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Special number  
for the Athens Programme  
March 2014  
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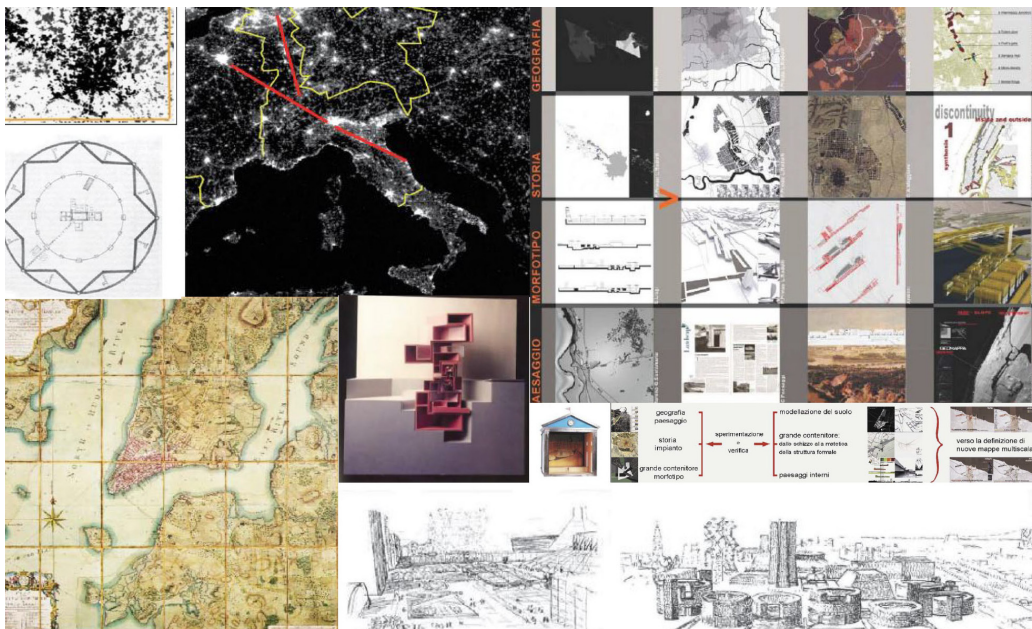
## Athens Programme 2013. The Art of Building Cities



Slumming/sprawling/shrinking/gating/tabularazing  
*Lorenzo Degli Esposti*

A more and more fast-running and intertwined World continuously force us into re-setting architectural and urban agendas. Growing and shrinking contexts, much more linked together than it may apparently appear to us, offer always new and problematic topics to deal with. In this unstable and uncertain scenario, usual and traditional design knowledge, although cultured, is soon obsolete. In the same time, standardizing and commercial patterns and methodologies spread all over the World in the wake of globalization. Financial and technical tools are being indifferently employed everywhere, paying attention neither to local circumstances nor to the culture of architecture. Standard solutions replace historical and/or spontaneous and informal settlements, expropriating local communities and even committing injustices and crimes against humanity. On the contrary, other cities are shrinking, due to the relocation of production and capitals towards fast-growing economies. Studies by David Harvey, Mike Davies, Saskia Sassen and Bernardo Secchi, among the others, illustrate these contradictions of our cities.

In university, courses are too often set on old methodologies or on fancy tools, omitting the mentioned urgent topics, which should be studied and developed by new generations of students and teachers. In this difficult context, the Athens Course The Art of Building Cities offers the occasion to challenge the students to reflect upon experimental tools and strategies, both urban and architectural, towards some urban conditions which are considered problematic. In the year 2013, five of these conditions have been enucleated and they are the following: slumming, sprawling, shrinking, gating, tabularazing. Each of them has been coupled with a city, respectively: Mumbai, Kortrijk, Detroit, Cape Town and Singapore, and offered to a small group of students to be processed and to propose a possible architectural and urban solution for the pinpointed problems. Despite the obvious differences based on specific and local situations, especially the fact of being a growing or shrinking environments, one of the general aims has been to reinforce and consolidate those urban settlements which are inhabited by communities, against the pressure of speculation or the waste of decay. This aim has been paired with a general understanding of the principles of architectural and urban disciplines, with reference to the work of great architects and academics who dealt with the city (Sitte, Hilberseimer, Le Corbusier, Lynch, Venturi, the Radicals, Rossi, Ungers, Tschumi, Eisenman and Koolhaas among the others). Various strategies have been experimented by the students: two of them seemed to be mainly adopted and implemented, namely a strategy of point intervention, organized in resisting constellations of works of architecture within the studied settlements, and a strategy of boundary definition, to enclose spaces to be reorganized and brought to better urban conditions. Fast changing (growing and shrinking) cities for a fast (intensive) course of one week: maybe what our times, in university and in the World cities, requires to us as architects (educators and students).



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# Cape Town

## Workshop Athens\_Gated Community

### What is a gated community?

Tutor: Daniele Zerbi. Students: Ebru Kaymaz, Erica Masala, Francois Sanson

-A gated community is an area of houses and sometimes shops that is surrounded by a wall or fence and has an entrance that is guarded ( Collins Dictionary )

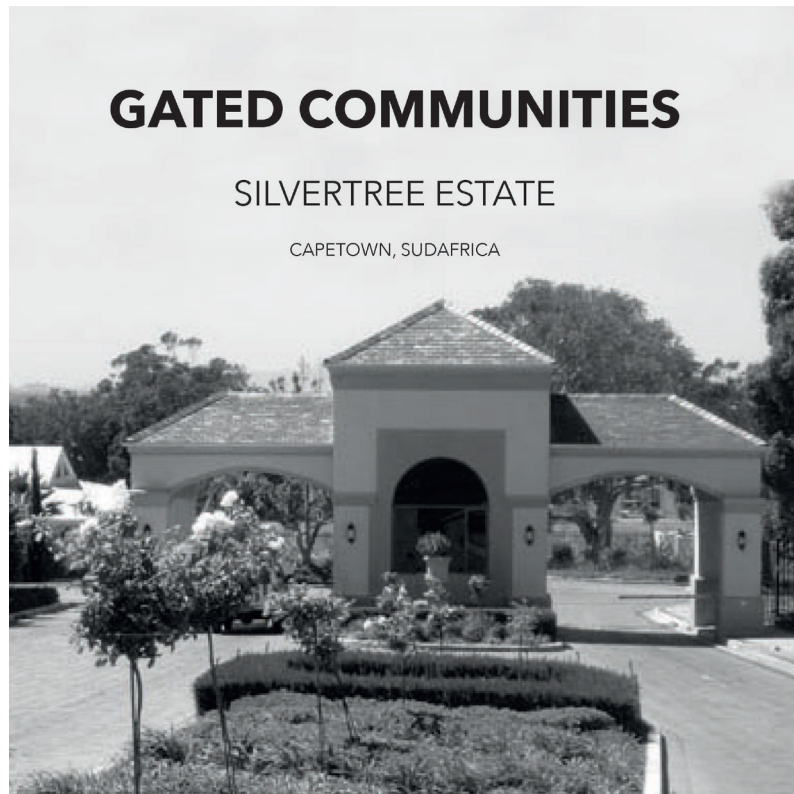
-A group of houses or ats in an area surrounded by a fence or wall that can be entered only by people who live there and their guests ( MacMillan Dictionary )

Most gated communities have a name and a clear geographic denition as marked by the barriers and gates that control access to the area. Gated communities may exist in any location including cities, towns and rural areas.

