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Development of integrated
Architectural Design Programs
for City, Environment, Landscape

ArcDesPress
ArchiLab didactic experiences

Collana di
ArcDes
Development of Integrated Architectural Design Programs
for City, Environment, Landscape

 Development of integrated
Architectural Design Programs
for City, Environment, Landscape

Direttore di collana:
Gianluca Frediani

Comitato scientifico:
Alessandro Gaiani
Gabriele Lelli
Nicola Marzot
Alessandro Massarente
Andrea Rinaldi
Antonello Stella

Sarajevo University Campus

edited by Elena Guidetti

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This book reports the didactic experiences developed in the context of the Architectural Design Studio at 3rd year of the Degree Master Course in Architecture, academic years 2017-18 and 2018-19, School of Architecture, University of Ferrara, and results of the 1st and the 2nd International Workshop in Sarajevo led by the University of Ferrara with the collaboration of the University of Sarajevo.



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DESIGN STRATEGIES

New narratives between program and places

Alessandro Massarente

Associate Professor UniFe

Architectural Design Studio Lab III C

Since its launch in 1991, Ferrara school of architecture has experimented a new teaching method based on interdisciplinary laboratories, inspired to the Bologna Agreement. The themes on which these laboratories were based were mainly referred to project of new settlements.

This modality was for many years the leitmotif of the teaching methods in Italy until the beginning of the new century, when following the building boom it was clear how the speculative bubble would burst out loud, leading to a revision of the global economic system and to the consequent effects on the project of architecture. It was precisely from those years that in Ferrara the introduction of themes related to the **recovery of disused or fragile areas** with particular attention to the relationship between the built landscape was started.

The phenomena linked to the economic crisis, which started with the failure of the global financial model,

have produced profound social transformations and impoverished significant sections of the population. The planetary dimension of the effects of the crisis are added to the dynamics produced by migratory phenomena and to the consequences of the energy transition, getting their effects in particularly complex situations, particularly in places where these tensions are most evident.

For several years, in particular in the Architectural Design Laboratories of the 3rd year of the 5 years degree course of Architecture in Ferrara, we have worked with students trying to involve, apart from the aspects of disciplines connected to design, differently conjugated, also those of a social, economic and environmental nature. For example, design exercises have been carried out on some places considered as **highly “mutational”**: industrial area of the ZIP in Padua (one of the most important north-east industrial and logistic development poles

Notes

1. This text is a reworking of these previous publications: A. Gaiani, A. Massarente, *Ibridazioni nei luoghi della crisi economica e sociale*, in *Imparare architettura. I laboratori di progettazione e le pratiche di insegnamento*, Atti del 7° Forum del coordinamento nazionale dei docenti di progettazione architettonica ICAR 14/15/16, Milano, 16-17 november 2018, ProArch Associazione nazionale docenti di Progettazione architettonica, ongoing; A. Massarente, *Training processes between program and places*, in *Hidden school*, Proceedings of EAAE Annual Conference and General Assembly, Zagreb, 28-31 August 2019, ongoing.

planned in the 1950s and today at the center of profound transformations); Macrolotto 0 in Prato (where the largest Chinese community in Europe resides); Marshal Tito Barracks in Sarajevo (destined to a new university campus and possible occasion to regenerate a part of the city where the wounds left by the Balkan conflict are still evident).

These evocatively significant places played a fundamental role to make students understand the **importance and value of operating in problematic places** in the city through the use of strategies that can be applied within the contexts they will face once they graduate.

As developed in a following text dedicated to the adopted didactic approach, those strategies are related to these main objectives: program as project code to explore new narratives for urban places; concept of recycling extended from materials and objects to communities and their plural identities; adaptive design tools for hybrid and mutational spaces.

In that sense, architecture is therefore

called to no longer construct self-referential “objects”, but to work on the gap between things, between people, between physical entities, quickly changing its state and its consistency. It is a matter of exploring configurations in perennial mutation through the definition of differences, or in giving the existing, recognized as it is, the sign of a new identity, in which life is made up of absences as well as presences, boundaries as well as territories, contingencies as well as permanences, traces as well as strong meanings, margins and interstitial spaces as well as centers.

