



Castello tales emerging from the waste as found

Call for Selection

International Interdisciplinary Design Workshop Cagliari, Faculty of Architecture

11-16 July 2010

Topic and objective

Today, more than half of the world's population lives in cities. The city as the space where we live and the stage where we act, determines our social network and our emotional well being. It affects the decisions we make and provides access to markets and jobs. Because of this fact, cities have to constantly transform and reinvent themselves in order to suit man's ever changing needs and be competitive on a global market. History has proven that besides political and economical forces, creativity, civil courage and hope have been acting as major forces within such processes of transformation.

Never underestimating the importance of a topologic approach, the artistic expression appeared to be a key instrument for strategies of urban development and design. Therefore, the contemporary city needs creativity, imagination and cooperation and it is the responsibility of the designer to inspire participation and thus support and nurture urban cultural heritage.

Within this scenario public space plays an important, catalyzing role. More often though, the reality shows that such spaces are either fragmented, badly maintained, abandoned or programmed to exclusively serve consumption. Public space in our cities today is characterised by advertisements of global commercial companies and appears to be a generic space, which lacks essential qualities, e.g. identity, shelter, representation. "Public" life once meant that vital part one's life outside the circle of family and close friends. Connecting with strangers in an emotionally satisfying way and yet remaining aloof from them was seen as the means by which the human animal was transformed into the social – the civilized – being", writes Richard Sennett in *The Fall of Public Man*. What is the potential of such public space today? Can it act as a meeting spot, a place for social interaction, a space for unfettered debate, democracy and the exchange of free opinion? Can we as artists and planners create *the city to be in*?

The objective of this workshop is to explore the city's potential as a complex social, emotional and sensory experience. In group work, we will realize various different installations throughout the city of Cagliari. The city as a narrative space and/or a container of collective memory are concepts to be examined during the workshop. Creativity and imagination shall act as a trigger for social play, participation and interaction with space and thus help to develop sustainable design. The reinforcement of the city's spherical qualities shall stimulate the community for new ways of appropriation and thus give reason to identify with the space.

"If you want to change the city to the better, you have to first of all accept it as it is," is the motto of our workshop. Therefore, we are not working with ideal urban concepts or preconceived functional models, types or standards. Instead, "waste" as found will be the material point of departure for this design exercise. On the one hand, "waste" is considered as a spatial entity, when we will work in fragmented, abandoned areas, which lack meaning, form and spatial quality. We consider such problematic zones and fragments of the contemporary city as a fundamental resource for new and different spatial development of the system of public space.

On the other hand, "waste" as it is found in the city will serve as the material base for designing and creating such spaces. The overall goal is to show how it's possible to create attractive public spaces with very little material means. This "bottom up approach" combined with a true "pioneer spirit" hopes to initiate and inspire individual appropriation of public space and thus contribute to the sustainability of the design. The

creation of installations shall hereby stimulate a “domino effect” for a new and different attractiveness of the public space in the historical centre of Cagliari.

*Into the great wide open
Under them skies of blue
Into the great wide open
A rebel without a clue...*

Activities and Schedule

This intensive interdisciplinary design workshop will take place in Cagliari, July 11-16 and will be thought in Italian, English and French. It is open to students of architecture, landscape and urban design, and arts from UNICA as well as other universities. The expected number of guest students selected will be 25. Guidelines for project development, coordination of the different steps, progress assessment, etc. will be provided by workshop leaders. The workshop will run for a total of 48 hours, including lessons, physical realization and final presentation. Participants will receive an attendance certificate and/or an equivalent of 2 ETCS.

Scientific Committee

Antonello Sanna, Antonio Tramontin, Emanuela Abis, Guido Borelli, Enrico Corti, Marina Mura, Giorgio Pellegrini, Cesarina Siddi, Ruth Baumeister, Didier Béquillard, Philippe Guérin

Teaching Staff

Professors:

The teaching team comprises of experts from various disciplines, e.g. architecture, landscape and arts. Cesarina Siddi (UNICA), Ruth Baumeister (TU Delft), Didier Béquillard (Sorède, Hamburg), Philippe Guérin (ENSAN Rouen, ENSA Paris Malaquais)

Assistants:

Freelance professionals in architecture/engineering with didactic experience will assist during the workshop. Fiammetta Sau and Elisa Serra (both PhD Students, UNICA)

Participation requirements

- a. Application form, (please download from: <http://people.unica.it/creativecagliari>.)
- b. Motivation Letter (max. 1 A4 page)
- c. Samples of Design Work (max. 3 A3 pages)
- d. Curriculum Vitae et Studiorum

Deadline for application

Applications have to be sent via email to: creativecagliari@unica.it, no later than Jun 8th, 2010, 12.00 am.

Selection

Applicants will be selected by the Scientific Committee. Final enrolment depending on the payment of course registration fee.

Registration Fee

The course fee of 350€ covers:

- a. participation in all workshop activities
- b. working materials
- c. accommodation (six nights, breakfast and lunch incl. one final social dinner)

Registration

Selected applicants will be notified by the faculty of Architecture of Cagliari no later than June 11, 2010 and will be required to pay their registration fee no later than June 16, 2010, forwarding proof of payment to the secretariat's e-mail address: creativecagliari@unica.it.

Payments must be made specifying the causal (**entrance fee, workshop creativecagliari, july 11-16 2010**) to the following bank account: Banco di Sardegna ABI 01015 – CAB 04800 – CCB n. 00000043225 – codice IBAN: IT45K0101504800000000043225 – codice BIC: SARDIT3SXXX.

Contact Information

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Websites

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