new relationships, or semi-finished places on which to

complete the process of me-tamorphosis (Carta, 2014).

To improve the effects of the connecting urbanism, I have set up ten keywords able to reset the urbanism and spatial planning for reimagining the Augmen-ted City – in spatial, social and economic sense – in face of the 21st century challenges (Carta, 2016).

First an augmented city is **Sentient** because it needs new values, skills and tools for renewing a knowledge-based and solving-oriented urbanism in a well-timed collaborative scenario.

And it's thus also based on **Crowdsourcing**, because needs for a civic-tech-urban structural alliance in the Sharing Society we live, able to generate new opensource space: meeting places and housing, social infrastructure and pla-ces of co-work and then triggers a renewed community covenant that reacti-vates the constituent factors of urban life (Ratti, 2015).

An augmented city is **Intelligent** – more than smart – because it can generate an enabling ecosystem based on the hardware of better urban spaces, on the software of the active citizenship, but overall on an urban operative system for an advanced city planning and design.

The fourth keyword is **Productive** because next cities need to frame the po-werful makers movement within a new the creative/productive urban ecosy-stem for improving the manufacturing renaissance in the cities based on the new artisan economy (Anderson, 2012), for reconstituting an essential eco-nomic base of the city, after years of euphoria for city as services.

But the city will also be more and more **Creative** through the integrated use of culture, communication and cooperation (3C of the creative city) as resources for an active city can generate a new form and a different growth based on identity , on the quality and reputation (Carta, 2007).

An augmented city is **Recycling**-based and asks for a paradigm shift for me-tamorphosis cities that not only re-duce, re-use, re-cycle their tangible and intangible resources, but design a new circular metabolism, by including the planned recycling between the components of the project.

Thus it is **Resilient**, that means accepting the task for adaptive, circular and self-sufficient cities for winning the climate change challenge, producing and distributing effectively the “resilience dividend” (Rodin, 2014): an instrument of urban ecological equalization in the economy of the transition to decarbo-nised development.

The eight keyword is **Fluidity** because asks to rethink porosity and fluidity as projective paradigms for urban regeneration projects that derive by water their charge of identity, producing new spatial configurations from renewing interface port-city not as place-threshold but as a producer of powerful urban identity (Carta, Ronsivalle, eds. 2016).

In the metropolitan scenario, the **Reticularity** defines the process from a traditional ecosystem and gravitational model to a new and more effective metropolitan super-organism and archipelagos.

Last but not least, an Augmented City is **Strategic**, regarding the need of a multi-domain approach and a time-oriented action, less consumer and more producer, able to activate several cycle to reactivate districts, cities and lands.

A new strategic approach, less financial and more cooperative, more metabolic and less occasional, asks for a new protocol for urban regeneration, which I called Cityforming© Protocol (Carta, Lino, eds., 2015), based on a system of incremental colonizing tactics, open source consolidations and development projects, preferring an approach by strategic masterprogram rather than a rational-comprehensive masterplan.

These ten keywords will define a rich cloud of meanings, tools and good practices useful to recognize and define the existence of the arising urban paradigm shift: the Augmented City, that improves its material and immaterial resources, that strengthens its collaborative spaces linking them with the net worked community.

A city that senses and acts by its wide and deep networks of human sensors and civic actuators, of technologic devices and smart citizens, of politic leadership and technical skills.

An Augmented City must be a disruptive/reconstructive innovation in city planning, a visionary/pragmatic paradigm of urban regeneration and an open/circular approach in everyday life.

References

- Anderson, C. (2012), *Makers: The New Industrial Revolution*. New York: Crown Business.
- Carta, M. (2007), *Creative City. Dynamics, Innovations, Actions*. Trento-Barcelona: List.
- Carta, M. (2014), *Reimagining Urbanism. Creative, Smart and Green Cities for the Changing Times*. Barcelona-Trento: ListLab.
- Carta, M. (2016), *Planning the Augmented City*. *Urbanistica*, n. 154.
- Carta, M. and Lino, B. eds. (2015), *Urban Hyper-Metabolism*. Roma: Aracne.
- Carta, M. and Ronsivalle, D. eds (2016), *The Fluid City Paradigm. Waterfront Regeneration as an Urban Renewal Strategy*. Zurich: Springer.
- Johnson, S. (2010), *Where Good Ideas Come From: The Natural History of Innovation*. New York: Riverhead Books.
- Marini, S. and Roselli, C. eds (2014), *Re-cycle Op_Positions I*. Roma: Aracne.
- Ratti, C. (2015), *Open Source Architecture*. London: Thames & Hudson.
- Ricci, M. (2012), *New Paradigms*. Trento-Barcelona: ListLab.
- Ridley, M. (2010), *The Rational Optimist: How Prosperity Evolves*. New York: Harper.
- Rodin, J. (2014), *The Resilience Dividend: Being Strong in a World Where Things Go Wrong*. New York: PublicAffairs.



Photo Composition by M.Gausa

LEB-KEY

Manuel Gausa

→ UNIGE



M. Gausa

Architect, Urbanist and theorist.
Full Professor of Architecture and Landscape Design,
DSA- Faculty of Architecture (UNIGE-Università degli Studi) of Genova.

Laboratory-City : two terms that Consuelo Nava, authoress and editor, brings together in this publication in a plural way, from different approaches and pro-posals.

City from the *Latin "Civis"*, from Indo-European voice Kei: to root, prop up the land.

Laboratory, from the *Latin "Labor"*, from Indo-European root Leb: to hang, su-spend in the air.

These two apparently contradictory actions- on one side the territoria-lizing in a specific (local) scenario of multiple relationships of exchange (increasin-gly global); and, on the other one, to project ("beyond" their bor-ders, real and virtual) that same scenario, towards new relational con-ditions, more positive and qualitative - is the action framework in which move the proposals that we summon.

Many of them, as can be appreciated in the titles of the central texts that ac-company them, seem to suggest other possible dual conjugations, ap-parently dichotomic but combined, however, quite naturally: Recycling and Innovation (Recycling waste landscapes: experimental projects for Reggio

Calabria Metropolitan City); Demolition and Form (Demolition activity as a form of resilience in the metropolitan context); Metropolization and Humanization (Metropolitan policies and landscapes recycle: an opportunity to re-humanize city in times of crisis); Quality and Anarchy (Four qualities of an anarchic landscape. Learning from Reggio Calabria); Flexibility and Connection (Cultivating connections. Flexible agriculture to link landscape and community); Thought and action, Replacement vs Reuse...

The above mentioned dualities, that formerly had caused narratives contradictions, today generate interesting operating crossings, where the possible blends into the inertial, the usual in the unusual, into new spatial and environmental formulations.

So in this new and exciting paradoxical capability of interaction /combination (between the real and the virtual, the local and the global, the artificial and the natural, the singular and the plural, the individual and the collective, the cultural and the social) holds itself the real revolution of a new informational time, intended to multiply and make simultaneous the exchanges – and therefore the interactions - between situations, conditions and information.

An open, efficient and unprejudiced interaction capacity (understood as a possibility of positive and plural, sensitive and responsible exchange with the environment and with the individual) which will be in the very foundations of the new (substantially interactive) sustainable consciousness, produced in recent decades.

Beyond the classic reproductive logic - associated with the formal composition of apparently established reality - or of modern logic production - materialized in the functional object's relative position - today, a new logic co-production opens (sensitive to the open layout of processes) facilitated by dynamics comprehension of complex systems and networking technologies.

This is the logic that wants to explore the implicated actions which Consuelo Nava proposes, designed to "rewrite intentionally" the urban contexts in which they operate, and to form an empathetic and responsible new type of *(inter)activism*, in which, operational strategies and tactical operations

were conjugated in new sustainable urban prototypes, called to arrange: "Energy (positive) + synergy (proactive)."

There is a confident, constructive, open and attentive optimism in all works presented on these pages - and is in the same trajectory, both from teacher and personnel, that Consuelo Nava - brings her near to a sort of purposeful "idealism" (propositive idealism y operational realism), that so much we've defended in the emerging new architecture founding aptitude .

Consuelo Nava - as all his team - acts and feels at once, but also believes in the "Changing paradigms" of Mose Ricci, in the "Creative culture" of Maurizio Carta or in the "Advanced Thinking " that some have proposed as new cultural scene, and appear here, as the ideological background of many collective adventures that Consuelo Nava shares as a traveling companion, enthusiastic and involved.

These are the scenarios where/in that the most anachronistic and Manerist "ismi" of the twenty century XX - formalismo, trazadismo, reglamentarism, zonismo, diseñismo, objectualism, developmentalism, etc) give way to a new more open and pragmatic attitude, (but also programmatic) rigorous and involved with relational and participatory processes, or better, co-participated (open to a generative and spontaneous exchange between mediator and user processes).

Operations - formulations and / or urban configurations, simple and complex at the same time- that Consuelo herself underlined pursuing a "relations with the communities that inhabit the places and environments in which they operate, through the activation of new life-cycles, environmental and positive, trusting in the technological capability, in a sensitive innovation and in the social dimension".

And since Consuelo is interested in the challenges (rather than dogmas) ecological, I would propose a definition for her teamwork, not only ecological, but also "ecologica" (definition in that/in which "ecco" is from *voilà, aquí está, we did it, we can, l'abbiamo fatto, ci siamo, etc*) decidedly (pro) active.

A definition in which the logical substrate itself (a system of thought, complex and rigorous), will be joining with a playful willingness of immediate, constructive and decisional "approach"- and also why not (?)- informal (and informationally) playful.

A definition that many of us share from the confidence in urban perspective and from the celebration of the social and spatial diversity. In fact, beyond the short-term economic and production strategies, centered on 'profitable and competitive obsession, the teaching and scientific research should be able to generate, especially cultural value. An intellectual positioning ...and ideological: ethical and purposeful. Generate not only knowledge, but energy and creative ideas. Celebrate the architecture and enjoy the investigation...today should be a shared possible speech, fundamental to claim - and to project - the transversal role of an old, very old, (trans) discipline.

And since, this is a publication of testimonies, friendship and complicity, procedural and conceptual crossroads, I would like to repeat here - reviewing it, now in English- the urban Decalogue presented in the book *Towards a Pro-active Manifesto of Moses Ricci and Joerg Schroeder*, published in this same collection and edited by Sara Favargiotti and Chiara Olivestri.

DECALOGUE 2: URBAN CHA(LLE)NGES (translated by Sara Favargiotti)

All these changes of paradigms have direct translations in our lecture and interpretation of our contemporary urban structures and in the conception of the city as a new kind of complex field of human, cultural, economic and spatial, relations and interactions.

- 1 – The city is today a multi-city
- 2 – Is not read as a set of forms (static), but as a system of levels (dynamic);
- 3 – Is not defined as a place but as a hyper-place, a place of places and in places;

4 – Is not imposed in the territory, but is moving in (between) the territory;

5 – Its territory are its landscapes. The landscape is the other "building" of the city.

6 – The challenge of the city is also, not to expand or to grow, but to rein-force itself. More than building it comes to recycle;

7 – The identity of the city is not rooted in preserving its "essence", but in renewing values, make up the deficit, boosting potential and strengthen the assets. Bet on a strategic vision, open to a creative and sensitive inno-vation and to the inherited assets too (heritage, landscape, atmosphere of life and sensory spaces, etc.).

8 – Its identity is not essential or fundamental but conditional. It depends on the ability of the same urban system to preserve and reinvent itself, at the same time; to give a new qualitative and strategic impetus.

9 – This strategic orientation can't find support in old closed formations (absolute planning), but in open formulations (differential process) with a new kind of launched and sustainable dynamics:

10 – The new equation "CITY + DEVELOPMENT + SOCIETY" declines today as:

"INTERACTION + INNOVATION + INTEGRATION"

or if you prefer as:

"(Inter)urban quality (interactive) + Economic development (innovator) + Environmental sensitivity (integral) + Socio-cultural affirmation (integrati-ve)"

The sustainability of any system implies, in fact, empathy, synergy and in-novation (development, sensitivity and progress).

His future rooted in its ability to innovate and to improve its present.

And, is in this proactive adventure, that taking place the actions that here are celebrated.



BoaMistura

Collaborativ 24e Action/Installation

Poblenou, Sant Martí district District, Barcelona 2015 [Ph. F. Ciccone]

FUTURE PARADIGMS

Mosè Ricci

→ UNITN



M. Ricci

Architect.
Full Professor of Urbanism and of Landscape Architecture
at the University of Trento.

What is the destiny of architecture (as the complex of the design disciplines) in the revolution of sharing information technologies? In an age that seems to consider with least with absolute priority the development of the Net and of the connecting devices?

If today -and in the future more and more- the focus of cities development is no longer the growth but the resilience and environmental quality? When not the new constructions, but the efficiency and re-signification of existing ones become the central issue of building sector?

Nothing surprising. In the history of architecture and the city the great technological changes has always produced major changes in the styles and in the forms of living and consequently in the way in which is conceived any design action. One of the main principles of modernity was to consider architecture as the best possible spatial synthesis between form and function. Today, with the information technology revolution, we have the opposite problem. Namely to give meaning, narrative and uses -even temporary uses- to residual and abandoned spaces that have already given forms. And turn them into attractive and ecologically efficient living places.

This phase of modernity disposal demands new paradigms (such as new

points of view on the future) and a new project idea of physical space. It is a major challenge for the architectural culture. A challenge that puts the existing value with conceptual devices that work on the slip way and new life cycles of living spaces. A challenge that considers the environment as a project and the landscape as infrastructure that produces ecological value and the future of the city as a collective project and not authorial. Thomas Kuhn (1962, cit.) Explains how in the early stages of scientific revolutions when major disciplinary paradigms are in crisis and are about to change, it is possible that two extreme theoretical positions contrast each other. One wants to substantially confirm the principles of the discipline. It tends to claim the specificity and uniqueness of the discipline in its traditional and absolute essence. The other uses curiosity as new knowledge device. He wants to challenge the established principles, pursue the paths of change, exploring other cultures and other worlds, acquire new disciplinary contributions, have different points of view on the future. It is a major challenge for the architectural culture. A challenge that gives value to the existing with conceptual devices that work on the slip way and new life cycles of living spaces. A challenge that sees the environment as a project, the landscape as an infrastructure that produces ecological performances and the future of the city as a collective and not authorial vision.

To intercept innovation it is better then to look at architecture boundaries, at the borders of theoretical debate, as an apocryphal and purposeful place for interdisciplinary contamination. As Alejandro Aravena wrote in the introduction to the theme of his Venice Biennale of Architecture in 2016 *Reporting from the Front: There are several battles That need to be won and several front-tiers That need to be expanded in order to improve the quality of the built environment and consequently people's quality of life. More and more people on the planet are in search for a decent place to live and the conditions to Achieve it are becoming tougher and tougher by the hour. Any attempt to go beyond business as usual encounters huge resistance in the inertia of reality and any effort to tackle relevant issues has to overcome Increasing the complexity of the world. But unlike military wars where nobody wins and there is a prevailing sense of defeat, on the frontlines of the built environment, there is a sense of vitality Because architecture is about looking at reality in a key proposal.* People are for obvious reasons always interested in quality of physical

forms in the living spaces, but increasingly this is identified in the economic, environmental and social targets more than in the sensuality of forms. The aesthetic values remain fundamental, but are rapidly changing. In recent years the substantial lack of interest of the younger architecture students for expensive and striking works of so-called star architects is its clearest demonstration. On this the Net is a good point of reference too. By clicking on the future + city + innovation you can open for example Urban Next - Expanding Architecture to Rethink Cities (urbannext.net 2016), one of the most-oriented sites and updated on the international debate emerge now clearly some key points that are repeatedly declined both in theoretical interventions in experimental practice.

Innovation in architecture today appears to be moving on the definition of a new theoretical / practical / conceptual active framework, and on the affirmation of three main -non opposite- quality objectives: project as narrative, project as social action, project as performance and not as sign. These are, in other words, the new disciplinary paradigms on the aesthetics of the physical world that, more than others, are adopted in the age of the information technologies revolution. Narrative, social action and performance are three points of view on architecture and on the future. All of them make reference to the landscape as the new context of intervention.

The paradigm of the project as narrative expresses the need to give sense to the existing, to discover with new eyes what's already there. Rem Koolhaas declines it superbly in the project for the Prada Foundation in Milan, as it converts the old industrial building with a golden patina. Narrative architecture, as written by Giancarlo De Carlo is able to listen, to accept, to annex what are the tensions of the city and its inhabitants. An architecture that has to become process, breaking up the consolidated view of the building as unicum perfect and complete (Marini, 2013). But also in the strict etymological sense the narrative reveals different meanings, tells us the story of the building and its inhabitants through material signs. Sometimes it is the citizens themselves, or artists to write their stories on artifacts such as Dan Pitera with the Detroit Collaborative Design Center or Francesco Giorgino, alias Millo, with murals of Turin. More often it is the same architectural ratio of intervention to clarify the meaning of the narrative tension, evocative as in the Hannah Arendt School of Claudio Lucchini in Bolzano or anti-rhetoric and pop as in the Ski Slope on top of the incenerator by Big in Copenhagen.

The project as social action is the focus point of many contemporary works for (even temporary) inhabiting spaces and systems for collective mobility. As it was said before is one of the key themes of the 2016 Biennale. Always Aravena writes: *We would like to learn from architectures That despite the scarcity of means to intensify what is available instead of complaining about what is missing. We would like to understand what design tools are needed to subvert the forces That privilege the individual gain over the collective benefits, reducing We to just me. We would like to know about cases That resist reductionism and oversimplification and do not give up architecture's mission to penetrate the mystery of the human condition. We are interested in how architecture can introduce a Broader notion of gain: added as design value instead of an extra cost or architecture as a shortcut towards equality.*

The project as a social action concerns obviously buildings as neighborhoods, public spaces and infrastructure. It achieves the objective of emancipation and often through shared action design processes. Often in this type of projects the traditional concept of authorship is questioned by sharing the creative process and the implementation process is self-managed *hic et nunc*. It exceeds the long bureaucratic processes of public approvals. Among others interesting experiences, the works of Alfredo Brillembourg with Urban Think Tank, of Grávia-los and Di Monte (*Esto no es un Solar*) and of Boamistura in Brazilian favelas, as well as the Italian Guerrilla Gardens are paradigmatic in this field.

The project as a performance and not as a sign is the technological paradigm declined as a conceptual principle of operational aesthetic. The architecture of performance versus the architecture of sign means put at the center of architectural changings not the use but the appreciable innovative results in ecological terms mainly, but not only. It is the contemporary evolution of Advanced Architecture by Manuel Gausa (2001), It is a matter which is being developed at the urban level -from policies for the smart city in Barcelona to Copenhagen biocity- as at the architectural scale (think LEED protocols or ClimateHouse), at the industrial design scale, or at the scale of the process design as Carlo Ratti does with his SENSEable design lab at MIT.

We are facing a change in the field of Architecture, to move towards a different form of "habitats", where architecture is not merely inhabited,

but becomes interactive and evolutionary; to technologically integrated interface, says Areti Marcopoulou, academic director of the IaaC (Institute for advanced architecture of Catalonia), one of the most quoted international schools of architecture that functions as a laboratory of continuous technological innovation. The performance paradigm projects the design discipline in the contemporary age using it as an interaction device of a system of physical or intangible relationships that substantiate the same existence of architecture. It is the re-contextualization of the idea of designing within a new and not necessarily material space of intervention.

The landscape can be considered the principal paradigm of the architecture of the eternal present. This is why, in a sense, it contains all the others. As very effectively the geographer Franco Farinelli explains in an article entitled "The Re-turn of the landscape" (Corriere della Sera of Sunday, December 20, 2015) where he states that The landscape today is the only possible cognitive model (...) exactly as in front of a landscape, in the Net the distance between subject and object is no longer possible. (...) in short, because the opposite of the spatial one the cognitive landscape model (based on the totality and on the mobility of the subject as well as on its indissolubility respect to the object) is the only one that meets the epistemological conditions that today our world requires, and that from our side it is urgent to recognize and take if you want groped to understand how the world works.

The landscape is the only intellectual context for the physical space projects. The landscape replaces the modern idea of territory as a projection of reality in a horizontal plane of representation with a single linear metric measurement, because in the landscape as in any remote network is no longer possible.

The landscape, as the Net, is round. As the network is defined by the multiplicity of glances and actions. Charles Waldheim writes (2016) that you can compare the city after the modernity to the disabitato Piranesiano. A place where nature and seemingly casual traces of previous eras come together in a landscape dense of meanings and people. Places, but also the tools and design devices can not remain the same for cities in the age of the information technologies revolution.



View of a Metropolitan City
Tibidabo, Barcelona 2015
[Ph. F. Ciccone]

ANYTHING GOES

Francesco Rossi
→ UNICAL



F. Rossi

Architect, specialized in Economy and Regional Development.
Full Professor of Technique and Urban Planning
at the Department of Environmental Engineering and Territory and Chemical
Engineering University of Calabria.

Today building utopias could mean pursuing a mental approach that excludes them. It is not so. In her work Consuelo Nava seems to invite us to make all efforts to achieve in the short term what we need, through actions allowing to overcome the contradictions of the present, not to merely limit the damage and to adapt ourselves to a reassuring existence.

In her work Consuelo invites us to reflect on the very exciting things we can do, there is a world we need to take care of, there is a world to redesign. At pre-sent we live an utopian, visionary, unreal and surreal condition, the expression "it is all right." This is what Nava seems to tell us.

Contemporary culture, however, is increasingly characterized by "thieves of attention", professionals shaping a variegated and important industry. The thieves of attention, the big media and entertainment industries, are trying to steal our history, our real life experiences, our imagination and spontaneity.

Old stories and tales gave us the access to the ancient human experience. In recent decades the pendulum moved in the opposite direction. In the post-modern world the content of people's minds lasts only a few hours or a few days and does not survive the publication of tomorrow newspaper.

Sitting in front of our PC we get pleasure from electronic pulses that have only microseconds of life. This situation moves to an area where real-life experiences, relationships between physical space and people, emotions and desires are the only reason for existence: the city. Above all the thieves of attention stole the old story of how urban environments change as well as the projects of tomorrow.

The urban transformation projects, the restoration and renovation projects shown in magazines, as well as the urban planning submitted to the public Administrations and many architectural structures are mainly based on pictures. There are many pictures.

Getting closer, both the architectural and planning images fade and do not look real. The computer actually produces and shows extraordinary images that represent and describe many aspects of contemporary life. However it is not capable of finding effective ways of interpreting the transformations in the different territorial and urban areas. Lacking suitable codes to properly use the potential of new technologies, we take refuge in the images, effective and fascinating images, sometimes full of utopian and fantastic characters, but always pale images.

Then the question arises: what is the designer's role in the today world of redundancy, overfill and self-celebration? *"A new dimension of the on hold " project on a new value of background as instant resilience device"*, Nava suggests.

Today pressures, however, do not allow us to wait for so long. We need to bring the sense of what we do back to the reality of things, we need to reflect further, we need to design what is unforeseen (because not foreseen in the pre-sent system), focusing on the environment's emergencies, on development of new research tools , on formulation of project proposals that do not follow the general governance rules.

We are aware the contemporary city lives a "widespread" and homologated condition in a given territory, with the society that lives there. This leads to the fragmentation of the urban continuum in different communities, sectors, areas, districts - that may or may not have much in

common - but also the inevitable convergence of "concentration areas" and "urban containers", possible locations of a new 'conscience'.

Nava takes us on a ride, leaving from the unspoken desire of having a common vision. Nava sends us a strong, clear and optimistic message: the belief that in the present time there is the desire to return to identify ourselves with something big, unexpected, different, connective; something that goes beyond the domestic context; something in which we meet to share a plural condition; something purifying from toxins consumption, removing all superfetations we build to protect ourselves from the fragilities of our time; something to put order, to be established as a 'rule'.

In this context we feel the need for one common vision where the 'city' is a strong, single and authoritarian expression of an era, a common response able of restoring order in the today very fragmented landscape, the urban one in particular.

01

—
THEO
INTRO

RY DUCTION

[TO_cohesion of urban community
+ FROM_Visual information
and associative modes
of perception+ TROUGHT_recycle and reclaim
territory,architecture,building, materials]

ROMA
20-25
CITTÀ IN TRANSIZIONE
CON LA METROPOLI



UNIVERSITÀ
DEGLI STUDI
DI PALERMO

d'Arch
FACOLTÀ DI ARCHITETTURA

RE-FORMING ROME

CITYFORMING THE AGRIVAB CITY

Inaugurazione della mostra
ROMA 20-25 nuovi cicli di vita per la metropoli



18.12.2015 | h 19.00

Sala Gian Ferrari

MAXXI | Roma

Maurizio Carta (coordinatore)

Alessandra Bacami | Consuelo Nava | Barbara Lino

Annalisa Contato | Carmelo Galati Tardarico | Marco Ingrassia

Jessica Smeralda Oliva | Marilena Orlando | Daniele Ronsivalle

Angelica Agnello | Manateresa Casti | Maddalena Culicasi

Milena Lauretta | Francesca Montagna

Coordinatore dell'allestimento: Maurizio Carta | AnnaLisa Contato | Jessica Smeralda Oliva

promossa da



ROMA CAPITALE MAXXI

MINISTERO REGIONALE
DELLE POLITICHE REGIONALI

partner



INP PARIAS
REAL ESTATE

Manifesto Re-forming UNIPA for the exhibition Recycle Italy at Maxxi

RE_CONSTRUCTED INTENTION

Consuelo Nava
→ UNIRC

The Laboratory_City: sustainable recycle and reclaim throught key enabling technologies

The both theoretical and applied research, whose outcomes are shown in the text "The Laboratory City: sustainable recycling and reclaim" proposes a new interpretation of some issues/paradigms transversally affecting the topics pertaining to the city and its relations with technology, innovation, and the social and operational dimensions of its communities.

The theme of the laboratory city, perused by the research Recycle Italy provides a major opportunity to help reconstrue the intentions that link some views and contributions deriving from the transdisciplinarity of the most relevant theories and experiences regarding the topics of the transformation of the city, their present and their capacity of facing the environmental and social challenges from the standpoint of the preservation of the future through the activation of new life cycles.

A condition characterized on one hand by downturns and on the other hand by the radicalism of innovation for a future whose utopia, at the same

time boundless and too much constrained, dares represent and resemio-
tize the contemporary reality in spite of many opposite trends. [C. Nava,
2015]

In 1991 De Carlo writes on the relation between spatial planning project
and architecture project: "Yet, it is not so much necessary to highlight
the 'interdisciplinary myth', that caused a lot of misunderstanding in the
Sixties, but rather to go beyond the boundaries of the conventional di-
sciplines by venturing into the 'transdisciplinary' research and therefore
to raise specific questions as well as to involve anyone who has a point
of view on those questions, from which they will go on fathoming them
crisscrossing their experience with the others'" [GDC, 1991, p. 4].

This proposition, more topical today than ever before, hypothesizes a "col-
lective and plural" dimension of the city again, conceiving it as physical
and relational space "of reciprocity" while admitting the failure of any sub-
sidiarity attempt, and, despite the contemporary conditions of its configu-
ration once again confer a significance totally stemming from the values
of a new economic geography, the issue of the density ratio between the
extension of the urban territory and the possible exchange among the
communities inhabiting is still open for debate.

As in G. De Carlo's correct interpretation also this research line pursues
the recognition of the signs of interaction between the "large" city, hyper-
connected through the web and advanced technologies, and the "small"
city setting of the daily activities of neighbourhood communities and a sus-
tainable self-government in transition. With rather more tools and a quite
different historical stratification GDC was conducting his research in this
wake, simultaneously assessing "the geometry of the high amount" with
the city-like buildings experimentation (Team X) and "the geography of
difference" advocating spontaneous architecture that encourages demo-
cratization through the design of relational and social spaces; he himself
identified some chances not only in the city of desires but also in the fle-
xible city and in the landscape's, taking into consideration a "multisca-
lar" and "multiracial" (really anticipatory assumptions) landscape capable
of retreating and spreading beyond every physical boundary shaped by an
architecture entrusted to mould a new identity for a city used to rethinking
itself all the time.

"Thus, it seems to me that architecture, to mirror a pluralistic and – let's say – democratic society, must be multiple and significant to everybody; in other words it should meet everybody's needs so that everybody can recognize themselves in it".[GDC,1989, p. 20].

The cultural and tangible background of the practices related to urban and architectural recycling as response to the new economic and social scenarios and the urgent environmental needs regarding resource management, is now a laboratory city where the new smartness of the city and its communities informs the way advanced technologies and information are used, actions are carried out, and decisions are made in an "open" process. Therefore, the architecture and landscaping project should pursue a new beauty of the cities also by revitalizing abandoned places, recycling materials as well as the flows of data, energy, and services for a new sustainable and aware urban metabolism aimed at involving the communities and their actions, foreseeing a new current narration of the cities of the future. A more suitable use of artificial intelligence devices and advanced technologies for respectively collective intelligence and enabling technologies, is key.

"(...) In other words, as architects we do not do research on recycling because it is a good and right action.

We study that because today for an architect to recycle is to design. Also there is an inextricable bond linking urban materials recycling and smart systems. (...) The simultaneous action of three key factors – the economic and the environmental crisis, the revolution affecting the information technologies – is deeply changing our lifestyles and the way we imagine and shape our future. (...) Our problem is to give sense and new narrative to either existing empty or denied forms. And to transform these into charming and performing landscapes and architecture" [M. Ricci, 2015, pp.10-11]

Five Questions for Five Paradigms

Thus, the contemporary debate, the present phenomena of city-making urbanism and humanism, and the studies we carried out within our research programme have raised five issues that can be meant as paradigms and really open exploration paths as long as they are borne up by theoretical reflections.

They must be set in relation with practical experiences pertaining to the topics identified, experiments of laboratory cities for urban innovation projects within which the three main aspects of sustainability (economic, social, and environmental) blend together again in time and space with a new cooperative attitude and rediscover new economies and geographies of inhabiting and exchange.

(sharing economy + sharing community).

In this scenario it is possible to outline the role of technology which makes "the city sensitive" (city sense) to that new and open landscape that definitely depends on the exchange of both the new virtual information and the one generated by the physical space transformed by the residents' needs. "*(...) The superimposition of this new layer of information on the physical space will make it possible to free up the space in order to enable a new concept of the shared city, bending the physical world to the actual wishes of its occupants, responding directly to their demands, transforming itself according to their needs. On the other hand, the gap between the current state of technological development and its direct application to the contemporary city gives scope for positioning a whole new scheme of appropriation of space, in order to transform it through free data, our data, which will reshape the static geometries that we now see from the windows of planes. And the planes themselves.*" (Lucas Cappelli, 2012, p.15)

Technology, therefore, is called to sustainably execute and manage the innovation of its devices thanks to 'recycling and reclaim' processes in complex and multiple scenarios as well as in a dimension of humanity measurable on the scale of any social time duration beyond the short, medium, and long term frames of sustainability.

" (...) This awareness of the multiplicity of social time duration, precondition of the plural intelligence, is the key for a society willing to com-

prehend innovation distinguishing the latter from the multiplication of novelties and consequently changing the perception that one is subjected to technology rather than in control of it." (L. De Biase, 2015, p. 191)

In this light the technologies enabling the processes of transformation and new life of regions and cities will be able to fulfil an ecological function. The social time and the transformations influence the real contexts for which the project and the achievable goal set in the realm of these more adaptive technologies are figured out.

The five questions corresponding to the five paradigms that can be postulated, are the theoretical devices satisfying the above-mentioned needs by designing various contemporary scenarios that despite being mere challenges at first, must play a key role as factors of competitiveness sparking all kinds of clever innovation. Our aim, therefore, is to comprehend:

- [1]** what the shape, the profile, and the layout of the city to preserve are and who has to accomplish this "plural" task;
- [2]** the role of the urban policies derived from the "technological innovation market" and the reaction of the communities to "an advanced intelligence";
- [3]** the Knowledge City scenarios between "sustainability transition" and "key enabling technologies";
- [4]** a new idea of the project "in wait" hinging on a new significance of the context as instantaneous device of resiliency;
- [5]** recycling and ecological restoration as prompt responses to the contemporary environmental and social crisis.

Along this conceptual path the final part of the section "reconstructed intentions" features the photographic recounting of the five questions as theoretical starting points to outline peculiar strategies closely related to what we want to assume and discuss. It is key to understand that no issue is detached from the processes that originally determined them and that the reasons of the transformations of regions and cities, including the communities involved, are always influenced by cultural intentions that also later spur wide-ranging participation.



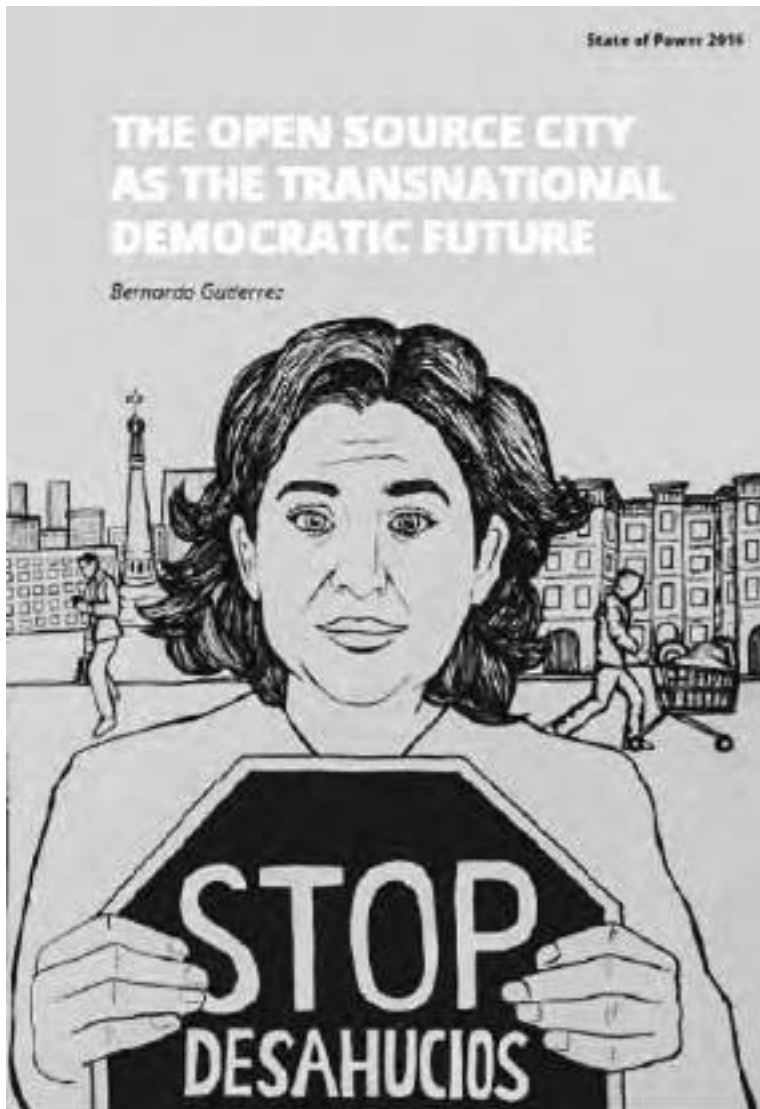
[1]_ P. P. Pasolini in "the form of cities" [source: web]

ICONOGRAPHIC SECTION:
5QUESTIONS VS5PARADIGMS

BACKGROUNDS

[1] *What the shape, the profile , and the layout of the city to preserve are and who has to accomplish this “plural” task*

Pierpaolo Pasolini, in the documentary video “**The shape of the city**” (1974), with his camera tries to frame the perfect shot of the city of Orte, in search of the profile, the layout, the perfect and absolute form unaltered by others elements alien to its stratification as historic settlement on the promontory. While recounting this unperturbed research to his collaborator he takes a chance to recall some Nepalese and Persian cities belonging to other worlds where the perfect form has always had to interact with the **human historical events**, despite some of its **peculiar characteristics** were affected. And these characteristics, in PPP’s view are those ones most threatened by the **cities homologated** by consumerism, that saw the destruction of the **different peculiar realities** and were deprived of their history; a reality grounded into that differentiated human nature that Italy generated and even the regimes failed to demolish. In PPP’s opinion the perfect form of the city, therefore, is recognizable only if it is compared to its “**natural background**”: “the problem of the form of the city and the preservation of its nature represent one single problem” . Nevertheless, the plural task definitely is to protect whatever “is not codified, that nobody protects, that is not officially acknowledged, that is creation of the people of a city” that by the way is “the most extraneous form of artworks and authors’ works”. In other words “**the unknown and popular past**” must be preserved since it recounts and resists as PPP says while walking and identifying some uneven old cobblestones of Orte as text of unwritten stories.



[2]_ The cover of the section
"The open source city as the transnational democratic future"
[source: web, text "state of Power" - Illustr. by the designer Evan Clayburg]

[2] *The role of the urban policies derived from the “technological innovation market” and the reaction of communities to “an advanced intelligence”.*

One of the paragraphs of the survey “State of Power 2016” focuses on the case of Barcelona’s mayoress Ada Colau and is entitled “The open source city as the transnational democratic future” by Bernardo Gutierrez. The case is ascribable to the new surge of experimentation involving some Spanish cities in the attempt to testing new forms of **participatory ParEcon of democracy and solidarity**. Before her election, Colau was a founder member and spokeswoman of the Plataforma de Afectados por la Hipoteca (PAH) (Platform for people affected by mortgages) established to defend people evicted owing to the plunge in Spanish real estate market in turn caused by 2008 financial downturn.

The text mentions the experimentation performer in Spain, Brazil, Istanbul, and in other cities that specifically opted for a **transnational municipalism**, based on the conceptions underlying the “**open source city**” such as the availability of the resources for the **active participation of citizens and the maximum accessibility to technological tools**, a **new form of regenerative democracy** and the definition of a **new geopolitics of shared resources beyond neoliberalism**. It is figured out that thanks to the participation of populations urban policies can envisage decisions and guidelines not even imaginable.





[3] _ Roskilde Waste Incineration Plant-Control Room in Denmark
by Erick van Egeraat
[source: web]

[3] *the Knowledge City scenarios between “sustainability transition” and “key enabling technologies”.*

In the new form of “**knowledge city**”, in some respects a product of the city of innovation, the boundary between the cultural paradigm and the technological one is marked by the extent to which technologies, conceived as knowledge processes resources, are more or less radical.

The formula of “**transition**”, as each system’s and community’s capacity of self-governing their sustainability and including **efficient re-generative systems** (power, water, waste, etc.) into cycles of management directly supervised by their users, in fact represents an attempt to attribute a new meaning to what EU refers to as “key enabling technologies”, the above-mentioned “**enabling technologies**”. From EU’s standpoint the latter ones are “*knowledge-intensive technologies associated with intensive R&D, rapid innovation cycles, significant investment costs and highly-qualified labour*”[...]. *These factors are of systemic relevance as they increase value in the production chain and are capable of driving innovation in processes, products and services across all sectors of the economy and human endeavour.* [...] (source: Research Italy).

In this mediation between all the advances technologies must contribute to the **innovation market** and what **communities have to use** , in terms of devices enabling the improvement of their lives, the role of the project meant as “**design driven innovation**” becomes strategic. (cf. R. Verganti, p. 58, 2009). This scenario draws so much on **radical technology performances (push)** rather than on **incremental technology performances (market pull)**, that the relationships themselves between devices and users are modified as far as the image itself of the devices geared to convey a more iconic and convincing message transfigured rather by the **quality of the effectiveness of its innovation** than by its efficiency, is modified.

In this light the project for the waste incinerator complex in Roskilde (Denmark), sketched out by Erick van Egeraat, 2008-2014, that can dispose of waste collected in 9 neighbouring communes and in many places abroad, converting them into power and thermal energy for the whole Roskilde

region, can be a relevant example. The intention of the competition and the client was to confer architectural significance to an otherwise purely industrial plant, characterized by a silhouette very different from common incinerators, in spite of its primary functionality. The work was awarded a Leed Gold. The complex works and is lighted up also thanks to what it burns, rising above the city as an iconic monument of contemporary architecture.



[3] _ Detail _
Roskilde Waste Incineration Plant-
Control Room in Denmark
by Erick van Egeraat
[source: web]



[4] _Bobbing Forest in Rijnhaven, Rotterdam
[source: web]

[4] *A new idea of the project "in wait" hinging on a new significance of the context as instantaneous device of resilience.*

A new philosophy seems to underlie the project "in wait", based on which the word "contextual" can match the adjective "contemporary". In fact, as Alberto Bertagna writes and reports, "a substitution" could be hoped for (PPC + 24, p. 95, 2010) : "(...) *thus it is patent that the word "**project**" must mean "**process**", conceived as series of actions, whose linearity is no more overexploited , that is not "adapted successively" but rather "**critically redesigned in the light of a new selection (...)**".*

The process of **resiliency itself as variable shared by short- and long-term landscape, ecological urbanism, and sustainability**, in this light is part of a transfiguration of the project beyond its time by foreseeing its effects and "contemporarily" developing cities and regions whose adaptation to new scenarios is the precondition of a project that is anytime contemporary.

All the **devices used become instantaneously effective**, while their capacity of foreseeing phenomena and provide effective responses project themselves in a possible and open future.

Therefore the devices themselves modify their own background by identifying new places, positions, relationships, and relations, as well as simulating in advance **scenarios resistant** to mutable and extraordinary situations.

Recently Rotterdam, that is working on its **climate adaptation plan**, much before it was officially appointed to do that, drawing up the project of the Delta Cities (flood-prone cities), is designing strategies that envisage **pre-figurative urban-planning steps** targeted at tackling new relevant issues. The city, by now used to coping with the matters relating to its waterplan, is performing experimentation on possible scenarios by means of innovative devices drawing visions from other cultural experiences as is the case for Rijnhaven "bobbing forest" whose completion deadline is March 2016. It was inspired by one of the works of the art designer Jorge Bakker and involves the installation of 20 trees onto sea buoys and a new design for its basin. An example of landscape renovation on a waterbody.