They also range in size from a few homes to several dozen. One of the primary aim of a gated community is to offer its residents safety that they wouldn't experience in nearby not gated communities. Without drivers passing through the gated community, traf is restricted to residents and guests. This makes it safer for children to walk or play near streets, and also reduces traf accidents. Gated communities with security staff also restrict access to pedestrians, which may be able to reduce the chance of vandalism, theft and other crimes.

### Cape Town: Silvertree estate and Westlake village

In the southern suburbs of Cape town is allocated a gated community called Silvertree estate. This village is surrounded by electric walls and has controlled access to limit entries to residents and guests. This type of urban aggregation is designed to offer a safe haven for the afuent class of cape town. The incidence of this type of urbanization rests on the livability of the surrounding areas and the usability of the territory by the citizens themselves. In this case the presence of the Silvertree estate affects the Westlake village, cutting geographicalconnections and social relations.



## GATED COMMUNITIES

### SILVERTREE ESTATE

CAPETOWN, SUDAFRICA

This was also identified by Ballard (2004:56) in Durban where he noticed that white residents problematised only the poverty of squatters, perceiving their relative afuence as “normative and unproblematic”.

This also hinders the spaces of connection created by WENT, though their aim to encourage Westlake villagers neighbours to get involved is noble.”

### Interpretation

As a starting point, the working group has researched what was the present social scenario in the suburbs of cape town. Through the study of social surveys on the subject of the gated community, the research has been directed toward the meaning of some key words such as: security, community and freedom.

### Security

the state of being secure / assured freedom from poverty / a person or thing that secures, guarantees, etc / precautions taken to ensure against theft, espionage, etc.

### Community

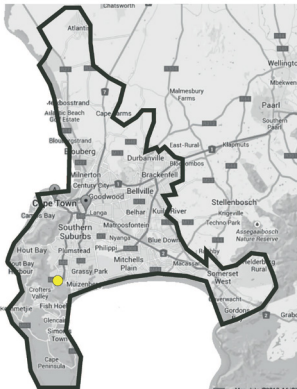
the people living in one locality / the locality in which they live / a group of people having cultural, religious, ethnic, or other characteristics in common / a group of nations having certain interests in common / the public in general; society / common ownership or participation /similarity or agreement Freedom

personal liberty, as from slavery, bondage, serfdom, etc / liberation or deliverance, as from connement or bondage / the quality or state of being free, esp to enjoy political and civil liberties / the state of being without something unpleasant or bad / the right or privilege of unrestricted use or access / autonomy, self-government, or independence / the power or liberty to order one's own actions / the quality, esp of the will or the individual, of not being totally constrained; able to choose between alternative actions in identical circumstances / ease or frankness of manner; candour / ease and grace, as of movement; lack of effort.

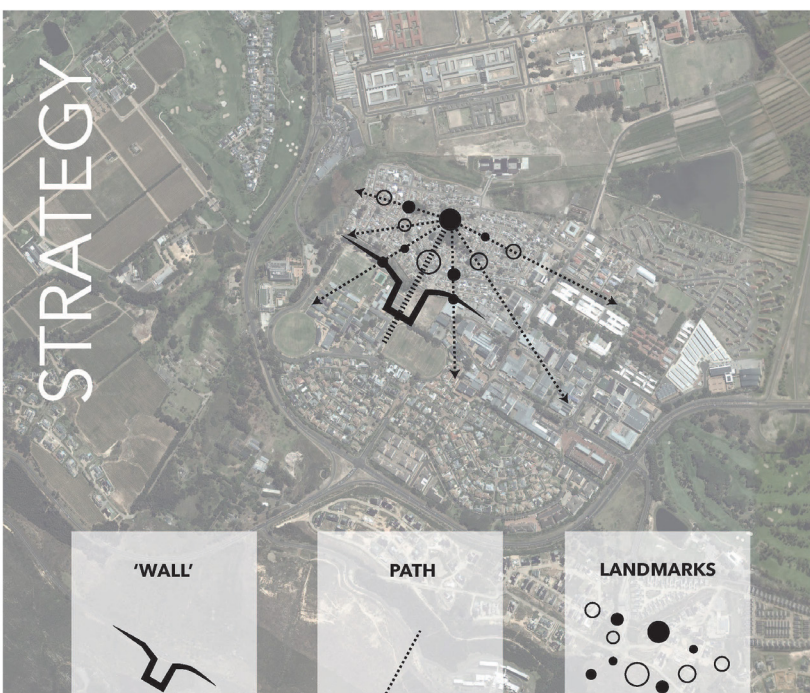
The conclusions of a social survey, proposal to the citizens of both villages, showed that there is no mutual relationship. “Despite this exclusive spatial design, small spaces of connection have managed to occur, for example through

the marketplace, with a handful of Westlake villagers employed in Silvertree Estate or in the Westlake business park, thus creating functional integration between the two. However, this connection not only affects very few in either Westlake Village or Silvertree Estate, but is also not symbiotic because neither area provides something necessary for the others continued existence. Such symbiotic functional integration should be a set objective in future mixed-income developments. No friendships exist between Silvertree Estate and Westlake Village residents and the spatial inaccessibility of Silvertree Estate renders visiting a one-sided experience. Thus, a potential space of connection is diluted by its lack of reciprocity. The perception among Silvertree Estate residents of Westlake Village as a problem requiring solutions offers a very one-dimensional understanding of inequality in the Westlake development, with the former blaming Westlake villagers poverty for their problems, yet failing to consider their relative wealth as an equal part of the problem.

### LOCATION



### STRATEGY

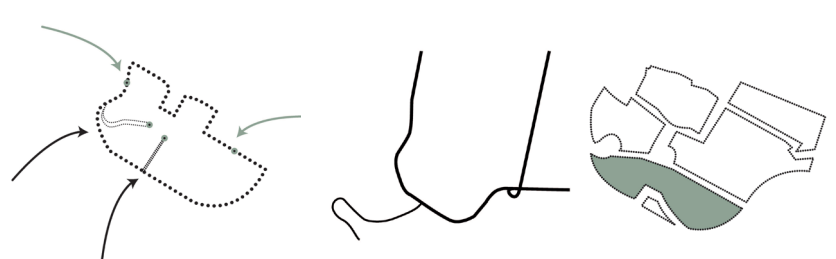




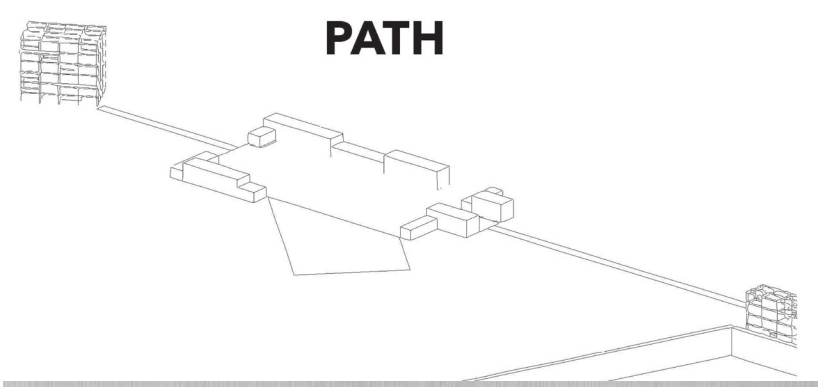
**Project**  
 The design concept incorporates the root of the problem that plagues this area, converting it to an integrated development between the two villages. In this way, without touching on the gated community, it is possible to propose an urban structure that can facilitate the movement of citizens belonging to the Silvertree Estate in Westlake Village. The project is structured as a real boundary wall surrounding the Westlake side of the village facing the Silvertree Estate. Inside the wall are placed social services absent in the village, keeping on top of the wall, a walkway with gardens and stopping points. The entry into the new system is demarcated by a building that houses work spaces for the residents of Westlake Village. The architectural composition featuring the facades of this building in two different ways, to the Westlake Village the structure of the building is brought outside including the

square, trying to rearrange the urban voids present; towards Silvertree Estate, the façade expresses its abstraction maintaining a semi-transparent surface that can show the symbol of the rebirth of the village. The project also upgrading the village core by inserting a constellation of architectural objects able to restore the network of social and labor relations and stimulate the regeneration of urban areas.

