

notice

We would like to inform you that on February 4 2008, the Center for Cities on Water moved to our new location at:

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They're talking about us...

Regioni&Ambiente

An information and education magazine

Year VIII, n 12 December 2007, page 13

An article entitled 'UrbanPromo - Venice, November 21-24 2007.

Port cities and urban waterfronts: dialogue for sustainable development. New experiences in Italy, Spain and Portugal', written by our collaborator Oriana Giovinazzi was featured in issue number 12 of *Regioni&Ambiente* (in the section dedicated to Events and Conventions). The subject of the article was a synthesis and account of the conference dedicated to the theme of the waterfront organized by Cities on Water and RETE last November during the urban marketing event, UrbanPromo 2007.

New members

A Korean architectural firm

Starting in 2008, the architectural firm SAK, from Seoul, Korea, is a new member of the Center for Cities on Water; we have had many opportunities to collaborate with this firm, in particular with its founder, architect Seon-Ah Kim.

Organization of events

Urbanpromo 2007: seminar "Waterfront, an engine for development"

Thanks to the initiative by Urbit (Urbanistica Italiana srl) and the International Center for Cities on Water, the debate continued the day after (November 24) in a seminar entitled "Waterfronts an engine for city development", giving ample space to Italian experiences in which the waterfront became an opportunity for development.

The Regione Campania has been advancing a rather complex experience for several years, based on the idea of port park understood as an integrated system of regional areas and sections of coast distinguished by the presence of a port, but with different geo-morphological, economical and functional characteristics.

A system that currently includes 58 infrastructures including ports, docks and marinas, from the ports of Naples and Salerno to the port of the Vesuvian region of Portici and Galattello, from the ports of Capri, Amalfi and Sorrento to the ports of Sapri and Acquamorta. "The concept of waterfront that underlies the idea of port park does not refer exclusively to a regional-urban context, but to a non-anthropized territory, to a line that is simultaneously water and land where the functional and esthetic-environmental factors are equally important", explained *Brunella Rallo*, Director of Staff for the Assessorato ai Trasporti of the Regione Campania. The system, founded in 2002 with the Integrated Tourist Port Project and currently in the phase of completion, involves 43 Municipal Governments, a morphological-typological mix of port areas, public and private projects, partnerships and joint ventures; with an overall investment of 680 million euro that will create 8000 new boat slips, and allow the renovation of existing spaces and infrastructures on the territory, projects to benefit tourism, the cruise and boating industry, as well as interventions to ensure the safety and accessibility of the areas, environmental sustainability and the revitalization of the coasts. This system also becomes a virtual system of relationships involving for the entire coastal region that will allow the ports of the Campania Region to promote a common sustainable future.

The case of Ravenna is very interesting in the Italian context because of its particular characteristic: it features a canal exten-

ded across two shores for a distance of 12 km that connects the city to the sea, which over time has become a matrix for the territorial configuration of an area in which many activities take place. The transformation process undertaken in recent decades has been governed with traditional planning tools and complex programs: they identified the decentralization of port activities as the premise for the development of a new tourist port (with 1500 slips), of a maritime terminal located between the waterfront and the residential areas behind it and a promenade along the breakwater, to be used by the public and designated to host many different functions. Among the areas included in the PRUSST Darsena di Città plan (a surface of 150 hectares), the properties owned by Eni recently witnessed the demolition of several abandoned industrial facilities; in the short term, clean-up should begin to prepare the land for the construction of the Città della Nautica. The master plan developed by Boeri Studio for this site of excellence so close to the ancient city center interprets the water element and, consequently, the theme of the waterfront as the characteristic that will unify the various projects on this vast territory fragmented into many different properties, interpreting this theme as an added value and a qualifying element of the design proposals. "To govern this process, it was essential to choose a flexible instrument that could divide the transformation into many phases and adapt to the changing requirements of the territory" explained *Fabio Poggioli*, Councilor for City Planning and Building for the City of Ravenna, without forgetting the public contribution that made it possible to complete the first regeneration as early as 1990, in particular housing projects. The objective is to use the Operative City Plan to involve private business in



activities of the centre 2/3

the process of returning this area to the city, recognizing its original vocation as a port but with the added presence of many new urban functions. *Giuseppe Parrello*, President of the Port Authority of Ravenna, underlined that " we have attained results thanks to a constant and constructive relationship between the City and the Port Authority; it has led us to theorize new forms of interaction with other subjects as well, who have responsibilities and interests in this area, with the institution of a public development agency (City, Port Authority, Provincial Government and Chamber of Commerce) which should guarantee the continuity of a complex long-term process".

