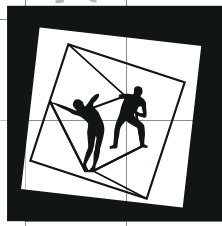


PUBLICA



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

- 477 ID195 SORAIA PATRÍCIA ANTUNES DOS REIS, CARLA GARRIDO DE OLIVEIRA , FILIPA DE CASTRO GUERREIRO.
Cross-border cooperation: For a sustainable territorial planning. Insights from Rio de Onor and Rionor de Castilla in the northwest of the Iberian Peninsula
- 481 ID200 NEIL LAMB, WHITNEY BEVAN, MARÍA JOSÉ MARTINEZ SANCHEZ
Enhancing student learning, inclusivity, and a sense of belonging in higher education through community engagement and civic projects
- 485 ID203 GERARDO SEMPREBON, CHANG LIU, ZHI LEI
The enigma of density. Testing design proposals to revitalize Hua'anli urban village (Wuhan)
- 489 ID216 CRISTELLE LECOEUR
First semester in architecture: A body confronted with the reality of suburban spaces
- 492 STEFANO SARTORIO, FRANCESCO AIROLDI
2/ ENDNOTES

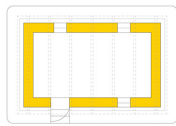
495 **3 / AFFECTED**

- 497 ID007 AIKATERINI ANTONOPOULOU, SEBASTIAN AEDO JURY
The body of the crowd as a cartographic tool through the Kill the Bill movement in Bristol
- 501 ID027 JULIA NERANTZIA TZORTZI, MARIA STELLA LUX
Citizens as main characters in urban adaptation. People's experience and contribution in the development of Decision Support Systems
- 505 ID056 ALESSANDRO GAIANI
Post natural inclusion
- 509 ID061 CINDY MENASSA-KÜELBY
Rethinking design: Body, behavior, nature, and our role in balancing ecosystems
- 513 ID062 FRANCESCA DI FUSCO
Interdisciplinary dialogue: Body, space and well-being. The impact of architectural and urban configurations on paces of care
- 517 ID078 SARA NAFI
Exploring the synergy between transit-oriented development and architectural humanism. Qatar's transit evolution: bridging architecture and urban living
- 521 ID079 CICEK KARATAS
Navigating fragility and urban memory: The role of the Beledna Memory Map in preserving intangible cultural heritage post-earthquake in Antakya, Hatay, Turkey
- 525 ID089 FRANCESCA MELINA
A paradigm of the contemporary city: Temperature as embodied perception
- 529 ID091 ZHENG WU
Wind-driven urban design. Design urban ventilation corridors from the block scale
- 533 ID098 DANIELA BUONANNO, LUCIANA MACALUSO
Tree-space-body. Urban forestry in Naples and Palermo
- 537 ID101 DEEMA ALATTAR
Examining outdoor thermal comfort and the use of public transportation system: A sustainable approach for Qatar's rapidly evolving cityscape
- 541 ID118 CATARINA FREITAS, GISELA LAMEIRA
Visual urban quality and health. A pre-intervention analysis method
- 545 ID121 GENNARO VITOLO
Contemplation and rebirth: Cemeteries between atmospheres and inner journeys

- 549 ID122 GRETA CALIENDO
Cultural heritage and public space. Affecting social complexity of Contemporary City
- 553 ID138 FRANCESCA ZANOTTO
Diverse bodies, multiple scales: Architectural strategies for urban biodiversity
- 559 ID144 GIOVANNI COMI
Thinking in architecture. Matter as mediation between body and nature
- 563 ID152 ALESSANDRO FRIGERIO, LAURA MONTEDORO
Overtourism in UNESCO sites and its effect on urban public space. An EU project experience of research by design in Athens, Florence and Krakow
- 569 ID158 AYELEN BETSABE ZUCOTTI
The tags associated with the Munch Museum and its relationship to the Oslo community
- 573 ID159 KRYSTALLIA KAMVASINOY, LORENZO STEFANO IANNIZZOTTO
Bodies in the Void: Addressing socioecological challenges through temporary practices in *Terrain Vague* sites
- 577 ID168 NADIA MOUNAJJED
The body and the architectonics of the desert
- 581 ID179 FRANCESCO AIROLDI
Every-Body. Spatial education as a co-design strategy for disaster risk reduction, disaster risk mitigation, and climate change adaptation
- 585 ID180 HOCINE ALIOUANE-SHAW
Using situated pedagogies and the concept of interdependence to engage with the environment and call its future into being
- 589 ID186 SILVIA DI MAURO
Relational stratifications. Body-centered approaches for an adaptive reuse strategy
- 593 ID189 ALESSANDRA SWINY, MARIA HADJISOTERIOU, TERESA TOURVAS
Unsettled. Creating community in a displaced environment
- 597 ID209 SILVIA BASSANESE
Bodies - Figure[s] - Ground[s]. Practices that enable conflictual society to find form of coexistence
- 601 ID210 ALISIA TOGNON, EKIN OLCAY
Mountainous Mastery. Architectural adaptations and urban fabric in Trentino's challenging terrain
- 607 ID213 YI GUO
The affected body in hyper-dense urban habitats: Exploring embodied architectural experiences in Hong Kong and Shenzhen
- 610 SILVIA DI MAURO, KEVIN SANTUS
3/ ENDNOTES

