



I.A
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Nell'era della modernità "liquida", tutto scorre e L'ACQUA è PROTAGONISTA dell'ARCHITETTURA PROSSIMA VENTURA. parchi e riviere, musei e appartamenti di lusso, porti, aree industriali e fiumi da recuperare: IL WATERSCAPE è RITMO FLUIDO, PERVASIVO, IN CONTINUO MOVIMENTO

LA PISCINA SERVE A DELIMITARE LO SPAZIO PRIVATO E AGISCE SUL MICROCLIMA CON UN EFFETTO RAFFRESCANTE; VILLA F, A RODI, È DISEGNATA DALL'O STUDIO AMBURGHESE HORNUNG & JACOBI, 220 METRI QUADRI CON STRUTTURA DI LEGNO INTONACATA IN BIANCO.

DolceACQUA
 di Alessandro Rocca



La pietra e l'acqua, il solido e il fluido, il permanente e ciò che cambia a ogni istante. Dall'Alhambra a villa Adriana, dalle ville rinascimentali e barocche ai monumenti modernisti di Le Corbusier, l'acqua è stata sempre un elemento fondamentale della costruzione architettonica. Anzi, ne è stata il suo alter ego e il suo antagonista, l'elemento con il massimo di fluidità, incomprimibile, trasparente e perfino, per certi aspetti, invisibile. Infatti, per l'architettura è forse proprio questo l'aspetto più affascinante dell'acqua, il suo essere, in qualche modo, immateriale, ai confini del mondo fisico, così pronta ad apparire come pura liquidità e pura luce. E poi, forse proprio per questa sua natura imprevedibile, l'acqua esprime con grande efficacia i sentimenti più diversi: la pace e il lusso di una piscina, lo scorrere del tempo nel flusso continuo del fiume, lo specchio luminoso, ma non troppo rassicurante, di un porto industriale, il paesaggio ampio di un fiume vasto che abbellisce il paesaggio di una metropoli e attraversa un intero continente.

La piscina è un classico dell'architettura di villa e il giovane studio amburghese di Peter Thomas Hornung ed Elsa Katharina Jacobi gioca con la luce abbagliante e il paesaggio secco dell'isola di Rodi. La piscina diventa lo specchio che riflette il narcisismo dell'architettura e nello stesso tempo frappone una distanza, una discontinuità della superficie che separa il dominio aperto, verso il mare e l'orizzonte, del giardino da quello più intimo e chiuso della casa. Lo stesso piacere di affacciarsi sull'orizzonte aperto, esaltando la riflessione della luce sull'acqua ferma della piscina, si ritrova nel progetto dello studio danese Big che nelle torri gemelle di Miami offrono ai 96 appartamenti di lusso vasche hollywoodiane affacciate sull'oceano.

È diverso l'approccio di Big nel progetto di un impianto di smaltimento dei rifiuti nella periferia

UNA PISCINA DI "THE GROVE AT GRAND BAY", DUE TORRI DI VENTI PIANI CON 96 APPARTAMENTI DI LUSO AFFACCIATI SUL MARE DI MIAMI; IL PROGETTO, FIRMATO DA BIG, SARÀ COMPLETATO NEL 2014.

AMAGERFORBRAENDING, DISEGNATO DA BIG, È UN IMPIANTO PER IL TRATTAMENTO DEI RIFIUTI IN UNA ZONA INDUSTRIALE DI COPENHAGEN, CON PISTA DI SCI SUL TETTO E CENTRO DI ACCOGLIENZA PER I VISITATORI.

SULLA RIVA DEL DANUBIO, A VIENNA, DOMINIQUE PERRAULT STA COSTRUENDO DUE TORRI A PROGRAMMA MISTO, UFFICI, APPARTAMENTI E ALBERGO; FINE LAVORI NEL 2017.

ALLA CONFLUENZA TRA IL RODANO E LA SAONA, A LIONE, ODILE DECQ COSTRUISCE IL PAVILION 8, UN CUBO D'ACCIAIO E VETRO DEDICATO AL RELAX, ALLA CULTURA E ALLA STORIA INDUSTRIALE DEL SITO.

industriale di Copenhagen, dove l'edificio si staglia sulle acque del porto come una specie di collina architettonica. Il volume sale a inglobare la ciminiera e la pendenza della copertura è utilizzata per allestire una pista di sci.