Venice, on the other hand, never planned its waterfront, but has always considered the waterfront as an integral part of the city. For several decades it has worked on an extraordinary and fascinating project to develop the territory, which has done little however to bring the projects to term and to concretize the intentions, perhaps because the local bodies have mostly been unable to construct forms of dialogue and to prospect a common future scenario. There are about twenty design themes concerning the urban-port area which all parties involved are debating

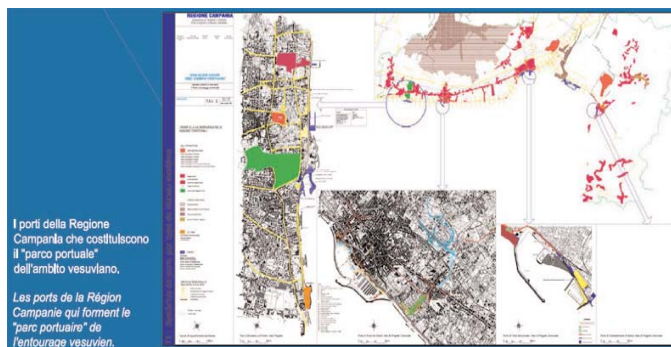


without being able to reach a definitive proposal: from the identification of which banks to use for docking tourist ships to the access and public use of the areas of San Basilio and Santa Marta, from the hypothesis to expand the maritime area of the fish and vegetable market to the construction of a multi-story parking garage to service the maritime station near Piazzale Roma. One of the most interesting projects in terms of urban prospects and opportunities for economic development, is the construction of a new maritime terminal for the tourist-cruise industry and the regeneration of the industrial zone of Porto Marghera (a surface of approximately 2000 hectares) which, as sustained by *Roberto Pugliese*, an executive of the Strategic Planning Area of the City of Venice, "should lead to an overall strategic redefinition of the waterfront, with the identification of quality solutions for the entire metropolitan area".

The City of Reggio Calabria also chose architectural quality as its objective: in particular, it tendered a design competition to re-establish the relationship with the waterfront, in which many established professional firms participated. The city, which for historic reasons suffered a separation between its urban fabric and the waterfront that lasted many years, entrusted its new urban image to the restoration of several abandoned areas and the construction of the project by architect Zaha Hadid. Two areas were selected near the central seafront, one to the south and one to the north, considered strategic for the completion of the waterfront and to connect the urban fabric with the port: the first, alienated by the Italian railroads, is located near the central station, and is easily accessible to be used; the second, previously occupied by a currently uninhabited old fishing town, has become

available for other uses. Two large urban voids where the international design competition, won by Zaha Hadid, will locate two symbolic buildings, destined over time to connote the city; the project exploits the opportunity offered by their position which will make them perfectly visible from the opposite coast, interpreting them as a powerful symbol of the "Mediterranean" and attributing a suggestive meaning to their construction. The objective of the master plan is to make the two elements interact with the urban fabric, creating a receptive area with hotel structures, residential areas and public services, areas for leisure activities and green spaces. The Museum of the Mediterranean is located near the project behind the western port wharves, where a large urban square will be built at the end of the seaside promenade, with various functions located on the level directly facing the sea and on the upper level; inside the museum, a space for the permanent collections, the restoration laboratories, the archives and the library. The separation between vehicle traffic and pedestrian circulation will guarantee the continuity of the seafront from the museum to the community center on the opposite side, on an area of approximately 100,000 square meters where the project includes the restoration of the beach, the construction of new docks for tourist yachting and nautical services, the creation of a new connection between the urban fabric and the waterfront. Divided into three large buildings looking over the new square and the inner artificial basin, the community center will host a shopping center, a gym, several craft workshops, a movie theatre, the docks for maritime connections over a surface of approximately 8000 square meters. It was possible to overcome the barrier constituted by the presence of the tracks by creating a series of very light aerial passages that fit perfectly into the project. The city of Reggio Calabria therefore adopted a design strategy that relies on ambitious single operations, with the objective of giving form to a grand comprehensive idea of how to reclaim the relationship with water.

A transformation of great quality across the entire territory to stimulate subjects and actions is what Salerno wants for its waterfront; it followed an articulated process to identify directions, policies and methods to begin the urban transformation of the waterfront. The experience with professor Oriol Bohigas led to the decision to identify and develop a mutually established series of specific strategic projects in consolidated areas, to determine spatial morphologies, economic growth and prospects for development, and in the end to develop a final hypothesis for the new



