

# CA<sup>2</sup>RE+



## 3 FRAMEWORKS OF DESIGN-DRIVEN RESEARCH

Ignacio Borrego | Ralf Pasel | Jürgen Weidinger (Eds.)



Berlin  
Universities Publishing

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A R E N A



Conference for  
Artistic and  
Architectural  
REsearch

CA<sup>2</sup>RE+ Collective  
Evaluation of  
Design Driven  
Doctoral Training

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Editors:

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THE MATERIALISATION OF THE JOINT.  
RE-READING THE BRION CEMETERY  
THROUGH THE AGENCY OF THE DRAWING.  
DESIGN DRIVEN RESEARCH AND FURTHER  
REFLECTIONS.

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Positioning on the slipstream of operational criticism, the PhD research aims to formulate a methodology for the interpretative reading of existing architectural works and, starting from its findings, systematically describe a design attitude that sees in exploiting the agency of the joint the foundation of a design strategy. In this sense, the investigation through drawing of some paradigmatic architectures showed the emergence of a transcendental schema, therefore the possibility of defining project 'recommendations' that work regardless of personal styles or languages, but super-historical and applicable towards a specific design economy and coherence.

The initial part of the interpretative analysis, of which an extract is presented in the preceding essay, represented a fundamental phase for the

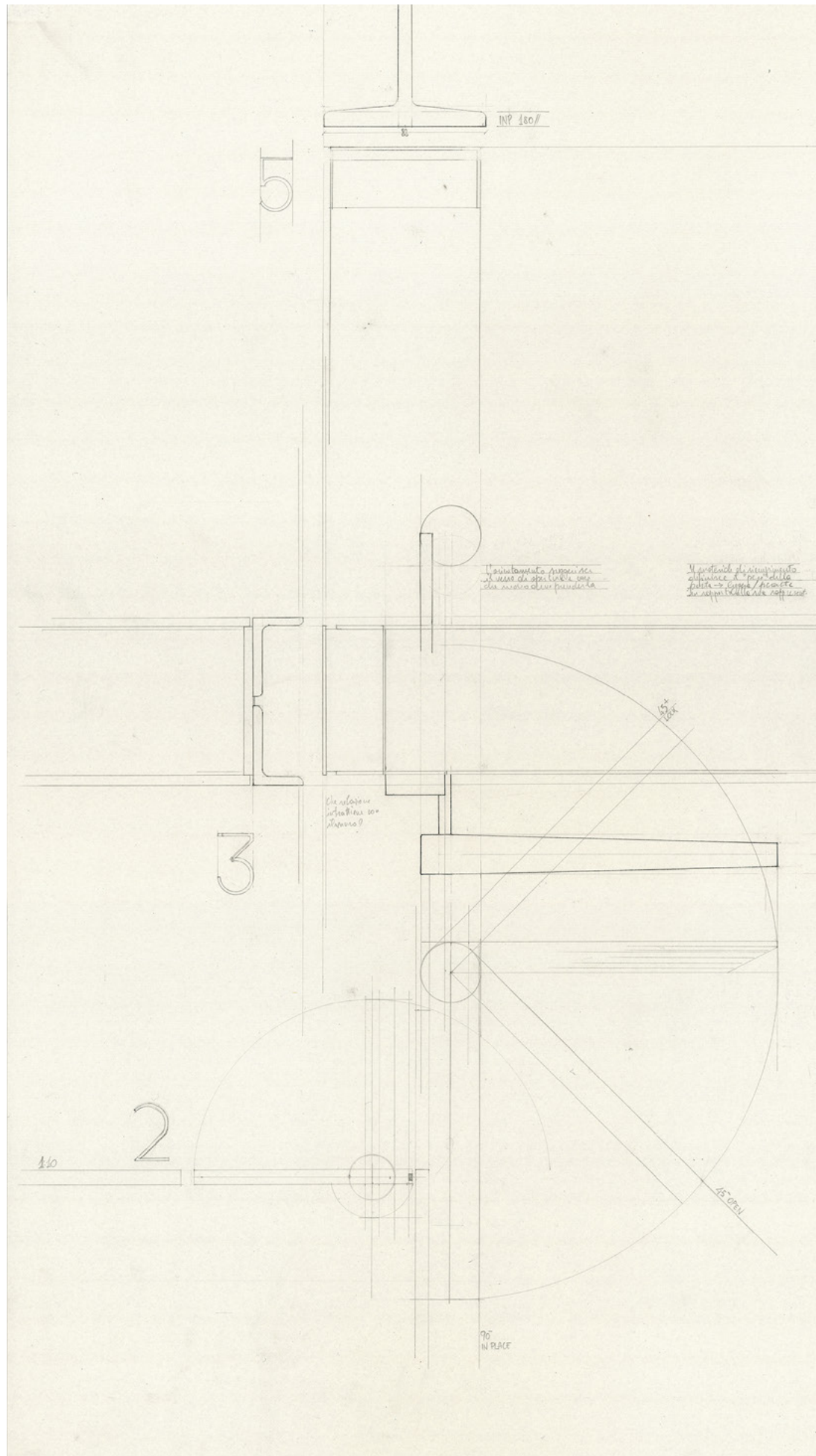
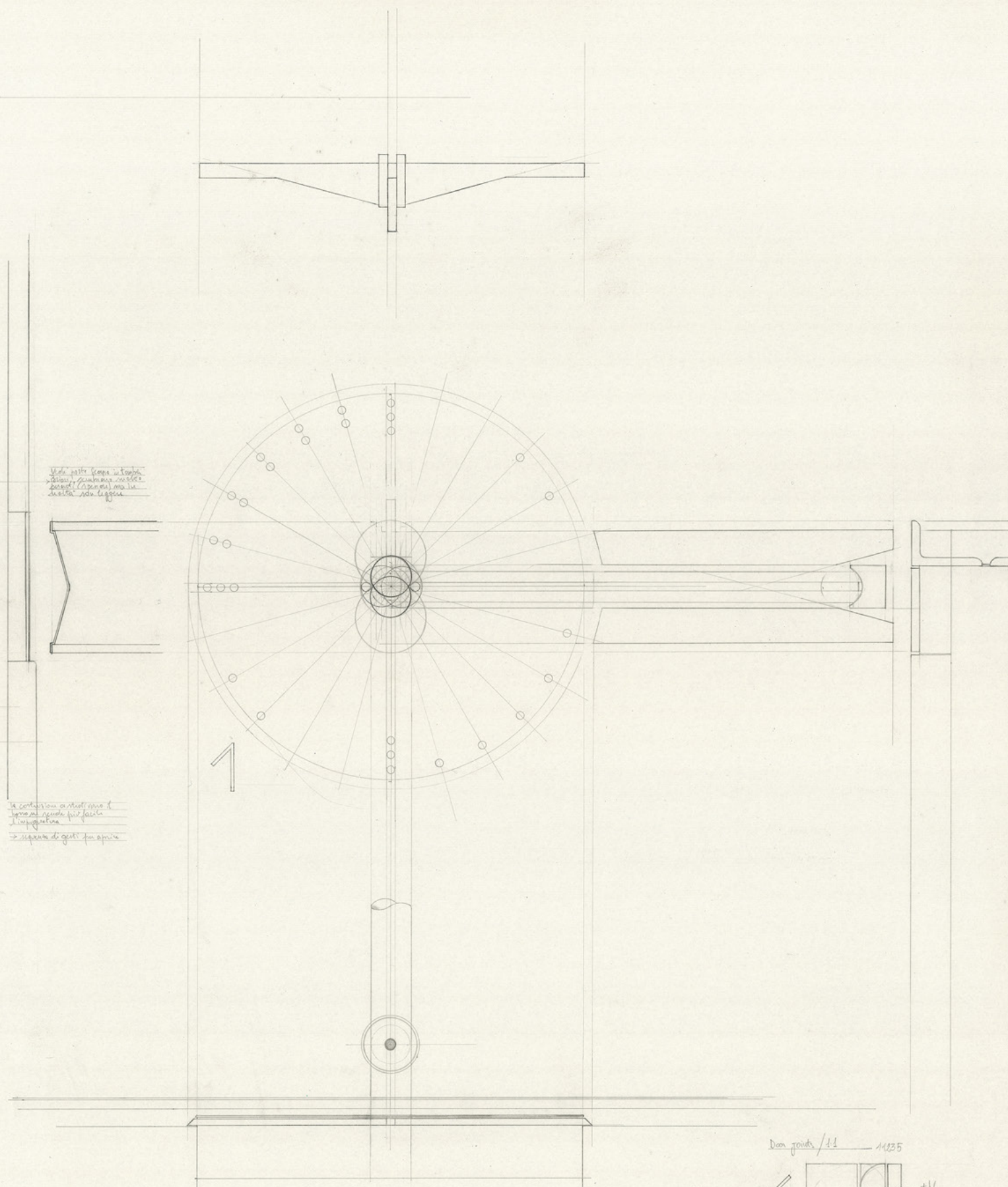