Interventions are developed as a set of operations on existing buildings and on new ones implemented through compatible, sustainable and adaptive tools, being able to be for example parasites, grafts, edges, redefinition of level 0 and of the in-between level among the various buildings and urban spaces.

Ongoing physical model of University Campus Project,
UNIFE, 2019, Ferrara



The tools adopted, despite their incompleteness due to the multiplicity of instances, reveal their hybrid nature by which the relationship between pre-existing and contemporary buildings produces spaces in continuous mutation, sometimes without a precise spatial and functional definition, that develop, in their becoming, open conformations.

They are **adaptive tools** that act on unstable places, border areas, physical or social, waste lands, where an informal process has already begun, for example through an appropriation by the local communities, be it official or unofficial, operating mainly on the existing, be it built or open space.

The projects carried out within the Architectural Design Studios presented in this book are the result, albeit partial, of a first check on this new approach to the project.

Such projects act for example on the zero consumption of soil and on the regeneration of existing spaces through a series of interventions that overlap or replace what is already present, giving rise to a palimpsest in which





several temporal layers can coexist. In this way modern architecture, which according to the prevailing historiographic narration meant new buildings as prevailing places of living, contrasts in these didactic experiences **the theme of hybridization as calculated coexistence** between temporally different aspects, recognizable in their spatial identity and in their linguistic contents through the scales of architecture and the city, together with new mutations with which preexisting places will be confronted in an open process¹.

It is a matter of exploring configurations in perennial mutation through the definition of differences, or in giving the existing, recognized as it is, the sign of a new identity

Final Critic, Prof. Massarente, Prof. Tessari and students
Architectural Design Lab 3C, 2019, UNIFE, Ferrara

CONTRIBUTORS

Alessandro Massarente



Alessandro Massarente is an Architect, PhD, Associate Professor (Full Professor qualification, 2018) at the University of Ferrara, Italy, in Architectural and Urban Design. He is teaching since 1992 at the Faculty of Architecture of Ferrara. PhD in "Methodology problems in architectural design", he was Researcher since 1999 at the First Faculty of Architecture at the Politecnico di Turin and since 2004 at the Faculty of Architecture of Ferrara. Author or editor of more than 200 articles, essays and books on design tools and methods, in particular dedicated to the relation between historical urban landscape and contemporary architecture. Some of his projects were published in various architectural books and magazine, as "Area", "Il progetto", "Almanacco di Casabella", "d'A d'Architettura", "Paesaggio urbano". Since 2005 he became director of the research laboratory ArcDes "Centre for the Development of integrated programs for City, Environment and Landscape", Department of Architecture, University of Ferrara. Since 2010 he developed research projects for area "Tools, materials and techniques for museography and exhibition design", TekneHub, Tecnopolo di Ferrara, Rete Alta Tecnologia ER region.

Alessandro Gaiani



Alessandro Gaiani, architect, since 1999 is Assistant Professor in Architectural and Urban composition at Department of Architecture, University of Ferrara, has made the hybrid and sustainable strategic approach its own project, also winning national and international design competitions. A staunch supporter of the value of connection and of the contamination between socio-economic disciplines and architecture, for the Quodlibet types he recently published the Urban Overwriting book. He is the author and editor of books, numerous essays and articles on theoretical and methodological topics related to architectural design, especially residential. From the second half of the nineties he developed publics and private research projects. The common thread of the research carried out within the discipline is the concept of sustainable mutation declined both through the transformation of the existing heritage and in the definition of new projects and methodologies.