city master plan. There are many experiences in progress in the urban-port areas and specific projects in an advanced stage of development, from the Cittadella della Giustizia designed by David Chipperfield to the Palazzetto dello Sport designed by Carlo Scarpa, from the project to regenerate the primary artery of connection from the center of the city to the planned residential expansion. "All of this was made possible - explained *Domenico de Maio*, Councilor for City Planning of the City of Salerno - thanks to a program to alienate several port areas from the public domain, making strategic areas on the seafront available to the City Administration, in collaboration with the Port Authority and a number of private subjects". The future scenario includes the regeneration of the commercial port - where some blighted buildings have already been demolished because the important functions they used to serve are no longer compatible with the urban fabric - the improvement of the beach at Santa Teresa, which is currently characterized by industrial structures and the poor quality of the adjacent urban fabric, and the construction of a new marina. The project for the maritime station, designed by Zaha Hadid, includes the construction of a building that will characterize the entire complex and host retail and various other activities, a large square located 7 meters above sea level with a number of underground parking garages below, terraced on the east towards the beach of Santa Teresa and on the west towards the marina.

Architect Ricardo Bofill worked on the design of the area near Piazza della Concordia, framed by a multi-purpose semi-circular building that contains residential, commercial and office spaces; his project, which won a design competition, responds to the essential guidelines and criteria established by the City Administration, such as the functional and visual relationship with the water, the elements and the objects around it, with the historic city center and a series of monumental buildings; it will guarantee the continuity and integration into the system of public green spaces and the promenade along the sea by moving the system of mobility along the waterfront underground.

These experiences all addressed issues involving the quantity, quality, centrality and strategic role of the areas wedged between the urban fabric and the water, "complex territories with a powerful symbolic value and a strong identity which must be made accessible to the public and open to public fruition", as underlined by *Marta Moretti*, Deputy Director of the International Centre Cities on Water. The theme of the urban waterfront, as the two

encounters highlighted, is an extremely relevant issue today, it stimulates the interests of many parties and involves not only large urban realities but small and medium waterfront cities in operations of regeneration and functional renovation, as they try to take advantage of the opportunities that this resource offers to local development.

(O. G.)

Partecipation in events

Landscape e Energy in Bologna

The Centre Cities on Water participated in the international workshop entitled 'Paesaggio e Energia' organized by the trade fair 'Costruire Verde', held in Bologna from March 12 through 15. The fair, addressed to landscape architects, designers and builders, promoted and presented solutions and technologies for the integration between green spaces and urban furniture, between interiors and exteriors for the optimization of planting and grassy areas in private and public gardens, in parks and in any context where vegetation becomes a construction element. The international meeting, promoted by Bolognafiere and Paysage, illustrated a number of different experiences in this field, and included a presentation by the Director of Cities on Water on the theme of 'Waterfronts and Cities on Water'.

European projects

Grundtvig: rivers in transformation

The Centre Cities on Water was granted funding from the Grundtvig program for the project entitled "Rivers of Change. Connecting - Learning - Creating" which explores the river as an object of research and study, addressing its potential use as a public space open to everyone. The goal is to develop a new partnership between cities where the water, the communities, art and culture can meet, to sustain a European and international intercultural dialogue. The following cities are partners in the project: Warsaw, Poland (Federation of Independent Filmmakers and STEP-Association for Education and Progress), Vienna, Austria (Danube Island Festival), Lisbon, Portugal, (EGEAC-Management of Facilities and Cultural Animation Enterprise), Dublin, Ireland (Temple Bar Cultural Trust), and Venice, Italy (Città d'Acqua). The first meeting was held in Venice from February 14 through 17. In addition to the

sessions dedicated to organizing the work on the project, a number of meetings were held to discuss the subject of the relationship between Venice and the water and how it may be cultivated to improve the quality of urban life. The speakers included: Consorzio Venezia Nuova (*Giovanni Cecconi*), the City of Venice (*Stefano Pillinini*), ACTV spa (*Gianluca Cuzzolin*), followed by the presentation of the Leader +project entitled 'Vie d'acqua del Nord d'Italia', The waterways of northern Italy (*Susanna Ravelli*). A series of field trips were also organized, in particular with Thetis Spa (*Antonietta Grandesso*) to the Arsenale, with Vento di Venezia (*Alberto Sonino*) and the IED-Istituto Europeo del Design (*Simona Maccagnini*) to the Island of the Certosa, to introduce new productive situations on islands or in abandoned or underutilized places which display historic/architectural qualities and have now been revitalized for different uses.

The encounter was also an opportunity to introduce a wider public to the River//Cities platform which promotes the river as an element of identity and a resource for the city, highlighting its artistic and cultural potential.

The Grundtvig sectorial program responds to the educational and learning needs of people involved in any form of adult education, and to the institutes and organizations who offer or advance this type of education.

(M. M.)



rete

association for the collaboration between ports and cities

Municipalities

Arrecife-Lanzarote, Consell Insular de Menorca, Mahón, Málaga, Olbia, Durrës.