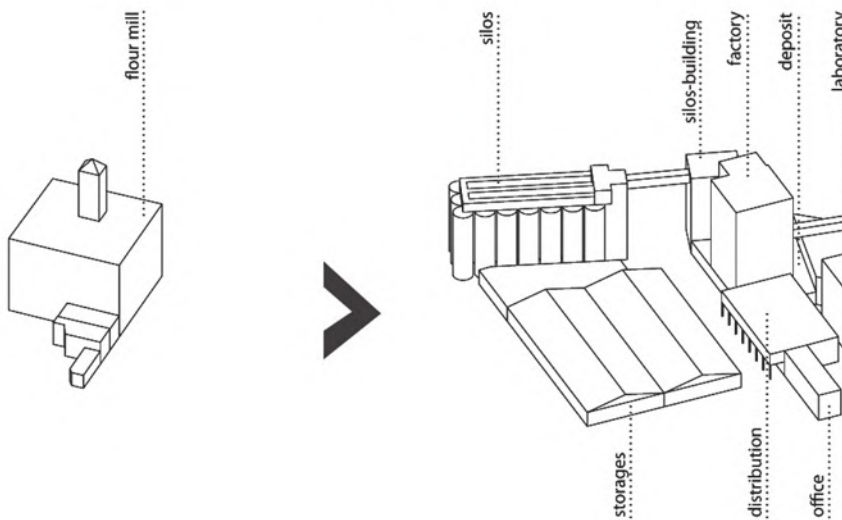
RECYCLE_of_USe = LOW ENERGY_LOW M³

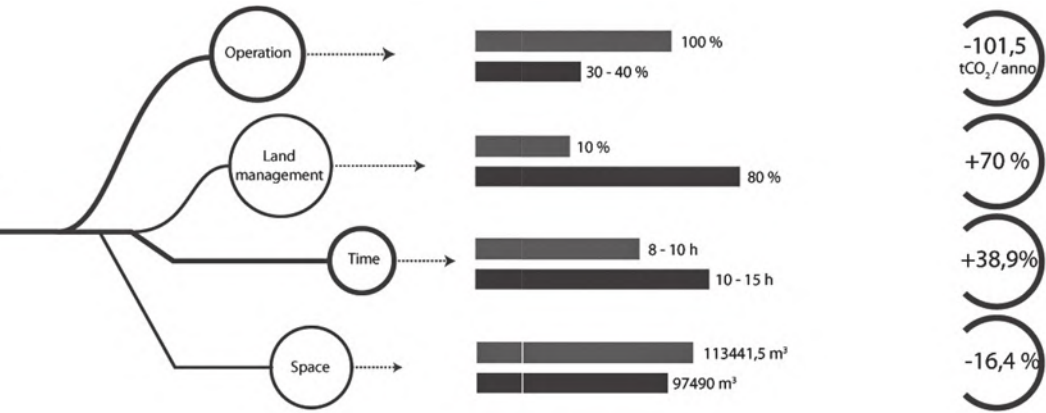


1909

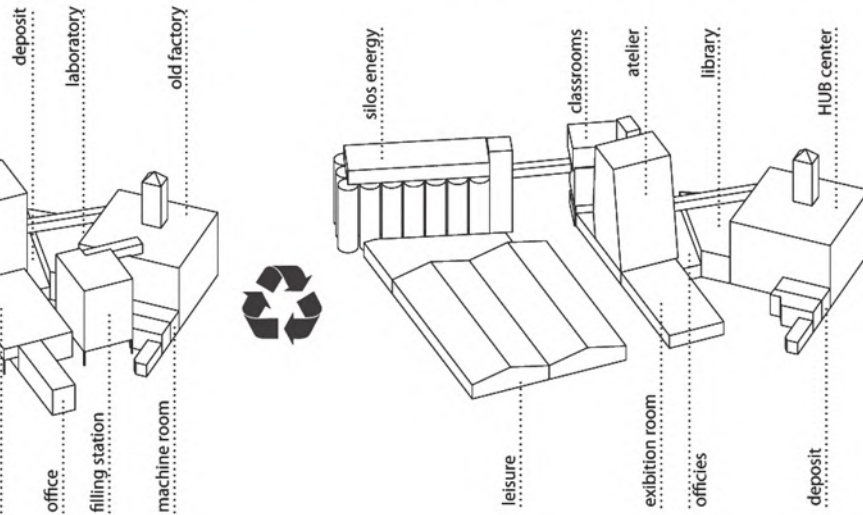


1948





HUB + ART_SCHOOL



[5] _Degree theses project in Holland,

Fabio Leone

[source: research repository]

[5] *Recycling and ecological restoration as prompt responses to the contemporary environmental and social crisis.*

The more the project puts forward the elimination of “something”, the more the word “**reclaim**” is used in place of “**recycling**” . If while revitalizing materials, flows, and landscapes, it is pursued the goal of providing **ecology of regions and cities**, including both anthropic and natural aspects, with the most suitable formal and tangible tools enabling it to cope with all physical and ecosystemic damage as well as with inefficiency and **loss of function/quality** affecting places in terms of life quality, recycling is consistent with its most radical choice.

“(...) What is heralded is a radical transformation, apart from economic recovery chances, shaping a new world that maybe already exists, where the project does not imply only a mere addition that is an increase in volumetric dimensions any longer, but is back in tune with the precise strategy from which it stems.

The problem is to decide what must be saved, in what investments can be made, and from what ruin to restart can be possible: in other words it is key to know what can be discarded and scrapped (...) (S.Marini, p. 17, 2013).

As a matter of fact it must be said that the processes of “urban, architectural, and regional recycling” can stimulate new low-cost life cycles for new materials and flows (by taking advantage of previous cycles) without actually resulting in any positive effects as far as life standards and performance over time are concerned. “Reclaim” processes always include **recycling-driven regeneration**, parallel with the effectiveness cycles of the use and operation models and depending also on **the models of management and reuse of the new available resources that are reproduced**. One need only think of the cycles of water, waste, and all the kinds of energy produced through processes of accumulation, transformation, regeneration, etc. The models of these regenerated and regenerative cycles determine new spatial planning and operation patterns as well as new circumstances for the management pursuing their efficiency.

A new metabolism, more specifically ecological, is unveiled with its capacity of igniting long networking processes also beyond the visible boundaries of recycling plants.

The text structure and the open action of the laboratory-city

The text treats some experimental and theoretical topics pertaining to the five paradigms' reasons thanks to some authors' contributions on city making strategies and tactics enriched by the recounting of the challenges involved by the reorganization of Reggio Calabria as a metropolitan city. Hypothetical approaches whose validity will be able to be confirmed on a transdisciplinary basis dealing with the laboratory-city topics related to urban space and landscape interpreted in the light of a new sustainability of recycling and ecological restoration. The experiences treated actually propose actions while showing a perfect balance between "new landscaping-urban planning-spatial planning" and the usability of the "technologies enabling" the on-going processes. The proposals put forward can both induce phenomena of resiliency of the natural and anthropic systems, and make the communities' involvement fruitful strategically nurturing their desire and right to take part in city making.

The section 'Strategies' features the contributions by Consuelo Nava and Giamila Quattrone with some hints to experiences of theoretical research focused on the theme of the laboratory city. The section 'Tactics' treats the experience of city making, through experimentation of social and urban innovation, and enabling technologies gained by the editor of the text with the Pensando Meridiano Association.

The section 'Challenges' tells of the experiences lived on the themes of Reggio Calabria metropolitan city and narrated by the members of the 'Recycle Italy' operators in Reggio Calabria Venera Leto and Rita Simone, Giuliana Quattrone, Cristina Sciarrone, Elisabetta Nucera and Antonia Di Lauro, and Adriano Paoletta, coordinated by Vincenzo Gioffré, whose contribution opens the section.

Besides, the writings by Mosé Ricci, Manuel Gausa, Maurizio Carta, Franco Rossi, Sara Marini, and Chiara Rizzi in the preface and the afterword provide the keys to the right and deep interpretation of the text .

The young photographers and urban makers Danilo Emo, Alessia Palermi, and Federica Ciccone were tasked with realizing the section 'Metropolitan snapshots'.

THE LABORATORY_CITY: Sustainable recycle

Book progress_Seminario di Studi



UNIVERSITÀ APERTA

25.05.15_h.11

DARte_Auletta Bianca



Manifesto Seminary of Studies on "the Laboratory_City" themes
intermediated discussion on the drafting the recycle notebook
edited by C.Nava

References

- Bertagna Alberto, "Nel Contempo, il progetto in attesa", in rivista internazionale Piano Progetto Città PPC +24, p.95, ListLab ed., Trento, 2010
- Cappelli Luca, An open new landscape, in "City Sense", p.15, IAAC, Actar ed., 2012
- De Biase Luza, Homo pluralis. Essere umani nell'era tecnologica, p.191, Codice ed., Torino, 2015
- De Carlo Giancarlo, È tempo di girare il cannocchiale, in «Spazio e società», n. 54, pp. 4-5, 1991.
- De Carlo Giancarlo, Conversazione con Giancarlo De Carlo, in «Parametro», n. 175, pp. 18-20, 1989.



Recycle and reclaim

con :

Mosè Ricci & Sara Marini

h. 11.15 – 14.00 (Auletta Bianca DArTe)

Introduce e Conclude_ Alberto De Capua

prorettore Unirc e vicedirettore DArTe

Relazione introduttiva_ Consuelo Nava

curatrice del quaderno PRIN Recycle Italy

Relazioni tematiche

Mosè Ricci (Recycle Italy UdR UniGe) &

Sara Marini (resp.naz.le Laboratori Recycle Italy. IUAV)

Interventi programmati_ Vincenzo Giofrè e Rita Simone

(Recycle Italy UdR Reggio Calabria)

Confronto sulle relazioni con interventi degli studenti
e dei docenti presenti

h. 15.00 – 17.00 (in città)

Laboratori Urbani e Cantieri Recycle_

Associazione Pensando Meridiano

h. 17.30 – 19.30 (Sede dell'ordine degli Architetti PPC
di Reggio Calabria)

Incontro con gli Autori "Nuovi Paradigmi per Future Utopia"
conversazioni con Mosè Ricci e Sara Marini

Marini Sara, "Post Produzioni o del problema della scelta" in Marini S., Santangelo V., Recycland, Aracne ed, collana Recycle Italy, P.16-17, Roma, 2013

Nava Consuelo, "Future 1/1.The Laboratory-City: Recycle and Repair, in S.Marini "future_ utopia"; Carte Blanche serie, Bruno ed, Venezia, 2015

Ricci Mosè, "R.E.D.S.", in AAVV, Monograph. Esearch 02, pp.10-11., ListLab, Trento, 2015

Verganti Roberto, "Tre strategie di innovazione" in Design Drive Innovation, p.58-59, Rizzoli ed., Milano, 2009

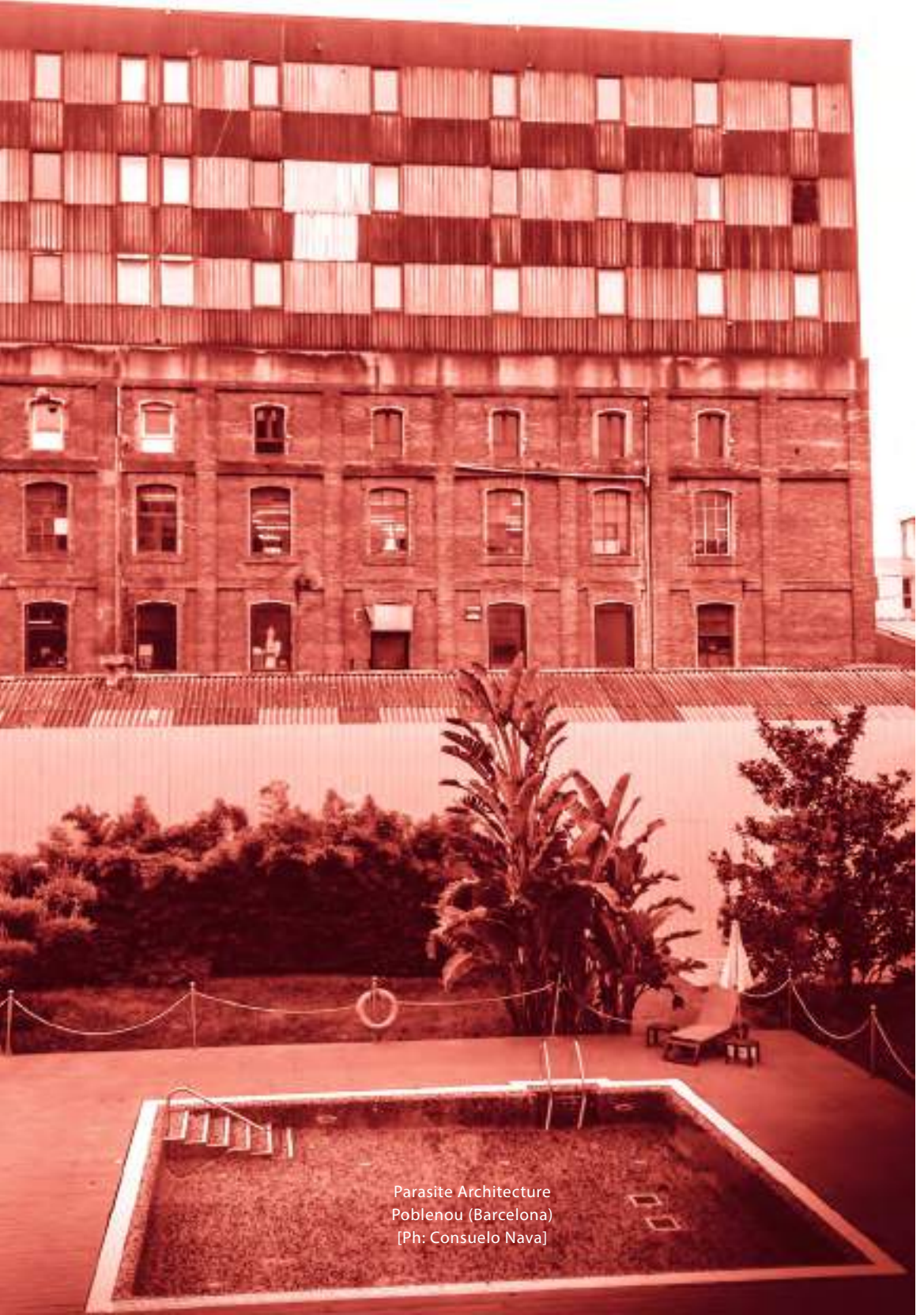
*Translation text IT-EN by Giovanna D'Angelo, International Office in University of Reggio Calabria.

02_

STRA

TEGY

[RE-processes in sustainable cities:
recovering junkspace,
reclaiming browfield]



Parasite Architecture
Poblenuu (Barcelona)
[Ph: Consuelo Nava]

THE SUSTAINABLE STRATEGY OF THE “LABORATORY-CITY”

Consuelo Nava
→UNIRC

The strategy of the “laboratory-city”, for environmentally and socially sensitive contexts, places at the centre of the issue the effectiveness of sustainable tactics in accelerating urban and social rehabilitation projects through the participation and collaboration of actors in the transformation of the city’s physical and production spaces. A strategy capable of “activating” best practices through direct planning by “triggering the power of future” through actions, visions and reactions of active communities and “agents of change”.

The collective city in its threefold sustainability dimension relies on the laboratory-city as a reference theoretical model. The hypothesis that the city is reconnected with the development of its communities and their spaces looks at a notion of “future city”, which we describe as follows:

“The laboratory-city therefore will have, for the “future” city to reinterpret the new alliance between contemporaneity, communication, aesthetics and environment, which is able to overcome the disjointedness of the “city by projects” and reconnect fabrics and citizens through information, energy and materials networks as well as of new behavioural statutes through

*its aptness to recycling architectures and contexts, perhaps asking people to recycle themselves too. The laboratory-city of the "future" city regains its relations as networks of places where action and planning meet in the spatial and human dimension so that for every type of segregation the city risks marginalization as much as for every type of regeneration it can activate new cohesion. Before being "smart" the laboratory-city is "reactive" and "proactive". It reacts to the impact of change on its social, economic and production structures by rediscovering the values of inhabiting a place in the sharing of informal repair practices as well as in contemporary urban strategies, by resolving any type of human, historical, social, political and economic conflict, knowing and integrating them into communal spaces, territories but also into the material cultures of the cities, by giving up revolutions for resolutions."*¹

In other words, "actions of urban acupuncture" are advocated, approaching the necessary tactics to instruct creative modes and processes of change, adopting reuse, recycling and regeneration as enabling technologies with particular attention to resource saving and their life cyclicity. A new collective and learning city, which similarly transfers information and resources flows maintaining the territories' ecological ambition, as we have elaborated, from K. Lynch's theories, into a new paradigm: "re-learning Ecocity".²

Such a physical and human dimension rediscovers the innovative nature of change in projects that "augment" creativity and urbanity in a "multiple hyper-metabolism" intended as objective as well as tool for the "selection of projects and strategies", as postulated by M. Carta in his recent writings (M. Carta, B. Lino, 2015).³

In the case study projects for the city of Reggio Calabria (see paragraph 3), where reference is made to the issue of innovation as theorized by E. Manzini⁴ and of the co-production of new "scenarios of prosperity", urban social innovation produces a "new system of meaning" by redeeming the sense of place through the ecology of time and recovering a new work culture in the value of human relations. This kind of innovation is also able to produce a new design culture, which is in turn able to identify and amplify the social values of innovation by making them tangible in order to draw

new scenarios and guidelines.

The ability to transfer skills through capacity-building materialises in experiences based on the principle of “learning by making”. So, the coexistence of a scenario typical of a city as laboratory with training tailored to meet the specific experience and goals strategically characterizes this innovative practice, going beyond conventional educational paths where skills are acquired through learning. Posing a question of method, in her writings⁵ R. Raiteri highlights how: “(...) always more this divide in the acquisition of practical, techno-scientific skills, which are directly aimed at a possibly immediate deployment on the market, must lead to review altogether the network of relations and the dislocation of all learning experiences which constitute a path towards professional skills”.

Another key stance connected with the choice of the urban scene as favourable to actions of social innovation is illustrated by A. Lambertini when, discussing two of the six design actions towards “urban beauty”⁶, underlines the need for “working in proximity” and simultaneously “cultivating imagination”. The latter condition, moreover, translates in a political act when “(...) The cultivation of imagination helps generate appropriate changes in the perception of reality and train one’s aesthetic sense. In many case it coincides with the unforeseen colonization of an urban scene in order to turn it into critical space, which thus translates into a political act. Some other times, it is put forward as an invitation to correct given perspectives, suggesting alternative readings and uses of slumberous voids and uncertain landscapes”.

In such a condition and space, the moment time and value take on a new paradigm for the spaces receivers of the “new life”; sustainability finds its three dimensions. In that condition in which S. Marini reads the difference between content and container, in her theory of the “snail’s time”⁷, the best scenarios are found to apply technology and make it become “enabling”. Enabling technologies rehabilitate spaces, well before architecture and its function, through a sustainability that reactivates the social and economic dimension of the city, able to show visions, in “(...) a return to the notion of space understood as material apt to accommodate latencies, waits and reserves”.





Action: EcoLearnig Calajunco
Recycle-Atelier of Thesis_Instantaneous Exercises (RC)
[Ph.D.Emo]

Amongst enabling technologies, therefore, that take charge of transferring innovation and producing new economies and social networks are the “practice” of urban and architectural recycling, and the resilient transformation, which cannot prescind from the available resources and the abilities of those who put them back into the cycle according to a new aesthetic life and value system.

The practice itself of recycling at a scale of “economical and productive geography” is able to break up the very same availability-resources-planning closed system which has often paralyzed the South of the world compared to the North, but has actually motivated its most creative minds through the evolution, innovation and invention of systems and processes useful to keep under control the ecological footprint of irreversible transformations of the built environment.

In other considerations, when becoming “capital” as argued by A. Gritti⁸, the same enabling technology of recycling could represent a rewarding strategy for the laboratory-city, resolving a condition of structural fragility (socially and economically) of our country, Italy: “Today the intrinsic fragility of the industrial districts of Italy is documented by two patent paradoxes.

On the one hand innovation, understood as “social construction”, has broken the delicate balance between collaboration and competition while crossing business and territorial borders.

On the other hand the gradual abandonment and underutilization of production, residential and service infrastructure by those who have not got through the recession has fuelled the formation of a cumbersome sediment doomed to jeopardise the efficiency of territorial systems”.

For this reason too the preferred scenario of the laboratory-city experimentation as strategy and method is represented by “the recycling of urban production spaces”, those environmentally and socially sustainable spaces that have lost meaning and value through productiveness and assign “in a short time, the request for success towards long-lasting change”⁹ to new community action and reaction.



Urban Garden
Forat de la Vergonya (Barcelona)
[Ph.C.Nava]



1.Surfes Zone_A.Franco, V.Figliucci



2.Agrofield of Wind_ G.Fazzari, C.D'Agostino



3.Lounge Zone&Modulo Abitativo_ G.Ristagno



4.Surfers Zone_ A.Franco, V.Figliucci



5.Event Space V.Palco, F.Zangara

Re_Wind Workproject (self)build wkshop
[Ph.D.Emo, A.Franco, V.Palco]



Raw land wall's self-construction building site.
Initiatives in collaboration with the inter-university center ABITALab
and academic research PRIN RECYCLE ITALY, UNIRC & (self) build workshops
[Ph.D.Emo, C.Nava]



Muhba - El forum del Barcino

Barcelona


[Ph: Consuelo Nava]

Notes

1. See author's contribution contributo dell'autrice in NAVA C., "Future 1/1.The Laboratory-City: Recycle and Repair, in S. Marini "future_utopia"; Carte Blanche serie, Bruno ed, Venezia, 2015
2. See K. Lynch in "Deperire_rifiuti e Spreco", Cuen, 1990, "The keyword for Lynch is learning (learning). In Good City Form he explicitly states that the best approach is to a "learning ecology", an ecology that takes into consideration the role of actors able to consciously change yourself and change the rules of the game. Ecosystem features notes, with diversity, interdependence, context, history, feedback, stability and cyclical process, we need to add features like the values, culture, knowledge, the change in progress (or decline), the invention, the ability to learn and the connection between inner and outer action experience ". And it is also for this reason that one of the worst types of waste include Lynch to lives and intelligences."
3. See "L'iper-metabolismo è un paradigma dirompente (...) agisce scegliendo i cicli da riattivare prima di altri perché capace di alimentarne di nuovi, quelli da connettere per amplificare gli aspetti rigenerativi e quelli da recuperare dalle aporie dello sviluppo che ne hanno dimenticato il valore" in M. Carta, B. Lino "Urban Hypermetabolism", ed, Aracne, Roma, 2015
4. See E. Mazini In "Design, When Everybody Designs", MIT press, 2015
5. See R. Raiteri in "Progettare i progettisti. Un paradigma della formazione contemporanea." Quodlibet ed., Macerata, 2014, pag.118. The translation of the excerpt is by Giamila Quattrone.
6. See A. Lambertini in "Urban Beauty" Luoghi prossimi e pratiche di resistenza estetica, Compositori ed., Bologna 2013 pag.10-11. The translation of the excerpt is by Giamila Quattrone.
7. S. Marini, "Storie dall'Heritage. Il Tempo della Lumaca" in M. Carta, B. Lino "Urban Hypermetabolism",
8. A. Gritti, "il capitale del riciclo" in M. Carta, B. Lino "Urban Hypermetabolism", ed, Aracne, Roma, 2015 pag.244. The translation of the excerpt is by Giamila Quattrone ed, Aracne, Roma, 2015
9. C. Nava, Presentation of project ReActioncity, 2014.

References

- Carta M., Lino B., "Urban Hypermetabolism", ed, Aracne, Roma, 2015
- Gritti A., "Il capitale del riciclo" in M. Carta, B. Lino "Urban Hypermetabolism", ed, Aracne, Roma, 2015
- Lambertini A., in "Urban Beauty" Luoghi prossimi e pratiche di resistenza estetica, Compositori ed., Bologna 2013
- Lynch K., in "Deperire_rifiuti e Spreco", Cuen, 1990
- Manzini E., "Design, When Everybody Designs", MIT press, 2015
- Marini S., "Storie dall'Heritage. Il Tempo della Lumaca", in Carta M., Lino B., "Urban Hypermetabolism", ed, Aracne, Roma, 2015
- Nava C., "Future 1/1.The Laboratory-City: Recycle and Repair, in S.Marini "future_utopia"; Carte Blanche serie, Bruno ed, Venezia, 2015
- Nava C., " ReActioncity. Un progetto di innovazione sociale urbana per la città metropolitana di Reggio Calabria", in M.Carta, B.Lino "Urban Hypermetabolism", Aracne ed., Roma, 2015
- Pittella G., Nava C., "Un Nuovo Mezzogiorno. Coesione sociale e strategie sostenibili da Sud per Europa 2020", su iniziativa del gruppo dell'Alleanza Progressista dei Socialisti e Democratici al Parlamento Europeo, marzo 2014
- Raiteri R., "Progettare i progettisti. Un paradigma della formazione contemporanea." Quodlibet ed., Macerata, 2014
- Santagata W., "Il governo della Cultura. Promuovere sviluppo ed equità sociale" ed.Mulino, Bologna, 2014



Building re-cycling - The St. George's Church Conversion
in Manchester, an 1828 church become redundant
in 1984 and transformed into residential flats
by Makin Architects in 2001.

[Ph: Laura Jayne Hall, March 2014]

RE-CYCLING TERRITORIES, TERRITORIES OF RE-CYCLING

Giamila Quattrone
→ UNIVERSITY OF
LIVERPOOL

Beyond sites and landscapes of manufacture

Minas de oro, Serra Pelada, Brazil. Thousands of men swarming like ants in a crater hollowed out by hand to mine gold, now a giant abandoned pit that, filling with water, has turned into a highly polluted lake¹. Jardim Gramacho,

Rio de Janeiro, Brazil. Thousands of male and female catadores (garbage pickers) over 34 years have earned a meagre living by sorting through the rubbish in one of the world's biggest garbage dumps to later resell the materials². Three Gorges Dam, Yangtze River, China. More than a million people uprooted, 13 cities, 140 towns and 1350 villages, including archaeological and cultural sites, flooded to build the world's largest power station, a colossal state-of-the-art engineering enterprise³. Three documentaries interrogating our consciousness about the tangible and intangible by-products of the way we live, modern day infernos, landscapes of dehumanization that open wounds in the bowels of the earth leaving scars that will forever bear testimony to human madness.

Sites and landscapes created and altered by large-scale human activity, industrial and manufacturing processes in the name of progress, economic development and profit. Places where waste manifests itself in nearly all of its semantic inflections – from *loss to dross*, from cast-off to *gar-*

bage to destruction⁴, places that mercilessly mirror who we are, what we pursue, our relationship with the planet, -"sites of manufacture" (...) places synonymous with this environmentally compromised condition⁵. By inversion of the words' order here comes the hope.

- "Manufactured sites" can also be viewed as an approach to the regeneration of contaminated urban land - where - spatial, experiential and aesthetic clues can be drawn from technologies and these in turn can inform design proposals ⁻⁶, - a model for urban development (...) to protect and improve the natural and manmade civic environment where the recycling of inner city industrial sites relieves pressure on undeveloped land and further encroachment on "greenfield areas" (...) "manufactured sites" (...) as a working pattern for rethinking the post-industrial landscape⁻⁷.

"Manufacturing" despoiled post-industrial landscapes by designing with the *left-over*, the *discarded*, the *scrapped*, in quest for a reconciliation of nature and culture, past and present, is the only *Re-action* as atonement that reclaims territories, infrastructures, buildings and materials while reclaiming dignity and citizen rights⁸. An action that makes human use and misuse of the site legible, remediates and enhances its ecological function by making the process apparent, participatable and experienceable.

*- Reclamation captures at once the temporal and ethereal issues
of designing with altered landscapes (...)
one must change old trajectories in order to assemble new solutions (...)
as designers, we are choosing to reclaim, rather than restore,
when we project into the future, which is why the topic of reclamation
is so vital to today's and tomorrow's design discourse⁻⁹.*

In Manchester, UK, manufacturing post-industrial landscapes has been a consistent practice since the 1990s, when structures built during the 18th-19th century industrial boom, and abandoned in the second half of the 20th century due to the decline of the textile sector and a rapid change in the demographic fabric, were targeted for reclamation and re-cycling (hyphenation intended to stress the concept of entering into a new life cycle). Boasting enormous redevelopment potential due to central location, land and heritage value those sites became soon the focus of attention of a number of public and private stakeholders aiming to resignify their intrinsic qualities and regenerate their communities' identities through a critical

rethinking of "waste" at all scales, which is centred on a reformulation of programmes and a manipulation of built structures. Like palimpsests the sites below¹⁰ have been engraved with accumulative narratives, where ink has been at times scraped off, at times reabsorbed into new discourses, layer upon layer, era after era, at the urban, building and material scale.

*- Buildings outlast civilisations, they evolve and they are changed,
but their reuse emphasises continuity.*

*A building can retain a remembrance of the former function and value; it
has a memory of its previous purpose engrained
within its very structure.*

*The exploitation and development of this
can create a composite of meaning and consequence.
The inherent qualities of the place and its surroundings,
combined with the anticipation of the future use,
produce a multilayered complexity
impossible to replicate in a new building⁻¹¹.*

Docks _ *Salford Quays*: construction of dams along the canal to isolate the docks | water quality improvement | fish repopulation | construction of apartment and office buildings as well as the iconic Lowry Theatre (Michael Wilford), War Imperial Museum (Daniel Libeskind), Water Sport Centre and the creative headquarters of MediaCityUK (Peel Group).

Railway viaducts

#1 _ *University of Manchester Innovation Centre*: closing up of the viaduct arches with office and laboratory spaces accommodating high tech businesses established by the University of Manchester.

#2 _ *Deansgate Locks*: closing up of the viaduct arches with clubs and bars on two storeys, with the upper level being accessed from the bank of the canal via a bridge and a boardwalk.

Goods station, goods shed, market hall _ *MOSI Museum of Science and Industry*: refurbishment of the buildings into a museum complex and reconnection via the existing courtyard | retention of the railway tracks and cobbled paving.

Train stations _ *G-MEX Exhibition Hall*: transformation of the Central Station building into a modern event centre | reuse of the original iron co

lums on the platforms to hold the new parts | extension of the railway tracks, once part of the Manchester-Liverpool route, outside of the building and incorporation into the city tram line.

Warehouses

#1 _ *Victoria Warehouse*: restoration and refurbishment of the Liverpool Warehousing Company cotton warehouse into an event and hospitality venue | conservation of the exposed iron columns and ceiling beams, metal doors, railway sleepers | incorporation of the tram tracks and train signs | down-cycling of wood into doors and furniture, and of church pews into wall coverings.

#2 _ *The Royal Exchange Theatre*: conversion of the Manchester's Cotton Exchange into a theatre | positioning of an independent glazed heptagonal volume at the centre of the hall to host performances | preservation of the old trading board | reuse of the cellular spaces off the hall as workshops, greenrooms, a restaurant, a bar, a café and toilets on the ground floor, offices, plant rooms and dressing rooms on the upper floor.

#3 _ *Great Northern Square*: remorphing of the Great Northern Warehouse into a leisure complex | revamping of the car park as public square and entrance point to the district | demolition of the shops within the historic curtain wall.

Factories _ *Royal Mills Apartments*: revitalization of the Sedgwick Mill, Sedgwick New Mill, Paragon Mill and Royal Mill as residential district with retail, business and leisure spaces on the ground floor | reinforcement of structures, floors and walls | introduction of a steel staircase and steel and glass canopies into the courtyard.

Churches

#1 _ *St George's Church*: conversion of a church into flats | remodelling of the access grounds | conservation of the gravestones | preservation of the envelope, with introduction of glazed security entrance door, and of the existing columns | partitioning off of the volume in apartments slotted in the arcades' bays and accessed from the full-height central aisle | introduction of a mezzanine with steel bridges for circulation at the upper level | occupation of the clock tower with a nine-story apartment.

#2 _ *St Mary's Church*: conversion of half of a church into studios and half as retail business workshops | preservation of the envelope, with introduction of glazed security entrance door | retention of trusses and stained glass windows | curving of part of the flats' ceiling to fit the arches of the nave.

In all of these examples architectural design emerges as the tool through which to reinforce and enhance architectural continuity – -not a continuity that preserves the same while sacrificing the different (...) but a continuity that restores the same by means of the different-¹² – to acknowledge elements formed over the entire building's life cycle and achieve a coherent whole that takes on new meanings. Through actions that range from *filling, covering* and *building within* to *demolishing, inserting, juxtaposing* and *incorporating*, a consistent vocabulary of design tactics is deployed. Amongst these, *transition* between conditions from different periods through structural separation and overcoming of topographic changes, *contrast* between old and new by means of different materiality, colors, textures and structural logics (heavyweight vs lightweight, solid vs transparent, permanent vs dismountable), and detachment of insertions through gaps, voids, recesses.



img.1 _ Sites of manufacture - The Brickpit Ringwalk at Sydney Olympic Park, a colourful structure hovering above the sandstone floor of the pit, now filled with water. A wasteland turned into habitat for the endangered Green and Golden Bell frog, as well as an architectural landmark to experience the fragility of nature.
Ph: Giamila Quattrone, February 2015.

RE-cycling (in) Lincoln, UK: a best practice case study

Brayford Pool Area is situated in the heart of Lincoln's historic centre, at the foot of the escarpment on which the cathedral and the castle sit. The area is surrounded by Brayford Pool, a natural pre-historic lake formed from the widening of the Witham River at the point where this meets the Fossdyke, a Roman built canal. Looking at the area today one seems to be presented with an example of Foucauldian heterotopology's fourth principle, whereby a place is linked with slices in time and opens onto hetero-chronies, that is other times, other eras¹³. Though, of course, none of the buildings in the area was conceived in association with the idea of time accumulation or, conversely, of time flow, precariousness and temporariness, the massive urban regeneration process that began in the early '90s has given the area a new lease of life. By laying layers of alternative uses, meanings and architectural languages on the remains of a century-long thriving industry that process has managed to abolish time and save the buildings from inescapable ruining and wasting away.

Railway sheds, buildings and warehouses around the pool were converted into a functional mix of education, leisure, retail, hospitality, residence, culture and work, which gravitates around the pulsing heart of the city, the university campus.

Protagonists of the narration of a new chapter in Lincoln's history, the-se once mono-functional architectural objects continue to exist by virtue of the lasting physic-structural presence of their time, the industrial era, but adhere to the rules of programming and use of our time, the post-industrial era¹⁴.



img.2 _ A best practice case study - The University of Lincoln Campus
with its river frontage of recycled buildings, the Engine Shed,
the Central Library and the Sparkhouse.

Ph: Konstantina Georgiadou (Phd Student, Liverpool School of Architecture), May 2014.

The ambitious master plan for Brayford Pool Area has revolved around two main action lines: the development of the University of Lincoln Campus on the south bank and the creation of bars, restaurants and a cinema on the north bank.

Underlying is a work of re-writing of the area's identity and establishment of a new order, which has materialized via a twofold intervention founded on the synergy between the environmental remediation of a brownfield site and the recycling of key buildings from the city's industrial past.

The approach adopted makes Brayford Pool Area a best practice case study of urban redevelopment which, through targeted actions on the natural and built environment, has implemented strategies of regeneration, diversification and innovation of the socio-cultural and economic fabric of the city¹⁵.

#1 _ Social interaction and inclusivity

1a _ Inner-city urban development, functional and social mix: functions crucial for community development and empowerment, such as tertiary education, are introduced into the heart of the city instead of into more traditional (less expensive) suburban locations.

1b _ Maximisation of pedestrian areas and cycle tracks: a large portion of the city, previously off-limits under the monopoly of the railway and its associated activities, is given back to the citizens.

#2 _ Nature conservation

2a _ Conservation of local ecosystems and natural habitats: large grassed and tree-lined areas are created to act as wildlife corridors for the migration of species.

2b _ Conservation of biodiversity: low-impact activities such as angling, kayaking and yachting are introduced in the pool, while the Delph Pond, a functional piece of landscape infrastructure, is created to balance the water levels in the area, help surface water drainage and attract birds and aquatic species.

#3 _ Reduction of transport-related energy consumption

3a _ Promotion of the existing railway as a sustainable, fast and efficient alternative to long distance commuting by private transport, in order to reduce fossil fuels consumption and environmental pollution.

3b _ Encouragement to cycling to and within the area.

#4 _ Reduction of soil sealing and land take

4a _ Use of large green surfaces and water bodies.

4b _ Recycling of some of the buildings along the main local traffic artery, Brayford Wharf East.

4c _ Environmental reclamation of the former brownfield.

With respect to the functional mix, different uses have been located on different sides of the pool, that which has resulted in a clear-cut distinction in townscapes, densities and architectural languages. To the east and north new buildings heterogeneous in use, type, size and height, city centre-like high urban density, retail, leisure, hospitality and residence. To the south a homogenous mix of new and recycled buildings, campus-like low urban density, tertiary education and pertaining facilities, vast grassed lands. The recycled buildings include Victorian/Edwardian style sheds and warehouses with dark red brick walls and slate roofs, which date back to the era following the advent of the railway (1846 to 1868). The pool, no longer serving the railway, functions as a marina with floating restaurants, houseboats, small yachts, pleasure craft workshops, as a natural reserve home to Mute Swans and some Australian Black Swans, and as the Lincoln Unit of the Sea Cadet Corps - T.S. Wrangler¹⁶. The recycling of the industrial built heritage of Brayford Pool Area subscribes to Lynch's idea of preservation as - not simply the saving of old things but the maintaining of a response to those things -¹⁷, a response that is structured on the knowledge and values of the present and is able to adapt to change as history gets rewritten. So, instead of a dogmatic reverence for a presumably untouchable historical built environment the master plan has put forward the notion of an active and selective use of the past. Buildings were assessed in terms of historical significance, structural integrity, accessibility and adaptability to modern uses, that which was deemed crucial for the cultural and economic development of the city, in order to see what was worth being retained, for what purpose and for whom. Three old railway buildings were earmarked for development as catalysts of change in the vocation of the area, through sensitive conservation of the original brick masonry and its encapsulation with a new skin. The conversions, developed by Stem Architects Ltd, seem to translate the - plural attitude toward environmental remains (...) temporal collage, creative demolition and addition -¹⁸ advocated by Lynch when prime objective of preservation is to enhance the present value while conveying a sense of the time flow. The *Engine Shed*, completed in August 2006, is the region's largest live music and entertainments venue facility as well as home to the Students Union Centre. The building is the result of the renovation and extension of a railway container storage facility, the only surviving four-track, dead-end railway building in Lincolnshire. This was built in 1874 by the Manchester, Sheffield & Lincolnshire Railway and owned by Great Northern Railways until its abandonment in the 1960s. The adjacent railway, still in operation, together with the remnants of brick walls within the new skin testify to

the building's industrial roots. The spacious and undivided container has lent itself to provide the space flexibility and floor area required by the new programme¹⁹.

The *Great Central Warehouse Library*, again a mix of renovation and extension, was completed in 2006 as a university library facility inside the 1907 Great Central Warehouse of goods and grain, which fell into dereliction in 1998. The library focuses on a central open plan book storage and a study area where cast iron columns and timber trusses have been meticulously preserved. A series of "parasite", add-on volumes, echoing three original cantilevered extensions on the north façade, accommodate private spaces such as reference areas, staff offices, reading rooms and teaching spaces²⁰.

Resulting from the refurbishment of a derelict two-story high stationmaster's office building and the creation of a slate clad extension, punctuated by excrescences-like volumes, on the site of the railway goods yard, the *Sparkhouse* made its appearance on the urban scene of Lincoln in 2009 as its first "BREEAM excellent"²¹ rated building. Incubation centre, subsidised rented office and managed workshop space targeting university graduates and new businesses, the building hosts spaces for creative, innovative and technology based business support²².

RE-cycling (in) Lincoln, UK: propositions and visions

Re-cycle tactics and tools, regeneration intents, strategies and actions informed a piece of research by design we conducted on Brayford Pool Area, from January to June 2014 and from March to April 2015, as an external contribution to the investigation line "The recycling of disused urban areas and sustainable soil management strategies" of the RE-CYCLE Italy Thesis Atelier at Università degli Studi "Mediterranea" di Reggio Calabria²³. The site was chosen not only for the exemplariness of the transformation, which offered an excellent theoretical and practical framework to work with, but also because, being that very same transformation still on-going, it presented instances of places still calling for intervention. Places not yet fully resolved in terms of use, accessibility, relationship with the water and surrounding transport infrastructures, places where building waste and disused sheds lay unattended and unused and places with a strong historical identity but removed from public use and left to decay. Places not neglected enough to be called *wastelands*, yet suspended enough in that dimension of wait for a not so clear future to be described, with Lynch, as timeless, lacking in time organization²⁴. The research explored two in-

terrelated thematic areas. The first area is *re-cycling* of discarded assets – be they waste lands, waste buildings or waste materials – as a strategy aimed to counteract resource and energy consumption by reviving what has been cast off. An un-doing and re-doing of physical matter that occurs as much in terms of *dis-assembling*, *re-locating* and *re-arranging*, where a displacement of matter and the consequent shift in meaning take place, as in terms of *re-processing*, *re-working*, *re-placing* and *re-ordering*, where matter and meaning are manipulated contextually on-site. The second area is *urban soil management*²⁵ with a focus on *land take* and *soil sealing*, which has recently constituted the subject of a report by the European Commission²⁶. The overarching principle is to look at re-cycling, land take and soil sealing as interdependent challenges and to address them with a fresh, unbiased and creative attitude which is able to convert problems into opportunities and detractors into quality generators, through theoretical exploration and matter manipulation into innovative design solutions.

From literature review, site reconnaissance and photographic documentation we moved on to analyse, interpret and graphically illustrate the data acquired, which later informed our re-cycling propositions and design visions for the re-processing of a small site on the southern bank of the pool. Adopting the analysis methodology of the Atelier, we drew, on maps dated 1966 and 2014, three sets of thematic urban sections – *urban types* – covering 400 linear meters and cutting through key areas in terms of pre- and post-regeneration condition. Four parameters – *function*, *mobility*, *accessibility*, *soil permeability* – and their respective types were analysed along the sections in order to see how the site functioned around the time the industrial activities were ultimately dismissed and the buildings abandoned (1966) and at the time of the research (2014-2015), that is approximately a decade after the master plan reshaped Brayford Pool Area. The analysis helped us identify prevalent land uses and human activities, intensity of mobility and related modes of transportation, levels and hours of accessibility to buildings and open spaces, levels of soil permeability and types of surface materials, as well as their respective changes over a span of nearly 50 years.

A 3D model of the area was generated and used to analyse its key strengths – *water*, *vegetation*, *transport infrastructures* and *slow mobility* – and visualize their relationship with the built fabric. The analysis highlighted the following: a) *water*, in the form of the Brayford Pool, the Fossdyke canal, the Witham River and the Delph Pond, is a major component of the site, amounting to slightly less than a third of the site's total area, and is

enjoyed by people on leisure boats and barge restaurants, by birds, swans and other aquatic species; b) vegetation, namely grass lawns, shrubs and trees, is massively present on the southern side within the university campus estate, and sporadically present on the northern side in courtyards and small parks; c) transport infrastructures are smartly distributed, with the railway line running longitudinally and centrally through the site, thus acting as the spine of local and regional public transport, and the main traffic roads circumscribing the area so as to prevent the intrusion of secondary arteries and consequent traffic congestion; d) slow mobility is practiced across the site by pedestrians, cyclists, joggers, skaters and people on wheelchairs.