Alessandro Cambi



Alessandro Cambi was born in Siena on 6th June 1976. He graduated in Architecture at the University of Florence in July 2002, after two years studying at La Défense and La Villette Schools of Architecture in Paris. He worked with architectural practices in Siena, Paris (Buffi Associés SA) and Rome (Studio Sartogo). The result of this line of activity was his affiliation with SCAPE in January 2005. In 2016, with Francesco Marinelli and Paolo Mezzalama, founds a new professional reality: IT'S srl, operating in the offices of Rome, Paris and Geneva; a company created with the purpose of hybridizing architectural methods with the know-how of other fields, contaminating different kinds of knowledge in an attempt to increase job horizons. He has tutored national and international workshops and held conferences at the university architectural faculties of Ferrara, Genoa, Reggio Calabria and Rome. In 2012 he has been a visiting lecturer at the Faculty of Architecture at the University of Roma Tre. Since the 2013 he has been professor at the Faculty of Architecture at the University of Ferrara. Since the 2019, he is Visiting Professor at the École Nationale d'Architecture Paris Val de Seine.

Alice Gardini



Alice Gardini graduated in architecture in 1996 at the University of Florence. Since 1997 she has been dealing with urban and residential planning, taking part in numerous design competitions, obtaining prizes and awards, including the selection for "RIBA International Awards 2018" for the project called "AP House Urbino (IT)". In 1997 she obtained a specialization in "Executive Design" at Oikos University in Bologna and a Master in "Public Space Design - MASP 2001" in Lucca (IT), of which she has been tutor in following editions. She has collaborated with some Italian architectural magazines and she is author of numerous articles and essays. She is partner in the office GGA gardini gibertini architect since 2004, parallelly to the academic activity at the University of Genoa where, she concludes a PHD in "Architectural Design" in 2008. Since 2012 she has been in contract as professor in "Theories and Techniques of Architecture" at the University of Ferrara and in the same year she published the book: "Abitare ai margini della città. Trasformazione dei modelli insediativi residenziali moderni."

Guido Incerti



Guido Incerti is an Architect, PhD. Visiting Tutor at the Royal College of Art in London. He teaches at the Department of Architecture of the University of Ferrara and at Kent State University. He also collaborates with the Domus Academy and IAAD. He took his first steps in the world of architecture with DS+R and other international firms, and in 2014 founded bda bottega d'architetti. He has won national and international competitions and awards, including the Inarch Prize and the honorable mention at the XXIII Compasso d'Oro. He writes for architecture magazines and portals such as Abitare, Area, Domusweb, Klat, Materia and has directed "Opere" Tuscan architecture magazine. He deals with projects in border areas, reuse, disassembly and re-assembly of architecture. For Skira, he edited the monograph on the studio DillerScofidio+Renfro, with LetteraVentidue "Trasformazioni: storie di paesaggi contemporanei" and for Skira, "L'atlante dei paesaggi riciclati". He loves to travel with his motorcycle through the streets of the beloved Balkans towards the East.

Alessandro Tessari



Alessandro Tessari has studied in the University Institute of Architecture of Venice and in the University of Architecture of Seville. He finished his degree with Bernardo Secchi and Guillermo Vazquez Consuegra, with whom he collaborated from 2005 to 2008. He is Ph.D in Architecture at Villard d'Honnecourt - IUAV of Venice and in Urbanisme at PROURB - URFJ of Rio de Janeiro. He has been visiting professor at IUAV of Venice, Roma Tre of Rome, Catholic University of Pereira, Javeriana University of Bogotá and Escola da Cidade of São Paulo. He has been professor from 2016 to 2019 at UNIFE, Faculty of Architecture of Ferrara. Alessandro Tessari has supported lectures in the main universities of Architecture, including IUAV of Venice, Politecnico di Milan, AAM of Mendrisio, ETSA of Seville, UFRJ of Rio de Janeiro, Javeriana of Bogotá, Escola da Cidade and the FAU-Mackenzie of São Paulo and in several cultural institutions in Europe such as the Venice Biennale of Architecture and the Maison de l'Architecture of Geneva. Alessandro Tessari has founded in 2008 with Matteo Bandiera ETB, an International Architecture and Urbanism practice based in Seville and Treviso.