Port Authorities

A Coruña, Alicante, Aviles, Douro e Leixões, La Bahía de Algeciras, Balears, Genoa, Gijón, Las Palmas, Lisbon, Madeira, Olbia e Golfo Aranci, Palermo, Santa Cruz de Tenerife, Santander, Setubal e Sesimbra, Seville, Tarragona, Valencia, Vigo.

Others

AIPPYC-Asociación Internacional de Profesionales de Puertos y Costas, Buenos Aires; AML - Área Metropolitana de Lisboa; Dirección General de Costas-MMA, Spain; Empresa Pública de Puertos de Andalucía; Fundación Valenciaport, Valencia; Malagaport A.I.E.; Port 2000, Barcelona; Ports de la Generalitat, Cataluña; Puertos del Estado, Madrid; Liguria Region; Sociedad de Desarrollo de Santa Cruz de Tenerife; Stazioni Marittime Spa, Genova; Centro Città d'Acqua, Venice.

Collaborating Members

ESPO, Brussels; Alessadro Gebbia, Naples; Ibertport Consulting S.A., Valencia; Junquera Arquitectos S.L., Madrid; Aldo Mazzanobile, Rome; Studio Viola Ingegneri & Architetti Associati, Como; Paola Pierotti, Rome; Juan Manuel Palerm Salazar (Las Palmas); Pedro Romera Garcia, Las Palmas; Porto di Alghero - Consorzio per i Servizi Interni Portuali; TEAM-Tecnologia Europea aplicada al Movimento S, Barcelona.

The Centre Cities on Water, as sponsor, founding partner and headquarters for the Coordination and the Offices of RETE, dedicates a permanent space in its newsletter to the activities of the association, founded in Venice in April 2004.

The association

Council and seminar of RETE 2008
Still to be defined the dates of the next meeting of the Council of RETE, to be held next May/June in Gijón, Spain. The theme of the seminar, which is traditionally organized simultaneously with the meeting, will concern the "Plans for Social and Corporate Responsibility" in ports.

Publications

Portus 15
The next issue of the bi-yearly magazine Portus (n.15) will dedicate its Dossier to a survey of the state of relations between ports and cities in Latin America. An article by Joan Alemany introduces the theme which is then addressed in more general terms, country by country, through the analysis of several specific lesser-known case studies. As always, it is followed by

the columns Experiencias/Projects, Reportaje/Reportage and Periscopio.

Coming events

Summer course in Cadiz
RETE was invited to participate in the next edition of Curso de Verano, promoted by the Universidad de Cádiz in San Roque in collaboration with the Colegio Oficial de Arquitectos de Cádiz. The summer session in Cadiz will be dedicated this year to the theme: "Puerto y Ciudad entre dos continentes: el espacio Urbano del Estrecho" and will be held next July, from the 17th to the 19th.

Training course in Santander
This year as usual, in collaboration with RETE, the VI Curso Internacional de Relaciones Puerto-Ciudad, will be promoted in Santander by Puertos del Estado, RETE and the Ministerio de Educación y Ciencia. This year's edition will be dedicated to the theme "Los Puertos como recurso educativo" and will be held at the Museo Marítimo del Cantábrico, from September 1 through 15.

Images

Technical field trip in Venice, November 24, 2007
Published here are several photographs of the technical field trip to the construction site at the inlets to the port of Venice, for the protection of the city from acqua alta. The visit, organized thanks to the hospitality of the Consorzio Venezia Nuova, took place last November during the meeting of the Council of RETE, and relied on the collaboration with Thetis Spa, at the Arsenale, where the barriers of the MO.SE will be taken for maintenance and repair.

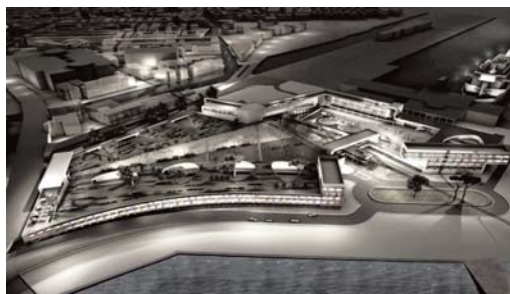
(M.M.)