**Conclusion**  
 The difficulties inherent in the theme of the gated community concern primarily the inaccessibility of these areas and the impossibility of direct intervention. To try to open these areas, we first need to create the right conditions in the surrounding areas in order to develop a network of social relations in the urban scale. The multidisciplinary approach developed in this workshop has generated an innovative and alternative way to plan an urban area, capable of reconcile a symbolic character to a concrete aspects.



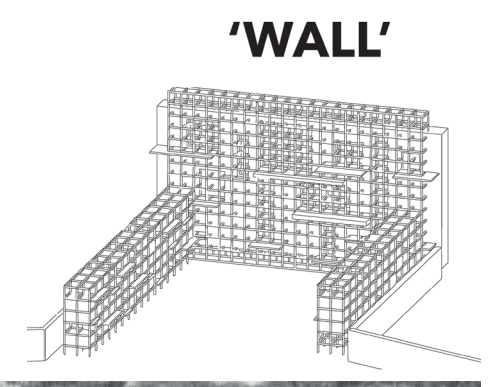
Two of the four entrances to the area are located at the border. The other two are inside the area. Despite the fact that the Silvertree Estate is a gated community, the area is very well connected with the rest of the city. The Silvertree Estate within its surroundings.



**PATH**



**LANDMARKS**



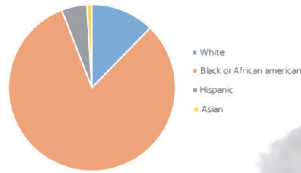
**'WALL'**



# Detroit

## Workshop Athens\_Border the Shrinking City

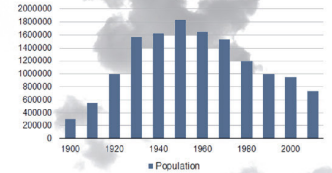
Racial distribution



Average Home Price in Detroit



Detroit Population



### Border the Shrinking City

Tutors: Giulia Ragnoli, Federico Rosson. Students: Diallo Ibrahim, Soufiane Lalami, Yiwen Zhu

Detroit was the town chosen for the “Shrinking City” concept, lead during the week of “The Art of Building Cities: a project for the XXI century city” workshop.

Towns of “Rust Belt” (post-industrial region in the north est America) have to do with problems related to the economic decline, reduction of population and urban decay. Detroit, among these, sees his populazion reduced of the 50%, related to the Fifties and his urban tissue characterized by the presence of empty and deserted blocks. The town is not made by a continuum of public and residential buildings but about “spots” and “isles” more or less denses that permit to the town to survive.

From the beginning of XIX century, Detroit registers a strong presence of immigration, according to the presence of manufacturing industry and automobilistic then. (the “5 dollars a day” described by Henry Ford in the Twenties) but even in relation to its geographical position, strategic for the commerce and the trade market.

The population is arising in uncontrolled way and related to the same town, that growing in a disorganized way it become a sprawling town.

When the economic crisis in the Seventie get in a crisis. the industry move where costs are less consistent, people loose their job and social contrasts become more evident and starts the phenomena of desertation.

This decline sees today Detroit in the higher position of depopulation desertification and crime and absence of services. Working in contexts so problematic means make a choice. A direction to follow could be the one to keep and consolidate some specifica areas, the ones with clear structures or high density of built, and abandone and convert the fragile tissue, or the too degradate ones.

Oswald Mathias Ungers in the 1977 in “The city within the city, Berlin as a green archipelago” analyze the city of Berlin proposing a model of town based on the idea of archipelago: urban isles inside a green area.

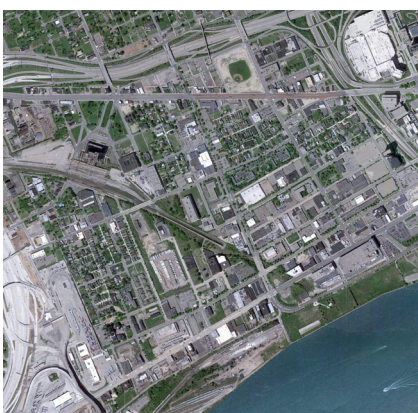
Starting from this manifesto and analysing the urban context of Detroit, it is immediat the individualization of districts consolidated as isles.

Corktown is an example of it. The ancient area of the town, at Ovest in the centrum, is ffounded in the 1835 from irish immigrates and is composed by victorian houses for workers. The first break in the territory is made in the Fourties, with the project “West Industrial District”, in relation to the historic part of the town destruction, made to biuld an industrial area in the Downtown. What follows is a serie of projects for enlarge the main streets and to re-project of high ways, breaking in a strong way the whole tissue.

Today Corktown is made up by urban tissues sewn together: some residential nucleus, industrial rests and empty blocks. The project, developed during the week of workshop on the thema, is based on the necessity of reconize the structured parts of the area La proposta progettuale, sviluppata durante la settimana di lavoro sul tema, si è basata proprio sulla necessità di definire leaving to the nature some part of the area that already have lost coherence.

The strategy was duale. In the first place we acted in the “historic” part of the town, going to consolidate the borders with the introduction of architectural elements able to contain the urban spread.

Big courts are formed so, with some parts volumetric and others free, with function of gallery, to densify the internal tissue. For second, we thought to create a sistem of canalization that interests some roads abandoned, related to the presence of green areas and spontaneous vegetation, according to principles of landscape urbanism.



# Detroit

Case study: Corktown  
Students' Contribution

Before starting the POLI9 course of architecture, I had never done any architecture formation neither did I have an architectural background. This is why I chose the course, to discover the architectural domain and to have an idea about its basis, its degree of development and the concept of contemporary urban architecture through the topic of the art of urban composition. The first courses allowed me to discover some main references of architecture as for example Le Corbusier.

After that, we had to choose a modern

architectural problematic in order to propose a solution. I chose the problematic of shrinking in the neighborhood of Corktown, in the city of Detroit. The city has lost 1.2 million people since the 1950s. Between 2000 and 2010, they city's population fell by 25 percent which would send any city into crisis. As the inhabitants gone to other cities, the job opportunities left with them. Now the city remained with plummeting tax receipts, rising crime and derelict streets.