Anche le Scotts Towers, un complesso progettato dall'olandese UN Studio a Singapore, associano, come nelle luxury tower di Big a Miami, residenze di lusso e piscine. Le torri, infatti, ospitano una piscina principale lunga 50 metri, con ponte prendisole, una piscina riservata ai bambini e un'altra al wellness, con accompagnamento di



UNA PISCINA CIRCOLARE DELLA LUNGHEZZA DI 50 METRI FA PARTE DELLE DOTAZIONI RICREATIVE DELLE SCOTT'S TOWERS, COMPLESSO RESIDENZIALE DI LUSO A SINGAPORE, PROGETTO DI UN STUDIO.

TRA LE PALUDI, I CANNETI E LE MACCHIE DI VEGETAZIONE DEL FENLAND, NEL CAMBRIDGESHIRE (UK), SORGERÀ IL GREAT FEN VISITOR CENTRE, PROGETTO DELL'ITALO-LONDINESE SHIRO STUDIO.

SULLE SPONDE DEL CHICAGO RIVER SONO IN COSTRUZIONE DUE CENTRI DI CANOTTAGGIO DISEGNATI DA STUDIO GANG.



palestre, Jacuzzi e centri benessere. Diverso è il problema quando le acque, e il loro ambiente naturale, sono da recuperare, come nei club di canottaggio disegnati da Studio Gang sul fiume di Chicago, oggi inquinatissimo ma destinato a un recupero ambientale simile a quello che ha risanato il Tamigi. Un'altra e più importante trasformazione urbana si trova sulle rive del Danubio, a Vienna, dove i ricordi Belle Epoque dei walzer di Strauss lasciano il posto alla tecnocittà dello studio parigino di Dominique Perrault. Nel distretto modernissimo di Donau City, la nuova città satellite sorta negli ultimi trent'anni, Perrault ha disegnato il masterplan che regola l'uso degli ultimi lotti disponibili e due torri, DC (Donau City) 1, che con i suoi 220 metri di altezza sarà l'edificio più alto dell'Austria, e una quasi gemella DC 2 che sarà alta 160 metri; la fine dei lavori è prevista per il 2016. In un'altra città d'Europa, Lione, Odile Decq sospende sulla confluenza tra Rodano e Saona un cubo tecnologico che sarà luogo di cultura e di tempo libero, a stretto contatto con una riviera che, negli ultimi anni, grazie al progetto Confluence, sta trasformando la parte industriale della città in un distretto dedicato alla cultura e al tempo libero, guidano la trasformazione urbana professionisti di livello internazionale come gli architetti svizzeri Herzog & De Meuron e il paesaggista francese Michel Desvigne.

Per finire, un piccolo edificio importante, il progetto per un centro visitatori con cui Andrea Morgante, l'architetto milanese che ha fondato e dirige, a Londra, Shiro Studio, si è imposto in un concorso internazionale. Siamo nelle paludi e nella vegetazione selvaggia del Cambridgeshire, in Inghilterra, e il centro visitatori si inserisce nel paesaggio d'acqua trovando l'impatto minimo grazie all'organizzazione a cluster, in cui le diverse parti del centro si aggregano attorno a una corte centrale coperta disponendosi con la naturalezza che potrebbero avere le case di un villaggio rurale, sostituendo le regole della geometria con quelle della prossimità, della collaborazione funzionale e spaziale e della comprensione del paesaggio.

I.A EDITORIAL

BATHROOM, CERAMIC AND OTHER TALES p. 4

by Gilda Bojardi

When visiting a new architecture, be it a private house or a public building – hotel, office, museum or anything else – one of the keys to its interpretation is the care, quality, and decisions taken for making bathrooms. In recent years, outstanding performances in terms of design have been carried out: solutions to use all the available space at best. Materials, from super thin or handmade ceramics to cotto, stone or marble in different colours and veins, to resins and cement pastes which are increasingly appreciated. Sanitary ware and pieces of furniture which are mobile, integrated and perfectly harmonized to set up a real bathroom. Environmentally friendly and water saving taps, radiators that become sculptural items, lights dedicated to different functions and conceived for them. And again, textiles, specific fragrances, mirrors in various sizes. The bathroom is increasingly in the limelight thanks to distributors, buyers and certainly also to end users that let themselves be seduced by this perfect machine. In this monographic issue, a survey on time spent in the bathroom, from London to Berlin, through Milan and Madrid. Meetings with industry businesspeople who talk about their approach to international markets and their global strategic visions. The point of view of young designers, from the ones who produce their own designs to those that suggest an ideal vision of future bathroom. And then also technological, future-oriented, self-made layouts, all with one element in common: great Italian creativity. - **Caption pag. 5** Vessel, carbon fiber suspended bathtub produced in a limited edition of 12 pieces. It can be fixed to the walls with two steel brackets and the waste water is released through the base into a floor drain. By SplinterWorks, a company specialized in making limited edition pieces for contract. www.splinterworks.co.uk.