The focus then shifted to the analysis of the soil permeability, with the aim to obtain a comprehensive picture of the extent, nature and characteristics of existing surface materials, which could later inform our design propositions. A thorough reconnaissance of the site led to the identification of 15 types and sub-types of surface materials. These were individually analysed in table format and illustrated through photographs in relation to *area* (roughly estimated in square metres), *use* (landscaping, railway tracks, roads/walkways/footbridges paving), *accessibility* (pedestrians, wheelchairs, cyclists, trains, cars and other motor vehicles) and *permeability* (low: 0-25%, medium: 25-50%, moderate: 50-75%, high: 75-100%). Finally a mapping of the above percentile levels was produced, which proved extremely useful in visualizing the location and distribution of permeable, less permeable and impermeable materials, the ratio between these, and the areas where tactical actions could reduce soil sealing and increase permeability.

The site chosen for the design experimentation is one where issues of soil sealing, waste, dereliction and accessibility co-exist, demanding a targeted yet holistic intervention. Our attention focused on the southern corner of Brayford Pool, between the railway line and the water. We also reflected on the potential recycling of the old iron bridge further south, currently fenced off due to poor state of conservation. The site is occupied by the East Holmes Signal Box, a well conserved late 19th century wooden building closed in 2008, by a weatherboard shed and a small brick shed. Connected to Brayford Wharf East through a main concrete footbridge and a narrower metal one presently closed, the site is partially fenced off through temporary fence panels and occupied by a rubble container. The intervention overall takes four directions: 1) the remodelling of the pool bank and the opening of the metal footbridge to increase accessibility and

public enjoyment, 2) the replacement of impermeable surfaces with permeable ones to improve water runoff management, 3) the down-cycling of on-site waste and building materials for the creation of functional yet playful landscaping elements and urban furniture, 4) the re-cycling of the old bridge to revive the memory of the last relic of the industrial era while giving it back to the community.

Accessibility, public use and soil unsealing

1 _ The metal footbridge is reopened and extended into the area around the Signal Box as a wheelchair accessible walkway made of a porous blend of post-consumer recycled glass, stone and a pigmented binder.

2 _ The pool bank is reshaped following an existing curve. By playing with gentle sinusoids of different lengths and amplitude, which swirl around the existing trees, the pool bank is remodelled so as to step down towards the water. An amphitheatre of artificial contour lines covered in grass and bordered by brick courses, which allows people to stroll, lie down, picnic and relax by the water. The bottom curve bulges out to become a lookout deck hovering above the water.

3 _ The concrete footbridge and its promenade extension are repaved in modular stone slabs laid in such a way to leave gaps between and around the elements, to be filled with finely crushed gravel so that stormwater can filter through. The existing barriers on the footbridge are taken away so as to ensure that all slow mobility flows can reach the opposite side of the Witham River. The pole barrier at the beginning of the promenade is replaced with a row of metal gabions with the dual function of retaining elements for the new landform and seats. Where the existing gravel path joins the promenade the gabions stop forming a passageway where, by means of a couple of steps clad in timber planks, the now lower promenade is reconnected to the waterfront.

4 _ The area currently occupied by the building site is cleared, grassed, landscaped with flower gardens and furnished with Corten boards holding illustration panels on the history of the site. The edge of the area along the railway is planted with a row of trees that will form a noise barrier. Given its heritage value the Signal Box is preserved for internal reuse as an exhibition space.

5 _ The old rusted bridge is intervened upon so as to remove the tubular sections on either side, the staircases and the walkway; the balustrades are retained as an envelope for the new footbridge that, by means of a gently sloping wheelchairs accessible pathway, will reconnect the two

banks of the river. The new footbridge, detached from the existing one, will allow people to walk inside the old bridge and get to know the history of the area by looking at the illustration panels that will hang from the latticed balustrades.



img.3a-3b _ A design proposition - Visual and plan of the remodelling and landscaping of the area around the Signal Box.

Design and visualization by Konstantina Georgiadou
(Phd Student, Liverpool School of Architecture), April 2015.

Materials down-cycling

1 _ The tubular M-shaped sections of the old bridge as well as the curved sections wrapping them are sawn into pieces of different lengths and laid on the ground at the back of the Signal Box to border multi-coloured flower gardens.

2 _ The paving of the concrete footbridge and the promenade behind, that is asphalt, asphalt finished timber planks and artificial stone, are stripped off and down-cycled. More specifically, the asphalt is crushed into fine gravel to be used as artificial mulch in landscaping; the stone blocks are broken into coarse pieces to fill the gabions, and the asphalt finish is removed from the planks that are reused to clad the stepped passageway between the gabions.

3 _ The timber shed is dismantled in order to salvage the weatherboards, which are sanded and coated in weatherproof stain before being reassembled on the top of the gabions to work as seats.



img.4 _ A design vision - Re-cycling of the old iron footbridge.
Design and visualization by Desiree Campolo
(Research Assistant, Liverpool School of Architecture), April 2015

4 _ The brick shed is demolished, its bricks crushed down to gravel size and strewn on the ground along diagonals to mark the transition between different paving.

5 _ The frame of the aluminium fences is sawn off and the meshes cut into portions of the same height, tied together and filled with the crushed aggregates to create the gabions.

6 _ The rubble in the waste container, the concrete plinths of the temporary fencing and the concrete poles are crushed and mixed with the artificial stone chips inside the gabions.

To recapitulate and conclude, the design proposed is transformative, tactical and provisional in nature as it works on contingencies by re-arranging things so as to accommodate present and future change.

-Leftovers, remnants, and waste (...) the realm of the tactical, of working on the margins, and of direct engagement (...) the architect is gradually being transformed from a consumer of sites and opportunities generated by others into a schemer, a producer himself or herself of sites and opportunities-²⁷.

The design is creative and innovative as it works on what is found – useless, apparently valueless, discarded and environmentally inefficient – by re-processing it into unconventional elements that are capable to elicit serendipity.

-The awareness of the interaction between design and the availability of existing materials. That is the starting point for Superuse (...) a way of creating architecture by shortcutting the flow of products and elements from their state of maximum added value to the stage at which value has (...) been dissipated (...) in order to be able to recreate it all over again-²⁸.

-Our ideas (...) take place through improvisation, and we obtain unexpected results by applying the changing dynamics of natural processes (...) without any need for a manual-²⁹.

*-The intervention processes on the built environment,
in which Re- forms the first syllable,
entail certain initial actions (...) enabling
the highest amount of possible non-conformist uses (...)
in a concern to balance the efficiency of the technique
with ecological content and a poetic nature-³⁰*

The design aims to reuse built structures, materials and waste, remove barriers and improve stormwater management with a view to re-functionalizing the site. Ultimately, it is a design that reveals the beauty of waste through - an anti-dogmatic aesthetic which improvises when faced with inherited space -³¹.

Notes

1. The gold mines of Serra Pelada, situated few hundreds kilometres south of the Amazon River mouth, feature in *The Salt of the Earth*, a 2014 biographical documentary film portraying the works of Brazilian photographer Sebastião Salgado, directed by Wim Wenders and Juliano Ribeiro Salgado.
2. Jardim Gramacho is the main set of *Waste Land*, a 2010 Brazilian feature documentary film directed by Lucy Walker. Walker follows and documents Brazilian artist Vik Muniz's "Pictures of Garbage" project, carried out over three years on the site of the dump. Here he studies and photographs the pickers, then giant-sizes the photographs, projects them onto the floor of a warehouse, overlays them with a grid and finally asks the pickers to fill in the grids with all types of garbage.
3. *Three Gorges Dam* is one of the 2006 feature documentary film *Manufactured Landscapes* directed by Jennifer Baichwal, which presents, in a singularly sober style made of little commentary, a number of photographic essays by American photographer Edward Burtynsky.
4. See definitions and synonyms for the word "waste" in the Merriam-Webster Dictionary and Thesaurus.
5. N. Kirkwood (ed.), *Manufactured sites: rethinking the post-industrial landscape*, Spon Press, London 2001, p. 6.
6. *Ibid.*, p. 7.
7. *Ibid.*, p. 11.
8. J. Mozas, REMEDIATE, REUSE, RECYCLE Re-processes as atonement, in A. F. Per, J. Mozas & J. Arpa (eds.), *Reclaim. Remediate Reuse Recycle*, a+t architecture publishers, Vitoria-Gasteiz 2012.
9. A. Berger (ed.), *Designing the Reclaimed Landscape*, Routledge, London 2007, p. xxi.
10. The sites were researched as part of the assignment for the Humanities Elective Course "Territories of Re-Cycling", Year 2 BA(Hons) 2013-14, led by Dr Giamila Quattrone at the Manchester School of Architecture, Manchester Metropolitan University, respectively by students Abbey Costello, James Daubeney, Alicia Booth, Rebecca Brown, Vyara Rumenova Kuneva, Amelia Jyne Denty, Julia-Vanina Hahn, Rostislav Kaloyanov Pazaitov, Fong Chun Tin, Laura Jayne Hall, Nicola Hu Ching.
11. S. Stone, G. Brooker, *Re-readings: Interior Architecture and the Design Principles of Remodelling Existing Buildings*, RIBA Publishing, London 2004, p. 9.

12. D. Leatherbarrow, *Uncommon Ground. Architecture, Technology, and Topography*, The MIT Press, Cambridge Massachusetts 2002, p. 130.
13. See M. Foucault, *Of Other Spaces: Utopias and Heterotopias*, in "Architecture, Mouvement, Continuité", n. 5, October 1987.
14. See M. Ziehl, S. Oßwald, O. Hasemann & D. Schnier (eds.), *Second hand spaces. Recycling sites undergoing urban transformation*, Jovis, Berlin 2012.
15. See *Allies and Morrison Architects, University of Lincoln Masterplan Report*, April 2011.
16. See *City of Lincoln Council, Lincoln Townscape Assessment. Brayford Inherited Character Area Statement*, October 2008.
17. K. Lynch, *What time is this place?* MIT Press Media Department, Cambridge 1972, p. 53.
18. *Ibid.*, p. 63.
19. See www.engineshed.co.uk, www.stemarchitects.co.uk
20. See www.stemarchitects.co.uk
21. The excellency originated from the actual environmental efficiency of the building, where various sustainable technologies were employed, such as passive stack ventilation, a green roof made of sedum and photovoltaic cells, as well as from the fact that the building site was operated in such a way that it would not impact the activities of local business and neighbours, all consulted beforehand by the site team (Source: www.lindumgroup.com/case-studies/).
22. See www.sparkhouseincoln.co.uk, www.stemarchitects.co.uk
23. The research was conducted by Dr Giamila Quattrone in her capacity as Research Fellow at an overseas institution, with the collaboration of Konstantina Georgiadou, as part of the "RE-CYCLE Italy. New Life Cycles for Architecture and Infrastructure of City and Landscape" PRIN agreement between Università degli Studi "Mediterranea" di Reggio Calabria and Nottingham Trent University.
24. K. Lynch, *Wasting Away* (with contributions by Michael Southworth, editor), Sierra Club Books, San Francisco 1990, p. 150.
25. The European project "URBAN SMS Soil Management Strategy" has investigated the issue of brownfield redevelopment highlighting the need for reclaiming, remediating and regenerating derelict and underused sites and devoting them to inner urban development in order to reduce pressure on suburban undeveloped land, which would generate, amongst other problems, reduction in soil drainage capacity, environmental pollution, loss of biodiversity (Source: G. Siebielec (ed.), *Brownfield redevelopment as an alternative to greenfield consumption in urban development in Central Europe*, January 2012).
26. Considering the current wasteful use of soil resources in all 28 Member States and the vast potential they have to promote inner urban redevelopment as a way to contrast suburban sprawl, land take and soil sealing, which cause in turn loss of landscape and natural resources, the European Commission outlined in 2011 the Roadmap to a Resource Efficient Europe, calling for EU policies to consider by 2020 the direct and indirect impact on land use, within the EU and globally, with a view to achieving "no net land take by 2050 (Source: EC, *Guidelines on best practice to limit, mitigate or compensate soil sealing*, Publications Office of the European Union, Luxembourg 2012).
27. D. Goodman, *PROJECT AND ACTION*. On making immodest proposals, in A. F. Per, J. Mozas & J. Arpa (eds.), *Reclaim. Remediate Reuse Recycle*, a+t architecture publishers, Vitoria-Gasteiz 2012, pp. 237-238.
28. E. Van Hinte, C. Peeren & J. Jongert, *Superuse: Constructing New Architecture by Shortcutting Material Flows*, 010 Publishers, Rotterdam 2007, p. 5.
29. J. Körbes, *A world without a manual*, in A. Bahamón, M. C. Sanjinés, *Rematerial: From Waste to Architecture*, W. W. Norton & Company, Inc., New York 2010, p. 182.
30. J. Mozas, *REMEDiate, REUSE, RECYCLE* Re-processes as atonement, in A. F. Per, J. Mozas & J. Arpa (eds.), *Reclaim. Remediate Reuse Recycle*, a+t architecture publishers, Vitoria-Gasteiz 2012, p. 9.
31. *Ibid.*, p. 9.

03

TACT

This section publishes the text of C. Nava, winner of applied research and working papers, in the last selection as Italian researcher at the Festival dell'Economia of Trento 2015, Euricse award, for projects of "innovation, sustainability and PMI".

ICS

[SUSTAINABLE MODELS
IN EXPERIMENTAL PROJECTS
FOR THE METROPOLITAN CITY
OF REGGIO CALABRIA]



Re_action City Reggio Calabria
Social Street
[Ph: Danilo Emo]

**URBAN SOCIAL INNOVATION,
KEY ENABLING
TECHNOLOGIES AND
CAPACITY-BUILDING
FOR THE METROPOLITAN
CITY OF REGGIO CALABRIA**

Consuelo Nava
→UNIRC

Case study projects from ReActioncity to FabCity

The projects proposed for the metropolitan city of Reggio Calabria try out the method of the laboratory-city in terms of strategies of local political governance and new sustainable tactics to be made “permanent”. They apply the previously illustrated theoretical principles to urban contexts by reactivating “a new network geography” of spaces that can no longer be identified as periphery or centre, but as places and communities of the collective city awaiting “redemption”.

By building tactics through a network of self-supporting “makers” the “city making” exercise carried out by Associazione Pensando Meridiano¹ has *de facto* represented the testing of the “laboratory-city” model and strategy. A new political dimension of “participation” as creative milieu in spaces/territories capable of pushing the ideational process from the ReActioncity project to the FaBCity actualization; a project of “geonomics” with the ambition of tackling the smart strategy of resilient and collective cities through actions that nurture the “social quality” of production and urban spaces, by provoking and shaping visions and reactions amongst the city dwellers.

But also with the ambition of representing that competitive economic

context which fosters processes of social inclusion and cohesion (employment, new welfare, new job profiles etc.) where new “networks for innovation and change” are built while pursuing “mass wellbeing and individual potentialities”:²

The *reaction-action*, which is the condition sine qua non for the generation of visions of urban social innovation in the projects conducted, involves and reactivates both the production ecosystem of the makers’ skills and expertise and the socio-urban ecosystem of active citizens’ practices, interested in envisioning, co-designing, creating and participating in the management of the common goods as calibres and multipliers of the quality of community life and sustainable urban development.

Besides, such paths, as described by L. Tricarico³, encourage the creation of two types of social enterprises concerned with urban regeneration policies. Community enterprises (community social enterprises or urban commons), *“these enterprises have demonstrated an ability to monitor communities and territories to tackle through own initiatives, acting as interface (or bridge) between local demand and national as well as local public policies. The activities proposed generate outcomes that are reflected in spatial, economic and social transformations, and promote social innovation in the use of the territory (Crosta, 2010) and the reuse of disused public buildings. In particular in metropolitan organizations the search for community assets has found in disused and underused spaces opportunities for the development of new “social skills” (...)*

ReActioncity

Urban social innovation: Actions, reactions, visions

ReActionCity is an urban social innovation project for the metropolitan city of Reggio Calabria⁴. The project is conceived with the aim to shape visions and strategies of social cohesion and urban development in close connection with the communities that inhabit landscapes and territories of South Italy, promoting “short term actions for long term change” through local projects. A way to share a vision of the city as a new, socially participated and sympathetic network topography, where spaces and communities become actors, in their places, of possible and sustainable forms of life, who understand it and project it onto the present and the future. A unique

way of "making the city" by building social visions and an urban agenda of resolutions by means of "creative city" and "city making" proposals, informal actions and inclusive policies towards the urban and social regeneration of communal, public-private spaces of the city and the metropolitan communities of Reggio Calabria, and an overall quality of life within a sustainable economic fabric. In its evolution the project presents itself as a proactive model of "social innovation cities", transferrable to local as well as extra-regional contexts that have similar characteristics and ambitions⁵.

From the experience of the 2014 pilot project "Towards the Urban Agenda"

ReActionCity originates from its "2014 pilot project", based on an idea of Consuelo Nava and Fabio Mollo, while the direction of the "making" is played by Associazione Pensando Meridiano. An experience of laboratory-city takes place in 2014 over a period of 15 days of training and cohesion (July-August). The goal is to activate an *action-vision* capable of putting forward an idea of new collective identity to the community through the communication of social and spatial innovation and with the participation of the hosts of temporary events - social makers – together with the actions, explorations and accounts of the *urban makers*.⁶

Actions take place in those "sensitive" places of the city that are deemed capable of regaining inclusion, in order to promote their ability to self-repair.

Reactions are spurred in shared communal places and common goods under public-private management, disused areas or places waiting regeneration but already rehabilitated through bottom-up processes. A tactic to redeem places that are excluded from the social and spatial life, but also places resisting, by virtue of their cultural and natural potential (villages, suburbs, historic centres, production areas, civic buildings, streets) as well as virtuous activism of their communities.

The choice of sites for this initial experience takes into consideration the conflicting condition of communities, institutions and stakeholders, as much as the urban regeneration schemes or the urgency of giving them back to public fruition are concerned. In addition, the protagonists of experiences relevant in terms of life quality, services, work, solidarity networks, care and culture are involved.

The sites chosen are: 1. The Cecilia suburb in Gallico Marina; 2. The terraces of the Lido Comunale; 3/4. The Ex Ciapi and Ex Italcitrus areas in Catona; 5. The intermodal and mobility nodes around the Reggio Calabria Harbour; 6. The social street in a main artery of the city of Reggio Calabria (via D. Tripepi). The urban makers organise and coordinate the urban events. The action/reaction stories tackle the currently controversial issues of theatres, public childcare and wheelchair accessible spaces in Reggio Calabria. The *urban agenda*, drafted as a proposal of change towards a social construction of the city, comprises of documents of strategic planning and urban regeneration visions for the sites of ReAction-City⁷; for the case study events described sustainable design schemes and urban recycling interventions are put forward. Other outputs include story-telling from “inside”, that is done by the actors through the tools of social communication⁸ and the photographic and video coverage of the single actions. A docufilm titled “ReActionCity 2014” has been produced to recount the pilot project, its laboratory-city strategy and protagonists⁹.

From the urban agenda to the “SMART CITY” permanent tactic

ReActioncity continues as an ongoing project open to new scenarios of reactions-actions, as shared planning process on the occasion of strategies and tactics for the city and the participation in initiatives and European competitions towards Europe 2020.

The tactic underlying the actions conducted during the pilot project constitutes the method for the project strategy; it therefore becomes applicable to any action that can be implemented by makers, producing sustainable visions and sympathetic development for the metropolitan city of Reggio Calabria. In this sense the ReActionCity method is always based on the city as laboratory, with moments of construction of visions of change and urban agenda, through the time:

- of work education/makers/actors training
(CITY as INCLUSIVE POLITICAL FORM + CITY as VISION CHANGE)
- of work experience/short term actions and experiences (CITY as INFORMAL REPAIR CULTURE + FROM RC City to YOUR SHARED CITY)

The evolution of the pilot project and its tactic towards the “smart city” strategies for the metropolitan city of Reggio Calabria continues with actions aimed at the social cohesion, economically and environmentally sustainable development of its territories, the safety and life quality of its communities through the orientation practices of the “smart and sympathetic city”.

Any action relating to the project and the actualization of the interventions on the physical space as well as the human and economic resources will foster management models centred on project sustainability, low energy environmental technologies, urban, architectural and materials recycling practices, landscape regeneration and valorisation.

Therefore, in order to promote various ways of being “smart” all ongoing actions of the ReActionCity project will strategically be conducted according to the inclusive model of the smart cities, that is according to the principles inherent in the proposed tactics of social actions/reactions:

- smart economy (competitiveness)
- smart people (human and social capital)
- smart governance (participation)
- smart mobility (transportation and ICT)
- smart environment (natural resources)
- smart living (life quality)

The ReActionCity project becomes a “permanent tactic of urban social innovation”, which envisions a new urbanism/humanism through the implementation of projects in social and economic contexts and the involvement of private and public promoters.

ReActionCity is also a planning and actualization method of actions and objectives, a form of transparent, communication with communities and sites, face-to-face and virtually through the web and social networks.

Its ambition lies in generating innovation by bearing on the policies of change for collective cities and communities towards Europe 2020 and aiming at integrated socially and environmentally sustainable practices capable of accelerating economic development through social cohesion and inclusion.

Urban Vision

25-07-24 a SAIDE
 Casinata Sergio Cecilia a nostra presenza
 Rotonda via Marina Gallico (RC)

Realizzato in collaborazione con il centro ReActioncity
 Organizzato da: ReActioncity, Comune di Reggio Calabria, Comune di Marina Gallico, Comune di Caserta




AZIONE 1

COLLECTIVE

07-07-24 a SAIDE
 09-10 Rosetta a SAIDE LIDO
 Terrazzo Lido Comunale Faggio Caserta

Realizzato in collaborazione con il centro ReActioncity
 Organizzato da: ReActioncity, Comune di Reggio Calabria, Comune di Marina Gallico, Comune di Caserta




AZIONE 2

VISIONARY

21-07-24 a SAIDE
 Area del disastro del Porto
 Faggio Caserta

Realizzato in collaborazione con il centro ReActioncity
 Organizzato da: ReActioncity, Comune di Reggio Calabria, Comune di Marina Gallico, Comune di Caserta




AZIONE 3

URBAN

23-07-24 a SAIDE
 a SAIDE Isola d'Isopetro Caserta
 Area disastro di Caserta Reggia Calabria

Realizzato in collaborazione con il centro ReActioncity
 Organizzato da: ReActioncity, Comune di Reggio Calabria, Comune di Marina Gallico, Comune di Caserta




AZIONE 4

socialstreet

02-08-24
 Via S. Felice 1410 via s. Felice via gioia (RC)

Realizzato in collaborazione con il centro ReActioncity
 Organizzato da: ReActioncity, Comune di Reggio Calabria, Comune di Marina Gallico, Comune di Caserta




AZIONE 5

The urban event with ReActioncity in Reggio Calabria
 (editing by Carmela D'Agostino and urban makers)

The assessment of the social and environmental impact of the project

The 2014 pilot project had the purpose of building the social communication foundation of ReActionCity on the web and through territorial marketing. Following its evolution as “permanent tactic” the pilot project has been disseminated through various events where actions and strategies have been presented since the conclusion of the related Workexperience. Through the “sharing community” program, launched at the end of the laboratory-city with the docufilm and urban agenda documents, the dissemination of the ReActionCity project has taken place in the South of Italy, mainly Calabria and Sicily, through a calendar of events organized in collaboration with institutions, associations, schools, clubs, urban communities, groups of citizens, and in about nine months dissemination has involved the project actors in more than 50 events.¹⁰

ReActioncity has been mentioned and awarded for its focus on sustainable urbanism and participation in the agenda of the metropolitan city, for the organization of the recycle workshops and the promotion of capacity building towards the creation of young social enterprises.

The indicators of the positive social and cultural impact of the project are as follows:

1. The request for the dissemination of the outputs to a wide audience of citizens, educators, cultural operators, institution representatives, professionals, NGOs and associations for innovation and urban development.
2. The launching of further processes, actions, events and projects based on the ReActioncity model tactic and initiated by social makers who had participated in the laboratory-city project.
3. The request for participation in talks, communication projects and extra regional events on the themes of urban social innovation and policies for the metropolitan city.
4. The high number of national, European and non-European visitor to the project website and the high number of document downloads.

5. The participation of members of Associazione Pensando Meridiano, who directed the tactic, in seminars and regional as well as extra-regional events on the project themes.

6. The request from institutions and associations for the promotion and planning of other actions around the themes of social cohesion and inclusion, urban and social regeneration, city of knowledge, innovation, city making and social communication.

7. The dissemination of the project outcomes through scientific as well as more popular published outputs.

8. The activation of capacity building paths on the themes of development and innovation projects, and city making through seminars and courses for the young generation.

What emerges from the above is that the success registered from an “*environmental performances*” viewpoint, that concerns the enabling technologies applied within the laboratory-city (regeneration, recycling, smart technologies, etc.), has beneficially impacted the “performance of the proposal on the innovation targets” and viceversa.

The scenario created by the ReActioncity project constitutes a favourable ex-ante condition that facilitates the activation of the following project, “FabCity”, by capitalizing on previously developed skills, abilities and experiences to create the most innovative forms of “*social enterprise*”.

As merges from the studies of G. J. Yu and S. Y. Rhee “*in an attempt to attract strong environmental performance, companies try to facilitate coordination between functions and external stakeholders.*

Coordination skills and knowledge that are flowing through the networks of relationships are effective to replenish its capital, which plays a critical role in improving the performance of innovation within the company.

Then, the innovative capacity of enterprises, developed through eco-sustainable activities, innovative performance of enterprises will be increased”¹.



Project photo taken by Carmela D'Agostino and Giuseppe Mangano

Re-Action: Urban Walk

Catona (RC)

30.07.2016

The core of Catona consists of an urbanized area which proposes a "urban walk" through the northern part of Reggio Calabria characterized by a large presence of abandoned and degraded areas in particular the former IRI/ENI industrial plant for the professional training and activities, the factory for masonry and glass products. The aim of the walk was to involve the residents to go through those places to reduce attention on these areas, highlighting that about 30% of the territory in Catona is occupied by brownfields. During the walk the urban actors have promoted a debate with citizens, an exchange of information and ideas to bring out new proposals for an alternative use of those places, according to the new European programs and such a new relationship between citizens and the urban model. It was fundamental to emphasize the potential of these areas and their possible uses for residential. These walking was filmed by the urban actors Danilo Esposito and Riccardo Lisio for the creation of a short film.

The coordination of urban actors by Carmela Mangano, Giuseppe Tripodi and Riccardo Lisio.

With the assistance of Social Workers, Mediators, Public, Associations, various cultural associations. Participation in the urban walking by the citizens, the involvement Luciano Rossi, Michele Magagnoli, Valerio Palmieri.

With the advice by Giuseppe Tripodi and a new configuration for the future.

URBAN AGENDA FOR REGGIO CALABRIA METROPOLITAN CITY

FEED THE PLANET. ENERGY FOR LIFE*

- Urban gardens
- Incentives of productive spaces
- Organic products and self production

URBAN REGENERATION

- Regeneration of old industrial sites
- Residential and urban renewal
- Residential reuse

SUSTAINABILITY AND RECYCLE

- Use of recycled and recyclable materials
- Reuse of waste materials
- Use of sustainable technologies compatible with the planet
- Use of active solar systems for the production of electrical energy (solar still) and hot water systems for heating/cooling of buildings
- Use of natural ventilation systems
- Design of systems for energy saving

TOWARDS THE SMART-CITY

- Smart environment: improve environmental quality and reduce environmental impact through energy efficiency of existing buildings
- Smart living: create the living quality
- Smart mobility: creating the economic competitiveness of Catona

Project photo by the photo of E. Di Stefano and G. Tripodi

Action #4 in Catona (rc)_ Urban Walk
(propose project and editing by Carmela D'Agostino e Giuseppe Mangano)

The ReActioncity Challenging tactic towards ReActioncity Woman

Management of sequestered and confiscated Mafia assets for the collective city

The whole Italian territory is characterised by a widespread presence of sequestered and confiscated organized crime assets. According to data of the ANBSC (based in Reggio Calabria) the country has a total of 12944 (11237 buildings, 1707 businesses). Calabria holds 14% of those (1811) and in particular, the sole province of Reggio Calabria has 1203 (286 under management, 639 already assigned, 133 not yet assigned, 37 no longer under management, 6 not confiscated, 67 businesses under management, 41 no longer under management)¹².

Local institutions such as Province, Council, Court and Antimafia Associations are involved in the transformation of these criticalities into local surplus value through the regulation of procedures and the concession of these assets to other subjects. Associations can play a role of facilitators within this scenario by contributing to governance and management best practice from an innovation perspective.

The *ReActionCity Challenging* (RACC) tactic promotes strategies and actions of “urban social innovation” on sequestered and confiscated Mafia assets, their management and rehabilitation as civic, economic and physical resources. An innovative strategy, that of “city making”, which is born as “operational challenge” in a place laden with sequestered ‘ndrangheta assets and needs new operational procedures as well as broad awareness that the *common good*, if of interest to the social capital, turns the latter into *collective capital*.

All actions ensuing from the tactic application attest the possibility of creating employment opportunities, promoting local development. In fact, RACC aims to:

- Support for the employment and social integration of “disadvantaged” categories/individuals, young people and people locally residing or domiciled who do not have access to spaces for start-ups, through the networking of subjects jointly developing and coordinating actions;

- Active participation of “disadvantaged” subjects to the social and economic life of the city (sharing economy);
- Growth and competitiveness, support for access to the job market through training, virtuous experiences, economic networks, micro-entrepreneurial activity (smart economy, smart people) towards the creation of a local network that promotes small and medium enterprises and multifaceted professional profiles.
- Transformation of the redeemed assets (sharing city) into: social enterprises, co-working incubators, fabLab, impact hubs, talent gardens, Cowo spots.

The RACC strategy aims to address existing and future requirements linked with sequestered assets, particularly in Reggio Calabria.

Firstly, a physical/proprietary requirement, that is to stop the decay of a high number of assets (buildings, businesses etc..) which, lying without users, experience a more accelerated structural and architectural obsolescence process; secondly an ethical/civic requirement, that is to re-establish legality in places/spaces, which the organized crime has taken away from the community, through effective actions and the involvement of social and solidarity networks in their management that can affirm them as legality strongholds; thirdly an administrative/procedural requirement, that is to make the concession and management of the assets themselves transparent.

Based on the idea that “urban civilisation is more contagious than anything else” the project puts forward a shared innovative action around the above mentioned themes, aiming to remove some of the obstacles to these assets management:

- a not yet completely effective administration (smart governance);
- the community reticence to fully understand the assets value, social and economic potential towards a new form of legality and a new economy (smart people and economy);
- a civic upbringing as a tool to express feelings and actions of courageous testimony, where civic assets become “virtuous cases” with great testimonial and emulative power (smart living).

Activities, though localized in the assets directly tackled by the project, address more widely all those “sensitive” places and spaces in the metropolitan city which are capable of regaining an inclusive urban political form in order to promote their own redemption abilities, with the ultimate goal of putting places taken by the organised crime away from the community back at the centre of the urban sphere.

The proposed innovative actions include:

- transfer of knowledge and know-how through the “makers” networking: linking, thematic training and information (urban and co-working public events);
- mapping with the participation of stakeholders in visions/actions/planning: creation of the RACC mapping (useful to provide an open data platform accessible by the public)
- activation of innovative urban laboratories on the occasion of the asset physical and civic rehabilitation: tactics typical of the “open building site” (opening of the building to the public during renovation) and “recycle” (sustainable technologies)
- web and face-to-face communication and territorial marketing: dissemination, sharing community and viral communication (all along the process).

ReActioncity Woman

The ReActioncity Woman action was born out of a draft agreement between Reggio Calabria Province Administration (Equal Opportunities Councilwoman), Cooperativa Sole Insieme, Reggio Calabria Prison, Reggio Calabria Association of Industrialists, Confcommercio Reggio Calabria, Associazione Agape, Reggio Calabria City Council, Associazione Pensando Meridiano (ReActioncity Reggio Calabria project)¹³.

Object of the action is: the creation of a *collaborative system of social, economic and development support* for local enterprises, aimed to implement integrated territorial actions between public institutions, NGOs and associations of volunteers and social innovation planning “*in support for the equal opportunities of women in difficulty and their social and civic*”

integration through projects of which they are protagonists”.

The objective identified is the setup of a Dressmaking Workshop, directed and run by the Sole Insieme women cooperative, hosted in a sequestered Mafia building in Reggio Calabria, to be socially and physically rehabilitated.

The action *directly aims* at integrating the various network subjects in order to promote joint and coordinated actions towards the support, social and work integration of the cooperative. The initiative addresses single mothers, women separated with underage children, as well as women who have suffered violence, abuses and in other difficult conditions, residing or domiciled in Reggio Calabria City.

It stimulates their active participation in the social and economic life of the city, their protagonism in the creation of shared spaces and activities for the cultural promotion of a civilised and democratic fabric which is attentive to gender and cultural differences.

More specifically, Associazione Pensando Meridiano, which is a laboratory of social cohesion and sustainable culture, has promoted the ReActionCity project within the above mentioned partnership.

According to the tactical methodologies of social construction of the city the laboratory has planned a new action named “ReActionCity Woman”, with the purpose of conducting and supervising the project activities in a socially inclusive and sustainable way.

This has materialised by involving citizens, promoting employment and competitiveness, but also “smart government” by virtuously exchanging resources to achieve the project goals.

ReActioncity coordinates these actions according to the methodologies and tactics experimented initially in its pilot project and subsequently through ReActioncity Challenging.

In the light of the agreement with the partners Associazione Pensando Meridiano has helped with the construction design of the sequestered Mafia building as well as with the institutional communication, territorial marketing and social networking.

Activities conducted within ReActioncity Woman have been self-funded for the production of goods and services and crowd-funded for the social communication and territorial marketing.



Project of a Dressmaking Workshop,
on a building sequestered and confiscated organized crime
directed and run by the Sole Insieme women cooperative
(the Open Building Site & Recycle activities led by Associazione Pensando Meridiano)

Definition of the makers' types and role: "Linking and networking"

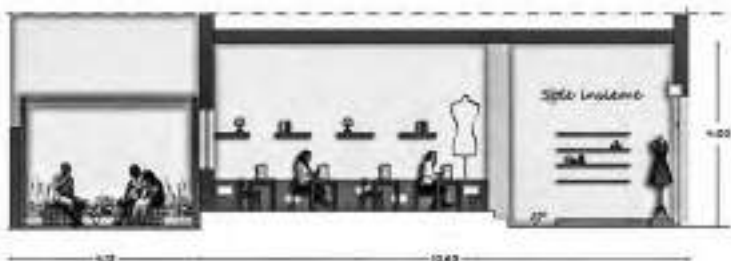
The makers have been protagonists of the "linking and networking" project activities through "calls" within the "sharing people" action (social inclusion).

a) With the Linking activity various types of "makers" have been selected:

- Social makers: associations, groups, laboratories, centres, etc. whose mission is to define the project aims
(amongst the promoters *Associazione Pensando Meridiano, Agape, Action Aid, Associazione Verdi Idee; Associazione Canta e Cammina; Teatro Mediterranea*)
- Urban makers: urban planners, urban designers, urban operators, film makers, innovators, subjects active in "city making"
(amongst the promoters *Associazione Pensando Meridiano, Cooperativa Sole Insieme, Reggio Calabria Prison*)
- Testimonial makers: individual, institutions and people, skilled in transferring ideas and initiatives, who facilitate and promote actions in the ways defined by Reactioncity, involving and sensitizing to acting other potentially interested subjects
(amongst the promoters *Reggio Calabria Province, City Council and Prison, Equal Opportunities Councilwoman, ReActioncity Project*)
- Sponsor makers: individual, institutions, business and entrepreneurial associations which have supported action during the various stages of the project by providing services, consumables, etc.
(amongst the promoters *Cooperativa Sole Insieme, Confindustria, Confcommercio, Reggio Calabria Province*)

b) The networking activity has played the role of linking up the various makers in the project actions and initiating a mapping in relation to 4 objectives/intelligences/activities of the ReActioncity Woman action for a smart and sympathetic metropolitan city of Reggio Calabria:

1. PROFESSIONAL INTEGRATION, growth and competitiveness, through training, virtuous experiences, economic networks, micro-entrepreneurial activity (*smart economy, smart people*)





Project of sequestered and confiscated organized crime for a Dressmaking Workshop, directed and run by the Sole Insieme women cooperative (the Open Building Site & Recycle activities led by Associazione Pensando Meridiano)

2. WOMEN'S PROTAGONISMS, towards their individual promotion and social integration into the civic fabric, the promotion of women's equal opportunities and life quality policies through initiatives, actions, testimonies, events and debates where the Sole Insieme cooperative has not only been the end user of the action but also the promoter and coordinator of the activities (*smart economy, smart people*)

3. BEST MANAGEMENT OF SEQUESTERED AND CONFISCATED ORGANIZED CRIME ASSETS and activities of OPEN BUILDING SITE&RECYCLE, through the adoption of a dedicated brand and parallel project with the aim of directing the proposal, organization, control and management of projects for the rehabilitation of assets in the metropolitan city of Reggio Calabria. The building granted to Sole Insieme is the first pilot for the experimentation of such a procedure and its integration into a strategic urban physical as well as economic dimension. Thanks to the work done by inmates of the Reggio Calabria Prison, the building's rehabilitation constitutes a laboratory-building site animated by the Open Building Site & Recycle activities led by Associazione Pensando Meridiano. The schedule of the renovation has been conceived as to provide for breaks in the works during which the site has been left open to the community for tours, project presentations and social makers' performances in order to draw attention on a public interest initiative of high civic and urban value. Enabling technologies have been developed within a recycle laboratory and adopted in the Dressmaking Workshop by the urban makers (*smart economy, smart environment, smart people*)

4. ACTIVE CITIZENSHIP POLICIES, actions for the social construction of the city will be conducted through direct strategies and project communication with the aim of transferring practices to the communities that have an interest in the urban spaces where actions take place (*smart living, smart government*).

Action's values: "sharing economy" time and resources

The ReActioncity Woman action's values are all to be found in the variables/qualities "time and resources"; in their relationship with a context of

sensitive actors and conditions and, as such, more effective. The timing of the action, from the project launching to the provision of the service, is exemplary. Around nine months of work have been connoted by a constant commitment of all makers on the ground and institutional support, which has taken up this innovative challenge. According to the recent practice of the “sharing economy” resources and time have become the ReActioncity Woman’s capital which, together with the human capital, actualizes the inclusive entrepreneurial practice initially set as objective.

The ReActioncity Woman project, therefore, proposes the sharing economy model whereby promoters and makers exchange economies as human resources, material resources, time bank and activities specific to the project according to each actor’s set mission. This increases the project economic value in its various phases on the basis of costs and benefits. A high positive relationship is established between social and economic impact of the project and its overall sustainability.

The resignification of “the economy of time” has entailed:

- Mapping of the makers’ actions during the renovation of the building
- Scheduling of initiatives and actions for the sensitization to and the support for the project
- Institutional and web communication
- Tutoring and dissemination during the project.

A re-evaluation of “the economy of resources” through the model of goods and services sharing and exchange is also achieved.

The economic, monetizable activities conducted include:

1. self-funding and identification of micro-economies to support the communication, coordination and implementation of actions for the ReActioncity project, the purchase of materials for the renovation works in addition to what self-allocated by the makers (see point 2)
2. self-funding and crowdfunding by the makers to conduct the respective actions during the project implementation
3. use of funds from the Sole Insieme cooperative’s own budget to support the women according to the action program agreed.





Sharing Economy - Resources and time the success of Reactioncity woman
 in nine months [2014 december, 2016 february]
 Web Communication (Editing by A.Procopio)

Innovation towards the social enterprise and actualization of the FabCity

Project objectives

"FabCity", factory of *innovation and creativity in the city*, is a container-space for a project of *social innovation, sustainability and employment towards young people inclusion*, which is located on the south outskirts of the metropolitan city of Reggio Calabria. In this case, the rehabilitation of a sequestered Mafia asset as the FabCity headquarters amplifies the social and economic impact of the operation, acting on the levels of legality and response of the specific area, but looking at its effects at a broader scale.¹⁴

Furthermore, due to the state of physical and environmental decay of the building, surrounding areas and adjoining open spaces, the recycling and rehabilitation of the building dictates its sustainable environmental reclamation due to presence of an asbestos roof (4 tons), waste equipment and objects (videogame machines) left behind from previous uses.

Creating a "*FabCity in the city centre*", through outdoor and indoor actions, does not mean to introduce a social and economic activity of sole interest to the people who will run it in the neighbourhood, but to create a real model of "*urban hub*", an incubator of young people's innovation and creativity. Through the activation of training and information paths (smart model) the hub will constitute a permanent urban laboratory for those who provide services for initiatives of social and technological innovation as well as entrepreneurial creativity,

This is a project that aims to be competitive both on the national and euro-Mediterranean scene, as a dual response to the problem of the marginalization and exclusion of the younger generation of the South. Firstly, the project responds to the reason for the South's own delay in development and distance from all competitively developed regions. It addresses the issue of the "brain drain" or "youth employment", which impacts the education and training of the young generations by hindering the construction of a vision of possible future. Secondly, in Southern Italy and Reggio Calabria, where talents are lost or obscured by a longstanding status-quo, avoiding this to happen depends on the implementation of a series of targeted activities within an innovative context and an easily conveyable concept. The couples "*innovation-networking*" and "*redemption-recycle*" can, over a short period of time, fill the gap and help accelerate the socio-

economic growth with the contribution of local, national and international subjects involved. Various studies show, in fact, that the success of innovation projects and their consequent economic impact depend on a number of different actions, among which stand out the linking up of resources and competencies and the availability of physical spaces where, by taking advantage of scale and emulation, ideas can rely on services and expertise that speed up the actualization of the project while increasing the chances of its success.

Therefore, at an advanced stage of its mission FabCity will link up fragmentarily activated local initiatives through the creation of an innovation ecosystem, comprising of hubs that can be multiplied by spaces and activity types, which can synergically embrace all innovative realities towards the achievement of a positive, enduring and sustainable economic effect.

