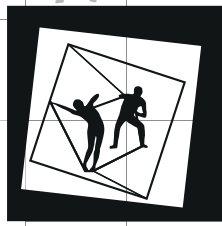


PUBLICA



EM24

EURAU - EUROPEAN RESEARCH ON ARCHITECTURE
AND URBANISM INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE

**IN-PRESENCE /
THE BODY AND
THE SPACE**

The role of corporeity in the era of virtualization

Edited by: Marco Bovati, Anna Moro, Daniele Villa

ISBN: 978 · 88 · 99586 · 40 · 9

Marco Bovati, Anna Moro, Daniele Villa
IN-PRESENCE / THE BODY AND THE SPACE.
The role of corporeity in the era of virtualization
© PUBLICA, Alghero, 2024
ISBN: 9788899586409
Pubblicazione luglio 2024

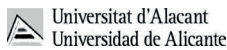
Tutti i testi di PUBLICA sono sottoposti a double peer review.

PUBLICA
Dipartimento di Architettura, Urbanistica e Design
Università degli Studi di Sassari
WWW.PUBLICAPRESS.IT

/ EURAU NETWORK

EURAU is a network of schools and researchers in Architecture which meets biannually in a symposium to share their investigations. EURAU's primary goal is to establish a debate and discussion on contemporary discourses about Architecture, City and Environment. This is a committed action organized by universities that contributes to the European Strategy for the transition towards a sustainable and inclusive society. Initiated by the French Ministry of Culture, EURAU has been active since 2004 organizing ten international conferences by different Schools of Architecture in various European cities: Marseille (2004), Lille (2005), Brussels-Liège-Mons (2006), Madrid (2008), Napoli (2010), Porto (2012), Istanbul (2014), Bucharest (2016), Alicante (2018), Birmingham-Staffordshire (2020-21).

The Department of Architecture and Urban Studies of the Politecnico di Milano organises at the School of Architecture Urban Planning Construction Engineering (AUIC), EURAU Milan 2024 "IN-PRESENCE / THE BODY AND THE SPACE - The role of corporeity in the era of virtualization", the eleventh edition of the international conference, which takes place from 19 to 22 June 2024.



/ EURAU Milan 2024

11th INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE

EUROPEAN RESEARCH ON ARCHITECTURE
AND URBANISM INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE

IN-PRESENCE / THE BODY AND THE SPACE

The role of corporeity in the era of virtualization

For those who deal with the city and the territory, space refers to the body
(C. Bianchetti)

The EURAU Milan 2024 Conference aims to unpack the significance of corporeality in contemporary times and its relevance for the upcoming years. Specifically, the focus is on the relation between body and space and how this relates to architecture, the city and the environment, interpreted as physical facts and processes. Within the background of a technological turn, the focus is now on what has changed or will further change in this relationship and what, on the opposite, remains unalterable, inherently bound to the material and impervious to the virtual.

4 / VULNERABLE ENDNOTES

Arianna Scaioli
Politecnico di Milano, Department of Architecture and Urban Studies

By tracing a reflection starting from the preparatory text, and building an open platform for discussion, this ex-post text engages with the several contributions declining the concept of vulnerability. As mentioned in the introductory text, within the contemporary discourse, vulnerability emerges as a crucial concept, especially within the context of interconnected crises that reveal various forms of stratified vulnerabilities. To disentangle the complexity of the current crises, design disciplines and practices have re-centred the attention towards living bodies as a medium to refocus our disciplines. The EURAU Milan 2024 conference delves into this theme, organizing it into four panels: Habitat, Gender, Borders, and Care. This structured approach investigates the intricate relationships between vulnerable bodies and the spaces they inhabit, challenging and deconstructing preconceived notions of 'normality' and universal design. Addressing various forms of vulnerability related to gender, ethnicity, class, religion, age, impairments and difficulties of bodies places the design exploration at the forefront of care, inclusion, safety and accessibility. Therefore, we have encouraged a cross-disciplinary reflection on how vulnerable bodies can generate a sense of agency and purpose in making their rights, knowledge and identities visible in space.

Within the panel, Habitat, the papers have focused on the vulnerabilities inherent in urban and rural environments and the communities within them. It emphasizes participatory design processes and the integration of local knowledge to create resilient spaces. The various research in this section highlight the importance of community involvement in urban planning and architectural design. They explore the regeneration of fragile buildings, improving informal settlements, and creating inclusive urban spaces. These efforts aim to enhance resilience by incorporating traditional building techniques and fostering social relationships, addressing material and immaterial challenges.

The Care panel delves into the intersection of care practices and architectural design, highlighting the creation of environments that promote well-being and inclusivity. This section emphasizes the importance of designing spaces that cater to the needs of vulnerable individuals, such as patients, caregivers, and disabled persons. The studies discuss the role of architecture in promoting well-being, the challenges of balancing work and care responsibilities, and the importance of sensory and multisensory experiences in inclusive design. These approaches aim to create environments that support everyone's well-being by integrating care practices into architectural design.

The Gender panel examines the intersection of gender and spatial design, advocating for urban environments that are inclusive and equitable. This section emphasizes the need for incorporating diverse perspectives, particularly those of women and LGBTQ+ communities, in urban design and planning. The studies explore how gender-sensitive design can challenge hegemonic norms and promote inclusivity. They discuss architecture's adaptability in response to social instability, the reduction of stigma through inclusive design, and the rethinking of institutional spaces like prisons to better accommodate vulnerable populations. This approach aims to create more balanced and inclusive urban spaces that reflect the diverse needs of all inhabitants.

The Borders panel investigates border areas' spatial and social dynamics, focusing on creating inclusive and resilient environments. This section highlights the potential of architecture to foster new territorial identities and social cohesion in cross-border cities and marginalized areas. The studies explore the transformation of public spaces to promote

interculturality and integration, the conflicts related to urban interventions, and the redevelopment of marginal areas into vibrant community hubs. These efforts aim to address the unique challenges of border areas by emphasizing community involvement and historical understanding, ultimately fostering inclusive and resilient spaces.

In conclusion, the various contributions build a semantic landscape centered around the concept of vulnerable bodies in space and time, and their significance within a spatial and design reflection. By observing the variety of experiences and how they contribute to modifying both the design approach and the outcome, the session becomes an enriching platform for rethinking our tools and methodologies when confronted with the issue of designing for vulnerable, unheard marginalized bodies.