I.A Interiors & Architecture

SWEET WATER p. 6

text Alessandro Rocca

In the age of “liquid” modernity, everything flows and water is the star of future architecture. Parks and banks, museums and luxury apartments, ports, industrial areas and rivers to recover: the waterscape has a fluid, pervasive and constantly moving rhythm. Stone and water, solid and fluid, permanent and ever changing. From the Alhambra to Hadrian's Villa, from Renaissance and Baroque villas to the Modern monuments by Le Corbusier, water has always been fundamental for architectural constructions. It has always been its alter ego and competitor, the element with maximum fluidity, that cannot be compressed, transparent and even, under certain respects, invisible. Maybe this is actually the most fascinating feature of water in architecture, its being somehow immaterial, at the borders of the physical world, ready to appear as pure liquid and pure light. And then, maybe just for the impossibility to catch its nature, water expresses with great efficacy the most different feelings: the peace and luxury of a swimming pool, the running of time in the continuous flow of a river, the lit, but not reassuring, mirror of an industrial port, the wide landscape of a large river that decorates the landscape of a city and crosses a whole continent. The swimming pool is a classic element in the architecture of villas and young Hamburg based studio by Peter Thomas Hornung and Elsa Katharina Jacobi plays with the blinding light and the dry landscape of the Island of Rhodes. The swimming pool becomes the mirror that reflects the narcissism of architecture while at the same time putting some distance, a discontinuous element in the surface that separates the open domain, towards the sea and the horizon, of the garden, from the most intimate and closed area of the house. The very pleasure of overlooking the open horizon, highlighting the reflection of light on the still water of the swimming pool, can be found in the Miami twin towers project by Danish studio Big that offers enormous bathtubs overlooking the ocean to the 96 luxury apartments. The approach of Big is different in the project of a waste disposal complex in the industrial outskirts of Copenhagen, where the building rises on the waters of the port like a sort of architectural hill. This column rises to encompass the chimney stack and the roof is used to lay out a ski slope. Also the Scotts Towers, a complex designed by Dutch UN Studio in Singapore, combine luxury residences and swimming pools, just like Big's luxury towers in Miami. These towers feature a main, 50-meter long swimming pool, with a sundeck, a swimming pool for children and another one for wellness, with gyms, Jacuzzis and wellness centres. The situation is different when waters and their natural environment need to be reclaimed, as is the case of the rowing clubs designed by Studio Gang on the Chicago river, currently very polluted but destined to an environmental reclamation project similar to the one that reclaimed the Thames. Another and more important urban transformation project deals with the banks of the Danube river, in Vienna, where Belle Epoque memories of Strauss waltzes leave room to the technocity of Dominique Perrault's Paris studio. In the very modern district of Donau City, the new satellite city created in the last thirty years, Perrault designed the masterplan that regulates the use of the last available lots and two towers, DC (Donau City) 1, which at 220 m of height will be the tallest building in Austria, and an almost twin DC 2 tower that will be 160 meters tall; works are expected to be completed by 2016. In another European city, Lyon, Odile Decq is suspending a technological cube at the confluence between Rhone and Saône that will be a place for culture and leisure, together with a river walk which, in recent years, thanks to the Confluence project, is transforming this industrial city area into a district dedicated to culture and leisure. The urban transformation project is led by internationally known professionals such as Swiss architects Herzog & De Meuron and French landscape architect Michel Desvigne. In conclusion, a small yet significant building, the project for a visitors' centre with which Andrea Morgante, the Milan-born architect who established and manages Shiro Studio

in London, has won an international competition. We are in the marshes and in the wildlife of Cambridgeshire, in England, and the visitors' centre is integrated in this water landscape with the minimum possible impact thanks to a cluster organization, where the various parts of the centre are located around a central covered court with the natural character that the houses of a country village might have, replacing the rules of geometry with those of proximity, functional and spatial collaboration and the understanding of landscape. - **Caption pag. 6** The swimming pool marks the private area and has a cooling effect on the microclimate; Villa F, in Rhodes, was designed by the Hamburg based studio Hornung & Jacobi, 220 square metres with a white painted wood structure. - **Caption pag. 8** A swimming pool of “The Grove at Grand Bay”, two 20-storeys towers with 96 luxury apartments overlooking the sea of Miami; this project, by Big, will be completed in 2014. Amagerforbraending, designed by Big, is a waste treatment plant in an industrial area in Copenhagen, with a ski slope on the roof and a visitors' centre. On the banks of the Danube river, in Vienna, Dominique Perrault is building two towers with offices, apartments and a hotel; conclusion of the works in 2017. At the confluence between the Rhone and the Saône rivers, in Lyon, Odile Decq is building Pavilion 8, a steel and glass cube dedicated to the industrial history of this site for relaxation and culture. - **Caption pag. 10A** 50-meter long circular swimming pool is part of the recreational equipment of the Scotts Towers, a luxury residential complex in Singapore, designed by Un Studio. The Great Fen Visitor Centre, designed by Italian - and London - based Shiro Studio, will be built among the marshes, cane thickets and bush of Fenland, in Cambridgeshire (UK). Two rowing centres designed by Studio Gang are under construction on the banks of the Chicago River.