I chose this problematic because I saw a number of programs about how the fall of the car industry (Detroit was considered in the past as the word capital of the automobile industry) and the economic crisis promoted street art and music in the city as a way to

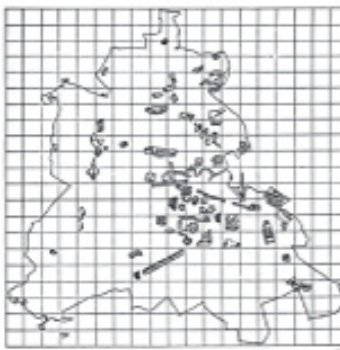
fight the crisis. To propose a solution to this problem, we started by analyzing the boundaries of Corktown. We observed that it was surrounded in 3 sides by highways and freeways, and in the last side by the Detroit River. The phenomenon of shrinking was more intense in the center of Corktown than the boundaries. From this point we had the idea to resolve the shrinking problem by dividing Corktown into two islands, in the east side and west side, by digging canals of water in the rest of the lands. This had the advantage of concentrating the population in a smallest area in order to rise the population density and then introduce a new economical dynamic.



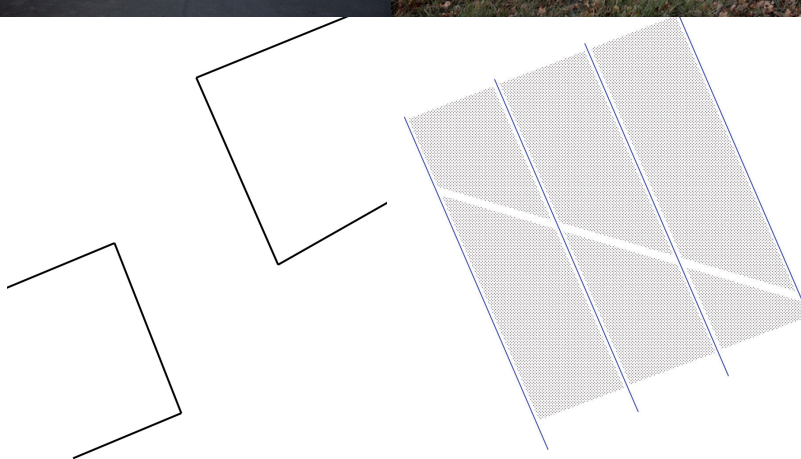
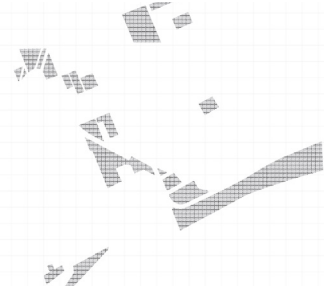
la città nella città



Pianta delle isole urbane



Corta della stazione edicola di Berlino





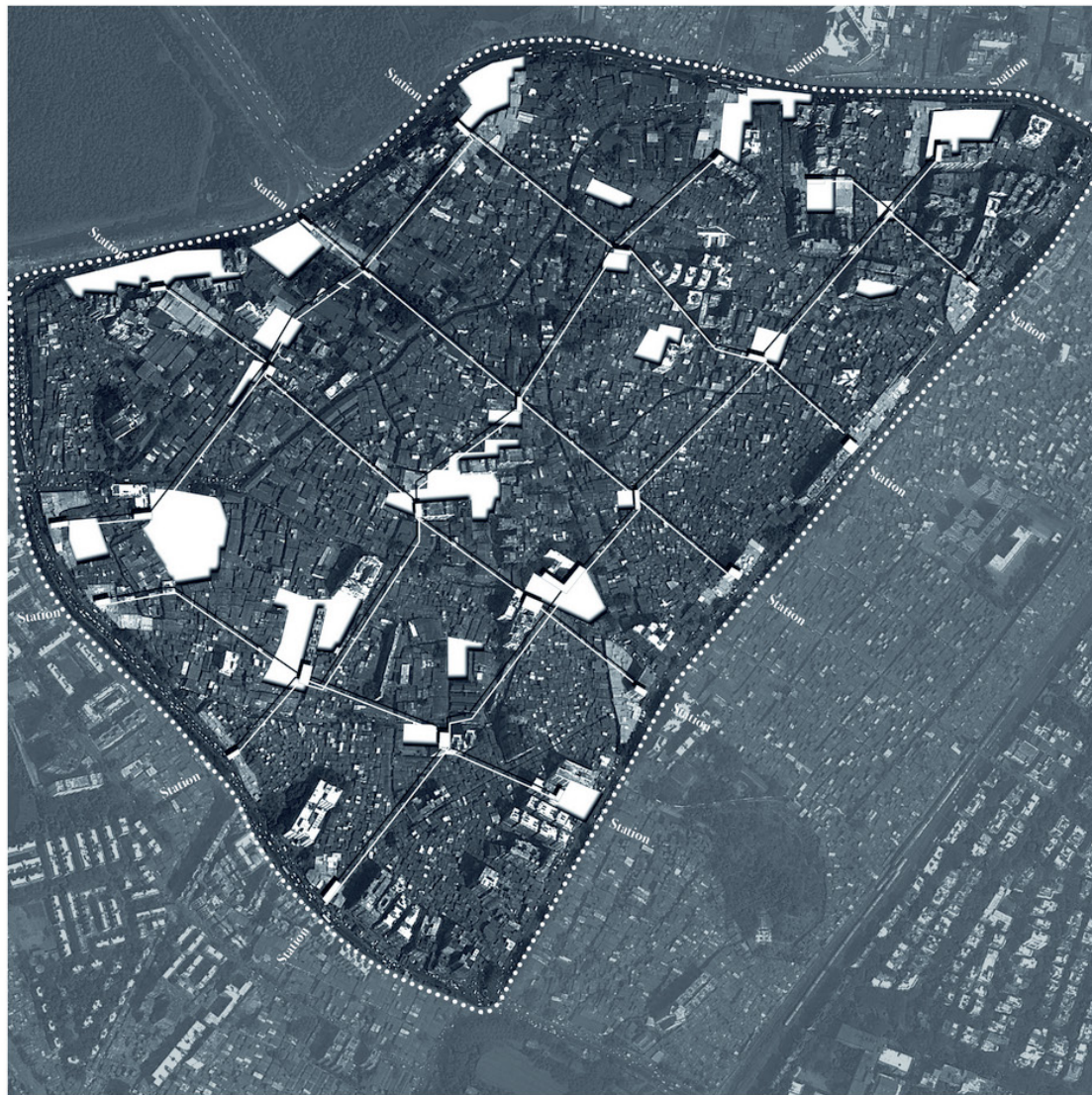
nowadays one of the most densely populated districts of the city. The main active industries are leather manufacturing, traditionally related to the community of the Dalits or Untouchables, since leather was considered impure, the production of textiles, jewelry, pottery and food, and the recycling industry. It's important to underline that these productions that take place within the settlement are part of a more complex economic network: the raw materials come from all over the subcontinent through the port and the Crawford Market while finished can be sold on site, in other parts of the city or exported abroad.

The design proposal, developed during the week of workshop, came after a careful reading of the urban fabric recognizing a correlation with its economic and productive system. If the main roads are characterized by a considerable congestion and are the place of trade and exchange, along with the flow of people and goods, they define productive clusters where the goods are stored and processed before being released back into the local and urban economical circuits.

The chosen strategy proposes an interaction with the changeable densities of the productive clusters and the connective paths through a weak and light infrastructure in an attempt to decongest the system without altering its dynamics. The project in fact proposes, through a cableway, the relocation of the flow of raw materials, semi-finished and finished products towards the outside of the neighborhood, hence decongesting the connective system so that it can have just to accommodate commercial activities and flows of people.