projects on water 1/2

A garage multipiano facing the water for the entrance to Venice

Mauro Galantito is the winner of the international architectural design competition "Garage multipiano ed opere connesse". The competition was promoted by APV Investimenti in order to realize the new ground access to the city and will imply the renovation of the strategic area of the former locomotive deposit. The project aims to increase and improve the infrastructural facilities of Venice and, at the same time, aims at granting an easier and faster access to the city. This is the result of the synergic collaboration between Venice Port Authority and the City of Venice in the attempt of renovating several marginal areas next to the port. The new complex, which presupposes an investment of around 63 millions, will host a parking, the intermediate station of the people mover, a directional and accommodation center



which is meant to support especially the cruising activity and transportation by ferries. The project of Gantino tries to put a distance between the area of project and the city of arrival, a distance from Marghera, where one comes from: an intermediate place that tells either about what is next or what it just passed, a place which is not yet, or no longer, Venice. This place will be organised in two spaces: the higher park and the lower park, linked in a stable way, in one network, in order to produce an integrated system made of two recognizable places. The higher park will be a gated place: the raised margins of the promenades cut the view on the next surroundings and let far elements appear: on one side the Churches and bells of Venice, on an other one the Port, an other on the lagoon and Marghera. It is meant to be the place to host big installations and sculptures from the Art Biennale, and big concerts. The Lower park, being enclosed all around, is the space for dilatation of the activities carried out on the borders, the area of passage from the Port to Venice, the missing balcony from docked boats.

The two-storey porch is treated in two different ways under the hotel with a large restaurant and under the offices, with a multifunctional hall. It is the shadowed element bounding the public space.

Danish University South & Science Park South

A unique combination of culture, education and private research companies is to be united in a building complex at a beautifully situated area right by Als Sund in Sønderborg, southern Denmark. The aim of the project is to establish a much more frequent collaboration and knowledge sharing between the public educational sector and the private research sector for bilateral benefice. Outside working hours, the building

complex should be offering a broad variety of cultural events using the auditoria, libraries, meeting rooms etc. in the building. The cultural offers, however, will be centred on a new concert hall - the new home of Sønderborg Symphonics.

The building complex has been broken down into an appropriate scale in accordance with the idyllic surroundings. Building volumes with short gable ends alternate with atria buildings, in order to provide sufficient transparency and daylight. An important issue has been to establish a lot of casual meeting points, so that students and scientists will get together and exchange knowledge and become personally acquainted. The entire ground floor is therefore open to everyone, and here you'll find all common facilities like meeting rooms, libraries, auditoria etc. Security is established as a horizontal division - the ascent to the higher levels



require key cards. This way, it has also been possible to open the building in the evenings, and to integrate the concert hall as part of the total building concept.

Project: 3XNielsen with:

3XN Kim Herforth Nielsen, Bo Boje Larsen, Kim Christiansen

Structures: Strunge & Hartvigsen, Buro Happold

Landscape: Schønherr Landskab

Consultants: Arup & Partners

The International Competition for Regenerating the Riverfront of Oporto

The International Invitation to Tender to come forward with Ideas for Regenerating the Oporto Riverfront in the Priority Action Zone now has a successful bidder. On Friday 22nd February, the winners were named at a Public Declaration that took place in Quinta de Bonjôia, during the course of which the winning ideas were made known together with the identities of those who put forward the successful proposals.

The Tribunal - chaired by Valente de Oliveira and composed of José Carrapeto, appointed by the Oporto City Council; Matos Fernandes, appointed by the Douro and Leixões Port Authority; Francisco Barata Fernandes, appointed by the College of Architects; Gonçalo Byrne and Rino Bruttomesso; Mário Martins, appointed by the Port Modernisation Agency and Ana Martins de Sousa, appointed by the Porto Vivo, Lower Oporto Urban Redevelopment Company (SRU) -, classified the bids that were admitted for Tender and selected the ones that they considered to be the best 3, in accordance with evaluation criteria defined beforehand in the Invitation to Tender Regulations.

The first prize went to the Oporto Workshop Balonas Projectos, which was awarded 90% and a prize of 50,000 Euros. The proposal submitted was considered to be the most consistent, because where transport was concerned it pinpointed and offered communication between

the two sides of the river and came up with specific solutions for the question of containers. Enabling people to gain access to the slopes by providing footpaths and several lifts, thereby making improvements to the degree of mobility and transport facilities was an aspect of this proposal that was given a high rating. The idea of providing good communications and promoting the international centre of the Waterfront would serve to enhance the image of the City of Oporto, creating a major positive impact associated with a series of strategically formulated events; this was another strong point in the Pedro Balonas' project that was well rated.