Over the past few years a number of similar local, national and regional (Calabria - Sicily) initiatives have been activate upon initiative of associations and institutions such as centres, universities etc, which have invested in start-ups, collaborative and co-working experiences, and think-tanks on city making and cultural policies. Also recently conferences and seminars have been held on the themes of entrepreneurial innovation and competitiveness as well as the competitive, smart and digital city. That which is a still fragmented reality, not yet linked up on the web neither provided with dedicated spaces and places.

FabCity puts itself in as an appealing opportunity for young people, but also as an opportunity for the city to start processes of networking, rehabilitation of disused assets (including sequestered and confiscated ones) and launching of new activities.

Project actualization

FabCity is located in the Gebbione neighbourhood, on the south outskirts of Reggio Calabria, in an area of landscape and urban value close to the coastline, which has been selected for the design of the south linear park.

The neighbourhood is densely populated, social relations are mainly connected with schools and parish churches; retail activities of various types are also present. Given the presence of youth and sport meeting centres the neighbourhood is frequented by young residents and visitors.

The area is characterised by the presence of an important industrial area (via Padova) which have been incorporated seamlessly within the residential fabric, the Omeca machine workshops, a regional railway line with the Omeca train station (opposite the building to be rehabilitated), a quick connection with the Reggio Calabria airport. Furthermore, in the FabCity site, via Gebbione a Mare traversa Marino, a youth meeting place (la Casa dei Giovani di Attendiamoci Onlus) is located.

The ground floor area of the former factory building, which will become the new FabCity, is about 230 square metres in total (186 sqm on the ground floor + 44 sqm on the mezzanine floor).

The entrance area towards the city is about 80 sqm and the adjoining open air area towards the south linear park is about 153 sqm.

Promoters and End Users

The *project promoters* are members of Pensando Meridiano, permanent laboratory of sustainable culture, innovation and social cohesion, and members of ReBOOT, association for change and innovation. They were established in Reggio Calabria with the shared goal of promoting social and entrepreneurial activities for young people around the themes of innovation as a driver of change in the economic fabric of South Italy, according to processes of social inclusion and cohesion and collaborative development.

The two associations have been for years active in partnerships and collaborations in social and techno-digital innovation projects, informing and training young people under 35 and sensitizing communities on social inclusion and cohesion, sustainability and orientation towards competitiveness on the job market¹⁵.

In particular, over the time the two associations have built, nationally and internationally, permanent and project-based partnerships with institutions, universities, research centres, associations, laboratories and SMEs around their missions and with a focus on the themes underlying FabCity.

The *project end users* are young people variously involved at different levels. A *first level*, where members of the two promoting associations are directly involved in the drafting of the proposal for the FabCity project. They are young people living between Calabria and Sicily, high school leavers and university graduates with a strong penchant for innovation activities

on the cultural, social and economic front. They will be the “makers” committed to coordinate actions during the various phases of the project, based on their own specific abilities and expertise. A second level, where young people from the various areas of the province will be involved, individually or in groups, in initiatives and workshops through “city making” activities during the renovation of the sequestered building (see ReAction-city Challenging project). A third level, where the young will be in charge of goods and services after FabCity’s official opening, will run short and long term projects based on the FabCity brand to promote young people’s inclusion and training, and will provide consultancy to other similar local realities (young start-ups, SMEs, laboratories, etc.).

Activities, goods and services

The provision of goods and services responds to the demand of many young people in the South for continuing education, training, information and the participation in opportunities of development, innovation and employment as provided for by European, national and regional calls for applications. The participants work in teams, studying the calls’ requirements and preparing all application materials.

They do so through brainstorming, shared objectives definition, knowledge and ideas transfer, proposals definition and sharing, under the supervision of experts and upon suggestion of the workgroups, for each thematic area elected to generate services, goods and products.

The *reference topics* for the activities, goods and services of FabCity, which are related to innovative processes, strategies and tactics of co-design and city making, are:

- *Social innovation and cohesion (City Making and Social Change)*
- *Sustainable innovation (energy efficiency and sustainable design)*
- *Urban innovation*
- *Competitive planning (in response to local, national, European calls and government funding schemes)*
- *Creative City and cultural innovation*
- *Smart city processes and projects*
- *FabLab and FabCity processes, activities and products*

- *Digital innovation processes, activities and products*
- *Know-how transfer between research and innovation*
- *Strategies and tactics transfer between innovation and territory*
- *Social communication and territorial marketing*

The activities and services offered by FabCity will fall within the following 6 macro-areas: (1) Actions, (2) Training, (3) Creation of New Enterprises, (4) SMEs Competitiveness Growth, (5) Networking and Internationalization, (6) Production of Goods.

In detail:

(1) ACTIONS

Projects and actions of city making

Projects and actions of open building site and recycle

Projects and actions of social communication

Projects and information activities through urban laboratories

(2) TRAINING

- Up-to-date professional development

- Expertise and entrepreneurship training

- Training in city making, sustainable and Energy Design, Business Administration

- Organization of local, national and international events and congresses

- University orientation

- Employment and professional orientation

(3) CREATION OF NEW ENTERPRISES

- Incubation process

- Support service for start-ups

- Technological transfer

- Search for funding opportunities

- Search for innovative projects

- Co-working activities

- Creation of laboratories

(4) SMEs COMPETITIVENESS GROWTH

- European planning

- Innovation matching

- Creation of work groups

- Innovation support services: patenting, product design, feasibility studies, etc

- Business support services: market analysis, traditional and digital marketing consultancy, etc.

(5) NETWORKING AND INTERNATIONALIZATION

- B2B events

- Business internationalization: international sectorial analysis, planning of overseas bases, help with access to international funding, monitoring of trade on extra-national markets

- Organization of temporary events and exhibitions

- setup of international start-ups

- setup of promotional and operational spaces for national and international bodies: Chambers of Commerce, Universities, Multinationals, Big Players, etc.

(6) PRODUCTION OF GOODS

- Digitally fabricated products

- Recycled design products

- Multimedia communication products

- Graphic communication products

- Prototypes

Technical feasibility aspects: a new social and production spinneret

“FabCity” is comparable to “a highly competitive and innovative social enterprise” as concerns the activities identified and the operational methods that will be adopted¹⁶.

The technical feasibility of the initiative will depend on the success of the operations:

- Presentation of the construction design for FabCity, concession of the sequestered building by Reggio Calabria Court and stipulation of a tenancy agreement which will be initially free for a number of years necessary to recoup investment costs for its reclamation and renovation

- Renovation, recycling and reclamation of the warehouse structures and its surrounding spaces according to the tactic of the ReActioncity Challenging projects

- Launching of “sharing economy” activities (financial and human resources and services exchange) in order to get back the necessary economies for the rehabilitation and management of the asset

- Start-up with initial activities pre-scheduled for the promoting associations
 - Selection of competitive projects and programs for the recovery of funds and investments towards capital goods for the production of highly competitive services
- Launching of the communication campaign in order to market the FabCity project as a “participatory foundation” (corporate name still to be confirmed), with the aim of promoting the project, conclude partnerships and organize subsequent promotion events. This legal entity is the new Italian model for the management of cultural and no-profit initiatives, which is possible to join by donating money, material or immaterial goods, expertise or services.

The *economic feasibility* of the initiative lies in the *sharing economy model*, which is necessary to recover the investment resources for the rehabilitation of the building through the following categories of works. In the rough calculation of expenses stand out those related to the reclamation and renovation works and the consequent conversion of the building into a “laboratory”, currently valued at 775,47 Euros by the land registry and classified as “warehouse”. Total costs have been estimated at 80.000 Euros for the rehabilitation of the building and its conversion to a new use, in addition to territorial marketing and social communication activities, whose costs will be partly absorbed by spaces and equipment which were previously set up during the course of the ReActioncity projects.

Expected benefits: social innovation, sustainability and occupation

According to the project building schedule FabCity aims to:

- Support youth inclusion and integration into a competitive professional fabric through innovation and collaborative practices on “innovation and creativity”.
- Support the competitiveness and economic development of the metropolitan city of Reggio Calabria in a socially and environmentally sustainable way.
- Introduce a locally and regionally relevant aggregation and innovation hub into a peripheral area.

- Reclaim a brownfield site and highly polluted (by asbestos) disused (sequestered)
- Resolve issues at the territorial scale by identifying innovative planning methods.
- Strengthen and valorise the local business system by building an international cooperation network.
- Create a locally based international network ensuring high quality standards.
- Contribute to the solution of European issues by taking part in European development projects (Horizon 2020).
- Increase the number of locally active SMEs and start-ups.
- Encourage the development of economies of scale and economies of purpose with cascading effects on the territory.
- Attract national and international capital in order to assist access to credit and the consequent launching of new entrepreneurial projects.
- Attract and encourage the return of highly qualified human resources.
- Increase the level of technological transfer.
- Increase the credibility and visibility of local production realities.
- Create highly qualified professional profiles.

Project phasing and timing

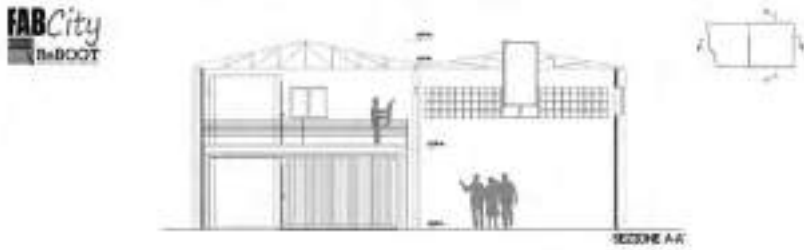
A phasing of the project is foreseen in order to make FabCity operation within at least 12 months of the ideation and presentation of the project.

Phasing details:

1 (April–September 2015); **2** (October 2015–February 2016); **3** (March 2016–April 2016); **4** (May 2016)

1_assessment of the feasibility of FabCity, identification of a suitable sequestered building, presentation of the FabCity construction design, concession of the building by Reggio Calabria Court, and stipulation of the agreement (April–September 2015).

2_starting reclamation, recycling and renovation of the warehouse and adjoining spaces according to ReActioncity Challenging tactic (on mafia sequestered and confiscated assets see www.pensandomeridano.com).



"FabCity", factory of innovation and creativity in the city,
 the existing building and the project building (editing by Pensando Meridiano)
 (the rehabilitation of a sequestered Mafia asset)

2_start of the “sharing economy” activities (financial and human resources and services exchange) in order to get back the necessary economies for the rehabilitation and management of the asset.

2_start of the communication phase with the purpose of marketing the FabCity project as a “participatory foundation”, promoting it, concluding partnerships and organizing promotion events.

- 3_end of the renovation works and communication planning for the opening of FabCity.
- 4_opening of FabCity
- 4_start-up with initial activities pre-scheduled for the promoting associations.
- 4_selection of competitive projects and programs for the recovery of funds and investments towards capital goods for the production of highly competitive services.

Conclusions

*“Pre-vedo solo pensando di poter svolgere
un’azione soggettivamente determinante;
pre-vedo nella misura in cui penso di avere
l’energia per realizzare il mio progetto”
[M. Cacciari, Il potere che frena, Adelphi ed, 2013*

“The laboratory-city becomes innovative methods when it translates into practice”.

This statement can conclude the paper, following a detailed illustration of how strategies and tactics of urban social innovation link together human, technological and urban capital in a new economic and social alliance aimed to change.

The abilities of the promoters and agents of change for such scenarios find themselves to operate in a condition where community economic and social growth heavily rely on the urban structure of their territories.

This entails that each project becomes the “start-up” path which is typical of any organization that aspires to transform its own actions into an innovative social and/or cultural enterprise.

The three moves that can be exported from the ReActioncity – FabCity process can be defined as follows:

1. *Create the phenomenon*, by identifying projects-objectives of general public interest;
2. *Build the so-called “tool box” to activate capacity building processes*, by institutionalizing the path through methods and tactics capable of making the processes activated stable and continuing, in order not to weaken the social mission and innovative ambition;
3. *Create social enterprises*, by transforming the practices of change implemented through the Laboratory into new goods and services.

Assisted by the power of a self-informing system, the pervasive innovative nature of the projects actualised has been able to define limits, values and boundary conditions by self-regulating the proposals while the “city making” process was ongoing.

A project of urban social innovation involving stakeholders and citizens becomes the space where generations of young people and women regain the ability to determine future and change, becomes itself resource of the strategy whose impact it assesses, shifting the moment of the instrumental reading of the performance indicators from the end of the process to the whole duration of it.

Practices become “experience goods” and, therefore, take on a cultural value capable of modifying the proposals beyond the set goals.

Finally, “the strategy as method”, which informs new physical and economic scenarios, orients behaviours and innovates rules and operational skills. It generates and unveils visions, actions and reactions.

Notes

- 1 . The Associazione Pensando Meridiano, Laboratorio permanente di cultura sostenibile, innovazione e coesione sociale, was established in June 2013 in Reggio Calabria from an experience of urban design studios conducted at the Faculty of Architecture of Reggio Calabria. For further information visit www.pensandomeridiano.com
2. See W. Santagata in "Il governo della Cultura. Promuovere sviluppo ed equità sociale" ed. Mulino, Bologna, 2014
3. See Luca Tricarico, "Imprese di comunità nelle politiche di rigenerazione urbana: definire ed inquadrare il contesto italiano", Working Paper Euricse, n.68, 2014, pag.4. The translation of the excerpt is by Giamila Quattrone
4. Scientific director of the project is Consuelo Nava.5. The ReActioncity city project is presented and disseminated in its various outputs in the official website www.reactioncity.com. Website and web communication are by Danilo Emo and Alessia Palermi (Pensando Meridiano)
6. Amongst the social makers are 12 organizations between associations, laboratories, and citizen groups active in the areas of culture, communication, social cooperation and legality. Amongst the urban makers are about 25 people under 35 between experts in city making, architects and planners but also film-makers and photographers (see the related website section)
7. See "schede progetto smart" in the website section "rc metropolitan city/documents" by Carmela D'Agostino and Giuseppe Mangano.
8. See "schede storytelling" in the website section "waiting city" by CortoCircuito Lab.
9. Direction and editing by Danilo Emo, Edoardo Lio, Fabio Montesano under the supervision of director Fabio Mollo.
10. See scheduled activities under the "dissemination" section of the website. Andrea Procopio e Luca Assumma (Pensando Meridiano) are in charge of territorial marketing and social communication.
11. See English text on page 7 by Gune Jea Yu and Seung_Yoon Rhee "Effect of R&D Collaboration with Research Organizations on Innovation: The Mediation Effect of Environmental Performance" in International Journal "Sustainability" 2015, 7, published: 28 august 2015
12. More informations: website ANBSC
- 13 . T Project timing: the agreement was signed in December 2014 when the project promotion also started; the renovation works started in February 2015; the dressmaking workshop was opened in October 2015. Details on the project, its outputs and their dissemination can be found at www.reactioncity.com
14. Project launched in May 2015, with the concession contract for the sequestered building dating September 2015. Further information on the design can be found at www.pensandomeridiano.com under the tactic section "FabCity"
15. Amongst these initiatives are ReActioncity (urban social innovation), ErgoSud (cultural project for South Italy youth and innovation laboratory on European development and competitiveness policies, #RcStorming (Think Tank of start-ups and young people on technological and digital innovation, from talent to enterprise). The initiatives involved, between 2013 and 2015, around 200 people from Calabria and Sicily. In particular, all actors promoting FabCity are also involved in ReActioncity Woman, in the conversion of the sequestered mafia building into dressmaking workshop of the Sole Insieme cooperative.¹⁶ . The skills and expertise needed for the creation of the FabCity social enterprise and the renovation and recycling design are provided by the professionals that operate within the promoting associations: Pensando Meridiano and ReBOOT.



PENSANDO MERIDIANO www.pensandomeridiano.com

Team Pensando Meridiano:
G.Mangano, D.Emo, A.Procopio, A.R.Palermi, L.Assumma, F.Macri,
F.Ciccione, I.Meduri, F.Montesano, G.Seminara, M.Iero, V.Canturi
(cfr. <http://www.pensandomeridiano.com/#!team/riemu>)

PENSANDO MERIDIANO

→ Actions to test the strategy:
experimental projects
for Reggio Calabria
Metropolitan City

Texts by G.Mangano, A.Procopio,
A.Rita Palermiti, D.Emo

PENSANDO MERIDIANO. Permanent laboratory of Sustainable Culture, Innovation and Social Cohesion, is an association of young people (under 35) coming from shared experiences at the university, before and after graduation, in the province of Reggio Calabria and then open to other young people from Calabria and Sicily.

The association was born on June 2013 as laboratory for the training and the information of young people through competent and collaborative networking, for the opportunities and the projects with high level of innovation and social cohesion, on the themes of sustainable culture and dissemination, open and participated, of the ideas in the places and communities.

Pensando Meridiano acts putting online in action strategies and tactics of urban social innovation through the processes of share and social, territorial and viral communication.

The young members of Pensando Meridiano are the "makers" who coordinate and participate in urban and territorial actions, creating networking processes among actors for social development, production and sustainable contexts. The of coworking and training organized in innovative environments as Officine Sostenibili and Ergosud involve experiences for other projects on a local, national and European scale.

The practices of "city-making" and "creative city" are realized through the tactics of self-building yards and recycle and yard event.

At the activities of Pensando Meridiano you can participate as an Ordinary Member, under 35 and as Supporting Member and Honorary Member. There are also Connectors Members, who promote the association in the southern territories with the collaboration of the young directors of the laboratory. The membership is annual and gives the right to take part to the activities of the association. The associated makers are part of the laboratory community and can use the association curriculum.

Moreover the association have cultural referrements in coerence with its mission: this is the Mentors ' Community, constituted by invitation and it has no official role but only as referrement, sustain and accompaigning the association's actions.

Keywords

#innovation #sostenibility #partecipazione #social communication
#city making #recycle #self-building #building site event #makers
#networking #coworking #cohesion

AWARDS

[15 – 19 Giugno 2015]

Selezione per: Startcup Calabria 2015

Indetto da: Calabria Innova -

Esito: Accesso alla finale dell'8 Luglio con il progetto di una piattaforma agrifood GROWFUNDING ; Gruppo partecipante per Pensando Meridiano: D. Emo, G. Mangano, F. Montesano, A. Palermiti, A. Procopio.

Links: www.startcupcalabria.it/

[30Maggio – 2 Giugno 2015]

Selezione per: Festival dell'Economia 2015 - Trento

Indetto da: Comune di Trento - Provincia di Trento - Univ. degli Studi di Trento

Esito: Consuelo Nava selezionata tra i migliori ricercatori in Italia con il

progetto ReActionCity e il modello sperimentale della Laboratory City con Pensando Meridiano.

Links: <http://2015.festivaleconomia.eu/>

[7-8Maggio 2015]

Selezione per: Settimana Europea della Gioventù – Evento Nazionale - Roma

Indetto da: Agenzia Nazionale Giovani (ANG) e Eurodesk.it

Esito: G. Mangano e V. Palco selezionati per Pensando Meridiano insieme all'assessore alle Politiche Comunitarie e Sociali Avv. G. Marino;

Tema proposto: "come coinvolgere i giovani e le organizzazioni giovanili alle azioni civiche".

Links: www.youthweek.it

[25 Aprile 2015]

Selezione per: Corrireggio 2015 – Legambiente Awards - Reggio Calabria

Indetto da: Legambiente

Esito: ReActionCity premiato come "Miglior progetto di Cultura sostenibile, innovazione e coesione sociale" 2015

Links: www.reactioncity.com

[Marzo 2015]

Selezione per: Caso studio a Expo 2015

Indetto da: #Nevicata14

Esito: Consuelo Nava, resp. scientifica con Pensando Meridiano (D. Emo, G. Mangano, F. Montesano, A. Procopio) intervistati da Laurea Querci (Nevicata 14) sul progetto ReActionCity.

Links: www.comune.milano.it/dseserver/nevicata14/index.html ; www.reactioncity.com

[9-14 Settembre 2014]

Selezione per: PMO re-verse – International Workshop - Palermo

Indetto da: Recycle Italy

Esito: selezionati D. Emo, G. Mangano, F. Montesano, A. Procopio per Pensando Meridiano con il progetto ReActionCity

Links: www.recycleitaly.it ; www.reactioncity.com





ACTIONS:

WORKPROJECT



Re_wind:workproject&(self)build
Recycle of containers, for sails deposits and locker rooms
[Ph: C.Nava]



Period	12 June_20 July 2013	Partners	Provincia di RC, Arci RC, Libera RC, Europlan Srl Edilana
Place	Punta Pellaro_RC_ Katanhouse circle	Kind of Project	social innovation, self-build recycle
Project Manager	Consuelo Nava Vincenzo Giofrè	Topics	#SHORT CHAIN #ZEROIMPACT #RECYCLE #REUSE # ECOLOGICAL IMPACT
Makers	S.Busco, C.D'Agostino, D. Emo, G.Fazzari, V.Figliucci, A.Franco,T. Latino, V.Palco, G.Ristagno, F.Tripodi, F.Zangara, G.Mangano, F.Nasso	Web:	www.windrecycle.wordpress.com



RE-WIND: workproject & (self)build

The workshop with self-build construction site "ReWind" for the coastal area of Punta Pellaro (Reggio Calabria), it's a project with scientific finality applied on the receptive and social promotion of the territory, regarding the themes of sustainable architecture and landscape, of social cohesion and legality, during the activities promoted by the laboratory PRIN Recycle Italy U.O. of Reggio Calabria and Centro Interuniversitario ABITALab RC, DArTe department, University of studies Mediterranea of Reggio Calabria, with the participation of graduands and graduates in architecture, associations, firms and corporate body by the initiative of a private client that give the site for the experimentation of a construction-site laboratory, the place to collect the equipments that will be planned and will be built for the re-activation of the kitesurf and windsurf station, before the new summer season.

The activism and collaboration between individuals, universities, institutions and companies can brand themselves as a cultural model of reaction-regeneration, bringing an appropriate and collective response that returns the operation of a service, but also the restoration of a place as a "common", although it's private property, it participate in social and

landscape values of an entire community of reference and it is the destination for all the inhabitants and visitors who arrive now in Punta Pellaro from many parts of Europe. The general concept of the masterplan of the project has considered a program connected to the activities expressed and those still bearable, without affecting the quality of space and resources of the site, supporting, although by a proposal of new structures, a program of functional areas and equipment compatible with the place and community.

The theme of recycling, of accessible and verified design, of materials to be used on a short chain, of nature and of the direct relationship configurations-utility, were the project requirements that have affected all nine

PROGETTO MODELLO	L'AGROFIELLO DI VED	L'ALMACO DOTT	L'ALBERO DOTE	L'ALBERO DOTE	L'ALBERO DOTE
CO ₂ Emission kg	$35 + 5000 + 5$ $(20 + 4500 + 500)$ 17,40	$37 + 40 + 2000$ $(10 + 520 + 700)$ 23,40	$6 + 25$ $(20 + 190)$ 2,60	$40 + 30 + 8$ $(20 + 130 + 10)$ 10,10	$6 + 10 + 6 + 8$ $(20 + 140 + 230 + 500)$ 15,30
Manpower	30 7	20 10	30 8	20 6	20 4
Temp. di lavorazione	15 15	15 20	15 12	15 16	15 10
Cost	$9250 + 50 + 450$ 178,00	$17000 + 10,000 + 0$ 219,00	$9250 + 7,000$ 127,50	$20,000 + 40,000 + 0$ 270,00	$5250 + 30,000 + 0 + 1550$ 96,00

proposals; then, in the definition of each area, an important value was given to the exposure to the sun and winds, to vegetation, to the space equipped according to the different use during the day.

The design team then expressed these qualities in 8 projects for 8 areas within the site, made by: Simone Busco; Carmela D'Agostino; Girolamo Fazzari; Danilo Emo; Vincenzo Figliucci; Andrea Franco; Tindaro Latino; Valentina Palco; Giuseppe Ristagno; Fortunato Tripodi; Francesco Zangara, per 8 aree interne al sito: Agrofield of wind; Event Space; Drink zone; Surfers Zone; Spiaggia interna; Surfers Shop & Chines Box wc; Sail Sleep(in); Lounge Zone.-

 ROOM ITEM 	 11, JAFFER STORE 	 12, CELLULA ARTISTICA 	 14, LOVER ZONE 	 15, OFFICE BOX 	 16, TAIL SLEEPER 
6 + 8 = 750 5,30	6 + 1 + 30 130 = 380 + 750 22,50	26 + 30sq 130 = 8,00 18,20	25 + 8 130 = 5,70 6,40	27 + 7 130 = 280 14,00	50 130 1,20
4	4	4	2	4	2
10	45	30	40	35	16
1000 + 0	1230 + 100000 + 0	8000 + 0	9250 + 830	41000 + 500000	8500
6,00	552,50	91,00	136,00	542,00	175,00

Matrix economic and environmental impact
 Giuseppe Ristagno, Experiences of thesis
 [source: Archives of Research]

Project: Agrofield of wind

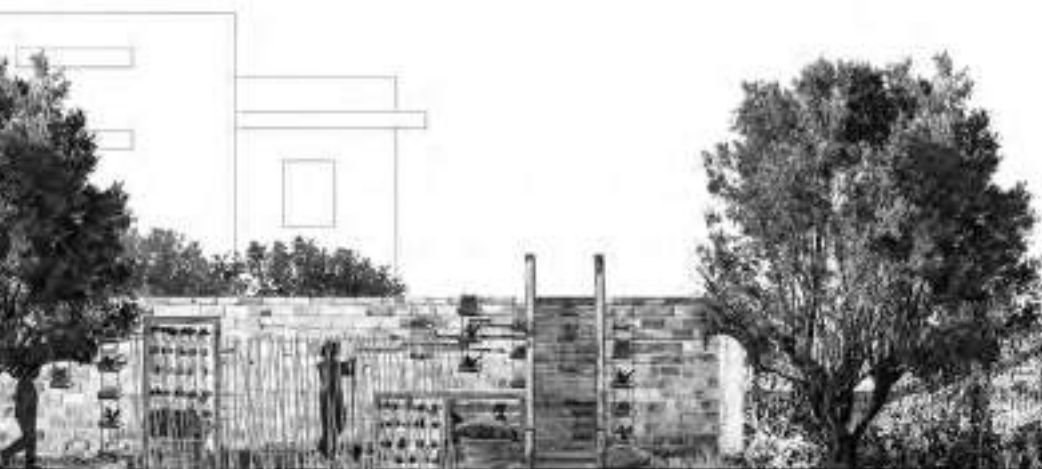
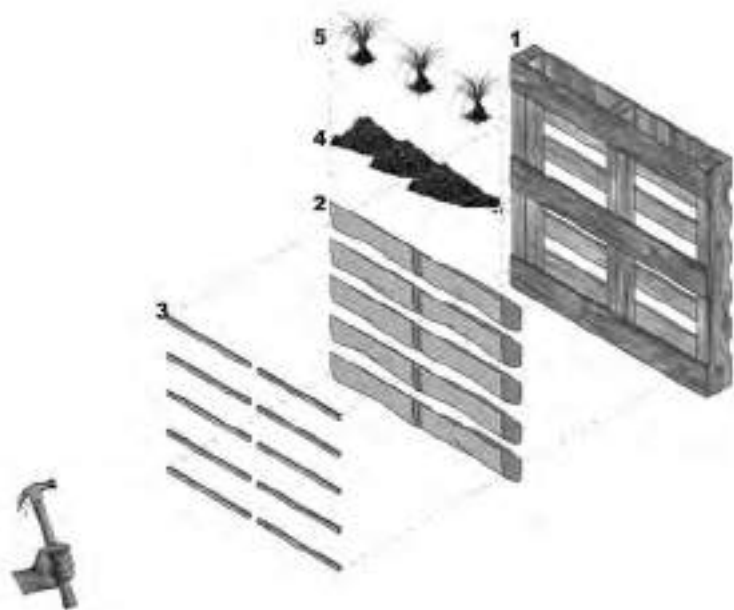
[V. Figliucci, G. Fazzari, C. D'Agostino]

In the north of the garden space , an agricultural transept crossing the concrete wall, which is also designed to accommodate green backs . A composting station, a bike shed , the organization of separate shadowed area with the arrangement of the reed . The vegetable garden (for spices and flavorings) is made of terraces pallets and planters in jute bags and plastic bottles , door mat plant in sheep's wool by company Edilana . There are sitting and resting places in the shade and still protected from the wind .



Orto in pallet

Canali di jute riciclati Pallet per il deposito degli attrezzi

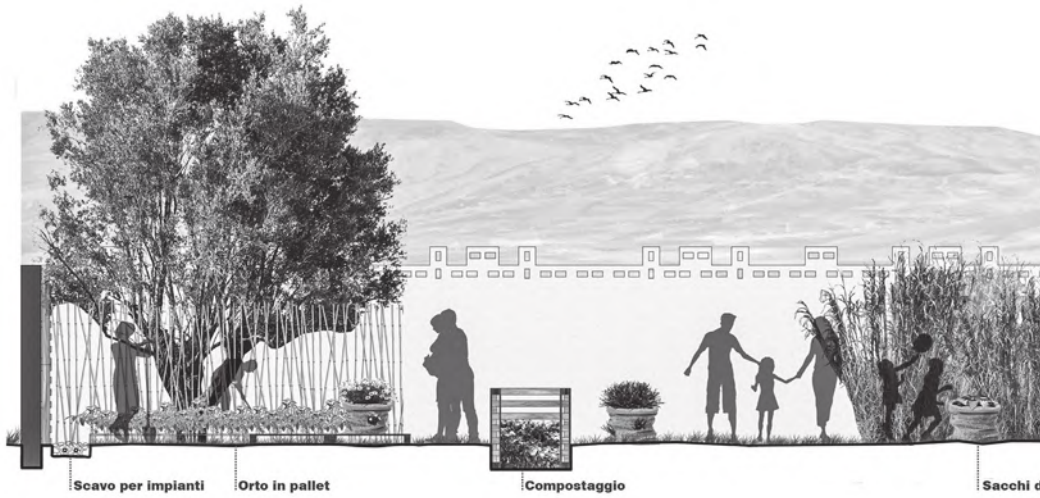
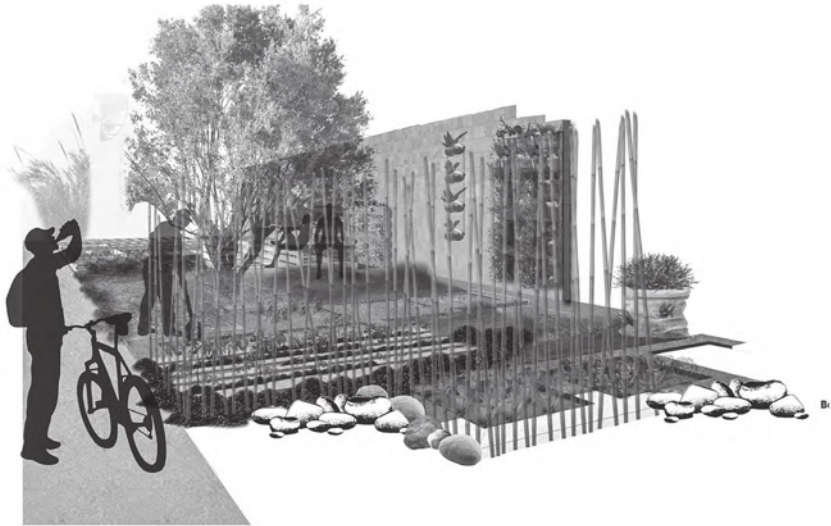


Modulo di plastica riciclata

Giardino verticale

Portale amovibile

Project: **Agrofield of wind**
[V. Figliucci, G.Fazzari, C.D'Agostino]





Sacchi di juta riciclati come fioriere

Bike-shed

Canneto



Project: **Surfers Shop & chines Box Wc**
[T.Latino]

Are withdrawn from the industrial area of Gioia Tauro 4 container - metal goods, including 2 damaged, to trigger actions of recycling facilities and components of the box and add service areas for deposit kite-surf,shop, toilet.

The walls of the enclosure are changed with cropping ad preparation of integrated systems for the control of indoor hygrothermal (ventilated skin made with recycled plastic bottles)

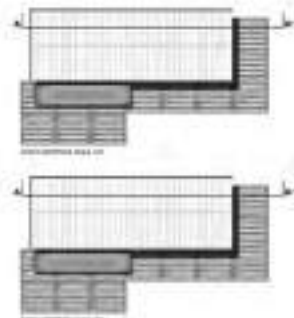


and protection from the sun; the internal accessibility is guaranteed by the indoor-outdoor mats that serve as floor raised on the ground; wc are accessible also for disabled people and coatings are made of ceramic tiles recovered from the supply of samples dismissed by company Carere (RC).

The walls are treated and painted with lettering for the identification of the function inside and also coated with reed mats. The boxes to receive coverage are also predisposed, the integration of photovoltaic modules and solar, when possible, recycled from dismissed elements and still working, assembled.



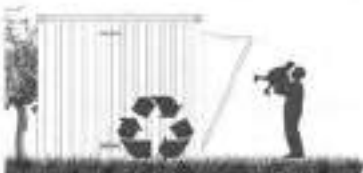
Project: **Surfers Shop & Chines Box Wc**
[V. Figliucci, G.Fazzari, C.D'Agostino]



PROSPETTO OVEST SCALA 1:50



PROSPETTO EST SCALA 1:50



PROSPETTO SUD SCALA 1:50



PROSPETTO OVEST SCALA 1:50



SEZIONE A-A' SCALA 1:50



SEZIONE B-B' SCALA 1:50



PROSPETTO NORD - SCALA 1:50



PROSPETTO OVEST - SCALA 1:50



SEZIONE C-C' - SCALA 1:50









[Ph: D.Emo]

Atelier di Tesi RE-CYCLE ITALY Reggio Calabria



Period	16 January - 26 February 2014	Partners	Libera, Coop.Ichora, Pensando Meridiano
Place	Reggio Calabria _ Lido Calajunco	Kind of Project	urban recycle and acupuncture
Project Manager	Consuelo Nava, teacher	Topics	#ECOLOGICAL URBANISM, #ENABLING TECHNOLOGIES
Makers	Students of Atelier Recycle Italy		

 <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=W5Rswpl-aco>

Web: www.recycleitaly.iuav.it



Re_Learning Eco City

The experience Re_Learning EcoCity projects scenarios and visions able to recycle waste, to regenerate and recycle the transept of coastline and its relationship with the public and collective space of the promenade and the city behind, with its-facing the strait.

The aim is to restore the balance of the structures of the environment through the permeability of the strand and the taken stretch of coastline; to predict a different use, in its time, and in relations with the organization, not only related to the economy management (of the private), but the ecology of its use. A new vision of standard terms for the beach under concession. A new way to reuse the materials in a new cycle of life and energy. Proposing actions and strategies for recycling, which essentially provide for the possibility that the structure used for accommodation and bathing can continue their life time taking place in another time, the meaning and the value of "public space in urban public space"; so that it can check the impact of production and social types on the coast, overcoming their seasonality and identifying hybridization between activities and functions and economies public - private type virtuous.

Real actions of urban acupuncture that can be realized by proposing three scenarios, related to the material recycling:

#SCENARIOZERO_Re_Move

Shows the storage of waste material present in the area and its *transler*, recycling and use in other urban area.

#SCENARIOZERO_Re_Cycle

Proposes the storage of waste material present in the area and its use and recycling facilities on the same site in bathing season.

#SCENARIOZERO_Re_Think

Proposes the hybridization of waste material present with other eco-friendly materials, recycling and/r from waste, fr its use and recycling on the same site during summer season.



ReCONQUER City

Recycle Strategy

Il sito è oggi inutilizzato e si analizza come l'insediamento esistente. In genere (da parte degli) sono presenti le seguenti tipologie di rifiuti: plastica, carta, vetro, metallo, legno, tessile, ecc. L'obiettivo è creare un sistema di raccolta e riciclaggio che permetta di recuperare i materiali e utilizzarli in nuove strutture o prodotti. Il sito è oggi inutilizzato e si analizza come l'insediamento esistente. In genere (da parte degli) sono presenti le seguenti tipologie di rifiuti: plastica, carta, vetro, metallo, legno, tessile, ecc. L'obiettivo è creare un sistema di raccolta e riciclaggio che permetta di recuperare i materiali e utilizzarli in nuove strutture o prodotti.



Area Pilsen (Cz): Bio strategy: sostenibilità
per la creazione di un framework urbano



West materials_bet practies/atelier RE-CYCLE ITALY
Exercises of design
[Student: M.Iero]



Atelier di Tesi
RE-CYCLE ITALY
Reggio Calabria

*"Creatività è l'abilità di vedere
risoluzioni là dove non esistono"*

THOMAS DEICH

Giulia Dattilo
Maddalena Crucitti
Rossella Battaglia

RE-LEARNING^{sp}
city

Teaching E-Learning Ecocity
Instantaneous Exercises
[Students: G.Dattilo, M.Crucitti, R.Battaglia]



Atelier di Tesi
RE-CYCLE ITALY
Reggio Calabria

Lido Calajunco
Lungomare Falcomata (RC)
Natura d'aMARE

Rosaria Barbera
Emma Calderera
Eleonora De Masi

RE-LEARNING ecocity

Teaching E-Learning Ecocity
Instantaneous Exercises
[Students: R.Barbera, E.Caldarera, E.De Masi]



Atelier di Tesi
RE-CYCLE ITALY
Reggio Calabria

ripasatevi#OASI
Oasi di riposo
attrezzate con amache
lungo il Corso Garibaldi.

Claudia_Martelli
Ilario_Meduri
Giuseppe_Tripodi

RE-LEARNING_{eco city}

Teaching E-Learning Ecocity
Instantaneous Exercises
[Students: C.Martelli, I.Meduri, G.Tripodi]



Re_Action City
Reggio Calabria
[Ph: D.Emo]



Period	May_October 2014	Partners	cfr. website: www.reactioncity.com section:social makers
Place	Reggio Calabria metropolitan city	Kind of Project	social innovation cities, smart community
Scientific Manager	Consuelo Nava	Topics	#CITY MAKING, #RECYCLE, #VISIONING
Makers	urban makers in web project		
Activities	Making e Workshop by Consuelo Nava and Fabio Mollo Documentary Film by D.Emo, E.Lio, F.Montesano with supervisor F.Mollo		
	 https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=S4-8tnWUix8	Web:	www.reactioncity.com



City_ReActionLab

ReActionCity was born as a pilot project in June 2014, ideated by Consuelo Nava and Fabio Mollo, involving 12 "social makers" and more than 20 young "urban makers", with the intention to imagine visions and strategies of social cohesion and urban development related to the communities that inhabit the places, the landscapes and the territories of the metropolitan city of Reggio Calabria, promoting a direct reaction through local projects, with "short actions for long changes" in those areas that need to be regenerated and reactivated.

A resilient way of "city making", building visions and urban agenda through participated initiatives of "creative city" and "city-making", which trigger actions of informal practice and inclusive policies for sustainable urban regeneration and social collective spaces, public-private and community participation.

The actions of the work experience of the "city-lab" in the center and the suburbs of Reggio Calabria have been described in a documentary film self-produced, and directed by Danilo Emo, Edoardo Lio, with the collaboration of Fabio Montesano and supervision of Fabio Mollo.

The project is still being spread and has already been shared with communities, associations and organizations in more than 40 stages of "sharing community".

The tactic of Reactioncity becomes exportable in the other urban sceneries of city toward Europe 2020, through the phases of:

- work education/formation of the makers/protagonists (CITY as INCLUSIVE POLITICAL FORM + CITY as VISION CHANGE)
- work experience/ short actions and experiences (CITY as INFORMAL REPAIR CULTURE + FROM RC City to COMMON YOUR CITY).



Frames of Re_action city Docufilm

a project of C.Nava e F.Mollo

cfr. the trailer on

<http://www.reactioncity.com/index.php/features/progetto-pilota-2014/trailer>



Frame of Re_action city Docufilm
a project of C.Nava e F.Mollo
cfr. the trailer on

<http://www.reactioncity.com/index.php/features/progetto-pilota-2014/trailer>



Re-Azione: Urban Vision

Borgo Cecilia, Gallio (RC) 25.02.2014

Quella di Borgo Cecilia rappresenta la prima azione sul campo di ReAction City per la riattivazione del borgo attraverso la partecipazione dei suoi abitanti.

3 atelier e gli atelier sono stati ripensati come nuove camere urbane condivise, in grado di essere aperte e divise in spazi in cui gli urban makers hanno espresso le loro proposte progettuali maturate nell'elaborazione della loro tesi di laurea per il borgo Cecilia come area urbana a nord della città metropolitana di Reggio Calabria.

Del borgo gli urban makers hanno allineato una sequenza di fotografie su reti connesse dai percorsi del luogo e di visioni attraverso le quali avrebbero raccontato le possibili trasformazioni degli edifici e degli spazi pubblici e di socializzazione.

Nella stanza rivolta è stato eletto un contemperario, con la collaborazione dei pagellacci clandestini. Gli abitanti del borgo vennero dalle loro case hanno manifestato la voglia di prendere parte alla nuova azione offrendo collaborazione ed ospitalità, coinvolgendo a creare un concreto esempio di riattivazione sociale.

Hanno coordinato gli Urban makers: Antonio Legnani e Gabriella Gennaro.

Con il contributo del Social makers: Pagellacci clandestini e il Quartierino per la comunità sociale.

Hanno partecipato i cittadini e con ai supporti all'allestimento anche le associazioni di quartiere.

Le visioni di Antonio Legnani:

- 1) intervento della rete urbana nel borgo
- 2) una mobilità sostenibile per il borgo
- 3) il teatro del paese
- 4) la nuova riorganizzazione del borgo
- 5) le visioni di Gabriella Gennaro:
- 6) la nuova DotA del borgo
- 7) un contratto sociale tra i borgo e il borgo Cecilia
- 8) una nuova stanza per il Quartierino di Gallio nella

AGENDA URBANA PER LA CITTÀ METROPOLITANA DI REGGIO CALABRIA

REGENERAZIONE URBANA

- Governance di vicinato urbano e ambientazione
- Migliore permeabilità con riappropriazione del rapporto tra il borgo e la città di Reggio
- Riattivazione di spazi pubblici
- Generazione di nuovi abitanti
- Riproposizione amministrativa e urbanistica attraverso nuove strategie quali l'architettura passante

REGENERAZIONE SOCIALE E CULTURALE

- Riaffermazione dell'identità urbana del borgo
- Riattivazione degli spazi per l'appropriazione
- Riattivazione di nuove economie locali

SOSTENIBILITÀ E RICICLO

- Utilizzo di materiali riciclati e riciclabili
- Riutilizzo di materiali di scarto
- Utilizzo di tecnologie bioclimatiche compatibili con il luogo
- Utilizzo di sistemi solari attivi per la produzione di energia elettrica (smart-grid) e acqua calda sanitaria
- Sistemi di raccolta delle acque piovane per l'irrigazione degli orti.
- Promozione la permeabilità del borgo mediante l'installazione di aree verdi.