FIGURE 1. Research by Design. Door joint and pivoting mechanism (own design), drawing and project by Enrico Miglietta, pencil on paper, 1000x760 mm, scale 1:1





Vedi note sopra il tavolo  
 relativi a quanto descritto  
 per il (spazio) ora in  
 questa sede leggine

1

la costruzione a vista sono il  
 tipo di acciaio più facile  
 l'impugnatura  
 → spessore di gomme più spesse

Don Jovis / 11 1125

4  - 11 -  
 31-22-07-21



emergence of the first findings of the project, insights for the construction of a reflective practice which, although explicitly partisan, proves to be relevant and usable by researchers, students and professionals to varying degrees. Moreover, the process also showed another type of findings, of a procedural nature and embedded into what we could define the “agency of the drawing”, or how these ways of proceeding are closely intertwined with a particular way of operating on the drawing board, to how the draughtsman uses the tools at his disposal.

The final phase of the research is testing and verifying these findings through an analysis of the design process, with personal research by design and then a test in an academic studio as a controlled environment.

As a result of the discussions that took place during and after the panel session, further reflections on the process of Design Driven research emerged, particularly with respect to the intertwining of the parts of research through drawing (on case studies) and by design.

One of the fundamentals concerned the status of the act of drawing within the research. In fact, hand-drawing not only assumes the role of an instrument to conduct the investigation, but also becomes a subject of investigation through reflections based on subjective experience. If a rigorous description of the tools and ways of doing design may appear anecdotal, it can also constitute the basis for the formulation of valuable suggestions to explicit the ways of seeing, and therefore of “internalising” the architectural project.

The experience clearly manifested the necessity to show and reveal the drawing process to the audience through the description (verbal, visual and corporeal) of the experience and not only the finished product or the presentation drawing, manifesting the reasons leading to the choice of a specific drawing precision, the use of one type of projection rather than another, the use of a specific paper support, a pencil of a certain hardness and, in general, the specific tools of the discipline at hand. In addition, it again helped to highlight how some very personal attitudes can be found to be inexorably common, and how a confrontation on the “thinking hands”, their unconscious automatisms, can be fertile ground for study opportunities on an often-neglected form of knowledge.

In this sense, the discussion had a tangible impact on the ways of framing the research and presenting its findings, also producing greater awareness about the essential questions it is addressing.



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