The grid of the cableway, that extends above the entire surface of the settlement, is structured by: internal stations, in open spaces or in occupied existing buildings, and peripheral ones, on the edge of the district that serve for loading and unloading the goods and thus as a medium between the local and the urban exchange network. Dharavi is in fact surrounded by heavy traffic roads that allow the passage of trucks. A further effect of this system is the functional reorganization of the district with the relocation of storages in the edges and in the proximity of the ring-road, freeing up space in the houses that are parts of productive clusters.

0 100 200 300 400 500m



# Lille-Kortrijk

## Workshop Athens\_Sprawling City

### Sprawling City

Tutor: Claudia Mainardi.  
Students: Lien Flamang,  
Emily Haest, Katarzyna Supera

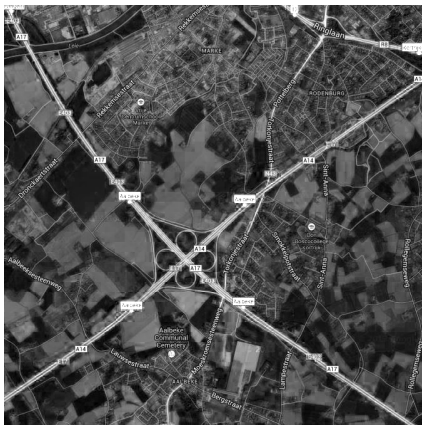
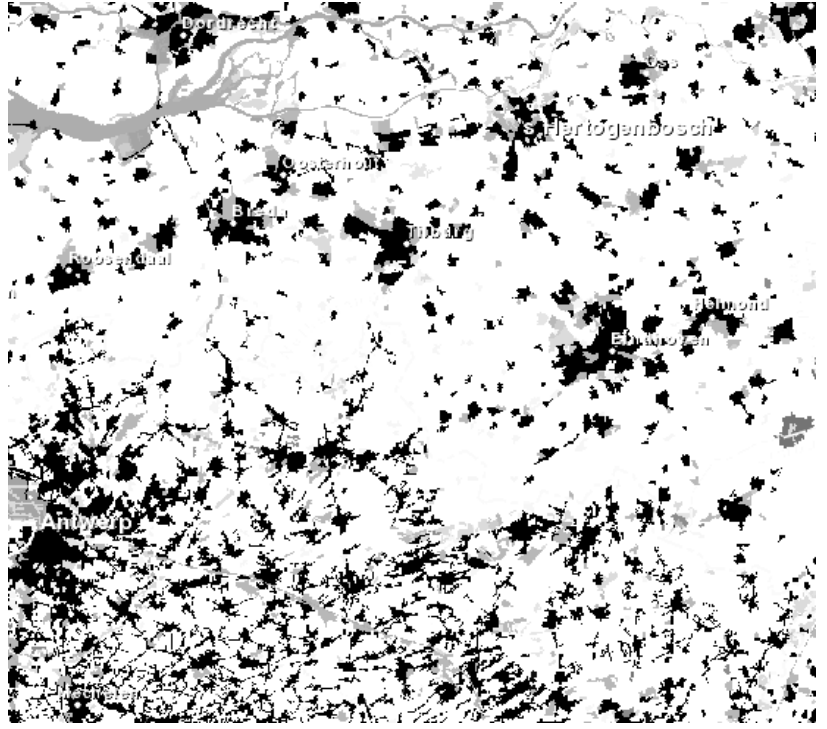
Sprawl is a term generically used to specify a condition of city's quick development in the peripheral areas connoted by low density, reduction of green spaces, soil consumption, dependence from motor vehicle because of a big distance from services and in general for the scarcity of infrastructures for the alternative mobility!

The area that has been analyzed and taken as object of experimentation is located between the north of the France and the south of Belgium, between Lille, Bruxelles, Antwerpen until Rotterdam.

Lille is the capital of a very off-center region compared to the French context. It is a region that has more connection with the urban continuum that characterizes part of the north-western territory of Europe, than with the rest part of the french urban net. In short, Lille is part of that big urban region in the core of the northern Europe which, without solution of discontinuity, interests part of the France and Belgium, until the Randstad Holland. It is a complex and policentric conurbation of about two millions inhabitants that has been developed starting from a plurality of historical urban units, where the principals are Lille, Roubaix and Tourcoing in France, Tournai and Kortrijk in Belgium.

In detail the study area coincides with the crossroads between E17 and E403. The choose is due to the fact that this context presents very heterogeneous urban conditions like infrastructures, detached and semidetached houses and agricultural fields, all things that connote the space as very similar to one that Rem Koolhaas calls Generic City:

"The generic city stands for everything the archetypical urban sociologist does not like: sprawl, sameness, repetition. It is literally, a city without history





created on a plane, a surface. Koolhaas thematizes the phenomenon of urban sprawl as an essential characteristic of the future in which density is artificially created in the form of urban simulacra: shopping malls, theme parks and museum environments”!

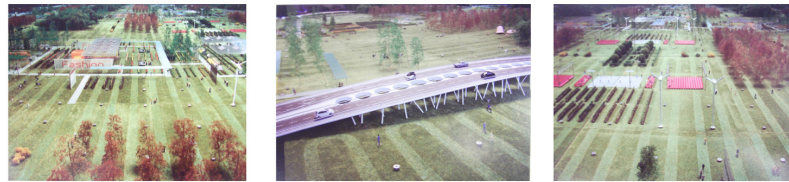
The sprawl is the dominant model of urban and metropolitan development of the last decades and it seems be the same also for the next future. It isn't only a spatial phenomenon, but a model that is in the same time cause and consequence of economic and political decisions, and the ways of change that brings with itself are both spatial, structural and social. As Ewing<sup>2</sup> says it isn't the sprawl itself to be something non desirable, but the negative impacts that are associated to it: like overhead and impact on the public and private capital; transport costs, effects on the conservation of natural habitats and on the soil preservation; effects on the life quality!

During the workshop week two different possible alternatives were discovered. At the beginning we thought to emphasize the connotative character and to stress this condition creating a “weak and spread city”<sup>3</sup> able to reorganize itself on the basis of own logics: the city no more as concentrate urban agglomeration, but as rarefied and continuous one.

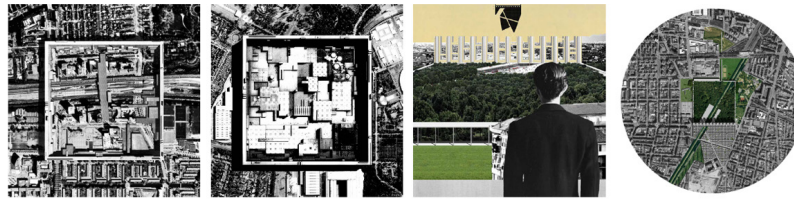
Despite the quality of this first idea we choose the second way totally opposite on the traces of Pier Vittorio Aureli's Stop City. Stop City, assuming the form of the edge that divide the urbanization from