VERSO UNA "SMART CITY"

- Smart mobility: migliorare l'accessibilità al borgo e sensibilizzare la comunità all'utilizzo di trasporti sostenibili ed innovativi con ridotte impatti ambientale
- Smart governance: promuovere la trasparenza delle procedure di governo garantendo l'inclusione e la partecipazione dei cittadini.
- Smart economy: garantire la competitività del borgo sul piano economico.

Fonte: dati elaborati sulle tesi di Legnani e Gennaro



← Re-Azione: Visionary tour

📍 Porto di Reggio Calabria 📅 20.01.2014

✍ **Re-Azione** ha interagito con una comunità attiva al fine di realizzare il progetto del porto di Reggio Calabria.

Durante la camminata urbana l'urban maker Marco Iorio ha guidato i cittadini in un percorso "Visionary tour" analizzando le aree del porto e successivamente, grazie al contributo del social maker, con come una la realtà attuale, ma piuttosto come potrebbe essere.

L'area portuale, come raccontata dalle visioni dell'urban maker durante la camminata, diventa un'area interessante per la "città-porto" di Reggio Calabria, l'area portuale si riconnette al quartiere di Santa Caterina tramite una linea ferroviaria. Questo diventa il tema della mobilità sostenibile riproponendo un sistema di trasporto pubblico leggero, che sia efficiente e con un ridotto impatto ambientale.

Ma oggi le aree del porto, seppure lontane alla città, risultano perfettamente distaccate dalla vita cittadina, in alcuni casi anche abbandonate al degrado e al degrado degli spazi-estraneità esistenti nelle immediate vicinanze.

La camminata urbana è stata documentata dalle riprese degli urban maker Danilo Iorio e Roberto Iorio per la creazione di un cortometraggio.

👤 **Marco Iorio** coordinato gli Urban maker: Danilo Iorio, Roberto Iorio.

📄 Il servizio dei Social maker: Mediterraneo Dance Festival, Festival di Sant'Anna, Missione.

👥 Hanno partecipato alla camminata urbana i cittadini.

📌 **Le visioni di Marco Iorio**
 Gli cittadini riconoscono come possibile avere il loro idee come urban maker

📄 AGENDA URBANA PER LA CITTÀ METROPOLITANA DI REGGIO CALABRIA

📄 RIGENERAZIONE URBANA

- Rigenerazione di vecchio aree dismesse
- Ciclo per il rinnovo di centralità urbane
- Interventi di riqualificazione architettonica
- Rigenerazione del paesaggio urbano del porto
- Maggiore permeabilità che garantisca un nuovo rapporto tra la città e il porto

📄 RIGENERAZIONE SOCIALE E CULTURALE

- Rigenerazione di spazi pubblici per l'aggregazione
- Rigenerazione della memoria e delle identità
- Intervenire sempre con approccio "smart" per garantire la qualità della vita.

📄 SOSTENIBILITÀ E RICICLO

- Utilizzo di materiali riciclati e riciclabili
- Conoscenza di materiali di scarto
- Utilizzo di tecnologie bioclimatiche compatibili con il luogo
- Utilizzo di sistemi solari attivi per la produzione di energia elettrica (pannelli solari e organica fotovoltaica)
- Utilizzo di sistemi solari passivi per il riscaldamento
- Sistemi di raccolta delle acque piovane.
- Utilizzo di sistemi di ventilazione naturale
- Implementazione di nuove aree verdi per mitigare l'effetto "isola di calore"
- Implementazione di sistemi impiantistici smart al rispetto energetico

📄 VERSO UNA "SMART CITY"


- Smart mobility, migliorare l'accessibilità al luogo e sensibilizzare le comunità all'utilizzo di trasporti sostenibili ed innovativi con ridotto impatto ambientale.
- Smart people, puntare sull'anno zero "classico" per la città, che spinge gli cittadini per una partecipazione attiva e creativa alla vita pubblica.

Fonte: dati raccolti nella fase di diagnosi del progetto

Smart Actions of Urban Agenda
 (edited by C.D'Agostino e G.Mangano)





Period	16-17 January 2015	Partners	Confindustria Jouth ABITALAB
Place	University of Reggio Calabria	Kind of Project	Capacity Building EU Project
Scientific Manager	Consuelo Nava Pensando Meridiano	Topics	#CO-PLANNING,#SMART PLANNING, # INNOVATION,# SUSTAINABILITY
Makers	Makers and Students Atelier Recycle Citiziens		
Activities	The Knowledge City		
Web:	www.pensandomeridiano.com/#/ergosud/c10ad		

ErgoSud _second edition

ErgoSud, the cultural project for the southern young people, created by Consuelo Nava and promoted by *Pensando Meridiano* with institutional partners, some associations and other subjects, after the participation and the success of its 2nd edition in 2015, shared with the center ABitaLab and *Giovani Industriali of Reggio Calabria*, answers to the question of many young people from South Italy, to their interest to keep on knowing, in order to inquire and take the opportunity of development, of innovation and of job that are from the national, regional and community program on competitive announcements.

The laboratory is open to all the partners of Pensando Meridiano association, to the innovators of other experiences, to the young people that participated to the editions of ErgoSud and to all the southern young people, who want to share an instant experience of co-working to put test themselves and growing up in experiences and new competences about the themes of interest.

The work is organized in team in order to participate to the selections of EU announcement, programming brainstorming, chosing shared objec-

tives, transferring knowledges, up to realize the proposals in co-working and their collective sharing, directed by the experts and proposed by the work groups.

The themes of the reference for the activities of co-planning and the selection of the competitive lines are:

- Innovation and social cohesion (Making city e Social Change)
- Sustainable Innovation
- Urban Innovation
- Creative City and cultural innovation
- Smart city
- FabLab e FabCity
- Energetic efficiency and sustainable planning
- Digital innovation
- Trasfer of know-how between research and innovation
- Transfer of strategies and tactics between innovation and territory
- Social communication and local marketing

Studies, experiences and project proposals for the metropolitan area of Reggio Calabria, start with university laboratories in 2009, coordinated by Renato Nicolini and Consuelo Nava, "Sustainable scenarios in changing contexts " c/o the University *Mediterranea* of the studies of Reggio Calabria.

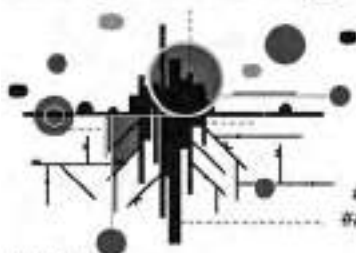
The activity of many makers and members of lab. Pensando Meridiano comes from this experience and continues outside the lecture halls deepening paths, projects and actions on the territory. Project proposals for dissertations are more than 100 and many events have stimulated "urban lab" during and after the academic year.

Among the tactics ongoing, there is the engagement campaign within the laboratory "Città (in)differente" with viral communication post-its and work done for the year 2015 through Ergosud about the PON Metro for Reggio Calabria city.

SSI + [C][D]
 Smart Sustainable Innovation + [Civic] [Data] **ergoSUD**

16_17 gennaio 2015

Università degli Studi Mediterranea di Reggio Calabria



KeyWords

#TerritoriResilienti
 #CittàIntelligente&Collettiva
 #SviluppoSostenibileMetropolitano
 #FuturLab
 #InnovazioneUrbana
 #CapitaleUmano&Sociale
 #SharingCommunity
 #ServiziCollaborativi della Sharing Economy
 #AgendaDigitale, Open Data, e-Government



ABITA
 ASSOCIAZIONE ITALIANA
 PER IL BENE URBANO
 ASSOCIAZIONE ITALIANA PER IL BENE URBANO



GRUPPO GIOVANI IMPRENDITORI REGGIO CALABRIA



SINGOLO
 UNIVERSITÀ DEGLI STUDI MEDITERRANEA REGGIO CALABRIA
 email: info@singolo.it

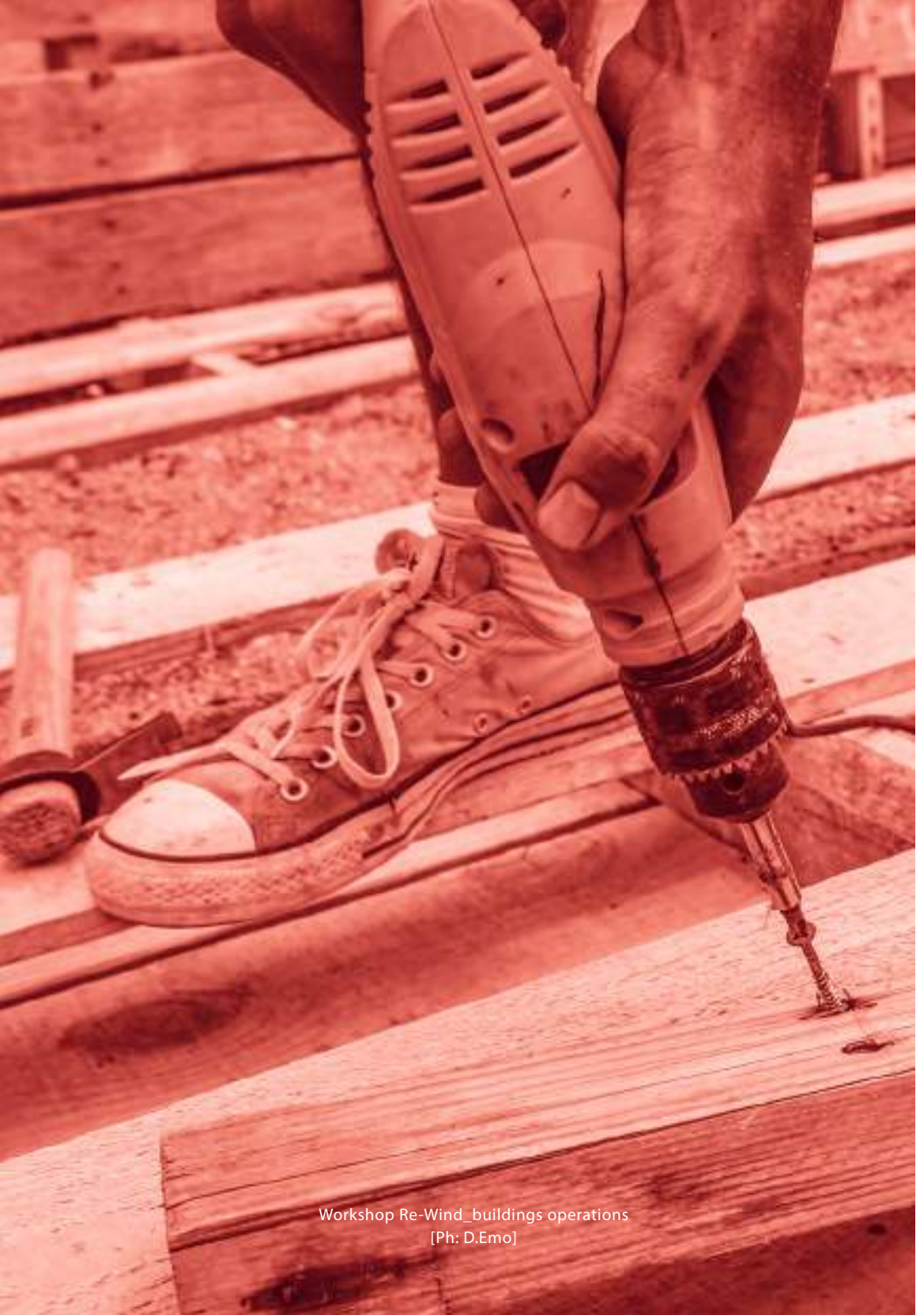


SSI + [C][D] WORKSHOP
 [Brochure Graphics: V.Palco, Ph: A.Palemiti]





ACTIONS:
SELFBUILD



Workshop Re-Wind_buildings operations
[Ph: D.Emo]



Period	12 June_20 July 2013	Partners	Provincia di RC, Arci RC, Libera RC, Europlan Srl Editana
Place	Punta Pellaro_RC_ Katanhouse circle	Kind of Project	social innovation, self-build recycle
Project Manager	Consuelo Nava Vincenzo Gioffrè	Topics	#SHORT CHAIN #ZEROIMPACT #RECYCLE #REUSE # ECOLOGICAL IMPACT
Makers	S.Busco, C.D'Agostino, D. Emo, G.Fazzari, V.Figliucci, A.Franco, T. Latino, V.Palco, G.Ristagno, F.Tripodi, F.Zangara, G.Mangano, F.Nasso		

Web: <http://www.pensandomeridiano.com/#!re-wind/ct1x9n>



ACTIONS_ RECYCLE(self)BUILD

*Actions to test the strategy: experimental projects
for Reggio Calabria Metropolitan City*

The workshop took place in four phases, organized in different actions:

1) Launch of the selection and the design team (June 10, 2013 c / o art);

a) Laboratory of promotion activities inside looking Recycle Italy;

b) presentation area of interest and meeting with the client, the first definition of the program and the time schedule.

2) Activation of the workshop for Workproject Rewind activities (10 to 27 June 2013);

a) Specification of the program partners, working groups and the preparation for the site visit and for workshop.

b) Site visit and major assets and knowledge of natural resources and

materials already available, waste and items of equipment already in use; consultation with expert in plant species, in the presence of the client.

c) Activation of blog communication event, its design and implementation; d) participation, consultation and support towards the design process: forum with users (video making) (note 5), collective reviews and workshops with managers, client and external (21 June 2013 intervention of the anthropologist MF Minervino).

d) Definition of the projects to the definitive and executive stage and preparation of the program of self-build construction: contacts with companies of recycled materials (participation in seminar SED - public meeting - on the issues of the use of recycled materials in the presence of supplier companies), activities for the retrieval of materials from storage of waste and scrap (by suppliers).

e) Monitoring of the impacts of CO2 for transport on a program of short chain.

3) In the closure, happening within the initiative "Open Day" (July 4, 2013 c/o DarTe, UniRc);

a) discussion in the presence of prof. M.Ricci from Recycle Italy and of arch. P.Malara, President of Architects of Reggio Calabria;

b) preparation of exhibition with the projects and recycled materials, by the design team.

4) Activation of self-build construction site in Punta Pellaro, construction of eight equipped areas on the experimentation site. (5 July to 20 July 2013);

a) participation of the designers and builders, of the kitesurf club users during the construction phases, and recycling activities;

b) activities of Event Site open to everyone during the working and assembling days;

PROCESSO	Step 1		Step 2					Step 3		Step 4		
ATTORI	a	b	a	b	c	d	e	a	b	a	b	c
Committenza	Ⓢ	Ⓢ	Ⓢ	Ⓢ	Ⓢ	Ⓢ		Ⓢ	Ⓢ	Ⓢ	Ⓢ	Ⓢ
Consultants responsabili	Ⓢ	Ⓢ	Ⓢ	Ⓢ	Ⓢ	Ⓢ	Ⓢ	Ⓢ	Ⓢ	Ⓢ	Ⓢ	Ⓢ
Consultants esterni		Ⓢ		Ⓢ				Ⓢ	Ⓢ			Ⓢ
Progettisti/ Costruttori	Ⓢ		Ⓢ	Ⓢ	Ⓢ	Ⓢ	Ⓢ	Ⓢ	Ⓢ	Ⓢ	Ⓢ	Ⓢ
Partners					Ⓢ	Ⓢ		Ⓢ	Ⓢ	Ⓢ	Ⓢ	Ⓢ
Utenti Pubblico					Ⓢ			Ⓢ	Ⓢ	Ⓢ	Ⓢ	Ⓢ
Produzione (aziende/fornitori)						Ⓢ	Ⓢ	Ⓢ	Ⓢ	Ⓢ		Ⓢ

Matrix of incidence 'project actors action' in Re_Wind Lab.2014
[C.Nava]



Assemblaggio

Materiale: Griglia 40x60 cm

Kit: 100 pezzi (incl. 100 pezzi di plastica)

■ Legni ■ Metallici

Fase 1



Fase 2



Fase 3



Fase 4



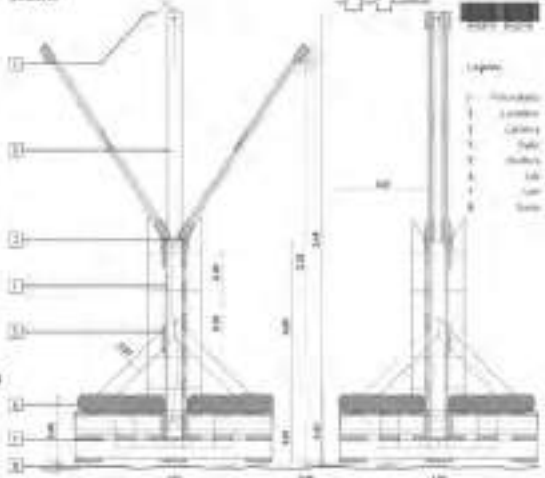
Fase 5



Alcuni dei pezzi



Struttura



Descrizione

Il prodotto viene realizzato con materiali di base a 45 euro. Le sue semplici proprietà permettono un facile assemblaggio, che può essere effettuato in breve tempo. Grazie ad alcuni elementi di legno, infatti, abbiamo il nostro modello. La struttura è composta da tutti i materiali che abbiamo scelto per realizzare un prodotto di alta qualità. Il prodotto è stato progettato per essere utilizzato in modo flessibile e versatile. È possibile utilizzarlo in diverse configurazioni, ad esempio come struttura per la raccolta di rifiuti, come struttura per la raccolta di rifiuti, come struttura per la raccolta di rifiuti, come struttura per la raccolta di rifiuti.

Altre informazioni: Manutenzione

Le istruzioni di assemblaggio sono





From the prototips to the project
student: Giuseppe Ristagno_ Experiences of thesis





SelfBuild Re-Wind
Building of surfers zone
[Ph: D.Emo, A.Franco, V.Figliucci, V.Palco]



RE-WIN

NID





Workshop Officine Sostenibili_buildings operations
[Ph: D.Emo]



Period	12 June 2014	Partners	ABITALab, Ecolandia, Polo NET
Place	Ecolandia, Archillà_RC	Kind of Project	materials to design in earthen
Project Manager	Consuelo Nava, Raffaele Astorino with Valentina Palco	Topics	#TORCHIS #EARTHBUILDING #ZERO IMPACT #SOCIAL INNOVATION
Makers	Students Atelier ReCycle Italy 2014		
From the prototype to the project Application "TORCHIS WALL"			
	 https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=kq8DIE82wzk	Web:	www.pensandomeridiano.com
			

To design in earthen

Workshops Sustainable is born from an idea of young professionals of Pensando Meridiano supported and sponsored by the Inter-University Centre ABITALab and the Laboratory of PRINRECYCLE from RC. The goal is to educate and inform young people who join on the issues of sustainable design through "seminars" of procedures, strategies and control instruments of sustainable, ecological and energetic design. On these issues, there were the intervention of: R. Chimirri UNICAL; D. Vespier associate at the RPBW; G. Quattrone NTU. The peculiarity of the proposed initiative has been the choice of wanting the participants to live practical experience focused in the application of knowledge acquired in the classroom during the seminars, on site. "Designing in mud technique" was a lecture focusing on the themes of energetic efficiency of the wall "torchis" object of the exercise, accompanied by experimentation on site on the installation of the same wall with straws of bamboo for mediterranean areas.

The construction technique of "torchis" provides a mixture prepared di-

rectly trampling the earth (clay, silt, sand, 60%); with the shredded straw and previously soaked with water for about 24 hours (25%), and water (15%). By its nature, it is a mixture rather heavy, applied on thicknesses of at least 20 cm.

(Abstract text by Valentina Palco)



SelfBuild Workshop "Officine Sostenibili"
"TORCHIS WALL"
[Ph: D.Emo]



** The wall presents an excellent dynamic behavior in summer mode, a low content of Energy Incorporated . For the purpose of verification of the thermal transmittance U and surface condensation is necessary to add more functional layers or insulating the percentages of earth and straw by increasing the latter.

Caratteristiche tecniche della terra

materiale	Massa volumica (kg/mc)	Conduttività termica (W/mK)	% nella massa di terra	Calore specifico J/kgK	Coefficiente di permeabilità al vapore
sabbia	1700	2,00	49	1000	50
argilla	1500	1,50	16	2000	50
limo	1500	1,50	15	2000	50
Terra	1672,5	1,845	100	1310	50

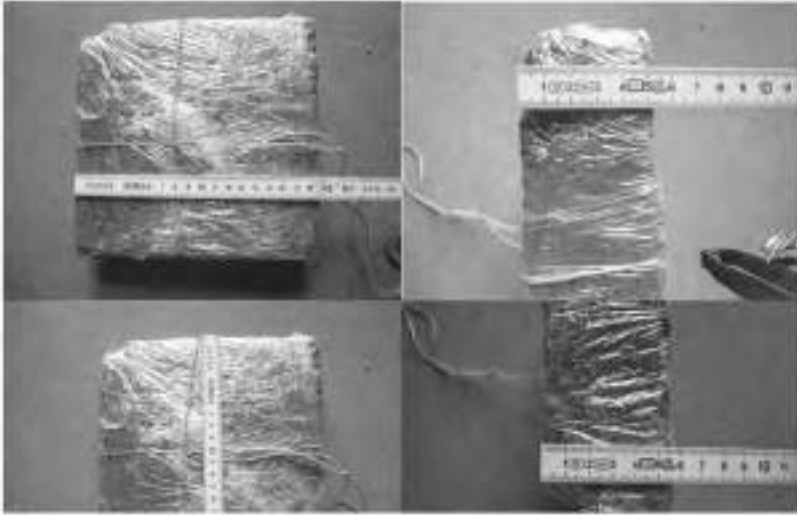
Caratteristiche tecniche teoriche del conglomerato terra+paglia

materiale	Massa volumica (kg/mc)	Conduttività termica (W/mK)	% nella massa di terra	Calore specifico J/kgK	Coefficiente di permeabilità al vapore
terra	1672,5	1,845	98	1310	50
paglia	37,5	0,064	28	2090	5
Terra+Paglia	1509	1,81	100	1325	50



Rilievo spessore: 20cm

Definizione della massa volumica reale



Volume iniziale del provino = 0,0023 mc
Volume finale del provino (dopo 15gg) = 0,0019

Riduzione della massa del 17,33%

Massa volumica finale = 1490,31 kg/mc



Experimentation in real time, on a wall in raw land, realized with the technique of torchis.
Realized in collaboration with Polo Net_Ecolandia Arghillà_RC
Energy Evaluations, edited by Phd. Arch. R. Astorino



Re-ActionCity woman_buildings operations
[Ph: G.Mangano]



Period Dicembre 2015-Febbraio 2016

Place Via Possidonea RC


Project Manager Consuelo Nava

Makers Young Architect by Pensando Meridiano

Integrated System to Support Social and Economic Development of Women

Enterprises

Challenges city

 www.youtube.com/watch?v=w4BfYnXliTg

Partners Cfr.website
<http://www.reactioncity.com/index.php/features/reaction-woman>

Kind of Project Social Project

Topics #CHALLENG #LEGAL CONTEST
 #BUSINESS WOMEN #SOCIAL INNOVATION CITY #RE_CYCLE

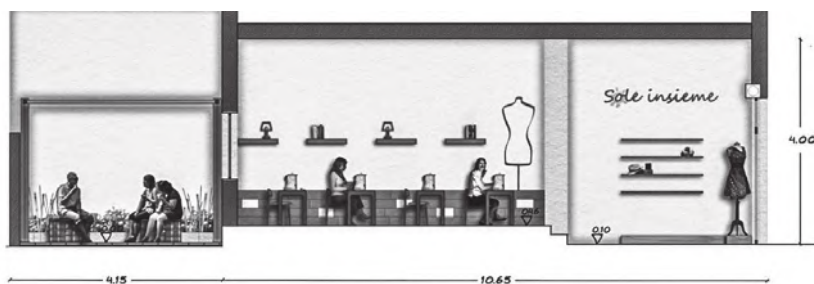


Web: www.reactioncity.com

City as informal repair culture+from Rc city to COMMON YOUR city

ReActioncity Woman is born from a memorandum of understanding between: the Provincial Administration of Reggio Calabria (Councillor of Parity of Province of Reggio Calabria); the cooperative SoleInsieme; the penitentiary of Reggio Calabria, Confindustria, Industrials Association of Reggio Calabria; Confcommercio Reggio Calabria; Agape association; Municipality of Reggio Calabria and Pensando Meridiano association. The project is the realization of an integrated system to support social and economic development of the business realities, aimed at the implementation of territorial actions integrated between public institutions, third sector organizations and voluntary associations and design and social innovation in support for equal opportunities of women in difficult condition sand their social and civic leadership through direct projects. The integration between various subjects in the network in order to develop joint actions and coordinated, and aimed at supporting social integration and work of the "Cooperative SoleInsieme", an initiative for single mothers,

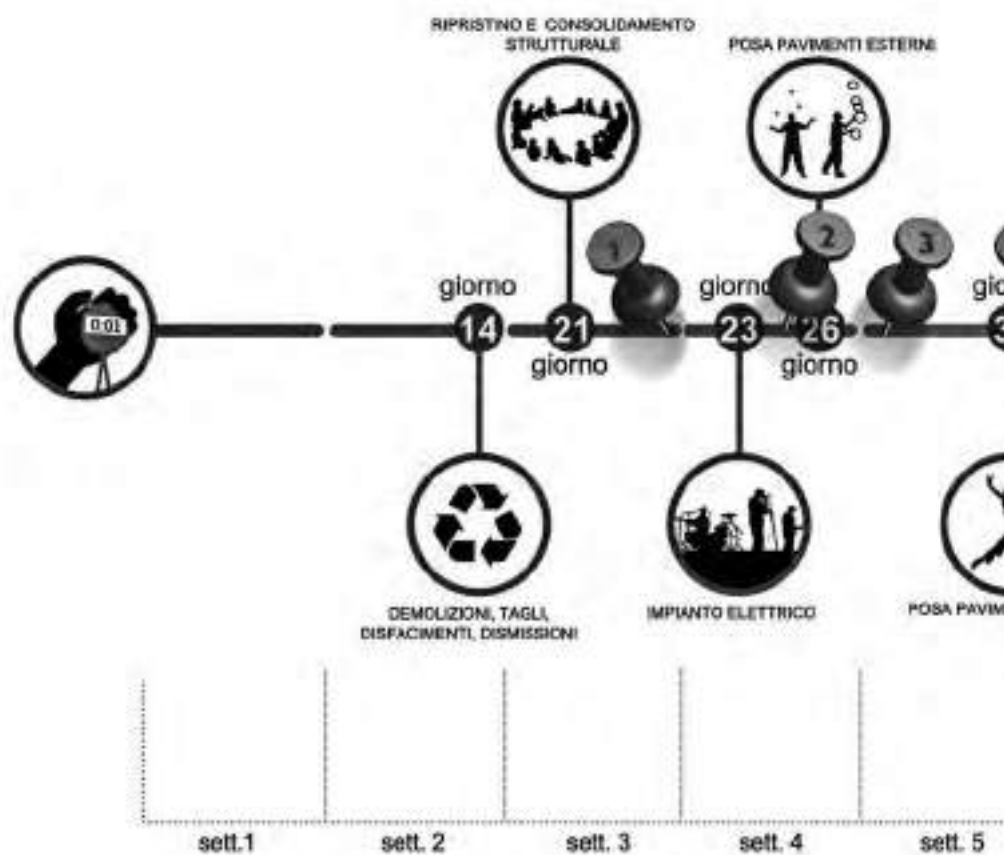
separated women with minor children, and for women who have undergone actions rights violations, victims of violence and other difficulties, resident or domiciled in the city of Reggio Calabria. Encouraging their active participation in social and productive life of the city, their leading role for the creation of spaces and shared activities, to promote the cultural fabric of a civil and democratic and equal attention to gender differences and cultures. The project then coordinates and supports all activities for the realization of a tailor's shop and a small workshop in a confiscated property in Reggio Calabria, assigned to Coop. Soleinsieme.

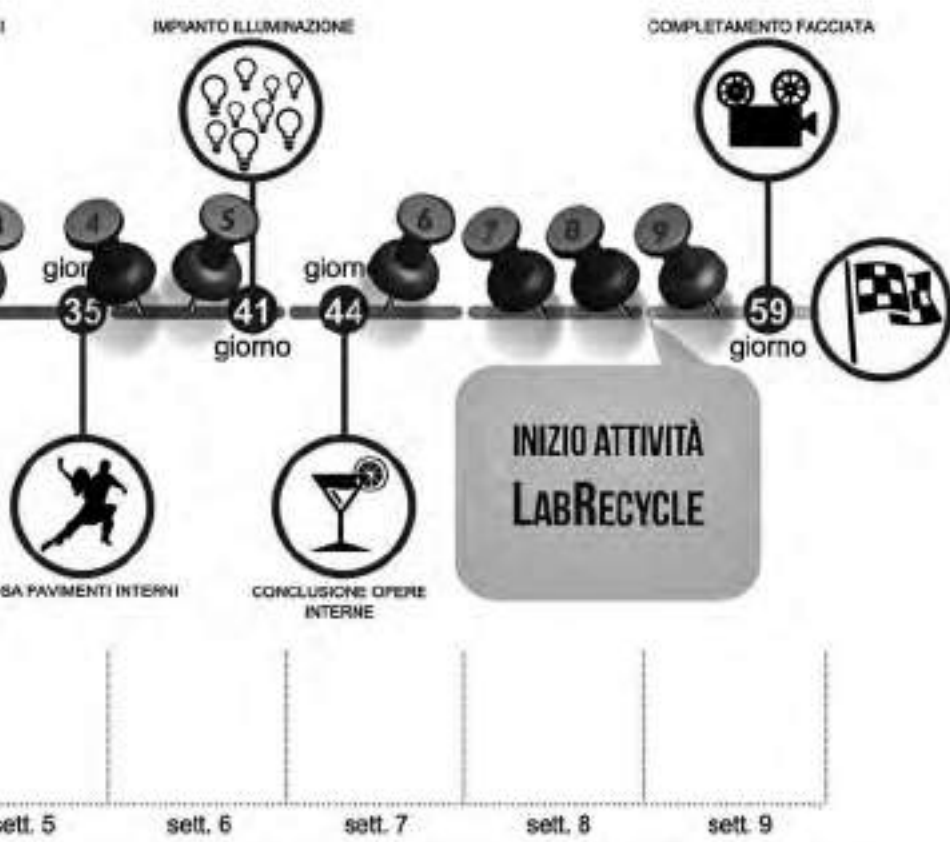




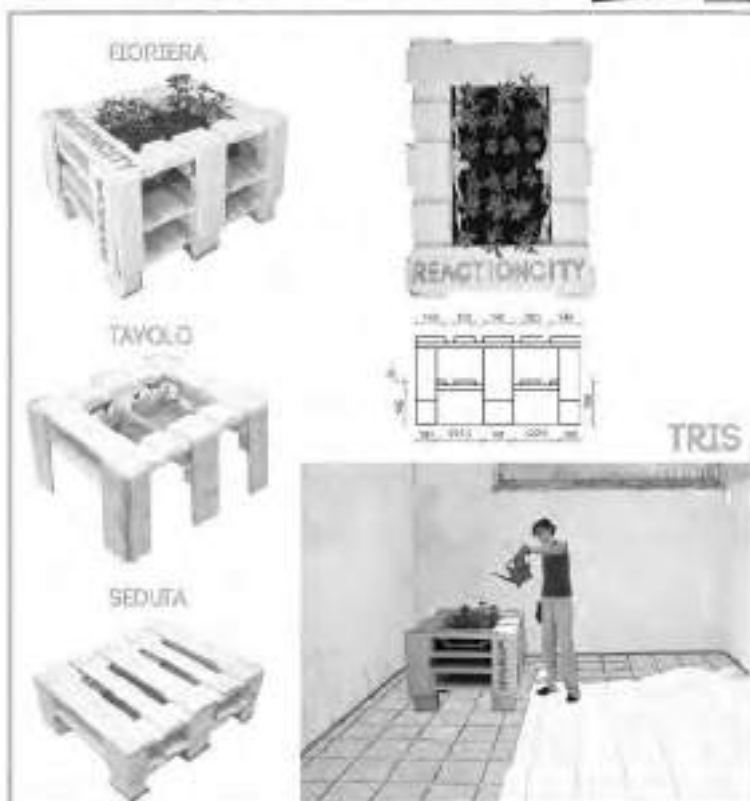
SelfBuild_ReAction City woman
The existing building -Step of the re-building
[Ph: G.Mangano]

CANTIERE EVENTO





SelfBuild_ReAction City woman
Event building site diagram
[Editing by D.Emo]



MATERIALI







SelfBuild_ReAction City woman
Event open building site
[Ph: A.Palermi]



SelfBuild_ReAction City woman
Event open building site
[Ph: D. Emo]



SelfBuild_ReAction City woman
Event open building site
[Ph: D. Emo, A.Palermi]



SelfBuild_ReAction City woman
Event open building site
[Ph: G.Mangano]





[Ph. C.Nava]



FabCity_ Existing buildings
Reggio Calabria
[Ph: A.Procopio]



Period under project 2015/16

Place suburbs in the South of Reggio Calabria

Scientific Manager Consuelo Nava

Makers Pensando Meridiano Lab.

Partners

ReBOOT Association
Networking South Innovation
Public and private organisations
City Governance of Reggio Calabria

Kind of Project

Living Lab, FabLab,
FabCity Calabria

Topics

#INNOVATION, #COHESION,
#SUSTAINABILITY, #CAPACITY
BUILDING, #DIGITAL CITY



Web: www.pensandomeridiano.com/#!fabcity/chsf

City as informal repair culture+from Rc city to COMMON YOUR city

FabCity puts itself in as an appealing opportunity for young people, but also as an opportunity for the city to start processes of networking, rehabilitation of disused assets (including sequestered and confiscated ones) and launching of new activities.

“FabCity”, factory of innovation and creativity in the city, is a container-space for a project of social innovation, sustainability and employment towards young people inclusion, which is located on the south outskirts of the metropolitan city of Reggio Calabria.

In this case, the rehabilitation of a sequestered Mafia asset as the FabCity headquarters amplifies the social and economic impact of the operation, acting on the levels of legality and response of the specific area, but looking at its effects at a broader scale.

Furthermore, due to the state of physical and environmental decay of the building, surrounding areas and adjoining open spaces, the recycling and

rehabilitation of the building dictates its sustainable environmental reclamation due to presence of an asbestos roof (4 tons), waste equipment and objects (videogame machines) left behind from previous uses.

Creating a “FabCity in the city centre”, through outdoor and indoor actions, does not mean to introduce a social and economic activity of sole interest to the people who will run it in the neighbourhood, but to create a real model of “urban hub”, an incubator of young people’s innovation and creativity.

Through the activation of training and information paths (smart model) the hub will constitute a permanent urban laboratory for those who provide services for initiatives of social and technological innovation as well as entrepreneurial creativity.

The project end users are young people variously involved at different levels.

A first level, where members of the two promoting associations are directly involved in the drafting of the proposal for the FabCity project. They are young people living between Calabria and Sicily, high school leavers and university graduates with a strong penchant for innovation activities on the cultural, social and economic front. They will be the “makers” committed to coordinate actions during the various phases of the project, based on their own specific abilities and expertise.

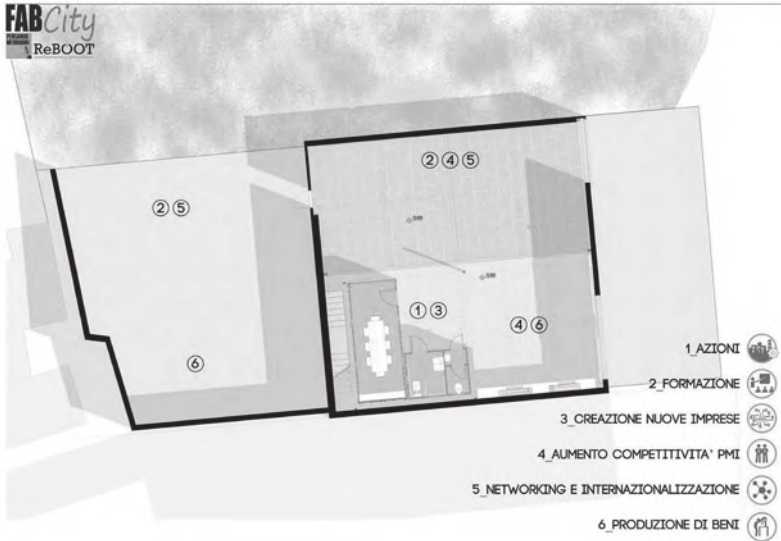
A second level, where young people from the various areas of the province will be involved, individually or in groups, in initiatives and workshops through “city making” activities during the renovation of the sequestered building (see ReActioncity Challenging project).

A third level, where the young will be in charge of goods and services after FabCity’s official opening, will run short and long term projects based on the FabCity brand to promote young people’s inclusion and training, and will provide consultancy to other similar local realities (young start-ups, SMEs, laboratories, etc).

FABCity
 ReBOOT

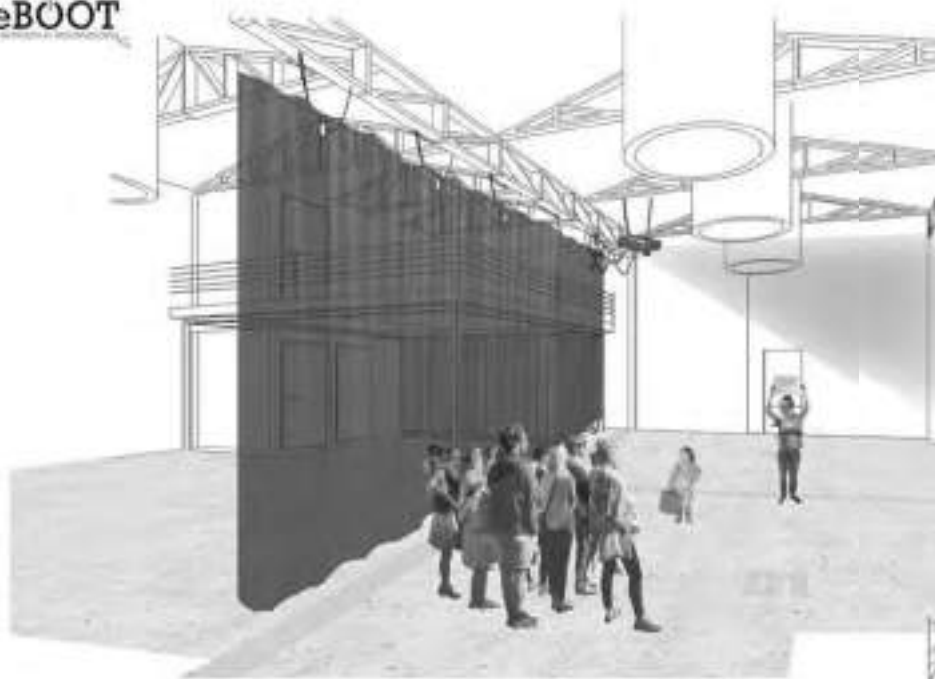


FABCity
 ReBOOT



"FabCity", factory of innovation and creativity in the city,
 the existing building and the project building (editing by Pensando Meridiano)
 (the rehabilitation of a sequestered Mafia asset)

FABCity
PERIGIANO
MERCATO
ReBOOT



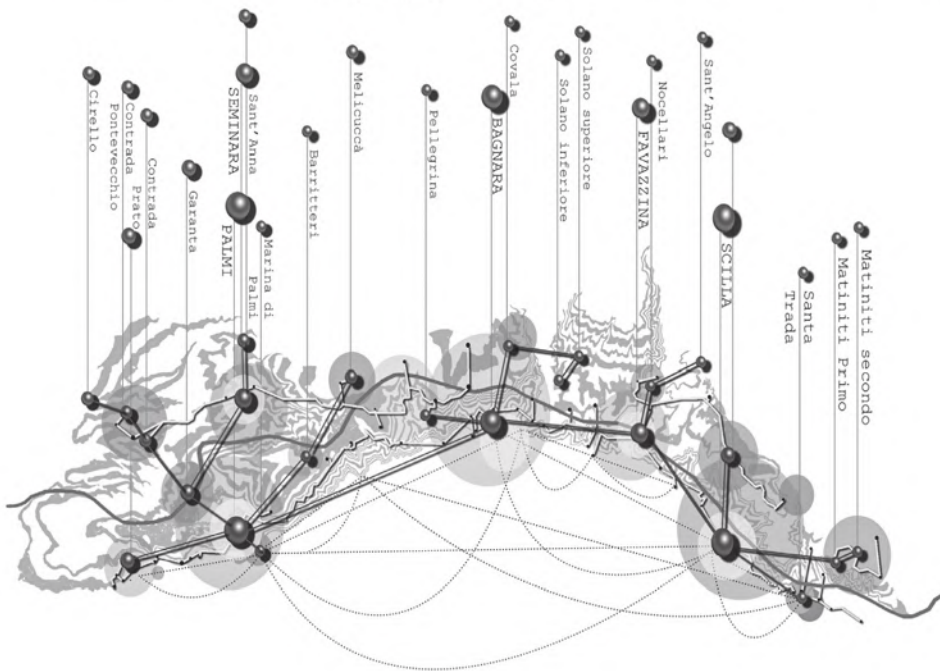
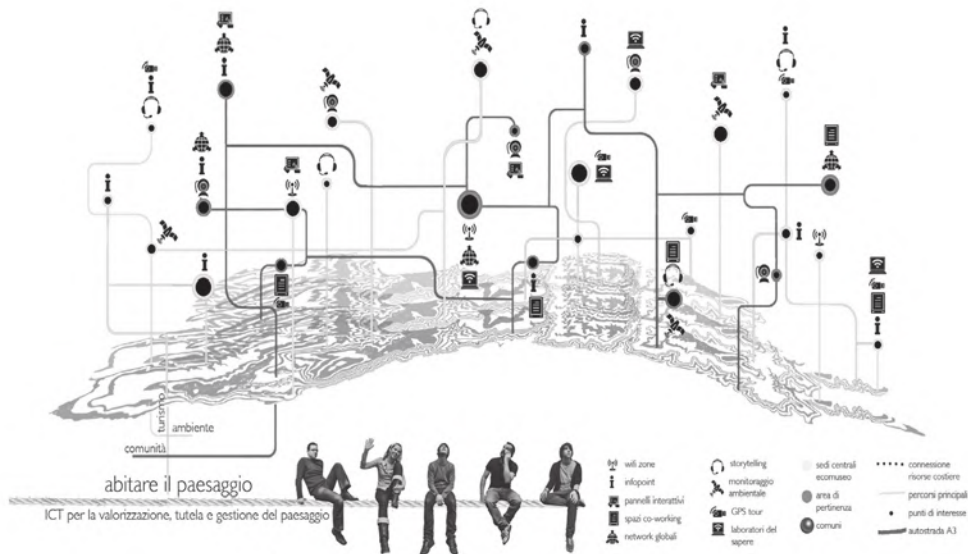


04_

CHAL

CHALLENGERS

[RE_ENVISIONING LANDSCAPE/ARCHITECTURE
FOR THE METROPOLITAN CITY OF REGGIO CALABRIA.
RESEARCH PRIN RECYCLE ITALY
REGGIO CALABRIA]



Antonia Di Lauro, 2014, Living Costa Viola Landscape

**RECYCLING WASTE
LANDSCAPES:
EXPERIMENTALS PROJECTS
FOR REGGIO CALABRIA
METROPOLITAN CITY**

Vincenzo Gioffrè
→UNIRC

Recycling thesis

Recycling is one of the best generator of creative innovation and Re-Cycle is a multi-scale design tool applied to re-signify refused landscapes¹ in semi-urban/semi-rural contexts, meaning by refused landscapes¹ deemed useless because affected by loss of role and meaning, following unceasing habitat evolution.