Mladen Burazor



Mladen Burazor is a member of teaching staff at the Department of Architectural design and his previous research work, including master's thesis, doctoral dissertation and published scientific papers and books, is directly related to the topic of architectural design. He attended Strode College (UK) and later graduated at the University of Sarajevo, Faculty of Architecture in 2004 where he also completed doctoral theses in 2012. He has more than 15 years of experience on a numerous international architectural projects as well as Higher education programmes, most recent being the HERD programme financed by Norwegian ministry of foreign affairs. As a member of dedicated personnel from engineering faculties in the country, he was involved in creation of the very first database of the energy characteristics and potential refurbishment models of the entire residential building stock. Beside academic duties, over the course of years, Mladen Burazor has been involved and collaborated with many professional organisations in promoting architectural profession and also participated on a number of architectural competitions receiving in total 8 awards.

Adnan Pašić



Adnan Pašić (Zagreb, 1967) is an architect who is Head of design and research studio at the Institute of Architecture, Urbanism and Spatial Planning and teacher on Architectural Design at Faculty of Architecture, University of Sarajevo, Bosnia and Herzegovina. He lectured on the Universities in USA, Nederland, Japan, Turkey and Bosnia and Herzegovina. He was Visiting Scholar on Department of Architecture on MIT, Cambridge, Mass., USA and Guest Professor on the Faculty of Architecture on Istanbul Technical University. As practicing architect he combined practice with research on various projects in urban design, housing, office buildings, cultural facilities, sacral spaces and interiors. His architectural works were presented on three solo and fifteen group exhibitions in region and Europe. Association of Architects of Bosnia and Herzegovina awarded him with annual awards in 2006, 2009 and 2012.

Senka Ibršimbegović



Ph.D. Senka Ibršimbegović was born in Travnik, BiH. She attended High school in Switzerland. She finished Faculty of Architecture at the University of Sarajevo. During studies, she participated in educational programs at the Yildiz Technical University Istanbul, Massachusetts Institute of Technology Cambridge USA in 2001. and TU Wien in 2003. She did her postgraduate studies in Italy in 2004, in cooperation with Università di Siena, Politecnico di Milano, IUAV di Venezia, Università di Roma - La Sapienza. In May 2014, she did her doctoral thesis research at the Université Paris 8. From January 2008, she works at the Faculty of Architecture University of Sarajevo, and since 2019 as an Assistant professor. She has participated in several international scientific and professional conferences, as well as scientific and professional projects. She works with the Museum of contemporary art Ars Aevi in Sarajevo since 2004, on architectural design proposed by Italian architect Renzo Piano and exhibition setups. In 2019 she commissions the exhibition of Bosnia and Herzegovina pavilion for the 58th Venice Biennale.

Nermina Zagora



Nermina Zagora graduated from the Faculty of Architecture, University of Sarajevo (2005), obtained Master's degree in Product Design from the Fine Arts Academy, University of Sarajevo (2008) and doctoral degree from the Faculty of Architecture, University of Sarajevo (2012). During her graduate and postgraduate studies, Nermina participated in academic mobility programs architecture schools in Barcelona, Oslo, London, Ghent, and Kobe. As assistant professor at the Faculty of Architecture, University of Sarajevo, Nermina has been teaching in the academic fields of architectural and interior design. Nermina is a co-author of two books and twenty articles and her research included architectural education, energy efficiency, ideological dimension of architecture and correlations between interior and urban design. As a founding partner and principal architect of Sarajevo-based architectural studio Firma, Nermina has co-authored than 90 architectural, interior and urban design projects since 2009, including several award-winning and internationally published projects. Nermina speaks English, Spanish and French.