The bid that came second was the one proposed by the architect Fátima Fernandes, which was awarded 87% and prize-money of 20,000 Euros. She presented an excellent plan for urban lighting, which could undoubtedly be extremely beneficial where Waterfront security is concerned. With respect to mobility and transport, her idea of having a funicular railway to establish a connection with Ponte Maria Pia was viewed in a very positive light, but there is very little connection with the river. It is a rather figurative proposal, in view of the fact that it advocates that a series of architectural activities be undertaken that, in themselves, are not sufficient to sustain a comprehensive urban planning strategy. The third prize went to a Danish bid, and the coordinator of this proposal was Niels Benetzen, who received an award of 79% and prize-money of 15,000 Euros. This proposal is



capable of enhancing the Waterfront's appeal and is based upon 3 key ideas: establishing transverse con-

nections between the river and the city, lengthening the promenade that runs along the riverbank and putting forward an idea for specific activities for the containers. One outstanding aspect of this proposal is the transverse system for connecting the upper and lower levels by providing both stairs and mechanical devices for going up and down. Apart from the 3 aforementioned prize-winners, a further 3 proposals were also given a special mention, namely the ones presented by the Dane, Mariane Hingbartzen, by the Brazilian, Vinicius Andrade and the architect from India, Mathew Gosh.

The winning group comprises the following: Balonas projectos (Oporto), Smets Consultants (Leuven), Proap (Lisbon), D-Recta (Conegliano). Architectural development and technical Assistance: Plus Office (Leuven), Marc Koehler (Amsterdam), Paula Morais (Gaia), AFA consult, Garrigues, Realizar (Lisbon).

A project by Foster + Partner for Moscow One of the world's most ambitious building projects, Crystal Island has been granted preliminary planning permission in Moscow. Enclosed within a vast mega structure covering a total floor area of 2.5million square metres – the project's scale is unprecedented. At 450m the scheme in one of the tallest structures on the planet, creating a spectacular new emblem on the Moscow skyline. Conceived as a self-contained city within a city, it contains a rich mix of buildings including museums, theatres and cinemas, to ensure that it is a major new destination for the whole of Moscow.

Presented to the Moscow Public and Architectural Council, Crystal Island is a highly anticipated new project. Located on the Nagatino Peninsula, edged by the Moscow River, it is located only 7.5 km from the Kremlin, and offers panoramic views over Moscow from a viewing platform at its apex.



Crystal Island will have a range of cultural, exhibition and performance facilities, approximately 3000 hotel rooms and 900 serviced apartments, as well as offices and shops, designed to maintain a dynamic and animated public realm throughout the day. Residents are able to work and live within a densely planned area where every amenity is within easy walking distance, including an international school for 500 students. Mixed-use also presents a strong case for energy balance, with individual components using energy at different times, while reinforcing the breadth of economic and social activity of the area. The building's spiraling form emerges majestically from a newly landscaped park, rising in converse directions to form a diagonal grid. This distinctive geometry extends throughout the project into the park. The result is that the scheme is seamlessly integrated into a new park landscape, which provides a range of activities throughout the year, including cross country skiing and ice skating in the winter.

The internal built volumes assume a staggered formation within the triangulated steel mega frame, extending flush against the sloping faceted glazed outer skin. This terracing creates a series of wintergardens, which form a breathable second layer and thermal buffer for the main building, shielding the interior spaces from Moscow's extreme summer and winter climates. A vertical louvre system sheaths the internal facades to ensure privacy for the individual apartments. Dynamic enclosure panels slotted into the structural framing allow daylight to

penetrate deep into the heart of the scheme and can be controlled to modify the internal environment – closed in winter for extra warmth and opened in summer to allow natural ventilation. Energy management is at the heart of the design, with additional strategies to include on-site renewable and low-carbon energy generation. Projects: Foster + Partners with Buro Happold, pha consult, Systematica

Hamburg: a Science Centre and Aquarium in HafenCity

The Office for Metropolitan Architecture unveiled the definitive project for the 'Science Centre and Aquarium' to be built in the new urban district of Hamburg known as HafenCity. The project was designed by Rem Koolhaas and Ellen van Loon with Marc Paulin. The complex covers 23 thousand square meters in all, and will host a Science Centre, an aquarium (8500 square meters under water), a theatre, offices, laboratories and retail spaces. The structure has a circular geometry that derives its shape from the combination of ten modular blocks. Visitors will begin their tour inside the structure starting from the so-called 'base station' at the top of the building; they will then walk through the exhibition galleries and down along the modular blocks that will lead them into the aquarium. The Science Centre designed by OMA is the last in a series of buildings commissioned by Hamburg Hafencity GmbH as part of the ambitious project to regenerate the port zone in the city.

(M.M.)





El mar, la ciudad y el urbanismo.

Vivir el litoral en las ciudades históricas de Canarias.

By Fernando Martín Galán. *Puerto de Tenerife, Puertos de Las Palmas, Fundación Puertos de Las Palmas, 2007*

The beach, the shore and the waterline of the sea are all elements that identify the coastal area of both a city and the coast.

Because of the great interest generated in the public opinion in recent years by seafronts and natural beaches, the object of specific planning and projects, this book has chosen to analyze the relationship between the sea and the coast, in the past and the present, in the area of the Canaries; the perspective is not insular, but is viewed within a wider general context.