The research objective is to experiment, from an interpretational and operational viewpoint, landscape recycling strategies, meant, like in the European Landscape Convention², as an expression of the community that lives in it and modifies it. Landscape design materializes in multi-functional operational proposals that combine the environmental issues of soil consumption and primary resources reduction with figurative, aesthetic and spatial experimentation.

The experimentation scope encompasses abandoned landscapes that are formed next to, under and between road networks and railway lines, next to quaysides, near disused quarries, but also voids and opens spaces next to rivers and sandy shores, cultivated and reclaimed lands, lands that are either abandoned or affected by urban sprawl: these are all sensitive places which outline new mediterranean and metropolitan scenarios, configure "networks" of landscape units, energy flows, production exchanges, sha-

red uses and users' behaviors. By building up an atlas of design experiences based on new scenario paradigms, the research puts forward relevant proposals for the re-signification of urban and suburban discarded landscapes, according to a trans-scale operational approach (from city to building to detail). The selection of case studies provide, in terms of objectives and methods, sustainable models for application to Reggio Calabria Metropolitan City.

The proposal consists in experimental design projects for contexts considered emblematic of the rapid transformation processes of contemporary landscapes. Unplanned and unauthorized development has often resulted in large amounts of "debris" which, metaphorically speaking, comprise empty spaces, terrain vagues, abandoned landscapes situated mainly next to natural and infrastructural systems.

The working hypothesis is to assign new roles, functions, meanings and quality to refused landscape in order to initiate virtuous urban regeneration processes, enhance the potential of marginal contexts to become places for slow mobility, sustainable production of primary goods and renewable energy, and to experience new social practices in nature. Configure sustainable "production" scenarios able to decline a new vocabulary for the regeneration of sensitive sites: ecohousing scenarios, agrourban districts as sustainable organization models, energy zones for the management of new low energy consumption networks, water farms, sustainable communities and energy parks.

The territories of most mediterranean cities are characterized by a stratification between natural and anthropical infrastructures, that produces extraordinary landscapes but also landscapes of refusal and, at the same time, could represent the paradigm as basis to identify new design strategies.

The contribution of research is aimed to verify the landscape dimension of the recycling process related to natural and anthropical large systems to actuate processes of urban regeneration, especially in marginal areas and in sites and sensitive contexts.

The methodological setting of the present research is based on three principal aspects:

- a multidisciplinary approach, related to three components of sustainable design (environmental, economic, social) according with the transversal approach of landscape design. In line with the necessity to assure conti-

guity between very different scales and to act with fluidity and flexibility, this approach will be useful to explore new dimensions and to consider the spatial and temporal discontinuity that characterizes many contemporary processes;

- a participated approach. The aim is to start a participatory phase with local authorities, associations and communities, in order to share problems, design assumptions and practical implications of research outcomes;

- the reproducibility of this research in technological transfer processes and know-how for the development of innovation proposals in sectors directly concerned with the scope of research.

Recycling materials

The diffuse marginal systems are considered as material of recycling. Indeed, because of them underuse, this systems are susceptible to new life, are open to the construction of networks, and are able to enter in new relational cycles.

The research aims to investigate the opportunities and to identify methodological and operational tools needed to make a new life for refused landscapes. In this sense, both the geographical and environmental elements (rivers, forests, beaches, mountains) and the parts of urban and suburban systems in disposal, downgraded or subjected to changes of use (industrial areas, highways, ports, quarries, landfills) will be investigated.

The landscape dimension of these materials has particular relevance because, from a baseline condition, assumes the significance of infrastructuring, the primary element for the life quality of the communities, able to regenerate itself and produce more sensitive components and sustainable, both immaterial (effects of diffuse well-being) and material (carbon footprint and effectiveness of energy-efficient systems).

In this context there is the necessity to develop a strategy oriented to the rethinking of the abandonment places, to work at different levels of anthropical systems and large natural systems, in order to define new sustainable scenarios.

The beneficiaries of this research are the communities of people, who have to be protagonist of landscape transformations, and to acquire the ability to implement virtuous practices of maintenance of efficient systems. These systems have to work as nodes of a larger and widespread network at local level (social, productive, energy) - not perfectly correspondent with

administrative boundaries - and have to express, in a changing contexts, scenarios of quality for mediterranean suburban and urban areas.

Reggio Calabria is a typical city in the South of Mediterraneo characterized by huge natural and cultural resources in an area with strong environmental, social and economic emergencies. The territory of Reggio Calabria is the result of a process never completed. The modernization of the city has not been definitively reached, but has been pursued through the construction of major infrastructure never completed (highways, ports, airports).

Besides to a city "legally" planned, but unrealized, there is a "non-city"³ characterized by widespread and self-built housing, which has generated landlocked spaces, geographical and environmental structures interrupted (rivers, citrus groves), heavy infrastructures that are mostly unfinished or abandoned. This "non-city" is the result of an high action capacity of the inhabitants, but that has created forms, functions, meanings and behaviors completely new for the Habitat.

In March 2009 the Italian Parliament has recognized the status of Reggio Calabria "Metropolitan City"; then greater investments for infrastructure networks are expected, with greater administrative autonomy. There may be a risk of the recurrence, once again, of a negative cycle that worse rather than resolve of urban, environmental and social decline.

The Metropolitan City of Reggio Calabria can be improved with the landscape, the dialogue between the characteristics of the natural elements (topography, rivers, beaches, vegetation) and in actions of re-design of the spaces between the main human signs stratified over time. The geometric grid of citrus groves, or the stone walls in terraces are powerful traces that mark the territory as well as the highway viaducts, the abandoned quarries and the construction sites. The territory is a dynamic process, ever-changing, in some way constantly subjected to the recycling of its parts, with a high production of "waste"⁴, namely landscape fragments rejected, that lose their meaning and function in a state of decay and neglect. A new input is needed (now that the Strait of Messina bridge will not be made), a new writing awaits the territories, a bottom-up process involving the local communities.

In this sense, the territory of Metropolitan city of Reggio Calabria, is interested, for several years, by multiple experiences of local governance that through the establishment of socio-economic partnerships (public/

private), aim to strengthen the synergies for lasting and sustainable processes of integrated development. The territory of Reggio Calabria is, undoubtedly, characterized by specific features, but at the same time, constitutes a case study of urbanization pathways taking place in large urban areas of the south, and beyond. Therefore, purpose of research is to apply and propose strategies, with a methodological value reproducible in other contexts.

Recycling actions

The urgent need of these circumstances require the identification of flexible and lean strategies, through programs that can be implemented gradually in the middle/long period. The landscape is a concept that originally comes from a dialectical relation between nature and artifice, that nowadays is made clear thought the dualism urban/rural. This is functional from the interpretation and operative point of view for the implementation of interventions in this context, through a new concept of "landscape society"⁵ that outruns the distinctions "city /country" in social and urban terms, and then it translates this "urban /rural" hybrid dimension in a new life scenarios.

In accordance with the goals of Horizon 2020, the impact of the recycling process applied to city planning & landscape architecture is explored while a challenge-based approach brings together resources and knowledge across different fields, technologies and disciplines, as described below:

- Re_Use landscape identities, environmental and social qualities of marginal and abandoned places (residual areas, places that are inconsistent with the new territorial planning, both urban and suburban areas);
- Re_Connect, through slow mobility flows, strategic places of the public and private city as sites of cultural or productive sites, using, for example, areas next to or below the existing infrastructure, embankments and cuttings;
- Re_Activate abandoned rural areas, the scrap areas, the gaps between infrastructure networks;
- Re_Naturalize sensitive areas, especially the beds of rivers, beaches, compromised dune landscapes, reclaimed wetlands, quarries and construction sites;
- Re_Evaluation economic aspects associated with the idea of "recycling" formulated as part of the others groups research activities, in order to identify possible trade-offs between economic and environmental aspects,

with the aim to better manage the financial resources and the to make the intervention strategies (self)sustained in the long run;

- Re-Formulate the role the public/private partnerships involved in local-rural development aimed to test the appropriate, both in the planning stages and in the implementation stages; to explore how such organizations can contribute in the development of the territory by the implementation of the activities described above.

The focus is collecting data for developing a core knowledge framework about refused landscapes, causes and effects and distribution over the country. The refused landscapes will be explored at local level, especially with regard to social contexts that are sensitive from the point of view of production and environmental.

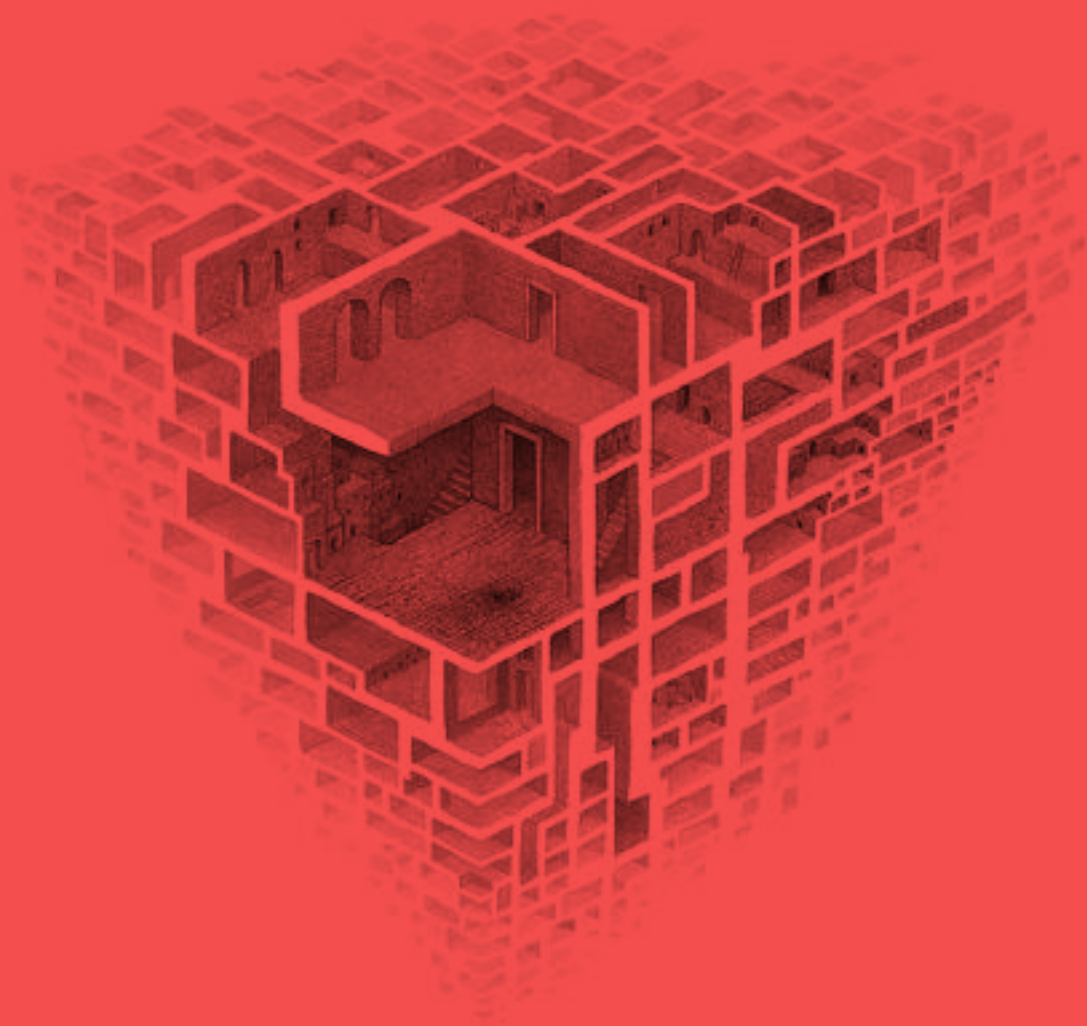
Particular attention is given to the specific theme of the relationship between communities and refused landscapes, with a depth analysis of interpretative and operational aspects: how are refusal landscape generated? To what extent are the community residents are promoters of the landscapes where they live?⁶

The outcomes consist in a preliminary identification of new sustainable action (planned design) shared with the community. The activities of analysis and interpretation are realized by the production of maps and atlases intended for the landscape refusal, both at Metropolitan City of Reggio Calabria. An examination of the general framework of possible strategies for recycling at the local level is promoted by activating workshops and forums that will performed in collaboration with local authorities, associations for the direct involvement of communities, socio-productive stakeholders. In this phase of the research, new formulas of local governance are experienced, with the aim to establish public/private partnership both in the planning stages and in the implementation stages of the planned strategies described above. At the same time, a multi-level experimental project will be applied to the territories of the Metropolitan City of Reggio Calabria according to two thematic issues: the definition of structured master plan in planning actions on issues of medium and large scale (fragments of agricultural landscapes, abandoned areas, marginal areas of large river systems); the implementation of the research framework on the recycling techniques of scrap materials and wastage, including residues of the primary activities to reuse in production processes with experiments participated in workshops.

These activities are conducted through the realization of laboratories open to the community and with the active participation of manufacturers of materials tested, the Region of Calabria, the province of Reggio Calabria and public organizations/individuals such as the LAG BATIR - Reggio Calabria⁷. The first results of this applied research on the territory of the Metropolitan City of Reggio Calabria, are presented in a series of seminars/exhibitions with the participation of representatives of local authorities and research organizations. The presentations take place in public places (offices of organizations, institutions, civic associations, schools) with the screening of a short film, which outlines the contents of the research, illustrates the results of the phase of analysis/interpretation of the refused landscape, proposes design strategies for the different levels.

Notes

1. "For refused landscapes we intend all the situation caused by urban expanding processes and quick transformation of territory, affected by dismission, long abandonment, disgregation of territorial structures, social rejecting". Calcagno Maniglio A, (2011) *Progetti di paesaggio per i luoghi rifiutati*, Gangemi Editore.
2. "European Landscape Convention considers exceptional landscape, everyday life landscapes, and degraded landscapes, extending the attention from emerging value landscape to common and quality lacking ones, degraded by abandonment and fragmentation". Calcagno Maniglio A (2011), *Progetti di paesaggio per i luoghi rifiutati*, Gangemi Editore.
3. Cfr. Zagari F (2012), *Paesaggi di città non città*. Franco Zagari, quattro progetti di ricerca, Libria Editore.
4. Cfr. Marini S (2011) *Nuove terre. Architetture e paesaggi dello scarto*, Quodlibe
5. Cfr. Donadieu P (1998), *Campagnes urbaine*, Actes Sud.6. See A. Lambertini in "Urban Beauty" *Luoghi prossimi e pratiche di resistenza estetica*, Compositori ed., Bologna 2013 pag.10-11. The translation of the excerpt is by Giamila Quattrone.
6. Cfr. Paoletta A (2013), *People meet in the re-cycle city*. La partecipazione attiva dei cittadini al progetto di recupero, riuso, re-cycle dell'edificato abbandonato e dei paesaggi del rifiuto, Aracne Edizioni.
7. Collaboration results with LAG BATIR (Local Action Group Basso Tirreno Reggino) published in Gioffrè V (2014), *Abitare il Paesaggio. Un nuovo ciclo di vita per la Costa Viola*, Iiriti Editore.



Sleeping with the window open
[Img: Mathew Borret]

DEMOLITION ACTIVITY AS A FORM OF RESILIENCE IN THE METROPOLITAN CONTEXT

Rita Simone
→UNIRC

Demolition practices between need and chance for resilience

In Italy, demolition practices are prevented from becoming part of the regular building process by the deep-rooted instinct of “conservation” that characterizes almost every social and political aspect of the culture of the country. This – broadly speaking – “cultural” instinct hinders every attempt at resilience that entails a change produced by alterations of the structure, whether biological or of other nature. If – as already suggested in Venera Leto’s text – the activity of demolition and physical alteration of the built environment represents the premise for the process of resilience that should interest the Metropolitan Area of Reggio Calabria through the transformation of territory and landscape, its feasibility depends on a more radical change involving not only the built environment, but the whole cultural dimension to which the latter belongs.

Urban transformations in Italy have always regarded demolition as an “exceptional” activity, excluded from the ordinary process of alteration of the structure of the city. Demolition has been reserved to few, mediatically popular, architectural “monsters”, in what appears as a conservative strategy that aims, while destroying some of them, to preserve all the others. From North to South, Italian culture appears indifferent to transformative

logics and shows a real reluctance to alter the built environment and the landscape. Actually, although present in theoretical planning debates, the issue does not often find a concrete outcome in terms of physical transformations. On a more general level, however, the theoretical discussion on the “need” and “chance” for demolition is sometimes translated into real actions, a phenomenon that underlines a potential change in an urbanistic and administrative culture that finally seems to acknowledge the importance of concepts like “replacement”, “renewal”, and “cancellation” in the process of management and restoration of the built environment. This new trend culminates in an “anti-maintenance” approach towards the early modern built environment and marks a radical change of perspective, as demolition is finally recognized as a regular component of the normal process of transformation of the structure of the city and as the only sustainable tool against obsolescence and poor quality building.

As early as 2002, Ance, INU and Legambiente identified demolition as an instrument of renewal and consequently of resilience, showing the operational and economic results issuing from a series of theoretical research lines on “subtraction” and “demolition”. Even if it lacked actual implementation, the study showed that many of the issues raised throughout the years by the disciplinary debate had been acknowledged and reformulated simultaneously as a question to the social and political body and as an answer in terms of procedure and management. In addition to “tackling the conservation/innovation contradiction”, “planning decay”, or “facing the issue of big residential buildings”, the document listed as a field of study the use of demolition as a compensation for the illegalities perpetrated against the landscape and as a tool allowing the reconsideration of the scattered city and of its neglected parts. In this last point the document labeled “Demolish to Reconstruct”¹ intertwines both with the concept of resilience in general, and with the research interests of Re-Cycle Italy and their implementation in the metropolitan area of the Strait, particularly in Calabria.

While in psychology and biology the process of resilience involves an act of individual strength, when the object of renewal and transformation is a collective structure like a urban system or an entire territory, it must necessarily entail more complex steps and forms of sharing. In both cases, however, the change of status is achieved through an act of either psychic or physical “demolition”, an act that, when it involves built and

collective realities, implies a process of sharing between extremely different subjects.

As already mentioned, theoretical elaborations often anticipate real social and political changes – through the focus on problematic issues, the proposed solutions trace a path that others will follow. Inside this path finds its place also the discussion on demolition as need or chance for “self-reparation” of the damage suffered, on a small or large scale, by more or less urbanized territories. We will deal with elaborations that have progressively widened their scope from the single building to the urban pattern up to the whole landscape, but that represent now the real point of departure for collective actions made possible only by an altered cultural environment.

From a disciplinary perspective, until the 1990s theoretical investigations concerning demolition related to the processes of urban transformation and concerned in particular the urban element. However, although Bruno Gabrielli bestowed to the pair “subtraction/demolition” respectively an “exploratory” and a “decisional” character¹, Italy has been deficient both in explorations and decisions. The history of the country has always influenced the possibilities of transformation and while, quoting Freud², “demolitions and replacement of buildings occur in the course of the most peaceful development of a city,” it seems as if the built environment had been paralyzed by a dreaded loss of memory, an excessive instinct of conservation and a lack of selection which have thwarted the normal transformation of the urban structure. The preservation of antique buildings became a widespread reaction to the devastations caused by the war. This phenomenon, however, did not prevent, during the building boom, concrete instances of transformation and the implementation of policies aiming at the protection and conservation of the urban pattern. If the paradoxical long term result of this trend was the decay and neglect of the object that needed to be preserved, on the other hand it created suburban pockets destined to house new volumes.

The suburbs, considered by Ance, INU and Legambiente as the starting point for urban renewal, are still at the center of debates that, started in the disciplinary field, have now reached the social and political spheres. The product of the historical circumstances of the 1960s and 1970s – a mass of residential buildings excluded from the inner city – represents however, in the metropolitan area of Reggio Calabria as in other wide ter-

ritories, the scattered city, almost the totality of the architectural heritage. For this reason, the solutions that have been proposed to solve the problem of the Italian suburbs affect – in this particular geographical situation – an entire territory and landscape.

If Benevolo⁴ and Gabrielli⁵ focused, on a national scale, on the use of demolition as an act of transformation or as a consequence of the sudden obsolescence of the urban heritage – despite the “recycling period” during which preservation was accompanied by functioning reconversion – this shows the utter inability of “conservative” Italy to maintain and take care of its heritage. This lack of a care that involves also the practice of demolition engenders what, in the transition from building to territory, could be defined as a proportional syllogism that defines well the southern and Calabrian landscape, once the latter acquires the title of cultural heritage.

This change in scale, expressly mentioned as an aim in the Ance/INU/Legambiente document – that assigns to demolition the task of compensating the illegalities suffered by the landscape and that implies a new awareness of the issues of the whole national territory – has as a starting point the theoretical preview offered by Casabella⁶ in 1991 on the physical landscape and its cultural interpretation. Already at that stage, the papers proposed a reinterpretation of the Italian landscape, observing its decay and underlying its crises and wounds. Among the others, Franco Purini⁷ reintroduced the idea of demolition as a compensation for thirty-year-old injuries. The picture that emerged was that of a territory altered not so much in its original features as in the man-made and recent ones. If the city – that had witnessed the crisis of its structure, proportions and territory – had to rely on the landscape as a scene for new possibilities, its compensation became urgent in order to start afresh from its strong, deep-rooted, and variously represented memory.

If on the one hand the debate focused on the immaterial transit of the architectonic body within strict aesthetic codes, the 1990s saw also the emergence of qualitative, in opposition to quantitative, requirements, establishing for the first time environmental sustainability as a fundamental factor in planning choices. The decade opened with a new outlook towards the landscape and, significantly, in the 1995 convention “The subtraction plan”⁸, Antonino Terranova kindled a discussion on the pair demolition/subtraction, considered in a completely different acceptance than that of “construction scrapping” that had characterized the 1980s. The theoretic-

cal debate anticipated again a renewed collective awareness assigning to the practice of demolition traits of “need and/or chance.”

The readings of the period, concerning in particular some regional situations, are a paradigm of the post-urban condition, and encourage to reconsider the scattered city and the neglected parts in the light of the acknowledged features of Italian transformations, characterized by acts of addition rather than subtraction and by the intangibility of the inner cities and of the clusters that coexist in their neighboring territories. City and landscape have become inseparable in their common loss of identity, and the concept of demolition as need/chance has become increasingly popular, as destruction starts to be seen as inherent to the post-urban condition.

Interestingly, Massimo Ilardi⁹ observes a “destructive character in the era of the placeless city,” and wonders in what it differs from the one described by Benjamin¹⁰ as the symbol of modernity. In the new condition, the “destructive” gene leads to premature disposal and consumption that rapidly leave behinds heaps of wreckage. Facing and accepting the scattered city, then, does not mean erasing the post-urban potential nor regret the original *forma urbis*, but rather using demolition as a tool to select the layers, meeting the implicit expectations of the built environment. If empty spaces have played a leading role in modernity, with their celebration of volumetric density, the practice of demolition performed within the post-urban entropy acquires an evocative and suggestive potential. The neglected, the abandoned, the unfinished appear full of built material, social history, obsolete plant design – “machines” of the modernity transformed into wreckage that crowd a new *forma urbis* which is scattered and spread on wide areas, creating new, changeable landscapes.

Ilardi’s considerations mark the end of the 1990s, a decade that can be considered as the cradle of still relevant ideas about the relationship between demolition, scattered city and landscape. Since then, the disciplinary debate has continued, triggering, as we have seen, a new awareness in the political, civil, and economic spheres. Demolition has been included in official texts and legislative decrees but rarely implemented.

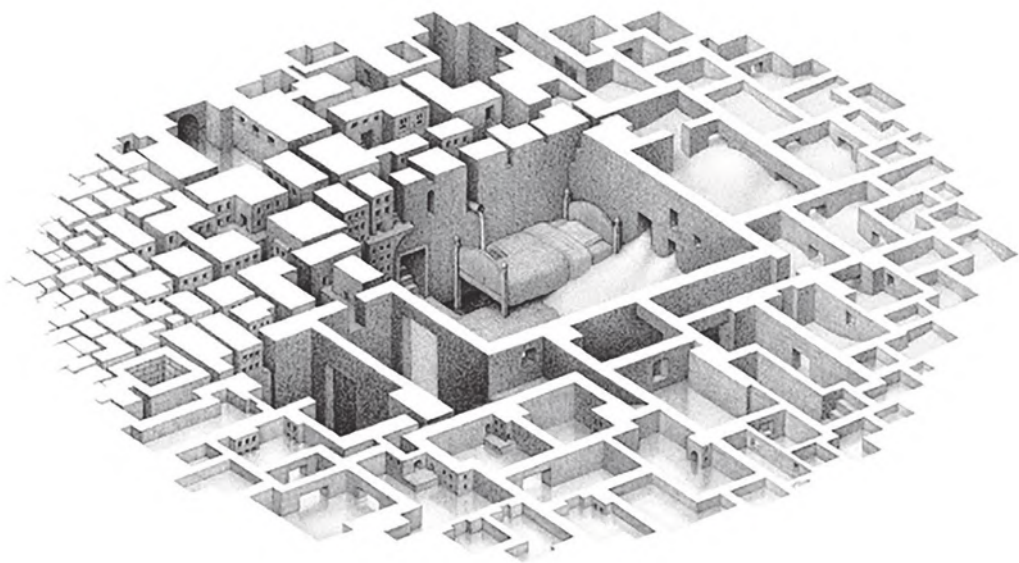
Various reasons explain this negligence, as the paradoxical circumstance in which, through several building sanctions, completely illegal territories and landscapes have been declared legal. To this peculiar phenomenon we need to add, especially in the south, economic interests, the clutches

of mafia organizations involved in the building business, and a peculiar cultural tendency that considers the house, even the abusive one, as the only inheritance of future generations. Moreover, in relation to the disposal issue, the south is burdened by political and entrepreneurial choices that have found their materialization in unfinished and non-functioning buildings that, together with the excess of legal and illegal residential volumes, form a landscape crowded with what Ilardi calls the "wreckage of modernity".

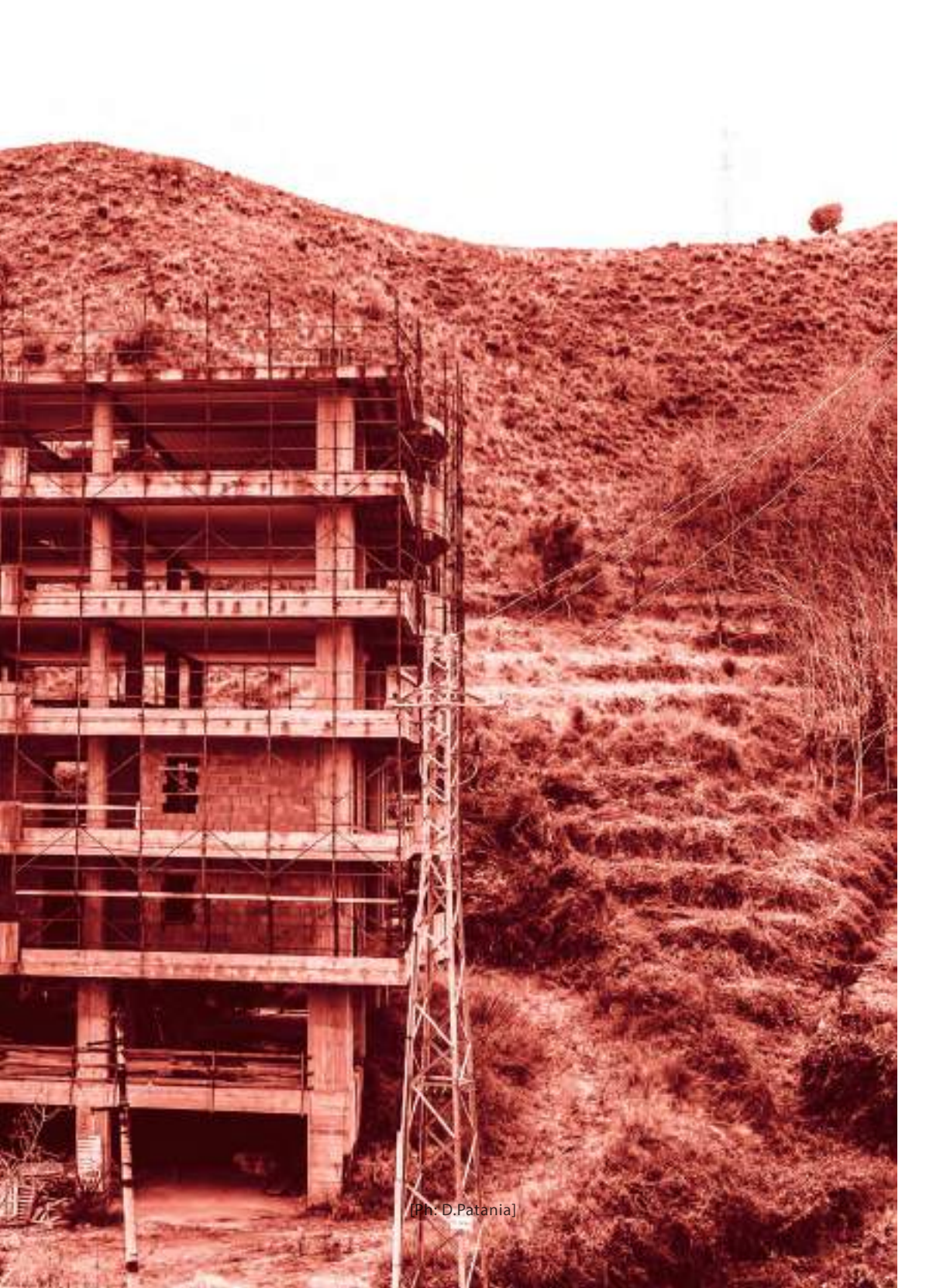
The metropolitan area of Reggio Calabria appears thus as a scattered city packed with organic waste, dead cells that invade the urban structure and the landscape. Why should we not, then, think that this structure can repair itself only through a process of resilience? And as, paraphrasing Ilardi, the destructive character belongs to our postmodern condition and erases even the traces of destruction itself, not as it loves ruins but as the path that runs through it, why should not the actually effective tool of demolition be entrusted with the task of compensating and highlighting the complex and often astonishing layers of this scattered city on the Strait?

Notes

1. INU, Ance, Legambiente, F.in.co., Federabitazione - Confco operative, Federcasa - Aniacap e Ancab - Legacoop (A.a V.v), 2002, Politiche e progetti per rinnovare la città - Relazione al convegno del 28 maggio 2002, Stabilimento Tipografico Graffietti Stampati, Roma
2. Gabrielli B., Il progetto della demolizione, in A. Terranova, A. Criconia, A. Galassi, (a cura di), Il progetto della sottrazione, Palombi & Partner, 1997, pp.43/44
3. Freud S., Disagio della civiltà, Bollati Boringhieri, 1985.
4. Benevolo L., Roma da ieri a domani, Laterza, Roma-Bari 1971
5. Gabrielli B., op. cit
6. Il disegno del paesaggio italiano, "Casabella", 1991 n. 575-576
7. Purini F., Un paese senza paesaggio, in "Casabella", op. cit., pp. 40/47
8. A. Terranova - A. Criconia - A. Galassi, (a cura di), op. cit.
9. Ilardi M., Il carattere distruttivo nell'era della città senza luoghi, in A. Terranova - 10. A. Criconia - A. Galassi, (a cura di), op. cit., pp. 36/39



Sleeping with the window open
[Img: Mathew Borret]



[Ph: D.Patania]

DEMOLITION ACTIVITY AS A FORM OF RESILIENCE IN THE METROPOLITAN CONTEXT

Venera Leto
→UNIRC

From vulnerability to resilience: opportunities for the city of Reggio Calabria

The term resilience is employed in various disciplines with several different meanings. In psychology, resilience stands for the ability to return to the original state or form after a traumatic event; in biology, the term refers to the capacity of an organism to repair itself after a damage. This last connotation implies a transformation and the ability to adapt to it: a new function replaces the previous one. Applying these concepts to the urban environment, a city becomes resilient when, after a traumatic event, it manages to restore its former state or to evolve into a new form. Accordingly, the aim of planning has to be the enhancement of resilience in order to overcome urban pathologies – abrupt transformations, sudden urbanization, saturation city, land-consumption, illegal constructions – restoring the original state or achieving new forms. In the urban context, thus, the concept of resilience is linked to the creation of sustainable systems, to urban regeneration, and to the management of territorial risks. According to a multi-scalar approach, the resilience of a metropolitan city can be considered as the result of the sum of the resilience of four elements: metabolic flows (infrastructures, connections, means of transportation), governance (institutions, policies), social dynamics, built environment.

A resilient project involves thus multiscalarity, to collaborative design with

a strong emphasis on social aspects and quality of the local community, sustainability, and innovation in technology and policy.

The metropolitan area of Reggio Calabria is a conurbation resulting from the urban contiguity and social and economic interaction of the city with some of the districts of its territory. It is strictly linked to the metropolitan area of Messina: the two cities are connected on a daily basis, through exchanges that involve a broad slice of the inhabitants. The establishment of the metropolitan area serves the purpose of strengthening these links and undertaking strategic territorial choices. However, considering the metabolic fluxes, the governance, the social dynamics and the built environment of the city, today Resilience is for Reggio Calabria as a planning challenge. The metabolic fluxes are inadequate and discontinuous: urban, railway, road and maritime transports are utterly insufficient. The water supply network and the drainage system remain unsolved issues. Governance is often absent, unable to manage the city and its territory. Territorial risks and vulnerability are uncountable – seismic risk, hydrogeological instability, alluvial risk, coastal erosion – and the landscape is devastated. The metropolitan area of Reggio Calabria can thus be defined as a “geographical region,” a continuous urban settlement contained in a physical perimeter and comparable to a nonfunctional system unable to evolve towards a new functional state.

The reasons of this paralysis are multiple and, before any resilience strategy can be individuated, the traumas that persist in the area and the causes of the devastation of its territory need to be tackled. Hydrogeological instability is linked to the neglect of agricultural activities. Along the Viola coast north of Reggio Calabria, for instance, the terraces created for viticulture played an important role in hydrogeological protection. Their progressive abandonment and degradation threatens the security of the residential areas and the infrastructures of the valley below. Near the urban center, the erosion of the coast is caused by the regimentation of the watercourses. The canalization of the four torrents that cross the city (Scacciotti, Annunziata, Calopinace, S. Agata) has led to the reduction of the sedimentation that reaches their mouth, with a consequent shrinkage of the littoral zone.

Resilience refers not merely to the ability to adapt and adjust to changing circumstances, but it also indicates the capacity to reduce the consequences of future risks minimizing the time of urban regeneration.

The scarce attention paid by the local community of Reggio Calabria to risk prevention has deep roots. Actually, social resilience is the ability of a community to face external shocks. Among these, a particularly significant role is played by the shocks caused by natural disasters – landslides, floods, earthquakes – as they abruptly alter the material and social structure of the settlements. In 1908, Reggio Calabria and Messina were destroyed by a catastrophic earthquake. It caused more than 120.000 victims, and devastating territorial and social changes. Scarce attention was paid to Reggio Calabria because Messina was the economic, geographical and military heart of the Strait. This situation compromised the reconstruction of the city, that started only ten years after the earthquake. Nevertheless, the reconstruction was seen as a chance to develop the built environment towards the sea and to transform the urban geography. However, the earthquake disrupted the identity of the community and the housing emergency created a new residential model. The housing question, though perceived as an absolute priority, is still linked to a sense of instability and precariousness. As a consequence, the built environment is saturated, characterized by disorganized development, irregularity in the layout, and haphazardness of the urban structure.

In the decade between 1971 and 1985, Calabria was the Italian region with the highest number of new constructions. The building boom, the abusive urban speculation, the illegal development, the demand for holiday homes, and the issue of unfinished caused a wild and widespread concreting that invaded the coasts and reduced urban green spaces without evaluating potential risks. In the suburban areas, widespread and low-density settlements have erased yards, vineyards and orange groves of the same size of the urban center. About 70% of the new buildings is illegal. Reggio Calabria exemplifies urban malfunction, a visual symbol of a disrupted society where private interests prevail on public good in the void left by the complete absence of recognized authorities. Illegal family-run building is a highly significant phenomenon in Reggio Calabria, responsible for the unfinished appearance of the urban landscape. The buildings differ in size and height but share the same layout: concrete framework in sight, lack of plasterwork, pillars ready for further raisings. Several sociological circumstances explain this phenomenon – the earthquake, the housing issues experienced by the rural community until the aftermath of WWII, the territorial mobility towards the city and the migratory movements, the





[Ph. D.Patania]

idea of the house as an investment, the inflexibility of planning tools, the rise of selling prices, the inadequacy of council housing. The coalescence of these factors has fostered illegality.

The significance of the phenomenon varies from zone to zone:

-Urban center: the phenomenon is not particularly relevant, being limited to small additions and closures of existing buildings;

-First urban ring: the recent constructions built between the 1950s and 1970s are mostly council houses. There are again instances of additions on existing buildings.

-Second urban ring: the zone in which illegal development and family-run building are most prominent. Urban areas like Gallico, Condera and Arangea have become improvised construction sites with few resources and machines. Whoever possesses a stretch of land abandons its cultivation in order to build a house. Old rural houses are replaced by multilevel buildings. In the 1960s and 1970s new suburban areas were built, now depopulated by recent migratory waves. Former rural areas were thus transformed into ghost towns deprived of identity.

-Coastal area: the building development is linked to the holiday-home business. Even preexistent small buildings tend to expand to draw profit from the holiday season.

In literature, three main definitions apply to the concept of resilient community: tendency to resistance, that refers to the ability of the community to absorb the impact; tendency to rescue, indicating the quickness and ability to recover from stress; tendency to creativity, referring to the creative potential of the social systems for improving their performances in adverse circumstances. In the case of Reggio Calabria, the creative potential of the community is the main feature that needs to be valued through shared planning in order to increase social cohesion and modify the current urban structure. Urban regeneration in such a saturated environment needs to be focused on subtraction rather than addition. Projects of subtraction can be realized either through the complete demolition of buildings or through partial demolition aimed at methodically transforming the landscape and at recycling existing structures. These shared interventions need to consider the social structure and the needs of the community: the demolished volumes should be recycled and the ownership of the house moved elsewhere, preferably to abandoned or disused buildings. Thus, demolition can become for the city and the territory a

chance to repair a damage, to restore an original state, to protect collective security, to build a new order and a new urban plan. Demolition can represent the opportunity to transform Reggio Calabria into a resilient city.

References

- Calavita, Calabrò, Della Spina, Meduri, trasferimento di diritti edificatori come incentivi per la rigenerazione degli insediamenti abusivi, *Rigenerazione urbana*, PP, Smart Cities, LaborEst n.9/2014
- Colucci Angela, *Le città resilienti: approcci e strategie*, Jean Monnet Centre of Pavia, Pavia 2012
- Cremaschi Marco, *L'abusivismo meridionale: realtà e rappresentazione*, rivista *Meridiana*, 1990
- Cutini Valerio, *Vulnerabilità e resilienza dei sistemi insediativi*, Università di Pisa, Pisa 2012
- De Matteis M., *Rigenerare la periferia residenziale e il senso dell'abitare agendo sullo spazio collettivo: riconfigurazione, densificazione, sostenibilità*, Aa. Vv., *Abitare il futuro ... dopo Copenhagen*. International Conference Proceedings Naples 13-14 December 2010, CLEAN, Napoli, 2010
- Guidobini E, Mariotti D., *Il terremoto ed il maremoto del 1908: effetti e parametri sismici*, rivista *Geitalia* N.25, Dicembre 2008
- Micelli Ezio, *L'eccezione e la regola. Le forme della riqualificazione della città esistente tra demolizione e ricostruzione e interventi di riuso*, Dipartimento di Architettura Costruzione Conservazione Università luav di Venezia 7.1.2014
- Motta Giovanna, *La città ferita. Il terremoto dello stretto e la comunità internazionale*, Franco Angeli, Milano 2008
- Prati Gabriele, Pierantoni Luca, *Resilienza di comunità: definizioni, concezioni ed applicazioni*, Università di Bologna 2010
- Valtieri S. (2008) *28 dicembre 1908. La grande Ricostruzione dopo il terremoto del 1908 nell'area dello Stretto*, Roma 2008
- M. Vona, P. Harabaglia, B. Murgante e A. Attolico *rischio sismico e resilienza delle città*, gngts, 2012
- Aa. Vv., *Abitare il futuro dopo Copenhagen*. International Conference Proceedings Naples 13-14 December 2010, CLEAN, Napoli, 2010
- Gibelli M, *Governare l'esodo urbano e il consumo di suolo. Perché? Come?* <http://storicamente.org/quadterr2/gibelli.pdf>
- P.Fantozzi, A. La Spina, *La distanza sociale: Distanti e disuguali nelle città del sud*, Franco Angeli, Milano 2010
- Di Fazio S., Malaspina D., Modica G., *La gestione territoriale dei paesaggi agrari terrazzati tra conservazione e sviluppo*, AllA2005: Catania, 27-30 giugno 2005



The metropolitan city of Reggio Calabria
by G. Quattrone

**METROPOLITAN POLICIES
AND LANDSCAPES
RECYCLE: AN
OPPORTUNITY
TO RE-HUMANIZE CITY IN
TIMES OF CRISIS**

Giuliana Quattrone
→UNIRC/CNR

Introduction

The progress and the globalization have revolutionized the equilibriums of the urbanization. The city is in crisis, victim of its same progress, but to the meantime it can be key actor of a new model of development able to answer to the demands of the citizens: a model of city "liveable", "retrained" and "ri-humanized" that is on a human scale.