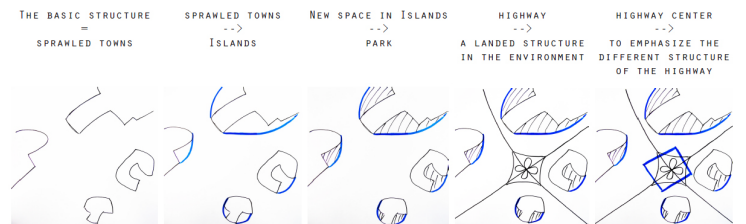
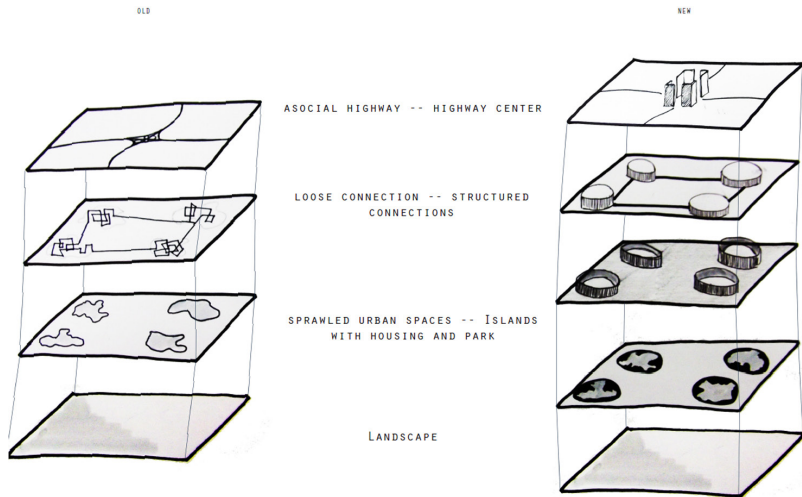
THE PARK



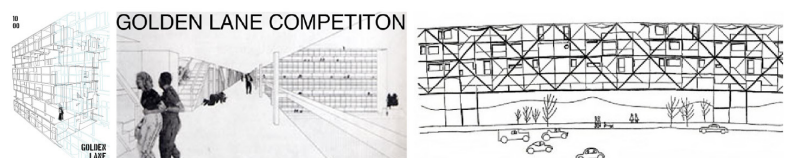
THE HIGHWAY-CENTER



the empty space, suggests itself as limit, and so, as city form itself, is an archipelago of urban island with big concentration. It creates a strong division between city and rural area: it is permitted to maintain the rural fields without the necessity that these have to be expropriated for buildings, but at the same time it is used the maximum available surface to offer houses to a city increasingly on the rise. The growing of Stop City happens thanks to its limit or for punctual repetition of the base unit when the unit is completed. Each building of Stop City is a city within the city.



THE BORDER



# Singapore

## Workshop Athens\_Tabularasing

Tabularasing

Tutors: *Monia Giannotta, Stefano D'Armento.*

Students: *Betul Gurcan, Mouhcine Mbarki, Eric Pitalieri.*



Form 50 years Singapore represents the realization of the dream - or better saying the nightmare - of the modernist town: tabula rasa, zoning, expropriation, expansions. This little island is the result, always temporary, of a metamorphosis continue.

The first step to understand Singapore is unificate the entities of territory and city. The town has the dimension of its island, not for the expansion impetuous already divored his total dimension but because of a plan that built the whale area was redacted.

Even the smallest area has a destination pre-established, a function.

The central government, after the independency from UK, has used the urbanism as potent instrument to social control. This lead to permit to everyone good life conditions without any free for individual will, obtaining an easy cntrr of the population.

The necessity of houses for the rapid grows is rapidly converted in the presence of towers, and linear buildings, realized from the 1960 by the Hdb (Housing and Development Board) occupying

agricultural areas and breaking

down some existent blocks of typical shophouse.

The pianification and zonization in the island rend the whale soil full of buildings using the efficient infrastructures and leaving some central areas as "natural reserves"

The south-east part is totally used for industries and in some part it is built on soil taken by the sea.

Singapore is so a huge urban expereriment and an ingenieristic experment.

The temporality of new edifications and their validity in time, 30 years more or less, before the cycle of tabularasing came over.

From these reflections on the town it comes out the project experience lead in occasion of Athens workshop, in the week by 18 - 22 November 2013, during wich the students use the theme of tabularasing, used as a repeated process.

In particoular the work is centred on the area od Queenstown, the first realized following the logic described. these linear building are substituted by groups of tower, doubling the density. Queenstown is hemblematic, described by Rem Koolhaas in Singapore Songlines:

"In a few months the construction of

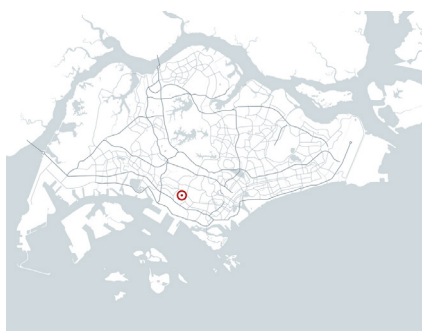
Queenstown is lead on a virgin soil out of the center: huge precence of residential areas without architectural quality and with linear balconies as unic sense of tropicality remind to some militar composition [...] Queenstown reflected the politic of total ambient .. a commercial center.. for every area... a Town Center with cinemas, shops, restaurants, night clubs.."

That's the fight, propose an alternative model of tabula rasa, going to substitue the tower blocks with a densification and giving a new sense and a new identity to these anonymous buildings.

The first attention goes to the existent spaces, in some cases so small, among the linear houses, and to the necessity of increase the volumetry in the right quantity to grant the substitution of existent buildings.

Using statistic datas, it is estimated the growing of popoulation in 2030 and defined a volumetry to add to the project: the project has now 8 linear buildings with a court that has the same high.

The precence of this volume that goes over the buildings granted the answer to the necessity of houses, related to the increase of population, but create too new empty spaces: it



is made as a container not only residential but with the functions and open spaces for collectivity, with the idea of getting more interactant and social exchange in the area.

These functions are situated to support the main superior court, a metallic structure insert in the space that is interclosed among the two linear buildings.