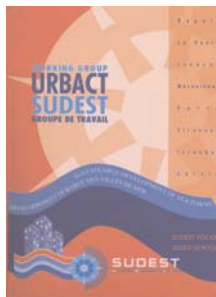
Immagini di città
Walter Benjamin, nuova edizione, Einaudi, Torino 2007 (euro 16)

Paris, Marseilles, Weimar, Naples, San Gimignano... And especially Moscow. In the Twenties Benjamin wrote for newspapers and magazines, in a series of articles-reports on the cities where, for various reasons, he went to live. Lucid and precise, both evocative and forlorn, Benjamin's vision captures the spirit of each place. A posthumous book, assembled by Peter Szondi in 1955, 'Immagini di città' is republished in an extended edition of three writings.

Urbact Sudest
Working group/groupe de travail - Sustainable Development of Sea Towns/Développement durable des villes de mer Sudestpoche

The project developed by the SUDEST team studied the opportunities and effects produced by urban transforma-

tions on economic development, in particular in the case of the port areas which represent a great opportunity for the entire region. It analyzed the instruments adopted in various experiences to implement local development with an integrated approach, guaranteeing the environmental and social sustainability of the works. The investigations were conducted on the cities on water directly involved in the project, Le Havre, Naples, Siracusa, Livorno, Matosinhos, Porto, Zarzis, Istanbul, thanks to the collaboration with a number of universities. The regeneration processes for the port areas were studied by experts using the "analysis of the grids" in relation to three factors: the urban dimension, the social-economic dimension, the management tools for the system and the decision-making process. This led to a real comparison of the data related to each experience, whose results were collected and summarized in the publication.



NEXT-GENE: 20 eco-compatible homes for 20 architects in Taiwan

Twenty architects from around the world meet in Taiwan to design 20 homes on the edge of the Pacific Ocean. Opportunity: to explore the possibility of coexistence between nature and the built environment. The invitations were extended to the following designers, among others: GRAFT, Yung Ho Chang, laN+, Kengo Kuma, MVRDV, Kris Yao. The advisors who collaborated in the definition of the program include Tadao Ando, Zaha Hadid, Toyo Ito. From the density of new contemporary metropolitan scenarios to the sustainable approach in a lesser-known aspect of the Asian continent: Taiwan presents a new urban program based on the care and respect of the natural environment. NEXT-GENE, this is the name of the project, is coordinated by Yu-Tung Liu, a figure who has worked for many years to create the best premises for interaction between the Asian and European architectural cultures. Taiwan becomes the meeting place for 10 architects selected on the international scene and 10 Taiwanese architects. NEXT_GENE is the name of the project that gathers them to follow a common process: to create a quality residential system, conceived as a telescope onto the magnificent landscape of the Northeast Coast National Scenic Area, which is located about 50 minutes from Taipei, as an instrument for an intimate and immediate experience with open space and simultaneously as a program to directly address some of the conditions offered to contemporary design. In the coming months, Taiwan will be the meeting ground for different design cultures, western and eastern, Mediterranean and overseas. The Northeast Coast National Scenic Area, thanks to NEXT-GENE, will become an open-air laboratory for the creation of new living scenarios. There is a very tight schedule to complete the complex. The construction sites are scheduled to open in July 2008, the homes to be completed by December 2009. www.image-web.org

Waterfront London: Rediscovering the rivers and canals of the capital

The Blue Ribbon Network is a major feature of the London Plan; it includes the Thames, the canal network, the other tributaries, rivers and streams within London and London's open water spaces such as docks, reservoirs and lakes, as well as culverted parts of rivers, canals or streams. Policies aim to protect and enhance the Blue Ribbon Network as an important part of London's public realm but are they being given the attention they deserve? The London's Waterways exhibition at NLA will look at what is happening to the rivers and canals of the capital and identify the key developments recently completed, underway or in the pipeline. It will look at issues such as how can planners and developers enjoy the benefits of the waterways while respecting their special location? How do we protect the nature of waterways while providing access? How do we protect and adapt the waterways for the 21st Century and ensure it continues to play a part in the growth, life and prosperity of the city?

www.newlondonarchitecture.org

A 'science centre' on the outskirts of Milan Seventy thousand square meters for the first 'Laboratorio Internazionale dell'Acqua" (Lida) to be built with the funding for Expo 2015. The project was developed by Tasm, the water utility of which the Province of Milan is a partner, for Milan's bid for the universal exposition. The science centre should be built in Assago and will be a part of the purifying plant existing on the site. It will contain about 50 thematic areas and exhibits to experience water and delve into scientific culture through personal emotion and curiosity. To develop this project, Tasm created the Fondazione Lida, a corporate foundation of which the water company is the founding partner. The costs for the construction of the work, estimated at about 20 million euro, should be guaranteed by the contribution of Expo 2015 for half the expense, the other half by bank loans. (M.M.)