In Italy in political field a process of reorganization of systemes and structures it is in progress, to the various administrative levels, from that national to those local, inspired to objectives of efficiency, transparency, economy and autonomy. This process must not perhaps neglect other less immediate objectives, but, for a long time term, not less important, that do reference to ethical values and to principles able not to reduce the reforms to simple operations of institutional and economic engineering, Values and principles that, in the fattispecie, they are identified in the local autonomies and in the subsidiarity.

With the law Delrio, n. 56 of 2014 are closed the long process of redefinition of the system of the local autonomies and the istituzionalization of the 10 metropolitan cities that will take over to the relative Provinces. In the case of Reggio Calabria the institution of the metropolitan city represents a signal of attention towards a territory that needs new and innovative tools and initiatives for the development and the social economic revival.

Planning tools of the metropolitan city

The metropolitan city is characterized for a strengthening of powers and assignments in comparison to the province with functions specifications that institutionally and functionally make her different, and with the following general institutional finalities: care of the strategic development of the metropolitan territory; promotion and integrated management of the services, of the infrastructures and of the nets of communication of interest of the metropolitan city; care of the institutional relationships afferents to their level, inclusive those with the cities and the European metropolitan areas. The new city metropolitan will be called to adopt two principal tools: the triennial strategic plan of the metropolitan territory and the general territorial plan. The triennial strategic plan is a plan of the political objectives for every sector of competence with a triennial projection, an action of address for the corporate body and for the exercise of the functions of the municipalities and the unions of municipalities included in the territory of reference. The general territorial plan is a sort of master plan of vast area that, besides the programmatic nature, also has to a prescriptive nature fixing ties and objectives to the activity and the exercise of the functions of the inclusive communes in the metropolitan territory and leaving only to the individuals metropolitan communes the editing of a planning implementation, or of according to level, that must be consistent with that general. Besides in the metropolitan city the function of promotion and coordination of the economic and social development it is attributed in terms of definition of the objectives of policy and structuring of coordinated systems of management of the public services and organization of the public services of general interest of metropolitan circle. The general territorial plan is the tool that acquits to the function of promotion and coordination, as well as to the issues of the mobility, of the roads condition and of the territorial infrastructures and of the guardianship of the environment and it testifies the management and governance ability of the corporate body metropolitan city. The metropolitan city seems therefore, to be an advanced point of maturation of the process of redefinition of the urban politics within new perimeters, once acquired the awareness that the new urban phenomena and the questions of services cannot effectively be managed to staircases uneconomical. Looking forward a new governance model that gives value to the characteristics of the territory

to recognize some specific responsibilities of the politics of area, and that from the forms priority of planning of the territory and the services to large scale, such corporate body is a candidate to represent one of the strategic tools to go out of the crisis.

Characteristics of the metropolitan territory of Reggio Calabria

With the establishment of metropolitan city the scenery that is prefigured for this territory is that of one strengthened union among all the Communes with new "complex functions"; new and more meaningful financial resources, powers of regional rank. Reggio Calabria, what metropolitan city will have, therefore, big potentialities and the Communes that will make part will assume a weight and a centralità of everything respect of it.

Inside the territorial perimeter of the metropolitan city, they are able to define 3 territorial macro systems: the area of Reggio of Calabria, the area of the "Locride" and the area of the "Gioia Tauro plain".

There is the risk that the important role more and more assumed by the metropolitan area goes to loss of the original identity of the city of Reggio Calabria, because the whole set of urban, suburban and interurban areas that will compose the metropolitan area characterized by peculiarity different identity it will require for those who live them a great effort of adaptation.

To redeem the places of these areas a condition of absence of centrality, whether morphological or functional, we must meditate deeply on the loss of contact, the physicality of the encounter, thinking new spatiality that arise competing ways of life acquired . It is necessary to think of new models capable of giving greater livability in different places and especially to trace the characters that determine the identity of these places, to be able to attribute design strength to their protection and conservation, guiding the transformations, and favoring, in the variety of functions adopted, the growth of a truly polycentric urban as concrete territorial development. The metropolitan area is also an institutional recognition which gives local authorities concerned a more representative value.

The administrative dynamics, in fact, will suffer a depth organizational and operational change for the necessary definition of "convergent ac ions politics" to the goals of the maximum exploitation of the territorial resources. It will need "re-engineer" the binomial local / regional identity

so that you reveal him an opportunity to define and to implement relationships of hold territorial integration in order to the economic activities, to the services and the cultural relationships and the territorial and landscape characteristics that characterize and they justify the institution of the metropolitan city.

From the analysis of the complexity of the situation of Reggio Calabria and, more generally, from the general evaluation of the problems of the city, of the context indicators and the risk factors, some problems have emerged, that is weaknesses and risks for the development and for the quality of the urban life that following are synthetically described:

- . the risk of social implosion;
- . the darn of the degraded outskirts;
- . the spaces of community and the places symbol of the local identity;
- . permeability of the territory infiltrations of the organized crime;
- . very elevated rates of juvenile unemployment;
- . risk of social desertification.

It deals with structural problems that macaws added to those burdens insufficient endowment of infrastructures of the development, of equipments of service to the population, therefore to the deterioration of the quality of the urban life.

The metropolitan city of Reggio Calabria in relation to areas of the Strait

The delimitation of the Reggio Cal. metropolitan area brings to the verification of the existence of partner-economic relationships that are not in some way represented by the actual coincident administrative confinements with those provincial and that they impose to reason on a different staircase to organize some services in more effective and efficient way and to pursue a high-level of strategies for the development. It seems absurd to consider with metropolitan characteristics the whole territory of the province of city of Reggio of Calabria and to exclude from the area neighboring towns as Messina because belonging to other province and region. It doesn't have sense, in fact, to put, among the metropolitan realities of new institution the city of Reggio Calabria without keeping in mind of the hold relationship in functional terms, socio-economic and historically the city has with the neighbor Messina. While instead the absence of relationships is recorded, in functional and economic terms, between the

chief towns and the municipalities of the provincial district, for tied up reasons partly to the morphological structure of the territory and partly to the presence of a system very weak infrastructure. The territorial structure of the system Messina-Reggio Calabria, characterized by a lack of territorial continuity, has never represented an obstacle to the intense relationships of economic and functional nature that have come constituting during the decades among the two parts. The objective of the construction of an integrated metropolitan system is enough shared from the two territorial realities and is finalized to the start of processes of local development that can strategically put the area of the Strait one in the international economic context and in the picture of the investments in terms of location of activity and functions. The local politics of the city of Reggio Calabria, however, today, after years of receivership, they don't seem to be driven from objectives common with the other side of the Strait or to direct to the construction of a complementary territorial system from the point of view functional able to exploit the occasions of development connected to the numerous European, national and regional financings that, in the last years, they have interested this territory. There is to wonder if the metropolitan area of Reggio Calabria it will be able to direct the forecasts of the urbanistic tools toward the location of strong functions that they could strengthen the axle Messina - Reggio Calabria and showing the substantial incapability, from all the actors involved in the trial, to delineate a strategy of development and general transformation of the territory. To this intention, only in the last years, the two town administrations have started forms of cooperation with the institution of some protocols of agreement that they aim to the integration among the two cities. Also the Protocol of Agreement among the Province of Reggio Calabria and the Province of Messina (2004) it is directed to the "promotion of tense initiatives to strengthen the study, the planning and the realization of programs of intervention of character infrastructure, trasport tems, cultural, economic of the systematic context of relationships among the two territorial circles, to bring back to unity of metropolitan area conurbation." In the same direction they aim the objectives of the on its way strategic Plans in the two cities that reinforce the theme of the cooperation as a prerequisite for building social consensus and to overcome the administrative and geographical fragmentation. Contrarily the tools of urbanistic planning don't seem to hold in consideration the possible integration among the two ci-

ties: the respective Provincial Plans of Messina (2006) and Reggio Calabria (2009) they seem more directed to promote the integration between the chief towns and the respective provincial territories rather than to individualize for the area of the Strait one a specific strategy of strengthen.

Actions to re-organize, re-valuing and re-humanize the city

In a disjointed and complex reality as that area of Reggio of Calabria it is essential to assure an answer to the question of better urban quality and livability for citizens and to intervene with a new model of urban development founded upon the culture to oppose the demonstrations of illegality. It needs to aim at the culture as common good as productive investment, departing from the innovative ideas, from the planning, from the creativeness, from the desire of ransom, for which an is needed to feel common, a civil culture that makes net, overcoming the self refential, opening new horizons of sense and value of the common good and runs of growth and for the development. In plus the metropolitan city must adopt a model of planning and management of the territory multidimensional, able to gather and interrelate effectively all the territorial components and able to reduce the urban pressure on the ecosystems and to decrease the diseconomies of staircase considering the territory as good / resource generative and not as space of consumption. A good becomes generative resource when community recognizes it man and work for one exploitation of his through means and know ledges for its exploitation.

In the Reggio Calabria case increasing the territorial dimension there is to wonder, if the new city, without ties of plan, can be sustainable both to environmental level, and on the social plan for the tied up problems to the management and the same liveability of the new city. So many the things to be done such as to improve the services in the outskirts and the communications with the center making the moves of the citizens surer, to assemble directional districts and offices in circumscribed areas, to draw public green in the great abandoned areas, to improve the metropolitan communications on rail, but above all to avoid the sprawling of the urban territories minding to recover area underused or disused to its inside. The metropolitan city must be laboratory of ideas, she must offer the advantage of opportunity of job and cultural vivacity but also the possibility to aesthetically live in a pleasant environment. For this reason

she must eliminate those obsolescent physical structures, rubble of the contemporaneity, that has exhausted their cycle of life from the productive point of view, functional or because damaged aesthetically e/o semantically not compatible with the landscape and instead to valorize those physical structures, environmental, historical, socioeconomic and culture what they have potentiality to triggering processes of re-signification of the urban areas from their inside. This can have effected through an interpretative trial design and creative innovative, flexible,procedural and programmatic, doing pivot on the system of the resources identity and careful to avoid consumption of ground and consequent loss of ecological resources. Reggio Calabria metropolitan city shows a territory rich in potential resources identity, articulable in networks , with elevated intrinsic cultural qualities, which center historical, cultural patrimony, coastal landscapes, agricultural landscapes, etc., raised social values, ecological environmental, etc., what must be conjugated, through efficient paradigms of government, to produce a new metropolitan identity, new economies of the knowledge, new sustainable development. It is necessary to create a metropolitan skyline in which the inhabitants can find their own identity, where the modern must be able to coesist with the elements of historical-identity, therefore she must be of quality and opportunely separated by the urban center, where new parts of city are produced through the creative reuse of the abandoned places.

Landscape recycle as a strategic element to overcome the crisis

The metropolization sets the necessity of new levels of government of the territory, but it first of all imposes the necessity to adjourn the conceptual apparatus used for interpreting and to explain the urbanization.

Recycling becomes a practice of fundamental importance for the future of the city if you work with appropriate grafts into the urban fabric and supported by a humanistic culture that must guide the urban regeneration project.

Therefore a general view of rethinking the city with specific interventions of "conversion", working with small actions recycling of degraded areas to "reconnect" parts of the city and to create a multipolar system that contrasts the urban sprawl, generated by speculation and lawlessness.

The recycle it is the occasion for "to imagine" a new vision of city, therefore

it must not only be used for recycling areas disused or abandoned but also to build a relational system combining the dimension of the creativeness and that social with the participation from the bottom up of the population that becomes especially in time of crisis important.

The actions of recycling , concretely, melt him with the implementation of actions of local development in principal areas of the territory of Reggio on the base of the following criteria:

- suburban neighborhoods, urbanistically frayed and with building structures of low quality, infrastructured socially only from activity of volunteering , ecclesial or from sporadic public activities on which to graft a culture of the environmental sustainability and the common good to favor the development of the human and social capital;
- areas in risk of exclusion, districts and zones of outskirts characterized by scarce opportunities of social and cultural innovation, from symbolic deprivations before still how material, in which to do civil culture, of job and enterprise to pass to a vision of opening to the change, to a concept of modernization to create opportunity;
- hybrid districts, fruit of the building abusiveness, where landscapes scrap are assembled, landlocked between great nets of mobility, spaces in attended, with serious problem list ecological and deprived of a concrete social stratification in which to start actions of social animation on the culture of the development of the common good and the entrepreneurship.

The intervention is characterized through to act for territorial micro-systems, that is through factors of cultural and territorial identity. The initiative considers strategic for the local development, not only resources type material, but also and mainly those of immaterial nature: the actors of the local development, the local culture of the territory, the values and the spaces of community.

It is to configure a model of city "liveable", retrained and make alive again, livable, able to satisfy demands and desires.

Reggio Calabria it has therefore to individualize an unitary strategy for the whole territory of the new metropolitan city with a formulation it always

turns to the great values and the primary demands of the person it posts to the center of every problem, through concrete solutions of social character, environmental, economic, administrative, urbanistic.

The themes of such unitary strategy will be: the equity between the different zones and social strengths; the control on the consumption of the resources (kind those not renewable); the densification to contrast of the urban diffusion, to avoid the isolation and the spatial fringing; the promotion of the economic and social growth; the diffusion of the scientific and technological innovation; the exploitation of the local resources; the infrastructure of the territory; the cultural advancement of the population; the recovery and improvement of the historical, cultural and natural patrimony; and finally to take care of the affirmation of the urban condition extended to the whole territory considering the urban spaces in radically new way.

References

- Bartaletti F., 2009, *Le aree metropolitane in Italia e nel mondo*, Torino, Bollati Boringhieri
- Marini S.- Santangelo V.(a cura di) , 2013, *Nuovi cicli di vita per architetture e infrastrutture della città e del paesaggio*, Roma, Aracne
- Quattrone G.,2014, *Una esperienza di partecipazione giovanile a Reggio Calabria: Il paesaggio come costruito strategico per trasformare la periferia destrutturata in luogo di competizione economica e ambientale*, in Paolella A. (a cura di) *People meet in the re-cycled city*, Roma, Aracne editrice.



The metropolitan city of Reggio Calabria
by G.Quattrone

FOUR(+) QUALITIES OF AN ANARCHIC LANDSCAPE. LEARNING FROM REGGIO CALABRIA

Cristina Sciarrone
→UNIRC

In 1975 Paul Feyerabend published a provocative essay, *Against method*, where he develops and supports an “anarchistic theory of the knowledge” that is a real attack to philosophy of science and to its method based on rules fixed in advance (norme a priori).

Feyerabend affirms that scientific research should not proceed only according to rationally assumptions but it should admit, and even encourage, a certain dose of theoretical anarchism which is necessary to ensure progress.

The Austrian philosopher suggests an operation of science liberalization, in order to embrace fortuity, irrationality and transgression, sustaining the principle that in the course of a scientific research “the only principle that does not inhibit progress is : anything goes”. Science needs creativity and invention to go ahead: this is the reason why it is fundamental to accept an anarchical and not inductive procedure¹.

Feyerabend’s theory prompts operative ideas that overcome the boundaries of a scientific research and can be applied even in disciplines concerning the transformation of the territory, disciplines that confront dynamics and phenomena not easy to understand.

The contemporary urban landscapes, which are chaotic, heterogeneous

and uncertain, appear unintelligible because they cannot be observed through traditional filters. They reveal an 'anarchic' content, that is even more explicit in the places of transition, where the unresolved conflict between opposite forces produces unexpected results.

Urban edgescapes can be considered as real laboratories of anarchical experimentation where casualty and freedom (due to a weak top-down control) encourage a creative content that leads to research an "open, differentiated, and non – dogmatic reading of landscape"².

The challenge that these threshold places submit to the experts who pragmatically operate on the territory, concerns firstly the need to reinterpret with new codes all the features that can be recognized in the areas of contemporary urban complexity and that are often evoked as the main cause for the loss of value of the landscape.

On the contrary, an alternative critical perspective can help to convert these features into qualities, namely a fundamental treasure that expresses the living nature of the territory.

The adjective 'anarchic' is here associated to landscape and paradoxically becomes a provocative way to trace the 'codes' through which the edgescapes are constructed, so that they seem no more answer to hierarchical mechanisms. Indeed, they are not even ruled by an isotropic order, where any development direction has the same value, as well as any spatial hub is equally linked to the rest³.

What is probably adapt to describe the link among the spatial fragments of urban boundaries is the semilattice, advocated by Christopher Alexander for the city in the sixties. It is a no-hierarchical open structure regulated by interference dynamics able to engender new elements connected with the rest of the system.

According to Alexander, these structures are not appropriate for urban plans, although they represent a good system to create richness and infinite possibilities of relationships⁴.

It would be likely that the 'semilattice' theorised by Alexander exists in contemporary urban shapes as a spontaneous, autonomous and anarchical form. This is a sort of creative answer to the bad management of sprawl territories.

Reggio Calabria' s edges are an example of this condition that is visible through four or even more properties that according to what said above, represent the real qualities. The voids, sometimes 'active' but often di-

scarded and in a suspended condition, form a continuous and interconnected web. This one represents a spatial pattern able to join different levels of knowledge, functionality and sociality of the landscape in a multi-dimensional way. This capability is the reason why it is possible to convert the distinctive features of a discarded landscape into something different, supporting a transformation concerning the ways to observe urban short-circuit places.

Instability, contamination, indeterminacy, disorder represent four phenomena that are visible at large and small scale, in the shapes of land organization as well as in social relationships, in the space use modalities and in the ability to recycle materials for new purposes.

It seems necessary to entrust to the void web the role of active surface through which it is possible to reclaim certain urban dynamics and to dignify misunderstood landscapes. According to this thinking, the four qualities listed represent the creative and active substratum of the landscape, which could be re-modulated in a design perspective.

The open spaces of periurban territory of Reggio Calabria contribute to make the general system flexible and even unstable: in other words, evolutionary. This is evident observing the transformation processes which affect the spaces that, from productive areas, become abandoned places although they are sometimes rescued through the installation of improvised vegetable gardens.

On the other hand, as Pierre Donadieu writes, the "chronic crisis" do not weaken the city because more natural is the soil, easier it's for urban surfaces to adapt themselves to unpredictable needs⁵.

This is an intrinsic and spontaneous capability of recycle and innovation, often promoted by unconscious inhabitants, that permit to imagine the application of actions where the ability to evolve and achieve never stated assets becomes part of the project strategy.

Contamination, an ambiguous term, alludes at a noxious operation (an infection) and simultaneously at a fusion process between two different entities.

As a quality of anarchic landscapes, the word 'contamination' may refer to crossbreeding phenomena, that appear at different levels. The interference produced on an element by an extraneous factor causes a positive short-circuit that is a salvific appropriation able to generate unexpected vital urges deriving from different situations.

By observing the edgescapes of Reggio Calabria the contamination emerges as the main feature of a landscape that has been built through an irregular re-mixing of the involved variables.

Hybridization phenomena can be glimpsed in the agricultural surfaces that surprisingly advance into the most unexpected urban interstices, occupying even the typical torrents, until a flood wipes any traces. It is also contamination the process that involves the motorway which cuts across the landscape in parallel to coast. In this case, the infrastructural line is crossed by riverbeds and plants, by agricultural surface's shreds, by 'pieces' of unfinished buildings that are absorbed by a verdant vegetation.

Besides, it is no doubt to consider a phenomenon of 'contamination' that one concerning the vegetable appropriation of discarded places that become rich and precious reserves of biodiversity.

This characteristic of the landscape may have different keys of readings and reveals the existence of continuous fluxes and overlapping phenomena, useful to create new entities. In a way, contamination is a property that can fertilize the territory and for this reason it stimulates the entrenchment of re-activation procedures founded on the assembly and recycle of the existing materials. This means to adopt models based on the development of hybridization devices, useful to connect the multiple facets of the landscape.

Indeterminacy is a feature that, if attributed to space, can hardly be considered a quality. However, according to a systemic approach, the concept of indeterminacy belongs to the nature of complex systems and depends on the variables that compose the system and on the relationships that characterize them. At the same time, if the concept is applied at small scale, it becomes a synonymous of undefined, vague and unresolved. This means that the term acquires a negative connotation which presumably derives from the incapability of the observer to give a real function to an apparently amorphous place.

Reggio Calabria's boundaries are also characterized by the presence of areas whose only feature is indeterminacy. The origins of these spaces can be various: they can be the rest of spatial organisation's processes or the product of industrial dismantlement or, finally, they could be, simply, forgotten places.

They can be found near cultivated lands, or just before the motorway line or beside a torrent. In any case, they represent true "black holes", inactive

within a dynamic system. These spaces, similar to those of the large contemporary peripheries, are in a suspension condition because of no use and of the impossibility to imagine a definite future. However, it is just this vagueness that makes them available places, on which it's possible find something unexpected and toward which can be addressed processes of social re-appropriation⁶.

The fourth and last 'quality' of an anarchic landscape is 'disorder': it is easy to guess why.

Disorder is a word which is often utilized with an improper use to indicate situations not well clear and coherent, according to the observer's point of view. Nevertheless, within the dynamics of complex systems, the shift between order and disorder represents a typical phenomenon depending on the response of the system to external solicitations that push its elements towards new levels of balance apparently distant from the common order state.

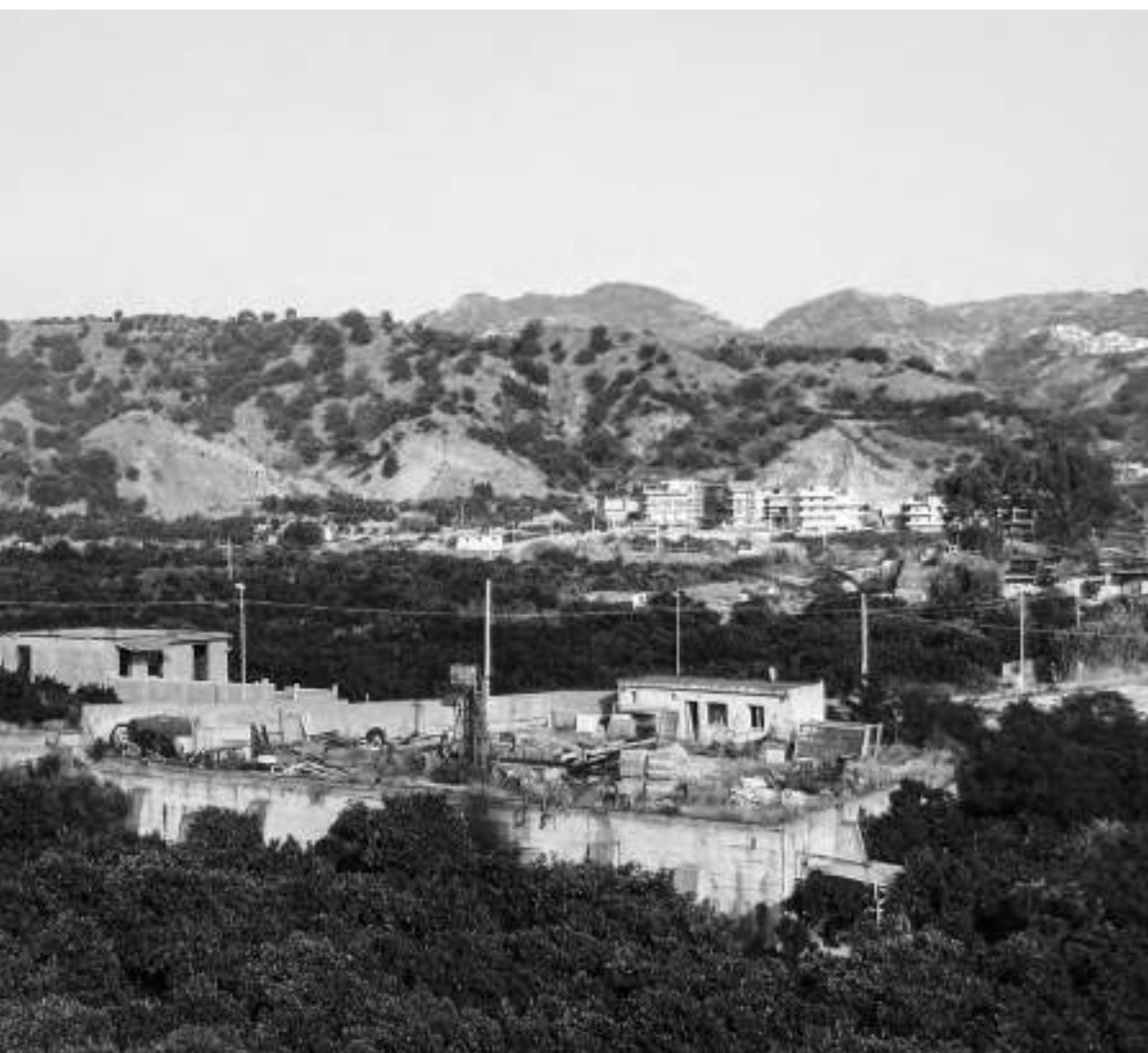
Lucien Kroll defines this kind of disorder "a world of contradictions, creativity, aspirations, cultures thinly differentiated that combine themselves through the relationship". In this way, he underlines the existence of creative expressions which are indispensable for the evolution of the landscape. It is a true "countermand" which gathers strength from the life of the inhabitants and from their desires. It is a spatial arrangement able to break and modify itself embracing diversity and freedom.

The disorder in the edgescape of Reggio Calabria is evident through the juxtaposition of unusual activities or through the presence of pieces of plates, metal bed meshes and rusted clothes racks which are creatively employed to mark the border of the fields. The disorder derives too, from the rests of the ancient buildings which remain embedded amidst the parts of the new edification.

Social factors also contribute to make a creative form of disorder. It is the case of the spontaneous spatial appropriation by groups of inhabitants that, with the disposition of simple chairs, give new life to inactive places. Another example is the presence, along the streets, of hand-carts selling fruits and vegetables. These phenomena give new sense to public space and they are bottom – up forms to use and manage the space, totally free from any imposition.

The result is a creative landscape, that suggests actions able to understand and project the desires of the inhabitants.





The periurban landscape
Reggio Calabria
[Ph.Cristina Sciarone]

The four listed qualities, easily recognized in Reggio Calabria's edges, are projected on the void weft which, far from the connotation of mere background of the building system, acquire a coagulant and connective role. In waste lands, the voids are involved by the "zero-effect", that is theorized by Albert Pope and it is the result of a crisis condition. It is not a negative effect but it is a starting point and an opportunity to promote the achievement of new arrangements, taking advantage of the presence of suspended places and conditions⁷.

Instability, indeterminacy, contamination, disorder represent irreducible conditions of the contemporary edgescapes and, for these reason, it's important learning to engage with them.

The necessity is to operate with strategic approaches able to include, within the project/process of transformation, also uncontrollable variables which belong to the complex nature of the territory.

This is a challenge for those who deal with this new multidimensional condition of the landscape. It not only requires the use of new tools but, primarily, the introduction of new perspectives with the aim to consider qualities those phenomena once disregarded.

It is a mind revolution that could suggest devices and operative formulas really surprising.

Notes

- 1.Feyerabend, P. K. (1975), *Against method*, London, New York, New Left Books
- 2.Girot, C. (2006), *Vision in motion: representing landscape in time*, in Waldheim, C. (a cura di), *The Landscape Urbanism reader*, New York, Princeton Architectural Press
- 3.Bernardo Secchi writes that "it is interesting, at least when one observes the territory, to study how the two categories interact, pursuing each other on different scales, in time and relatively to the different materials that comprise the territory and the city." Secchi, B. (2011), *Isotropy vs hierarchy*, in Ferrario, V., Sampieri, A., Viganò, P. (a cura di), *Landscape of urbanism*, Venezia, Officina Edizioni
- 4."The semilattice axiom goes like this: A collection of sets forms a semilattice if and only if, when two overlapping sets belong to the collection, the set of elements common to both also belongs to the collection." Alexander, C. (1965), *A city is not a tree*, in *The architectural Forum*, aprile - maggio 1965
- 5.Donadieu, P. (2014), *L'agriurbanità: tre modelli, dalla città agricola alla città giardino*, in Lambertini, A. (ed.), *Margini e spazi aperti delle città in trasformazione*, Bologna, Editrice Compositori
- 6.Franck, K., Stevens, Q. (ed.), (2006), *Loose space. Possibility and diversity in urban life*, London, Routledge
- 7.Pope, A., (2009), *Ex Nihilo Urbanism*, in *New Geographies 1: After Zero*, Cambridge, Harvard

References

- Alexander, C. (1965), A city is not a tree, in *The architectural Forum*, aprile – maggio 1965
- Bateson, G. (1976), *Verso un'ecologia della mente*, Milano, Adelphi
- Donadieu, P. (2014), L'agriurbanità: tre modelli, dalla città agricola alla città giardino, in Lambertini, A. (ed.), *Margini e spazi aperti delle città in trasformazione*, Bologna, Editrice Compositori
- Feyerabend, P. K. (1975), *Against method*, London, New York, New Left Books
- Franck, K., Stevens, Q. (ed.), (2006), *Loose space. Possibility and diversity in urban life*, London, Routledge
- Girot, C. (2006), *Vision in motion: representing landscape in time*, in Waldheim, C. (a cura di), *The Landscape Urbanism reader*, New York, Princeton Architectural Press
- Lister, N. M. (2007), *Sustainable Large Parks: ecological design or designed ecology?* in Czerniak, J., Hargreaves, G. (a cura di), *Large Parks*, New York, Princeton Architectural Press
- Mantovani, S. (2009), *Tra ordine e caos. Regole del gioco per una urbanistica paesaggista*, Firenze, Alinea Editrice
- Pope, A., (2009), *Ex Nihilo Urbanism*, in *New Geographies 1: After Zero*, Cambridge, Harvard
- Secchi, B. (2011), *Isotropy vs hierarchy*, in Ferrario, V., Sampieri, A., Viganò, P. (a cura di), *Landscape of urbanism*, Venezia, Officina Edizioni



The landscape of Sant'Agata torrent .
Recycling strategies between memory and innovation
[Masterplan - E. Caldarera]

**CULTIVATING
CONNECTIONS. FLEXIBLE
AGRICULTURE TO
LINK LANDSCAPE AND
COMMUNITY**

Elisabetta Nucera
→UNIRC

"Designing and planning little pieces of the land leads to a fragmented world that doesn't work, either ecologically or for people".

Richard T.T. Formann,

Landscape Ecology principles in Landscape Architecture and Land-Use Planning, 1996

The rapid and violent processes of change that have swept cities and countryside, have resulted in excessive fragmentation of our territory, and determined the prevalence of artificial landscape on the natural one.

"We are participating to a form of radicalization of the landscape, with two opposite poles artificial-natural, which requires urgent compensations¹". The compensation role is given to marginal natural areas (hills or mountains). In order to let them work, they should be connected with the urban, industrial and agricultural-industrial areas. The interaction between these two systems can be guaranteed by the agricultural landscape that, working as ecotone, can penetrate as much as possible the anthropic systems, with large contact areas².

The ecotones are transition zones between adjacent ecological systems, areas of tension and conjunction, trading active/passive zones, generated by human events or not³.

Farming in urban areas, can take on a filter function, playing a meeting and exchange role between natural areas and productive or residential settlements, becoming strategically to solve the territorial fragmentation.

In addition to providing ecosystem services (productive ecosystem, con-

nection to river ecosystems and natural areas) it can help to restore the figurability of those areas that became anonymous and extremely complex, reconstituting recognizable images and identity.

If it is true that "the image of the agricultural landscape is the result of the relationship between the society that has inhabited this space, with its history and its tradition"⁴, the starting point will be renewing the systems of relations within communities and their life context, to turn territory scraps in *appropriable landscapes*.

Moreover, since the European Landscape Convention, there is a growing awareness of the central role of the community, resulting more and more evident that "people are the recipients of reactivation, protection and participation projects of the territory's heritage, as they will have to become even traditional managers and transmitters"⁵.

The concept of protection is to be understood here with a double meaning: "to protect the shape of the country, so that every place has its own identity and figuration (...) and to protect the ecological organization's overall environmental system planning, in which the agricultural landscape can and should play a key strategic role"⁶

Agriculture thus becomes the most appropriate instrument to intervene on the landscape, as the basis of our knowledge, the result of the land culture and of centuries of experience. "Traditional agriculture based production on natural resources management, in other words the one based on the growth, evolution and planning in the short, medium and long term of these resources for productive purposes.

The knowledge of this experience is the point of departure to address new problems with new ideas, to invent new techniques and new systems of land management, in order to meet mixed solutions to complex systems of our cities"⁷.

The new meaning of the discarded landscapes will have to propose, starting from the community, diversified models and shapes of *urban agricultures*, that can be expressed according to geographical features, functions (economic, social, ecological, etc.) and management models of urban and rural contexts. "The basis for urban landscape design is to be found in

horticulture and engineering; in aesthetic priorities that are now regarded as secondary to the new found ecological insights^{8''}.

The most common form of agriculture in the city is certainly individual horticulture practiced in private gardens or public lands, often city interstices or peri-urban areas.

Given the small scale, production is used for self-consumption, for which the principal purposes are mainly social, educational and therapeutic. It is also a way to structure the landscape, generating useful, attractive and environmentally friendly places. The benefits are many, not only for citizens but also for government, which in addition to investing in the social sphere, subtract unused spaces to the deterioration and abandonment, decreasing the management costs.

When the scale increases, in the neighborhood of the city, it is possible to associate productive purposes to the social ones- as stated by Richard T.T. Forman, proximity to the city is an economic value, as well as ecological⁹ - developing environmentally friendly forms of agriculture, promoting cooperatives and recreating short circuits (market, direct sales).

The ecological connection between urban and natural systems, can be reached through the design or restoration of the constitutive elements of the agricultural landscape, especially the system of *closed fields* (systems of hedges and windbreaks, polyculture, walls, walls, canals and ditches, bands wooded, etc.) that guarantees the vegetal continuity and the passage of animal species, creating an harmonium and *measurable* landscape.

In addition, agriculture can be used as a figurative reference or a set of techniques for the design and management of parks, gardens and urban edges. In the park *François Mitterand*, (Issoudun, 1994) Michel Desvigne and Christine Dalnoky maintain the ancient land parceling and use agricultural techniques to characterize the place; in the botanical garden *La Bastide* (Bordeaux, 2006) Catherine Mosbach uses the formalization of agriculture as a framework for the exhibition of the local vegetation and incorporates in the project a community garden; in the landscape restoration of *waste landfill of Vall d'en Joan* (Barcelona, 2003-2010) Batlle i Roig create a series of agricultural terraces to unify the landscape, relying on a group of cows to maintain the new fields.

The different forms of agriculture in urban and peri-urban areas, if well structured and interconnected, could form the green infrastructure of the

metropolitan landscape, combining ecosystem services, multifunctional aspects (linked to production, recreational activities, mobility, etc) and aesthetics qualification of the landscape.

Inside the Atelier thesis *Re-cycle Italy* of the Mediterranean University of Reggio Calabria, landscapes in semi-urban and semi-rural contexts are investigated. The territorial scope of the newly-formed Metropolitan City of Reggio Calabria becomes the scenario where experiment recycling strategies intended as "interpretive and planning device, creative and innovative, hybrid, flexible, programmatic; able to intervene at an intermediate scale, with procedures that favor a *procedural attitude* rather than an objectual one; to trigger the re-signification of urban areas from within"¹⁰

One of the central issues concerns the agriculture place in these new recycling strategies.

Specifically two master's degree dissertations¹¹, by Emma Caldarera and Eleonora De Masi, present the possibility of a *new life cycle for the Sant'Agata torrent*, in Reggio Calabria city center.

Torrents are one of the most important characterizing features of the Calabrian landscape, "*effective physical and perceptual connections that form the transition landscapes between mountains and sea*"¹².

The Sant'Agata torrent, which marks the southern area of the city, lost, especially in the urban, its characterization of natural infrastructure because of the building and the invasion of every type of infrastructure (industrial sheds, soccer fields, even the airport was built on its bed), which have altered the ecological functioning and destroyed his identity.

Formerly, the scenery was a precious agricultural area, dedicated to horticulture and bergamot plantations, thanks to its soil rich of water. Of its flourishing vegetation nothing remains but a few traces stuck between a brutal urbanization, which has condemned it to abandonment and isolation.

The loss of landscape *figurability* directly affected the community, causing the disappearance of a sense of belonging. The active participation of the population is therefore essential in the reactivation of landscape degradation. People involvement in the two projects came through surveys

and meetings, with the compilation of a questionnaire to investigate the landscape perception and to assess the degree of awareness of values and criticality. Among the issues raised: no connection with neighboring areas and lack of public transport; farming abandoned for failure economic value; degradation and lack of public spaces.

The landscape of Sant'Agata torrent turns into a laboratory of ideas, a place of imagination, in which we can foreshadow new contemporary scenes. The overall strategy consists of a programmatic approach that includes a series of concrete actions distributed in time, in order to:

- improve mobility and accessibility to the area, through an efficient system of public transport, integrated with slow mobility systems for pedestrians and cyclists;
- reactivate the agricultural landscape, with diversified and multifunctional activities (social, didactic, therapeutic, or productive orchards), that focus on environmentally friendly forms of agriculture, preferring local crops (with particular attention to the bergamot) and promoting forms of cooperation and social integration;
- stimulate the local market and sales km 0 to reply to the demand for quality and reliable products, and to intensify the contact with the places of origin and traditions. The aim is to reconnect production to consumption, through the construction of short circuits (short production chains, direct sales, farmer markets, etc.);
- provide the area of low cost micro-public spaces, that will be realized with participatory activities, to create leisure and recreational areas to attract the entire community of Reggio Calabria;
- re-naturalize segments of the torrent, through riparian vegetation and naturalistic engineering;
- ensure continuity (through hedges and windbreaks) between valuable agrarian fragments, new fields or orchards, the system natural / artificial of the torrent, public parks, etc. to constitute a real green infrastructure.

The present project tries to establish a new relationship between the city and Sant'Agata torrent, starting from new and flexible forms of agriculture, which complement the existing traces of vegetation and the urban system, to introduce new agro-urban models of sustainable development.

"The fascination for images of agriculture and the need to meet more consistent forms and systems for our free spaces leads to a reassessment of our agricultural references, in order to use them for a new model of the city"¹³.

Notes

1. Fabbri P., *Natura e cultura del paesaggio agrario. Indirizzi per la tutela e la progettazione*, Città Studi Edizioni, Milano, 1997.
2. *Ibidem*
3. Alamo Farina, *Il significato di ecologia nel paesaggio*, acts of the Conference *Paesaggio e Conflitto. Esperienze e luoghi di frontiera*, Treviso, February 2015.
4. Prada LLorente E., *Paisaje Agrario Transfronterizio. Estudio comparado Tierra de Sayago/ Concelho de Miranda*, Fundación Duques de Soria, Soria, 2011.
5. Bonesio L., *Paesaggio, identità e comunità tra globale e locale*, Diabasis, Reggio Emilia, 2009
6. Fabbri P., *op. cit.*
7. Battle E., *El jardín de la metropolis. Del paisaje romántico al espacio libre para una ciudad sostenible*, Editorial Gustavo Gili, Barcellona, 2011.
8. Hough M., *The Urban Landscape: The Hidden Frontier*, Bulletin of the Association for Preservation Technology, Vol. 15, No. 4, *Landscape Preservation* (1983), p. 9
9. Forman T.T. R., *Mosaico Territorial para la región metropolitana de Barcelona*, Editorial Gustavo Gili, Barcellona, 2004
10. Giofrè V., *ATLANTE 5. Nuovi cicli di vita per gli insediamenti urbani di recente formazione*, forthcoming.
11. Caldarera E., *Il paesaggio della fumara del Sant'Agata: strategie di riciclo tra memoria e innovazione*, tutor V. Giofrè, cotutors ph.D. A. Di Lauro, prof. C. Nava; De Masi E., *Un nuovo ciclo di vita per il paesaggio della fumara Sant'Agata di Reggio Calabria*, tutor V. Giofrè, cotutor ph.D. A. Di Lauro.
12. Russo M.R., *Percepire, osservare, interpretare*, in Giofrè V. (edited by), *Abitare il paesaggio. Un nuovo ciclo di vita per la Costa Viola*, Iiriti Editore, Reggio Calabria, 2014.
13. Battle E., *op. cit.*



A new cycle of life for the landscape of Sant'Agata Torrent
[Concept - E.De Masi]



Totems for the garden made with 400 tiles decorated by the inhabitants
[Ph. A. Di Lauro]

**LANDSCAPE LAB:
PARTICIPATION AND
RECYCLE BETWEEN
THOUGHT AND ACTION.**

Antonia Di Lauro
→UNIRC

The idea of a laboratory-city describes the social and cultural actions that converge in urban places where citizens and administrations test new models of change for the cities of the future.

Also in Reggio Calabria, the search for new life styles by communities, as well as the strategies from professionals, are turning to the environmental, economic and social sustainability, able to reconcile local and global, using innovation and creativity, in accordance with local values. The over-exploitation of resources is producing global damages, as well as generating a "landscape of city-no city" (F. Zagari, 2013), hostile to live in and complex to design.

The city-territory is always more like the " Networks City" (M. Castells, 2004), composed from the information flows and fragments in physical space. It becomes a system of spaces, connected by cultural and production flows, around which the "Networks Society " (Castells, 2002) is joined. The sprawl reflects accelerated social change in contrast with the rhythms of life, nature and landscape.

In the project, this aspect means the urban environment is configured in a balanced relationship with the endogenous resources of the territories, to meet the needs of a growing number of inhabitants ensuring greater

quality of life and, at the same time, competitiveness on the global market, following the steps of a diverse and dynamic society.

In the urban context, contrasting forces work together for these common objectives, rediscovering the importance of collaboration rather than competition: this is the meeting point between the formal and informal, top down and bottom up, individual and community; antithetical terms that become complementary in the laboratory-city, as the construction site of the future.

The experimental approaches are related to the "sharing paradigm" that is generated from the Internet. Top-down and bottom-up actions are structured around cooperation, social cohesion and collaboration¹.

These considerations define two research contexts that are analyzed below and which converge in "co-creation" projects, illustrating the laboratory-city visions.

The research in Reggio Calabria shows in particular the observations of experiments conducted within the Research Unit.

The first context provides an overall vision of a laboratory-city, with reference to smart cities.

New urban planning produces models like "open governance" and "user-centered" which consider the citizens as the "backbone of the smart city"²

Project tools give prominence to social relations as a device for triggering values from which the city can generate sustainable development policies. "Human centered"³ approaches prosper especially to define "resources on demand" in a cyclical process between end users and producers.