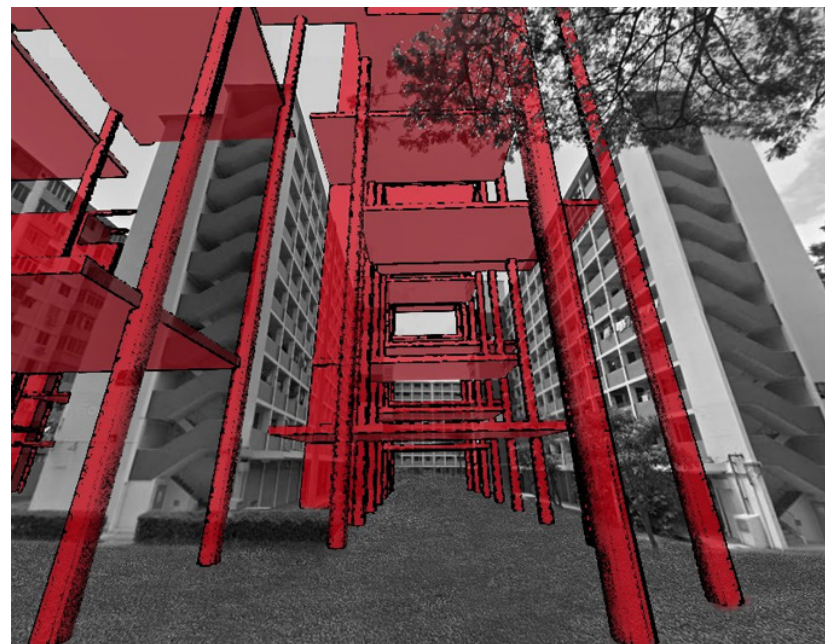
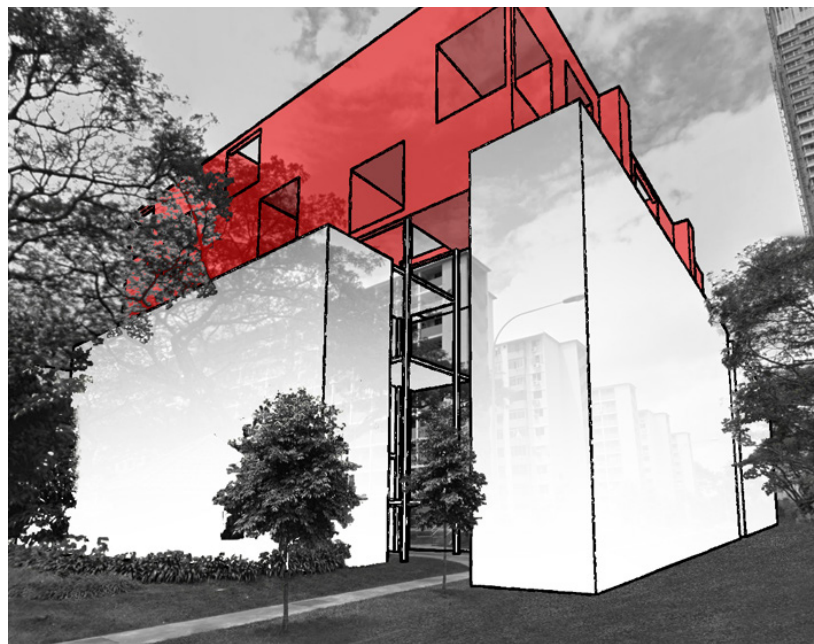
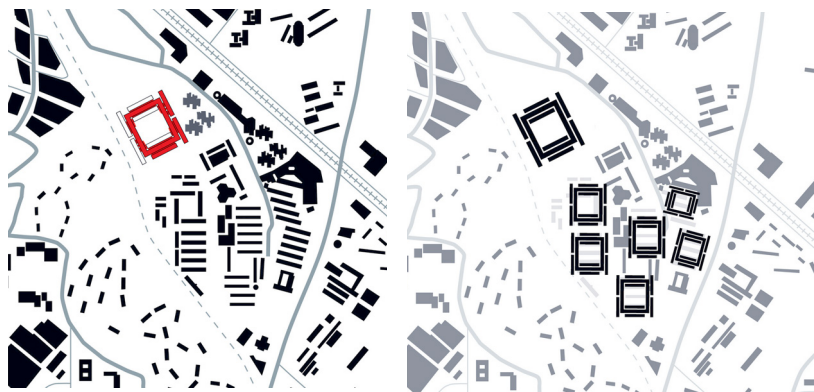
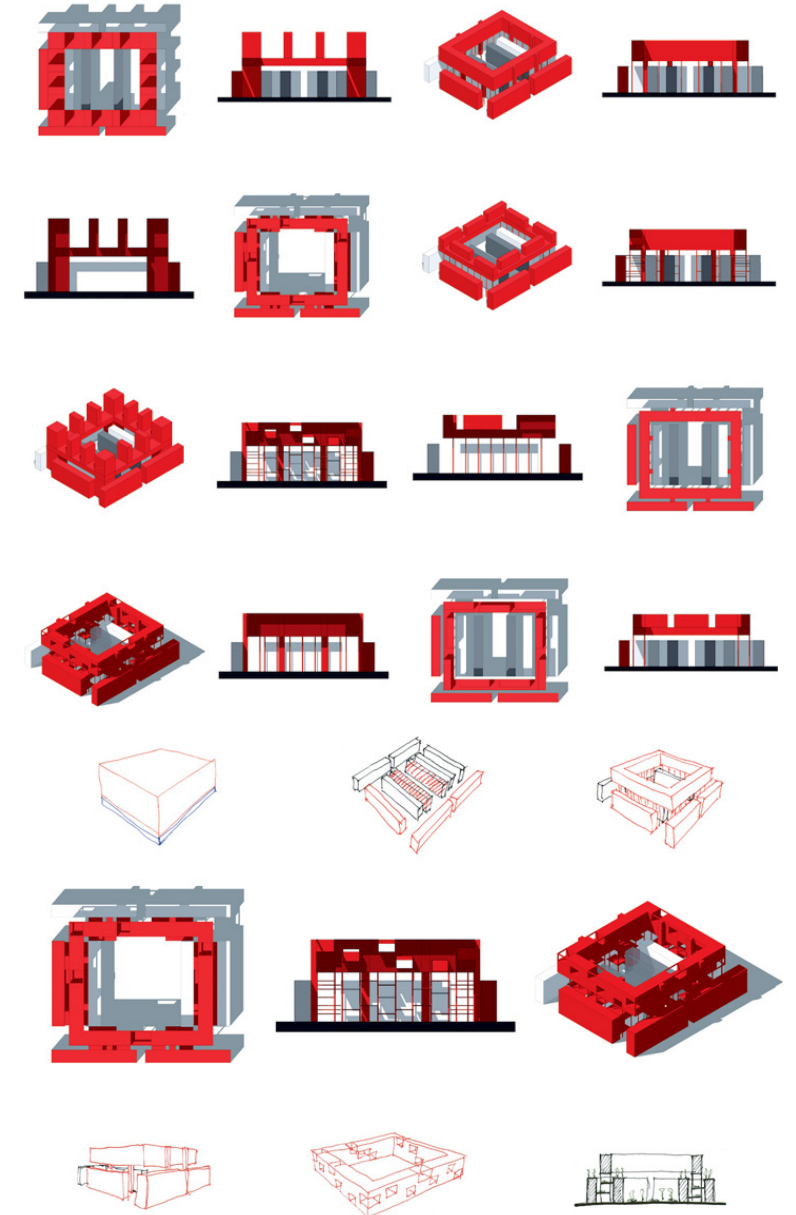
This way a totality of buildings creates a modernist model iperdense transformed in a series of buildings:

Queenstown 1960

Planimetry of existence court complex, in wich we go tro create community spaces to socialize. A new attention goes now to the ground floors, now with public functions, creating this way an urban looks, that express vitality and more coherent under the functional aspect.

This project based on Singapore and the tabilarasing is an opportunity to think about the dynamics that governs this specific reality, paying attention on the distruction and re-construcion process, not related to the tabula rasa process present now in other town (like in Istambul).

In this case we thought about an answer, one of the possible, alternative that coud stop this process using the existent and giving form to new complex architectural objects - that starts from easy concetp like the one of the court- to transform tissues of town in more compact, dense and mixed-used buildings.



CHOSEN VARIANT

## Biography, Urban Methabolism

Ernesto d'Alfonso

The last times I have talked about time and space for architecture and today we should take the attention on the “body”, the architectonic body, that in ancient time was called “factory” and “urban factory”, when is a building type or urban form. In this case on the oldness of building and the capacity of a correct way of working. This needs periodical interventions to repair or for substitution of parts (buildings in their block or full part of urban areas in isolated blocks), with different parts, demolitions and structural reformations, addition of parts of different dimensions, that determinate reale “revolutions” on the way of urban area is working. All these operations, real actions of urban replacement, or better the urban artificial metabolism, remove oldness and disfunction, bringing new energy to the urban structure and marks momento of reborn and riattivazione. All of these action are motivated by a vision of the future and their relatives aspectatives. They are all defined by an architectural project. Architectural project and Urban Methabolism are related in the action of give new force to the urban factory, removing the incapacity of working.