Giovanni Bazzani



Giovanni Bazzani is an architect graduated at the Department of Architecture of the University of Ferrara (Italy) with master thesis focused on rehabilitation and enhancement of post-industrial landscape. Since 2016 he has been collaborating with Heriscapè - Heritage & Landscape Training & Consulting, working on different projects in the field of heritage conservation and enhancement, such as the definition of architectural guidelines and protection policies for the buffer zones of the UNESCO world heritage sites of Al Ain in UAE. During his work experience he developed his attitude for urban design with works on urban developments masterplans and projects for public urban space with special focus on urban mobility reorganization, development of sustainable mobility and resilient city-landscapes, working for example on the Parco del Mare project in Rimini from the urban planning stage to the detailed final project in the Northern area of the city. Since 2016 he is assistant professor in the Architectural Design Studio (LAP3) at University of Ferrara, studio held and coordinated by professor Alessandro Massarente.

Elena Guidetti



Elena Guidetti is an Architect and a PhD Candidate in *Architecture, History and Project* at Politecnico di Torino, and a member of *The Future Urban Legacy Lab*, the interdisciplinary research centre of PoliTo. Her PhD research focuses on defining, assessing and measuring the *Potential* in the Architecture field, involving the concepts of Embodied Energy and Flexibility. Until 2018 she keeps working both as freelance Architect and as teaching assistant in the Design Lab III at University of Ferrara. She takes part in the organization of the international workshops EARNs in Sarajevo and starts an ongoing collaboration. During 2017 she worked as intern in Zimoun Contemporary Art Studio in Bern, setting international exhibition -Paris, Aarhus, Appenzell- and developing some art-work prototypes. In 2017 she ended her Integrated Master degree at the Faculty of Architecture of Ferrara, with a thesis focused on the design strategies for a post-industrial site in Oporto -in collaboration with the Faculdade de Arquitectura do Porto- advised by Alessandro Massarente (UniFe) and Helder Casal Ribeiro (Faup).

Andrea Matta



Andrea Matta graduated with honors in Architecture in Parma (2013), with a thesis on the theme of urban and architectural redevelopment of a block situated in the district Oltretorrente in the same city. After participating in the Mastercampus urban regeneration project for the University campus and the entire strategic reorganization of the spaces of the same University (2014-2017). In 2015, he moves for a year to Porto where he studies at F.A.U.P., subsequently obtaining the Doctorate of Research in 2018 at the Department of Architecture and Engineering (DIA) of the University of Parma, with a thesis entitled "The experimental city of the campus. Form and urban role of the university campus in Europe". In the Portuguese city he has way of entering into contact with some prominent personalities, including the architect and urban planner Nuno Portas who will provide an important contribution to research carried out on campus and city themes. In the meantime he takes part in various academic and professional experiences, including a competition international invitations to a new campus on the theme of social assistance architecture.

ArcDesPress

ArchiLab didactic experiences

In 1995, on the initiative of Gianluca Frediani, ArcDes-design workshop was established as a study center within the Institute (now Department) of Architecture of the University of Ferrara.

Since 2005 Alessandro Massarente directs the **ArcDes Development of Integrated Architectural Design Programs for City, Environmental, Landscape** Research Laboratory within the Department of Architecture of the University of Ferrara.

During more than 20 years of activity, ArcDes carries out research activities through the integration and coordination of specialist skills in the areas of enhancement of urban areas and residential complexes, landscape evaluation of infrastructure, urban and territorial networks, complexes and buildings for culture and education, restoration and requalification of architectural and cultural heritage, enhancement and recovery of archaeological, industrial and rural heritage, even through exhibition and museum design.

ArcDes has developed specific skills carrying out basic and research activities, applied at local, national and international level:

- investigations, preliminary projects, feasibility studies, preliminary design documents, programs for grant, as essential elements for the preliminary design of enhancement interventions of urban areas, design of public buildings, recovery and restoration of cultural heritage;
- consultancy for design, through the coordination of specialistic skills;
- advertising, training and professional updating in the field of architectural and urban design methodologies through seminars, workshops, masters and advanced courses.

ArcDesPress is an editorial brand created in 2016 for the *Open Access* publication of books, monographs, multi-author volumes, exhibition catalogs, conference proceedings, focused on architectural and urban design themes in its multiple and complex interactions with the other disciplines related to the project.