The current urban complexity is interpreted as an ecosystem where the metabolism is related to the interaction between the community and habitat: a change connected to the concepts of network, system and process, derived from ecology⁴ and implemented by the information and communication technologies (ICT).

These terms suggest the dynamic relationship of places, people and resources in the rethinking of the city, in which the project connects territorial infrastructures: "rethink the landscape means acting on the networks and their space between"(R. Pavia, 2012).

ICT is becoming a "nervous system"⁵ of the urban organism, able to monitor and manage data in real time to optimize its own metabolism as conducted in the Project Atelier Rotterdam which started in 2013.

The city is, therefore, designed according to networks and links. It is

no longer organising itself around physical architecture but to the relationship between natural and built environment, software and hardware, and in an "whole"⁶ where if the city is body, its intelligence is the "collective" (P. Levy 2002) product of individual collaboration.

The community acquires the role of "core infrastructure" of urban ecosystem, actively involved in its territorial transformation. It happened in Barcelona and Amsterdam with projects such as "smart citizen" and "serious game" or in Bologna with the "administration shared decree".

In this research context, Reggio Calabria is only 87th on 106 Italian cities in the ranking of ICityRate 2014 and among the last on the list in the XXI Urban Ecosystem report for Legambiente and Ambiente Italia. Territorial policies are moving, instead, toward collaborative approaches between governments, local authorities and citizens as in the Area Greca, where the Research Unit is experimenting in Condofuri with startup of Rizemu.L@b⁷.

In the public meetings of the Partnership for PSR 2014-20, "legality and commons" are discussion topics with the assumptions of the active involvement of the inhabitants.

On "Risorgimenti Lab", a platform for social innovation, the territory tells about experiences linked to innovation of agricultural resources with startup and co-farming, focused on the sharing economy.

In the urban planning, Rizemu.L@b is the first laboratory in Condofuri that aims at experiencing community empowerment and social cohesion to give a "new life cycle" to an abandoned area.

The project becomes a prototype to reactivate degraded spaces working on the social network, the sense of place and care of commons.

Especially, as a participatory process with over 200 actors: schools, associations, professionals, local businesses and a virtual community, involved to varying degrees, in a DIY project, to see through local tradition and to build the area with ideas and technical skills.

But the project is currently suspended, among crowd funding proposals and collaborations with local authorities that have recognized its validity. So, it shows the weakness of efficient vision when it clashes with concrete issues: slow times of the bureaucracy, lack of financial resources and of cohesion between government and citizens.

This problem points out the need to reformulate urban planning in a more flexible way for interventions, between formal and informal, that act more

rapidly than those administrative and in which social aspects should be supported.

Rizemu.L@b shows that theoretical models are implemented slowly in practical experiences, contrary to the social conditions contemporary.

Also in Italy, the Digital Agenda is sluggish: one in three adults has never used the internet, four of five dwellings are not served by broadband, while discussing the revival of Italy investing wiring⁸.

The digital european policies should be reviewed and contextualized in the local territory as proposed the "smart land" of Bonimi and Secchi (2014). These topics underline the relationship in which theory and practice, thought and action, are or should be.

The experimental practice becomes a possibility for identifying tools to connect two complementary project aspects as the "action-research"⁹ in landscape approaches underline.

The laboratory-city is the place where their relationship is redefined as the second research context describes in reference to the micro collective spaces.

Here, the city is characterized by the actions of individuals and communities. Ongoing experiences are directed to a "collective living" (A. Samperi, 2011) characterized by cohesion, innovation and creativity, with or without technology: they are taking rather, the idea of the Web as collaborative, peer to peer and self-organized system.

Social street, urban gardens, tactical urbanism by spontaneous actions of "landscape community" (L. Bonesio, 2009), similarly to the "free software community", cooperate to produce new services and activities.

They aim at improving the quality of life to satisfy contemporary needs with more attention focused on rejected places with problems of greater urgency.

"Creative communities" and "urban makers" call into question rules and principles of traditional design, proving themselves often more efficient, rapid and economic than strategies with long formal processes and expensive projects.

The Web implements a "revolution of participation" that redefines the inhabitant role as "prosumer" (Tapscott & Williams, 2010) not only user but also creator of services and places.

The Research Unit looks carefully into active participation, essential for

virtuous processes of sustainable development, able to activate new life cycles in "rejected landscapes"¹⁰ of the metropolitan area.

The experiences investigate the community role as "user and creator" with reference to the ELC that proposes the "community on the center stage" (Zagari, 2012) in the landscape. The inhabitants become the main resource for the empty places without identity and the reactivation of new value. The workshops shared with the association *AdiCittà*¹¹ in Rosarno have become an opportunity to understand how bottom-up actions define new collective living in the territory of Reggio.

During international festivals for the regeneration of the city, *AdiCittà* promotes tactical urbanism actions (M. Lydon, 2011) focused on the public space as a device for social inclusion and community empowerment.

This aspect focuses on the recycling concept as self-designed practices by the inhabitants and coordinated by the architects. The creative process develops when the inhabitants connect their values, stories, needs and desires to the living space.

The project, ephemeral and inexpensive, is defined in participatory processes that aim at the reactivation of social, identity, environment networks: on "short-term tactics for long-term recycling strategies based on the re-possession and shared care of places".

The bottom-up actions started in Rosarno are an interesting model of city reconstruction, but show gaps in the transition from theoretical vision to practical fulfillment. Issues related to the cooperation between the authorities and participants for informal interventions are often on the borderline of legality; to the difficulty of a participatory project with many people and ideas, cultures and divergent needs; to the disappointment of the inhabitants related to insufficient funds, restrictive regulations and the discontinuity of the meetings; but especially to short term actions that did not match a more structured, collaborative and conscious process. Certainly, events and installations have made the community more active and proactive: after a few years it is possible to see the repercussions, both positive and negative, of the festivals.

Upon reflection about social cohesion and care in the places, actions of repossession are increasing, but also a phenomena of public property violation, invaded by street art not always shared and pleasing or sometimes fenced.





RizemuLab: community and designers in comparison during one of the laboratory meetings

AdiCittà in the workshop "Re-start" feels the need to define a urban regeneration program and a stronger organization.

In this second context, the action anticipates the thought, in opposition to smart city visions. The "weapons of mass collaboration" (Tapscott & Williams) produce instant intervention faster than theoretical approaches but feels the need to connect them.

The relationship between theory and practice is redefined by these participatory approaches as a "collaborative action-research" between inhabitants and architects.

This appears in particular in the Fab lab, a bridge between the digital and physical space, structured around the idea "that people learn by building new knowledge" (C. Ratti, 2014). How Linux and Arduino, the Fab Lab develops open systems, defined by users.

In urban spaces, these processes could define the "open source architecture" (Ratti, 2014).

In different ways, these processes appear in urban laboratories as "living labs¹²" where experimental action becomes an essential tool for research in "experiential learning" involving professionals and end users in real life situations. The inhabitants are developers of their own living environment in these new participatory models.

In the direction of projects from the '60s¹³, it seems that "the highest level of our digital technology is well thought out in analogy with the same behaviors of what we always call nature" (Secchi, 2014).

In the open source architecture "production democratized revisit the way to build timeless, those forms of production delivered anonymous or vernacular architecture" (C.Ratti) related to the organic concept of self-produced environment.

Ongoing experiences illustrate how "users and producers", who think and act together, to redefine the urban project in "co-creative process" coordinated by a "choral architect" (Ratti, 2014).

Challenges of the laboratory-city appear: "when the living cell is capable of individual actions to adapt and innovate itself, invention and sustainability can quickly penetrate the whole body of a social tissue.

At that point, the true potential of the network of inventors and designers can fully develop¹⁴."

Notes

1. Horizon 2020: Social Challenges , Smart cities and community, ICT 2015
2. Pablo Sanchez Chillon, Smart City Exhibition 2012, Forum PA, Bologna
3. www.humansmartcities.eu
4. Capra, F., (2010). La rete della vita, BUR, Milano
5. Ratti, C.(2013), Smart City, smart citizen, Collana Meet the Media Guru, Egea (e-book)
6. Franco Farinelli defines the analogy between web and landscape as a whole between software and hardware, subject and object. Farinelli, F., (2010). Dal paesaggio al web, in Lettera Internazionale, III trimestre, pp. 20-23
7. The project is the outcome of the Art Gardens Course of Prof. V. Giofrè (in collaboration with Municipality of Condofuri). The participatory process of which I'm responsible is being conducted in collaboration with students V. D'Ascola, G.Sottiolotta and artist M.Manti. (facebook: Rizemu.lab)
8. [www.ilfattoquotidianoweb.it/news/Il-Quotidiano della Calabria/ 25 febbraio 2015](http://www.ilfattoquotidianoweb.it/news/Il-Quotidiano-della-Calabria/25-febbraio-2015)
9. pp. 190-197, Leone M., Lo Piccolo F. , Schilleci F. (2009). Il paesaggio agricolo nella conca d'oro di Palermo Luoghi. (a cura di). Firenze:Aliena
10. Calcagno Maniglio, A., (2010), Progetti di Paesaggio per i luoghi rifutati, Roma: Gangemi
11. Adicittà promotes since 2012, the international festival of urban regeneration. The experiences described are related to the workshops where I worked as a tutor.
12. www.openlivinglabs.eu
13. N. Jhon Habraken, C. Alexander, Team X, P. e A Smithson, T. Zenetos, N. Salingaros
14. cit. N. J. Habraken in C. Ratti (2014) "Open source Architecture"

References

- Bonesio, L., 2009. Paesaggio, identità e comunità tra locale e globale. Bologna:Diabasis
- Bonomi, A., Secchi, B., (2014). Dalla smart city alla smart land
- Castells, M., (2002). La nascita della società in rete. Milano: Egea
- Castells, M., (2004). La Città delle reti. Venezia: Marsilio
- Levy, P., (2002). Intelligenza collettiva. Per un'antropologia del cyberspazio. Milano: Universale Economica Feltrinelli
- Lydon, M., (2011). Tactical Urbanism. Short-term action, long-term change. Vol 1. Editor / Author:Mike Lydon
- Pavia, R., (2012), Eco-Logics, Pescara: List Lab
- Pavia, R., (2012), Eco-Logics, Pescara: List Lab
- Ratti, C. (2014) Architettura Open Source. Verso una progettazione aperta. Torino: Einaudi
- Samperi, A. (2011). L'abitare collettivo. Milano: Franco Angeli
- Tapscott & Williams (2010), Wikinomics 2.0.La collaborazione di massa che sta cambiando il mondo. Milano: BUR
- Zagari, F., (2013). Sul Paesaggio. Lettera aperta. Melfi:Libria
- Zagari, F., 2012. "Partecipazione e responsabilità in attuazione della Convenzione Europea



Saline Joniche
Ex Liquilchimica
[Ph. D. Emo]

REPLACEMENT VS REUSE

Adriano Paoletta

→UNIRC

What are the needs of the inhabitants of a city? Generally they are very simple: a well-built, healthy and luminous house immersed in beautiful surroundings which is sufficiently large for the usual everyday indoor activities, as well as having a functional outdoor area which, while being close to others, does not compromise our privacy. It should not be located too far from our place of work and should have easy access to communal services.

Citizens don't generally demand skyscrapers or railway stations the size of a small town nor do they call for monumental public buildings or highways and Haussmann-style urban developments. Basically they don't understand the rationale for projects which are the outcomes of formal choices and priorities (unless they are in awe of them and consequently treat them as the product of individual artistic creativity). On the contrary, urban developments generated by economic considerations which are symbols of economic, political and religious powers are characterized by their more massive dimensions.

We can thus compare these two different modalities of construction which define how an area is transformed.

The first type are speculative developments which create new buildings

(which occupy new ground and alter the original morphology of an area) or replace parts of the consolidated urban fabric (increasing mass and height, changing the urban composition and ignoring what already exists). This type of intervention is a significant component of the profit to be made in this sector and responds to the demands of the economically rich, the only ones not affected by the crisis and guarantees the highest selling prices per square meter. It uses shared communal resources (land, landscape and visibility). It can be aggressive with respect to the urban structure, completely changing whole areas, and authoritarian towards existing communities, changing relationships, imposing structures that are not shared by the community as a whole and which marginalize demand.

One example is the Porta Nuova district in Milan where, in a partially abandoned area, skyscrapers have not only changed the function and social characteristics of the urban structure but have also redefined the profile of the entire city (the skyscrapers are clearly visible even from Bergamo). They have made the public interest subordinate to the private sector, also contrary to the expectations of the local community.

The second type is a more grassroots social development carried out by citizens who take action to build homes for themselves with the construction work limited to actual necessity, using abandoned spaces, mostly unused production areas, adapting them to their needs. The transformation of existing spaces is minimal, the mass does not increase and the needs of the community are more fully satisfied by the creation of green spaces, gardens, places to meet, eat, relax and practice leisure activities. Outstanding creativity with a small investment. The original buildings are conserved and the projects conform to the existing constraints in the structure and shape of the buildings albeit changing their form.

Examples include various old farm buildings and the former meat market and slaughterhouse in the City of Milan and numerous examples in many other Italian cities where abandoned spaces are now being reused by citizens making only minor modifications and leaving the original buildings virtually intact while completely changing their purpose and function.

Local authorities are subject to pressure from these two approaches and the respective lobbies which have an interest in them. Frequently they promote measures which, by replacing existing buildings and increasing their size, enrich the public coffers, momentarily create jobs, transmit a

"contemporary" image of the city and bring it closer to that of one of the great global cities. Sometimes they succumb to the pressure of citizens and support partial or complete conservation programmes for existing buildings in which case there is little increase in their volume and size and the purpose and function requested by citizens is respected.

The greater the pressure exerted by citizens and the greater their technical capacity and ability to make proposals, the greater the possibility that the settlements will respect the common interest.

The greater the disinterest and the inability of citizens to make proposals, the greater the possibility that settlements will be defined only by the realization of speculative economic objectives.

The active and informal participation of citizens appears therefore to be fundamental for the composition of settlements that have as a priority and an essential objective that of guaranteeing the general wellbeing of the community. Moreover the centrality of this aspect makes initiating a cultural journey to retrieve the rights and the capacity to transform the spaces inhabited by the inhabitants a top priority.

These rights and capacity have in fact been denied to the inhabitants. In effect they have been treated in the same way as with the colonization of indigenous peoples. The technical skills they possess have been ridiculed and "more evolved" technological solutions have been proposed which have substituted their knowledge of the land and community with standardized proposals developed by those experts to whom the technical knowledge and the definition of solutions has been delegated. A real expropriation in which, as in the case of indigenous cultures, the local culture must first be deconstructed in this way to facilitate its replacement with new and innovative proposals.

Once expropriated, communities are left without their culture, bewildered and discouraged at the mercy of endogenous artefacts and they will be the first in this situation to discount their own abilities because their culture has too often been humiliated by the technical power of the prevailing model.

Each upsurge of autonomy is criticized and the citizens are marginalized by the construction of settlements. It is no coincidence that in the recent past, those who have themselves worked independently on the construction of buildings, rather than being supervised, trained and assisted, have been outlawed and declared "abusive" without anyone wanting to

understand the reasons for their actions or appreciate their capabilities. This has been instrumental in creating the conditions in which entire populations have been made illegal (guilty of unauthorized building) and then, through the electoral blackmail of winning votes, brought back into legality by governmental amnesties.

Following this long period of oppression of the individual and local technical culture and of disrespect towards communities, it is necessary to intervene culturally to support and consolidate the direct action of citizens when not detrimental to the environment and the community, to make sure that they become defenders of the assets and interests of the community. An intervention to increase awareness among inhabitants of their full right to be positive authors in the organization of the places in which they live (within the framework of safeguarding communal assets and the regeneration of the environment) and to recuperate and innovate the technical culture from which they are presently alienated.

Reactivating local creativity will lead to projects different in form and function from those achievable with current operating procedures because of some differences in goals and methods, a brief description of which follows, starting with the idea that the purpose of social projects is not one of making a profit.

The size of transformations. Buildings defined on the basis of the interaction between designer and settled communities are limited in size (they are related to the size of the movements, their use and the perception of individuals).

Time. It takes a long time (in the assessment of needs, setting up the programme, in the planning and execution of the project) to ensure the participation of the community. The processes that currently govern transformations are made up of successive steps (in which choices made are difficult to reverse) implemented in less time. Participation requires the ability to perform continuous verification, modifications during construction work, adaptation to individual needs and the resolution of conflicts.

Form. Participatory projects are usually characterized by a disorderly mixture of simple forms; buildings are rarely characterized by macrosegni, by repetitions of parts or alignments. Responding to individual and collective needs and desires also leads to a significant variety of solutions. A disorder is created that is typical of the community of individuals: they

are similar but all very different. While contemporary designers tend to arouse emotions through their individual creative qualities, the participatory project tends to create buildings which are "familiar" and "recognizable" where the project's creativity is for the most part to be found in variations of styles assimilated from the community culture, creating formal solutions full of commonly recognized signs.

The outdoor spaces. These are of fundamental importance in participatory projects. Citizens tend to require solutions coherent with their established or desired way of life and demand that special attention be paid to the spaces outside housing units and buildings, in testimony to the persistence of the organic dimension of dwellings which is usually ignored and yet intimately related to the settlement and the environment.

The choice of technology. The technological solutions are simple, aimed at the welfare of the inhabitants, connected with the environment and local culture, and are implemented with processes that allow the community to ask for changes in the construction phase.

Precisely because of these characteristics, the scope of developments most suited to the direct action of citizens appears to be that of the reclamation of abandoned buildings. The operational dimension in the reclamation of buildings in fact focuses on manual labour, the work of craftsmen, the creativity of the solutions adopted, technological simplicity in the execution of solutions, exactly what has characterized the vernacular architecture.

The intelligence, the technical skills and the creativity of the community are expressed in operational situations where the constraints, such as those imposed by the existence of an artefact and the desire to conserve as much of it as possible, are very high.

It is the same situation that occurs in the recycling of used products where it is the work of citizens that allows the recycling and reuse of discarded materials (cars, clothes, bottles, cans, textiles, etc.) and where the amount of waste products and waste is reduced through the activities of citizens.

Citizens can be key players in the recovery of heritage buildings which have been abandoned. Many people are presently involved in activities concerned with the recovery of abandoned buildings. They are independently setting up initiatives for the recovery and rehabilitation of buildings, inventing new uses

for them, meeting the needs of individuals and groups by applying their creativity to overcome the limitations imposed by the form of existing buildings and working to reduce the consumption of energy, resources and money. The actions of citizens can take many forms: from actions contesting the will of the local authorities (when an intended use for a building that does not respond to the demands of the whole or part of the community is proposed or when private property is protected even in the presence of abandoned buildings), those carried out with the authorities (groups of citizens together the authorities identify the assets to be used and initiate a project of re-use based on an agreement, for example, when the management of the project is delegated to the group) to ones in which associations of citizens participate in public tenders that assign unused spaces for the provision of social services. But in the rich panorama of re-use activities promoted by citizens all is not so schematic and cases of the institutionalization of conflicts such as forced evictions are not lacking.

It is opportune to understand certain aspects of these independently initiated and managed initiatives: the role they play in the composition of settlements in the measure of the needs and desires of the inhabitants, their important function in reducing waste, saving energy and forming those relationships that underlie every community.

But simply understanding is not enough. Whenever possible, such activities need to be supported and integrated.

What is expected from designers is to make their knowledge available, to propose solutions, to help in their realization, to promote coherent choices, to monitor methods so that environmentally and socially harmful solutions are not pursued. Abandoning the role of *deus ex machina*, moving away from the use of technical language does not mean recanting the role of the architect.

Designers must have the courage to understand that the outcome of participatory projects will be different from those drafted in isolation closed in their studio and in the rut of the certainties of conventional approaches (including creative ones) and their "disciplinary knowledge".

That designers abandoned their role of uncritical actuators of the desires of their clients and exerted a beneficial role in society and worked for and in the midst of the community.

Choosing to operate in the field of re-use rather than in that of replace-

ment implies openness towards the community, accepting its creative role and sharing a model of settlement with the welfare of the inhabitants as its objective.

The "Atelier di Tesi" 2014-15 entitled "Recycling. The re-use of artefacts. Projects for the re-use and recycling of buildings and abandoned areas. The active role of citizens, reducing land consumption, energy efficiency and the redevelopment of the landscape." of the department dArTe of the University "Mediterranea" of Reggio Calabria, in the field of research of Re-Cycle Italy and in coordination with the programme "Disponibile!" with the purpose of involving citizens in the recovery of abandoned buildings of Cittadinanzattiva, has carried out and is carrying out numerous experimental activities with the participation of citizens in the definition of recovery solutions to meet their desires and needs.

In these "Atelier di Tesi" the experiences of several professors (Prof. Adriano Paoella, Prof. Gianni Brandolino, Prof. Vincenzo Gioffrè) and collaborators (Arch. Elizabeth Arena, Arch. Antonia Di Lauro) come together. They are all distinguished by their great ability to listen to and interpret inhabitants' ideas, by their interest in single individuals and their stories, their love for our heritage, their interest in considering ideas without prejudice with the main objective of safeguarding and enhancing the environment and the landscape and re-establishing respect for and the identity of local communities.



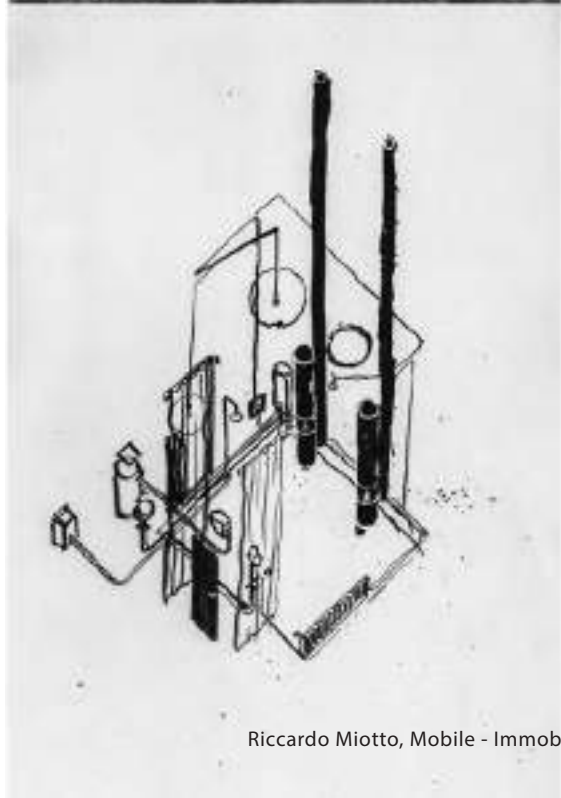
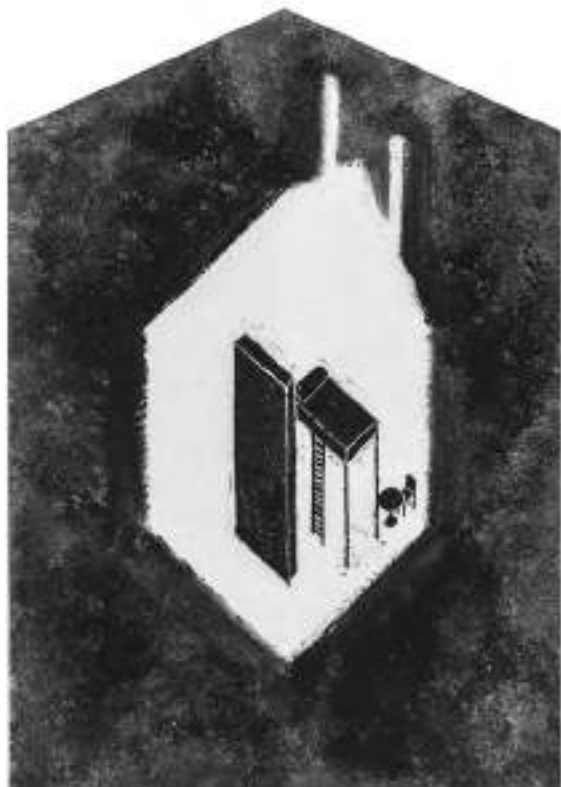


Saline Joniche
Ex Liqulchimica
[Ph. D. Emo]

000

AFT

ERWORDS



Riccardo Miotto, Mobile - Immobile - Inframobile - Infrarosso, 2015

FUTURAMA. THE LANGUAGE OF INNOVATION AND THE BODY OF ARCHITECTURE

Sara Marini
→ IUAV



S. Marini

Architect.

Associate Professor of Architectural and Urban Composition
at the University Iuav of Venice.

There are three architectural layers that make a building work. The first includes the walls and the roofs, the second the wiring and plumbing, the third the furnishing. While a clear distinction of these three layers is not strictly necessary, it certainly simplifies the relationship between the parts and the possibility to transform. Just as in the human body, in architecture different elements combine to create a whole. However, in an inorganic system the parts do not share a vital interdependence but a changeable relationship. The coexistence of the three architectural layers defines comfort and style, habitability and language, connections between fixity and function of an object and of a space. In the evolution of architecture, each layer has acquired primacy over the others at different times. Now wiring and plumbing have taken centre stage, echoing the nineteenth century: in order to “revive” an abandoned building a rational connection of its systems to the national grid and distribution system may seem all that is needed. However, the centrality of wires in the new millennium, which confirms the visionary images of the film *Brazil* (1985), is clearly dictated by decisions on a global scale: the proportion between population growth and resources calls for new strategies, which in turn define a new geological epoch called the *Anthropocene*. Once again humanity is at the centre

of projects and plans in the framework of a new humanism that principally engages the sphere of responsibility. Science puts at its centre the body, and the future is entirely dependent on this. Anthropocene is a hypothesis with pre-valently technical effects: responsibilities correspond to technological efforts that are not yet capable of defining or culturally investing the idea of architecture. In other eras, the connection between the three layers reached the status of style, albeit with less stated climatic purposes. Elements such as wood panelling, the size of the windows, the materials used to finish the floors were part of the right balance between image, collective imagination, habitability of a space, they were tools that built both an environment and an identity. In this scenario, designed by air conditioning systems that are offered today as a new architectural language, the body is an increasingly essential detail in that it signifies and measures the air: space, or better the environment, is built around it. In his 1970s paper, *An Architecture of Participation*, Giancarlo de Carlo inveighed against photographs of empty buildings. While little has changed in the publications in this field, on the territory what used to be a mere presence is again fundamental even on an etymological level.

Proof of this is the fear of the abandonment of cities, which seems to refer back to the Roman *civitas*, or rather the system defined by *cives* and not by construction, as the Greek word *polis* affirms and from which the condition of citizenship derives.

The problem with this exercise of dissolution of life into architecture is not the participation in space but the infinite multiplication of possible identities to verify, where to dwell temporarily and with which to mould otherness. To use Pirandello's words, *one, no one, and one hundred thousand* are the quantities that converge at the same point in order to trace and measure the sense of an environment. The so-called radical architecture sought to create spaces that could welcome a single body. The inflatable structures designed by Archigram and Hans Hollein for instance, were equipped with wiring connections and new communication devices (computers) so that the stream of life could flow. Reduced to the bare essentials, the home or the office could easily be contained in a portable rubber ball. The body is alone on the stage, isolated, a recluse inside a transparent membrane that distances itself from an entirely permeable territory. In order to be functional, a city needs empty spaces that are designed not to be inhabited but to connect other parts of the city: logistics

and equipment for the information system are housed in anonymous depots that are visited with the sole objective of preserving them, they occupy hectares of land and are the tell tales of a rather noisy solitude. Here absence is structure, the double contrary of a proliferating *bios* kept alive artificially. Mul-titudes of bodies tell of the other city in Spencer Tunick's landscapes; without curious observers there is no future in Norman Bel Geddes' installation/ride *Futurama*, first set up in New York in 1939; in the project for the flamenco city by the Sanaa study it isn't the buildings that matter, but the possible arrangements of the people. Here the body erases all that is inorganic; it is multiplied and transformed into large masses, proclaiming its autonomy, invading the stage: landscape replaces architecture.

Breaking the balance between the three forms of occupation (one, no one and one hundred thousand), Didier Faustino's magnificent architectural structures standing at precarious angles require thorough visits; they seem to take on, as in a rocking chair or a swing, configurations dictated by the position of the bodies. To the new body is given full responsibility for the figure, its balance or its instability, as well as for its message. Already Alberto Burri's *Cretto*, based on the plan of the old city of Gibellina that was destroyed in an earthquake, reflected upon the possibility of building other, slippery worlds on the soft ground of the habitability of a space. The furrows themselves, remnants of streets where people lived and travelled, are crystallised and buried, communicating absence rather than presence. It represents the mummification of a city and the evocation of its ghosts, two actions that are not occasional and that converge in a set of germinating anomalies anchored to a fruitful ambiguity part friendly part hostile.

In architecture the body has been the subject of two founding metaphors: the body-organism and the body-measure. These two tropes have crossed the centuries and remained valid until today. The two correspondences have evolved over time into other possible deviations: if the body is the harmonious organization of parts, such organization may exceed the organic element and become sufficient to plan a city or rather to pinpoint presence and relationships between different areas (zoning) or to establish the efficiency of a factory. In both the planning and industry fields, the body is only a cog in a gear. The statuesque body of a tall, sportive man (clearly surmised from its physical structure) dictates the measures of

the world through Le Corbusier's *Modulor*: every possible body position is translated into a number and this data is used in turn to build objects and spaces. Surely in this image the presence of the human figure dominates the centrality of the wall or of the empty space, while a number of possible logical steps lead to other two theoretical positions: the body dictates universal measures which regulate the space and normalise it by abolishing diversity; the body is wholly measurable, thus excluding the mind and with it the desires that it experiences. In his book *The Condition of Postmodernity* David Harvey claims that the crisis of modernity is also dictated by the discovery of diversity as a response to the rule of normal. The two figures (the body-organism and the body-measure), in their progressive interpretations and applications, shift from the centrality of the organic to the absolutism of the abstract: here the body placed on the altar of the project seems to evaporate. The presence of the body emerges today from the rubble of modernity in a less fleeting way. Peter Greenaway's 1987 film, *The Belly of an Architect*, allows us to trace this return. The film by the British filmmaker is entirely devoted to architecture and to the dreams and obsessions of architects. The protagonist is an American designer who goes to Rome to set up and inaugurate an exhibition of Etienne-Louis Boullée. Newton's Cenotaph by the French eighteenth-century architect to whom the exhibition is dedicated is a recurring element in the film. The cenotaph is a first clue: it is by definition funerary architecture that does not host a body, which Boullée draws as a monumental representation of Newton's philosophy and his studies in astronomy. In the film, the spherical structure is reproduced even in the shape of a cake on the day of the inauguration, a metaphor that in this instance is used to undermine certainties about the eternity of the cenotaph and more generally the space of memory. The exhibition in the film is the work of Costantino Dardi, a "real" architect from Rome lent to the filmic fiction and to the actual curatorship of this ephemeral exhibition. In this progressive reverberation where mirrors reflect back distorted messages, the belly is the protagonist. The American architect believes – probably rightly so – that his stomach has a disease; his wife is pregnant. In a scene of the film, behind the protagonists we see the pieces of the monumental statue of Roman emperor Constantine I, which are in fact kept at the *Palazzo dei Conservatori* in Rome. The pieces correspond to the authentic body parts except the belly, which in fact was never recovered

albeit it is included in the scene. Something in the American architect's body is giving life to an object that does not really exist: the obsession, the fear of disease is embodied in the belly.

The invasion of the mind, of thought as part of human presence removes a number of ambiguities and brings the body back centre stage in a different way. George Canguilhem, in *On the Normal and the Pathological*, writes: "So-cial regulation tends toward organic regulation and mimics it without ceasing for all that to be composed mechanically. In order to identify the social composition with the social organism in the strict sense of the term, we should be able to speak of a society's needs and norms as one speaks of an organism's vital needs and norms, that is, unambiguously." In 2001 in Köln, Lucy Orta presented *Nexus Architectural x 50*; in 2008 at the Venice Architecture Biennale the Asymptote exhibited *Prototyping the Futu-re: Three Houses for the Subconscious*. The two works are chosen as examples to demonstrate how the lack of ambiguities leads to two positions that lie out-side interpretative filters. In one, fifty bodies are joined by fifty clothes items sewn together creating a network. They assert that mere presences, when sympathetic, produce architecture or surpass it, as in the Tunick landscapes mentioned earlier, and in any case walls and spaces are no longer needed. In the other, the material is used to actualise the subconscious, the house no longer hides its uncanny nature.

The body is exalted in its two fundamental, synthetic components: physical presence and hidden thoughts. It is actually an exploration of the antipodes that delves in the history of architecture and finds in the crisis of the modern movement a particularly clear emerging point and many allies in other fields of knowledge. The culmination of rationality sheds light on its opposite: the body imprisoned in geometries and correct functions rebels to occupy, without the need to paraphrase, the scene, and get on stage.

LA BEAUTÉ



EST DANS LA RUE

[1] The Situationist slogan "Beauty is in the street" used in a poster to support the May 1968 uprising.

FROM UNITARY URBANISM (UU) TO CONVIVIAL CITY (CC)

Chiara Rizzi
→ UNITN



C. Rizzi

Architect.
Researcher at the University of Trento.

The five issues - on which this volume investigates and asks us to reflect - suggest a line of reasoning that starts from the International Situationist theories, crosses the experimentations of the pop-up urbanism and the activism of tactical urbanism, before arriving at a new kind of urbanism based on conviviality. It is a trajectory that can be described as a path with the origin in a creative resistance to a unitary urbanism and the endpoint in a creative resilience of a pluralist and experimental urbanism.

The last one is an urbanism based on the paradigm of the Convivial City. The main reference for the new paradigm of Convivial City (CC) is the pamphlet *Tools for Conviviality* wrote by Ivan Illich (1926-2002).

The City of Senses

The concept of Unitary Urbanism (UU) elaborated at the end of 1950s may be considered both a critique of the existing functionalist-capitalist urbanism and a bet on change.

The Situationists consider the UU as a terrain of experience for the social space of the cities of the future. They propose a creating situation as a tool to produce the expected change. The context of this change is the city because in it is possible to develop a collective creativity. They define the

urban nexus as “the natural expression of collective creativity, capable of subsuming the creative energies that are liberated with the decline of the culture based on individualism.” [1]

If their conception of urbanism is first of all social, they was also very interested of new technique and technologies. “We are in the process of inventing new techniques; we are examining the possibilities existing cities offer; we are making models and plans for future cities. We are conscious of the need to avail ourselves of all new inventions, and we know that the future constructions we envisage will need to be extremely supple in order to respond to a dynamic conception of life, which means creating our own surroundings in direct relation to incessantly changing ways of behaviour.” [2]

The UU opposed model of ville verte. The ville verte is, in fact, the modernist model of the city based on two concepts: rapidity of movements (city for cars) and the comfort inside the houses (city for individuals). This model - say Situationists - precludes meeting between citizens. This city is an anti-social city. To the idea of the ville verte the UU opposes “the image of the covered town, in which the plan of roads and separate buildings has given way to a continuous spatial construction, disengaged from the ground, and included in which will be groups of dwellings as well as public spaces (permitting changes in use according to the needs of the moment).” [3]

Furthermore, the UU is strictly linked to a dynamic vision of the city. It is not a doctrine of urbanism or a model of planning, but a tool to understand the existing city and to propose a new vision. “UU is opposed to the temporal fixation of cities. It leads instead to the advocacy of a permanent transformation, an accelerated movement of the abandonment and reconstruction of the city in temporal and at times spatial terms.” [4]

UU aims to relate humanity to the world through the senses. “The future cities we envisage will offer an original variety of sensations (...), and unforeseen games will become possible through the inventive use of material conditions, like the conditioning of air, sound and light.” [5] UU envisages a new city, a city of senses.

Beauty is in the street [1]

UU is opposed to the fixation of people at certain points of a city. It is the foundation for a civilization of leisure and play.

The city of senses is based on a daily creativity. Csikszentmihalyi defines the creativity as the result of interaction of three elements: a culture that contains symbolic rules, a person that leads to innovation in symbolic setting and a group of experts that recognize and validate innovation. [6]

According with this definition the creativity can be considered as a collective feat. It is both a process and an emotion. In this sense the city is a fruitful field of challenge. If in last decades the public space was the scene of a lot of claims, nowadays the public spaces are themselves the objects of claims. "Beauty is in the street" is a situationist slogan used to support the May 1968 uprising. A famous manifesto of that period depicts a woman revolutionary throwing a paving stone and mentioning this slogan. The protest at the end of 1960s and in 1970s were an important turning point to approach at contemporary movements that we can link with the five paradigms defined by Consuelo Nava in this book. Particularly, we refer to experiences that produce urban innovation through a collective thinking about the city and its physical and immaterial connections. Urban claims of those years were important to found a consciousness based on a critique of capitalist and Fordist model of city and lifestyle. In the middle of 1970s an Italian singer, Giorgio Gaber, sings: "There is only the road/you can count on/the road is the only salvation/there is only the desire and the need to get out/ to expose themselves in the street and in the square". [7]

This refrain conveys very well a new sensibility for urban life. This research of "salvation" in everyday context and in everyday action is both political and socio-cultural issue and reveals the emergence of a new aesthetic sensibility. In more recent years we can find this research in one of the three paradigms of "Michigan Debates on Urbanism". Everyday urbanism, unlike new urbanism and post urbanism, identifies everyday urban space as a rich and complex public realm created by daily experience. It defines everyday spaces as a product of the intricate social, political, economic, and aesthetic forces. The paradigm of everyday urbanism aims to challenge the formalism of architecture and the abstractions of urban theory and of planning bringing concepts, methods and insights of the humanities in a new urban discipline and making them operative.

"Everyday Urbanism is nonutopian, conversational, and nonstructuralist. It is nonutopian because it celebrates and builds on everyday, ordinary life and reality, with little pretense about the possibility of a perfectible, tidy or

ideal built environment.(...) It is this openness to populist informality that makes Everyday Urbanism conversational. It is non-structuralist because it downplays the direct relationship between physical design and social behaviour". [8]

Scenario determined by fast challenges of last years – effects of economic and ecological crisis, but also the great acceleration of innovation in Information and Communications Technology (ICT)- has transformed the Everyday Urbanism in a sort of open-ended strategy to test and to experiment a new form of urban renaissance based on a collective intelligence. The laboratory-city is the hypothesis of this new urb-humanism. It is an urbanism that can be described through the famous Nicholas Christakis' metaphor: in the last century the urbanism aimed to destroy the sandcastle to analyse every grain of sand, the urb-humanism prefer to reconstruct the sandcastle to study the relationship between elements and to understand the whole. The urb-humanism substitutes technocratic rationality for culture of indiscipline. The culture of indiscipline isn't a simple juxtaposition of different discipline (interdisciplinarity), but it is a process of disciplines reinvention starting from a principle of conviviality.

The Convivial City [2]

According with Ivan Illich, the word "conviviality" means a fruitful way to communication and to interact of people. Conviviality - wrote Illich- is the opposite of industrial productivity. "I intend it to mean autonomous and creative intercourse among persons, and the intercourse of persons with their environment; and this in contrast with the conditioned response of persons to the demands made upon them by others, and by a man-made environment. I consider conviviality to be individual freedom realized in personal interdependence and, as such, an intrinsic ethical value. I believe that, in any society, as conviviality is reduced below a certain level, no amount of industrial productivity can effectively satisfy the needs it creates among society's members." [9]

In the modern age planners have considered citizens as consumers-users. On the contrary, a convivial society has the power to make its habitat and its tools. A convivial community is a community of makers. In a post-industrial age the convivial tools are necessary to maximize the resilience of communities because they make

possible a kind of production not linked to enforced consumption. The productivity is linked to the verb to have; the conviviality is linked to the verb to make. The convivial tools are instruments to award a new significance at existing architectures, cities and landscapes.

Because recycle is a change of sense of existing city the convivial tools are instruments to recycle the waste of modern cities. In other way, the Convivial City is a paradigm to address the work of community in a scenario of laboratory_city.



[2] Estonoesunparque, an eaction of Convivial City Convivial at Bastie Park in Ala (Tn).
March, 2016

Notes

1-5. Another City for Another Life, in *Internationale Situationniste* #3 (December 1959).

Translated by Paul Hammond

6. cfr. M. Csikszentmihalyi, *Creativity: Flow and the Psychology of Discovery and Invention*, New York, Harper Perennial, 1997, p.8

7. TG. Gaber, *C'è solo la strada*, 1974-75. Translation by author

8. D. Kelbaugh, *Three Urbanisms and the Public Realm*, in *Proceedings . 3rd International Space Syntax Symposium Atlanta 2001*

9. I. Ivan Illich, *Tools for Conviviality*, p. 18 – source: www.mom.arq.ufmg.br/mom/arq.../illich_tools_for_conviviality.pdf - date of access 31.03.2016

0000 METRO

"Topographic Memory"

In my experience
it is not only the landscape
as an image or as an idea
embedded in language
that is important;
it is in how landscape and the shape
of the land literally
makes an impression
on our memories (...)

Bruce Lindsay

POLITAN SHOTS

[METROPOLITAN CITY OF REGGIO CALABRIA
IMAGES BY
FEDERICA CICCONE, DANILO EMO, A.RITA PALERMITI]





Ex trade fair - Pentimele
[Ph: Danilo Emo]





Ex Italcristro - Catona
[Ph: Danilo Emo]



Refuse_S.S. 106- S.Gregorio, Beach - Reggio Calabria, Ex Italcitrus Catona
[Ph.(on the left): Federica Ciccone, Ph.(on the right): Danilo Emo]









Harbour - Reggio Calabria, Waterfront - Gallico
[Ph: Alessia Rita Palermi]



S.S. 106- S.Gregorio
[Ph: Federica Ciccone]

Ex Liquilchimica - Saline Joniche Harbour
[Ph:Alessia Rita Palermiti]







Ponte di Sant'Anna - Calopinace's banks
[Ph: Alessia Rita Palermiti]



Ex trade fair - Pentimile
[Ph: Danilo Emo]



F.S.I. S.Caterina Station - Reggio Calabria
[Ph: Federica Ciccone]





Villa Zerbi_ Exhibition venue (Biennale di Venezia for Southern Italy) - Reggio Calabria Centro
[Ph: Federica Ciccone]





Ex Italcitrus- Catona
[Ph: Danilo Emo]

Finito di stampare nel mese di maggio del 2016
dalla tipografia «la Cromografica S.r.l.»
00156 Roma – via Tiburtina, 912
per conto della «Giacchino Onorati editore S.r.l. – unipersonale» di Canterano (RM)