Riccione
February 27 - March 02
International Workshop
Progettazione di hotels e spiagge
(Design of hotels and beaches)
Open day at the international design workshop organized by sealinelab at the Palazzo del Turismo in Riccione. Open to students of the Faculty of Architecture of Ferrara, Alicante and Syracuse University, the workshop develops projects that use innovative forms and methods to intercept the needs of contemporary tourism. On Saturday morning, an open lecture will be held by Juan Herreros (Abalos&Herreros Arquitectos, Universidad Politecnica de Madrid).
www.sealinelab.net
sealinelab is a permanent research laboratory founded to study and formulate proposals on the issue of the sustainable development of coasts: a view from the sea (dynamic, fluid, liquid) to the land (firm). The laboratory addresses one applicative and one theoretical theme every year.
www.sealinelab.net

Athens
March 7
Conference Mare Forum
Maritime Transportation of Energy from Russia and Central Asia - challenges and opportunities
The southeastern Mediterra-

nean is becoming an increasingly important region for the distribution of oil and gas from Russia and from central Asia to Europe. Mare Forum 2008 is organized in close collaboration with EMSA. The conference, which brings together experts from the world of shipping and energy, offers a focused program for the use of politicians and administrators.
T: +31 10 281 06 55
F: +31 10 270 98 70
E:ruth@mareforum.com
www.mareforum.com

Amsterdam
April 15/17
Expo
Passenger Terminal 2008
Si terrà presso la RAI di Amsterdam il principale evento per la gestione e i servizi al traffico di passeggeri al mondo.
www.passengerterminal-expo.com

Fano
April 17/21
IV Edition
Fano Yacht Festival
The Salone Nautico dell'Adriatico is the annual event for discovering the new 2008 models in the world of sailing. It is a trade fair with over 140 exhibitors and 200 brands, which over 25,000 people are expected to visit. In 2008 the Salone Nautico dell'Adriatico

extends its logistics to welcome new exhibitors, leaders in the field of motorboats, sailboats, sub suppliers and services. Once again it is possible to take test runs on the sea, a strong point of the FYF which other nautical fairs do not offer.
www.fanoyachtfestival.it

Milan
May 21/25
ACMA Workshop
João Gomes da Silva. Designing for the river
The workshop intends to offer a complex approach to the issues of designing landscapes with the particular environmental conditions of river contexts, examining theoretical (classes, lectures) and practical (design studios) aspects. Portuguese architect Joao Gomes da Silva will lead the studies on the potential brought to the urban landscape of Zona Est in Milan by the planned purification of the Lambro River and the regeneration of its banks and river basin. The workshop is part of the Master in Landscape Architecture and Continuing Education of the UPC Barcelona/ACMA Milan. For information and registration:
ACMA Centro di Architettura
Tel. +39 02.70639293
Fax.+39 02. 70639761
www.acmaweb.com/
acma@acmaweb.com

Stockholm
June 23/27
International Conference
AIVP 11th International Cities and Ports Conference
The AIVP conference will examine innovative practices and projects on the theme of sustainability in ports and port cities.
www.aivp.com
www.citiesandports2008.com

Saragoza
June 14 - September 14
EXPO
Zaragoza 2008
International Expo dedicated to the theme of water. In this context, there will be several thematic exhibitions, one of which is dedicated to 'cities on water' (ciudades de agua) curated by Rinio Bruttomesso and Joan Alemany.
www.expozaragoza2008.es

Malta
September 1/3
XIV International Conference on Urban Transportation and the Environment in the XXI century
Urban Transport 2008
Sponsored by the Wessex Institute of Technology, UK, the conference will address the following themes: from the planning and management of urban transportation, to the simulations of security, to the integration between transportation and fruition of the territory, to the system of public transportation. Papers and proposals should be presented to:
Conference Secretariat
Rachel Creasey
Institute of Technology, Ashurst Lodge, Ashurst, Southampton, SO40 7AA.
phone: 44 (0) 238 029 3223
Fax: 44 (0) 238 029 2853.
rcreasey@wessex.ac.uk
www.wessex.ac.uk/urban2008rem2b.html

Liverpool
October 16/17
Second Annual Conference of the University Network of the European Capitals of Culture
Whose culture(s) ?
The 'call for papers' to participate in the UNeECC conference, to be held in Liverpool, this year's European Capital of Culture, ends on April 1.
Mrs Gyöngyi Pozsgai
Secretary General of UNeECC
University of Pécs
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Tel +36 72501509
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