The architectural work, that goes to renews the town, give a new sense of time: in particular the hours of crisis, that needs the action to express in a project, the research of “why the crisis” and of “how resist” or better to find a new way.

For this reasons we put the human competence (in the sense intended by Chomsky and Choay) that talks about “will” and “intentions” of the research until the discovering.

This specific effort is like thinking about the way of acting in the wright (sort of illumination) or wrong way and how to memorize (symbolize) because in this work bringing new life and give a symbolic sense, happens that usually is possible to discover the new. In the time of crisis it is to remark the reject of repeating proceeds already experimented and starting back from the beginning.

It is the beginning of a new discontinuity of efficiency, signed by the same architectural work.

To not proceed in an abstract way, remembering that this fact is an intuition, in the first decade of XX century, “futurism”, sort of break of the continuity with the past to better talk with its own time. It was called Value of contemporaneity, against the Value of ancienty, that was looked as a value that generate history. And doesn't go to repeat what is already done.

It is even necessary to read to the futurist manifesto of Sant'Elia to think again on the futurist town that is simplify in a project of town, to intend the value of contemporaneity as an addiction, to syntonize with the spirit of time (zeitgeist) and to sign the time of a Urban Biography that constitutes the specific of urban history. Maybe in the listening, today, the enthusiasm of our time, is already passed by some time to reject the radicality of tabula rasa, wich was remanding on a sort of autodistructive nihilist feeling the future expectations.

Nome identificativo storico	Paradigmi della forma della struttura	Grado di scala, carattere della forma urbana	Idea di cittadinanza	Unità di misura
Met-city regionale nelle città del mondo	Archipelago (metcity) per la pratica a spot di telecittà	Scala elettrodomestica e delle protesi urbane	Utopia di una cittadinanza mondiale	Tempo
Urbanizzazione suburbana diffusa/XX secolo 2° metà Probstadt / Kleinestadt Gardencity, città di fondazione, XX secolo 1° metà	Forma intercomunale di urbanizzazione diffusa '40 / '60 Forma urbana iperconcentrata '10/ '40 "Metropolis"	Scala di urbanizzazione diffusa per formazioni lineari multiscala Scala "metropolitana" urbana	Socialismo Internazionale	Tempospazio
Città industriale XIX secolo	Urbanistica regolatrice: piano regolatore, regolamento edilizio, manuale	Scala della doppia rete viaria ferroviaria	Cosmopolitismo Internazionale	Spaziotempo
Città murata preindustriale XV/XVII secolo	Articolazione e integrazione dei borghi (quartieri-sestieri) nell'intera forma urbis in un disegno ideale	Scala della folla	Cittadinanza "regionale" appartenenza alla città-stato	Spazio
Città murata medioevale	Sovrapposizione edilizia di strati, addizione di case nel borgo, addizione di borghi	Scala della prossimità	Cittadinanza urbana appartenenza al comune	Passo

I have mentioned it just to underline the importance of the past choice and to confirm the value of contemporaneity like a generator of history. Wich is not an annihilator of history.

To strongly confirm that the Urban biography, the urban metabolism and the architectural project are in a close contact, a sort of unic node of interdependence that operates together.

Not to perpetuate the path already done or his principles and intendiments but to confirm the work of what, again, is under the eyes like a sort of unknown, inedited urban world next to a concentrate, condense of people and activity; to mobilitate resources and energies in a reform action able to support the proceed of a social action in the time, wich is open to the future.

Here we introduce the intention, unknown to the futurism to understand the spirit of the time. In the way of co-presence, specific in the being of the architectural form.

The happy terms of intuition of Focillon in La vie des fermes: the extended presence starting by an event that opens to a nowadays of cohesistent for preexistence.

In other words, Urban Biography, Urban Metabolism, architectural project are related in an interdependence operous in the act of opening an extended present, the origin of an arch of time in wich the form of building (designed and built) is offered to the frequentation and to the uses – like a footprint of artificial field , in wich the building is coming out- made up by an image.

A form that goes to substitute what is removed, what goes in the tip and that non removing the rest goes to convive with it. This, cohabitating, goes to start a process of adaptation.

The term urban biography goes to operate, in these house to mutations of its own form, and these are “mutations” of paradigm that conduct the structure of new way of working. Born, renew, reform, the condition for the right moment is that goes to cleave to the spirit of time and to guess the “verse” of mutation and to express it in a form recognizable and shared.

In the form, I repeat, that starts to be used (of wich and why it is monument), like the present, who are going to be ther e as cooperating presence with their action.

Accepting the term of present extended made by Focillon I support the value of “non past” and for this other present “who lives”, compared to it is always anachronistic, because already there before and persisting in being present.

I intend collimating the mode with the time in architecture, the being anachronistic of the passage of time that is not personal.

In a sort of consequence that in the anonymous way is the concept of the project . Anonymity that is not prejudice for the value of individual work and personal of who, searching in the intentions, understand the nature of phenomenas that are manifested of the world and goes to invent the way to rend them. This is not working as “hour of whois doing this” but in the way of invention –discovery of fattibilità or being part of reale in the world (capacity of actualize, made up by the consence and confimed by uses.)

Here I arrest myself. I'm turning back to discontinuity of genesis and to the principle of contemporaneity that is opening the adherence to the spirit of the moment. Tome, the discover of “Futurism” of Boccioni and Sant'Elia, non just of Marinetti.

At the idea of *Città che sale*, not just that is growing. And it become grosstadt unmanageble for instruments of regulation plan and to reclame new paradigmatic models (for wich Hilberseimer and Le Corbusier give the first formulations) and that could express the research of syntony with the zeitgeist and of the grosstadt.

I am turning back repeating that to be part of the modernity today the notion of coexistence in progressive time of “discontinuity” imposed by the “ri-orientation of justice” next to conflict of value.

In particular on the exclusivity of values on wich our western society had based the civil convivence. Because other form of convivence could be existing and the values of the same are proved. The final moment is a sort of form of shared civil convivence.

Thinking to this, I am thinking about the importance that is going to assume the question of urban form not-disciplined or “spontaneous”, like favelas that, with different nouns, going on existing in exploding towns.

Not just for being non-legal, but for being non-conform to rules of behavior in the fact of building cities that is shared in the western thought.

So today, they are not just illegal but generically are called informal. These are opposed and often as alternative of the more brilliant and “up to date” of architecture today like reciprocal exclusive and excludent. While it is possible to them to coexist, and they do it. Actually they are in a certain way synergic. They are alimenting each other.

So, in the wondering on what is wright, with the name of no-profit of non right binomious that is sintesis of phenomenas of urban dynamics today, we are going to open the confront of different situation in informal, Africans, Indians, brasilians.. to ask how.

To confront, I insert the dyagram of times, of the urban biography of European towns, that seems to be not confrontible with the dynamic acceleration of mutations nowadays. And anyway it has to measure and be compared to these.

## ArcDueCittà

Special number  
Athens 2013  
March 2014  
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Graphic project  
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Autorizzazione del Tribunale di Milano n° 326 del 17 Giugno 2011

Code ISSN 2240-7553  
Website: <http://www.arcduccitta.it/>  
Forum: <http://arcduccitta.forumfree.it/>