The **ArcDesPress ArchiLab didactic experiences series** aims to document the most interesting teaching experiences, both in the context of university curricular courses and workshops -held on behalf of city and local government bodies- in collaboration with other national and international universities.



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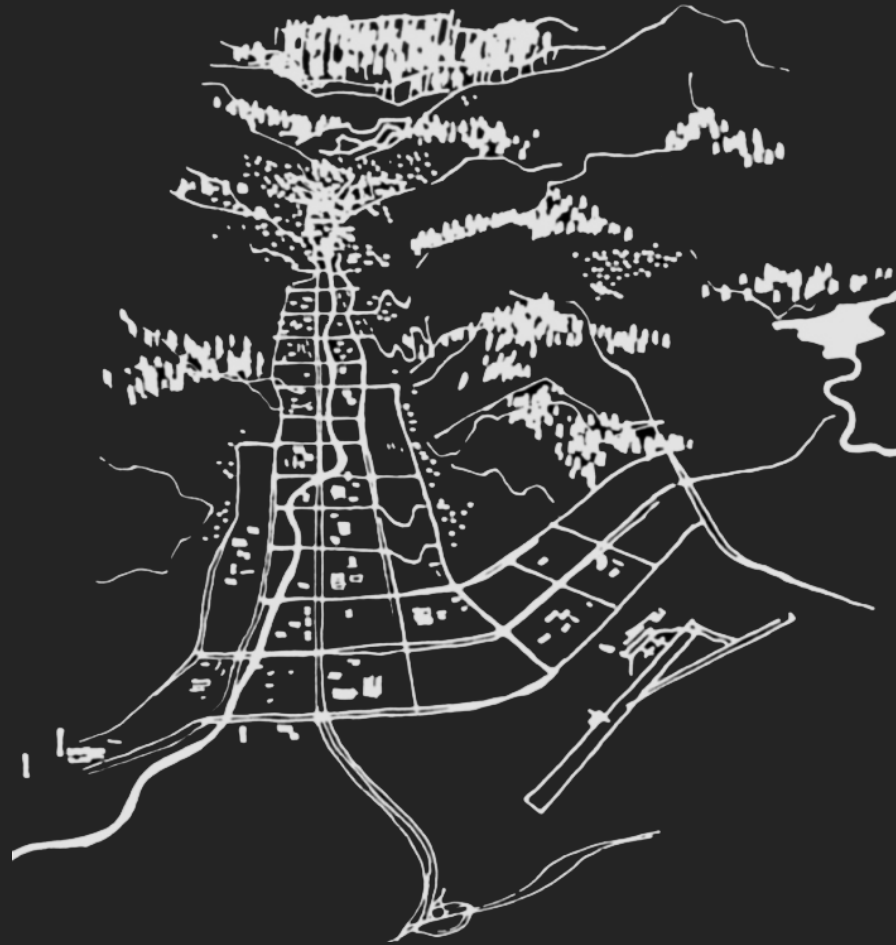
Sarajevo University Campus reports the educational experience developed over two academic years by the Third Year Design Laboratory of the Department of Architecture of the University of Ferrara.

The work focuses on the development of design strategies for the former Marsala Tito in Sarajevo, proposing design approaches capable of converting the dismissed military area into a University Campus, following the current process underway by the local government.

The first section of the book collects the theoretical contributions both by professors and collaborators of the Architectural Design Lab III of the University of Ferrara and the professors of the University of Sarajevo involved in the two international workshops held in Sarajevo in 2018 and 2019.

The second section of the publication shows the projects developed by students of the Architectural Design Lab III, embracing the disparate design approaches, linked both to student's inclinations and educational methods of the professors of each project group.

This research work aims to be the first step, in a broad vision of international collaboration between the University of Ferrara and the University of Sarajevo, focusing both on the shared training of students and on the joint research of innovative approaches in the field of reuse, recovery and reconditioning of existing built environment.



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