KAZAN WATER SPORT PALACE p.12

text Antonella Galli

photos courtesy of SPEECH Tchoban & Kuznetsov
project by Sergei Tchoban and Sergey Kuznetsov

Built for the Universiade 2013, the water sports center of the Russian city of Kazan stands out for its large lamellar wood roof in the shape of a wave. In July the facility hosted, for the Universiade 2013, the competitions of young university champion swimmers and divers from all over the world; now the Kazan Water Sports Palace is a first-level sports complex for the inhabitants of Kazan, the eighth-largest city in Russia and capital of the Republic of Tatarstan, 800 km from Moscow. The facility was designed by Sergei Tchoban and Sergey Kuznetsov, of the Moscow-based studio SPEECH Tchoban & Kuznetsov, inside a large park on the banks of the Kazanka River; for the sports events in the summer. The large building (187.5 m in length, 84 m in width) contains three swimming pools, of which two are regulation pools for swimming races, and one for diving; it can welcome up to 3500 spectators, with 2500 fixed seats and about 1000 on stands that can be dismantled. The lamellar wood roof is of great visual impact, made in collaboration with Ove Arup and Crdc-Lwc, and designed in the sinuous form of a wave: the roof, supported by large wooden arches with metal ties, rests on tall slightly arched wooden posts, paired in an ogival form, a typical motif of the local architectural tradition. The specially treated wood has been selected for its ability to adapt to humid places, and to give the whole building a pleasant, welcoming appearance, with a sense of warmth that is important in a place with a cold climate. - **Caption pag. 13** Opening image: the main swimming pool (52 x 25 m) of the Kazan Water Sports Palace. The roof of the complex, up to a height of 25 meters, is made with lamellar wood and composed of arches resting on pairs of curved posts joined at an acute angle. The outer cladding is in colored glass and panels of stainless steel, with a particular frosted finish. Upper right: the pool for diving competitions. Below: the main elevation of the building, with the five-story facade.

I.A News

VIEWPOINTS p. 14

text Monica Baio

Painted, photographed, artificially created, studied for its rules and the forms it generates, those of an animal, a project or a design product: water makes art and beauty. - **Caption pag. 15** Even the humblest everyday refuse, of the kind that automatically ends up in the waste bin, can have a second life: illustrator Anastassia Elias (photo, left) carves the plain cardboard tubes of toilet paper rolls to create delicate microworlds. The HSH (Home Sweet Home) sauna by Glass Idromassaggio has the iconic form of a house with a pitched roof, complete with internal accessories, from the clock to the decorative carpets in wood, to the bench. - **Caption pag. 15** Is it possible to distill a human body and condense its existence? Between principles of physics and philosophy, the artist Syd Minus immerses performers in a vat from which a quantity of water equal to their mass emerges. Human Distiller is one of the collateral events of the 55th Venice Art Biennale (www.sydminus.com, www.hotelflora.it). - **Caption pag. 15** The MAXXI museum in Rome hosts the exhibition “The sea is my land” curated by Francesco Bonami and Emanuela Mazzonis: 22 artists narrate, with the language of photography, the Mediterranean, a crossroads of peoples, cultures and religions. From 4 July to 29 September. Bled-Slovenia, Miniverse, 2007 © Aleš Bravničar, Courtesy Galerija Fotografija, Ljubljana. - **Caption pag. 17** What is an underwater fishing expedition like from the viewpoint of the fish? Fish Hunting, alternate version, 2008 (from the book *Mono Shout*, www.279editions.com) is an example of how Shout (aka Alessandro Gottardo), instead of words and gestures, uses clear, minimal freehand drawing to communicate his viewpoint on things: with irony, surprising double entendres and an immediately recognizable symbolism, he illustrates narrative texts, advertising campaigns and timely themes for important international publications. - **Caption pag. 17** The photographer Matthew Albanese is in favor of “low-tech handmade”: using spices, herbs and materials found in nature, he builds