613 **4 / VULNERABLE**

- 615 ID017 ALLANA AVILA DORNELES
Vulnerability and Neuroarchitecture. Approaches to care in healthcare environments: a narrative review
- 621 ID032 MICHELA BASSANELLI, CAROLA D'AMBROS
Bodies, Work, Care. How office and domestic space is changing
- 625 ID043 NADIA MOUNAJJED
Pedagogies of care: Practices and methods for a non-ableist body-centered design

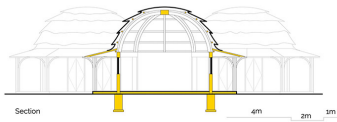


Plan



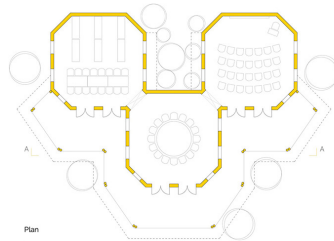
Elevation

2m 1m 0.5m

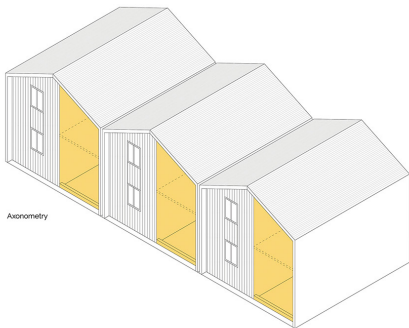


Section

4m 2m 1m



Plan

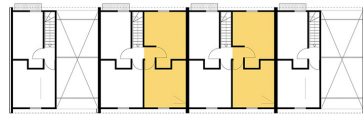


Axonometry

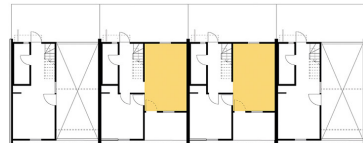


Elevation

5m 2m



First Floor Plan



Ground Floor Plan

Francesco Airoidi

Politecnico di Milano, Department of Architecture and Urban Studies DASTU

francesco.airoidi@polimi.it

Every-Body.

Spatial education as a co-design strategy for risk reduction, mitigation and adaptation

Key Words

Co-design; Anti-fragility; [Spatial] Education

No man is an Iland, intire of it selfe;
 every man is a peece of the Continent, a part of the maine;
 if a Clod bee washed away by the Sea,
 Europe is the lesse, as well as if a Promontorie were,
 as well as if a Mannor of thy friends or of thine owne were;
 any mans death diminishes me,
 because I am involved in Mankinde;
 And therefore, never send to know for whom the bell tolls;
 It tolls for thee
 [Donne 1624] [1].

Since ancient times, the starting point in the study and practice of architecture has been the space occupied by the human body, a very well-defined space between heaven and earth, between God and death. This space, which spans three dimensions, is ultimately the discipline's main object of study: it can be experienced, traversed, perceived, contemplated. It does not only passively undergo human action, but actively generates emotions and sensations: through the projection of these, translated into memories and future wills, the presence of the individual transforms a space or a set of them into a place. In many eras of History, from antiquity to the present, the space occupied by the human body has taken on the role of the very measure of architecture: just think about the LeCorbusian modulator and the Renaissance heritage. For this to be possible, the entire project must be conceived as an experiential object, a generating element of future sensations: every aspect of it, every existing binomial or dualism, must be interpreted according to a body-centered narrative. However, investigating the topics of body and space also means considering the possible

relationships and actions of the environment on them. In this way, the pair is approached by a third narrative level: it invokes an important point of view that moves architectural design away from a purely anthropocentric conception, introducing a necessary sensitivity to contemporary issues of climate crisis, an urgency related to changing scenarios in increasingly contracted temporalities. Moreover, delving into the issues of architectural design in a condition of natural risks and from a perspective centered on the relationship between body and space, means, on the one hand, observing emergencies by understanding and interpreting the transformative phenomena affecting everyday life; on the other hand, embracing a communitarian conception of bodies by projecting those who inhabit fragile contexts into a condition of preparedness. Consequently, it means questioning current resilience practices and post-disaster actions.

The present contribution draws on studies from a PhD research in progress [2], investigating co-design theories and practices for architecture to address place transformation, mitigation of risk and uncertainty, resilience and preparedness of affected communities and territories. It is a doctoral work involved in the PNRR Return program "multi-risk science for resilient communities under a changing climate", an extended partnership that aims to strengthen research chains on environmental, natural and man-made risks at the national level and promote their participation in European and global value chains. The goal of the program is to study community-based approaches to develop projects, plans and policies for disaster risk reduction (DRR), disaster risk mitigation (DRM) and climate change adaptation (CCA). Natural risks and environmental changes are thus key topics, related to violent events and transformations that are increasing for all of us, but affect the world's population differently, depending on location.

The role of a PhD research in architecture within a multidisciplinary project of this kind is to restore the spatial and architectural aspects of the issues analyzed and to connect them to the dimension of corporality. Shifting the focus from the individual to the communal sphere, one can speak here of a collective corporality, a group of bodies or a community. Considering users not only in an isolated way but also inside a plural dimension – seen in a huge non-anthropocentric way – the thesis aims to investigate effective co-design strategies for architecture in order to reach anti-fragility conditions in at-risk contexts.

The proofs of concept chosen to test a design-driven methodology that addresses the above issues are marginal places and inner areas, with predominantly rural and mountainous landscapes, where problems of risk and uncertainty led to depopulation. These kinds of problems, when read through the lens of a community-based approach and a body-centered perspective, can be effectively addressed by architecture if we work in the direction of redefining the possible tools and methodologies of co-design. Alongside classical participatory practices related to decision-making meetings, there is a need to engage residents of at-risk contexts in spatial education processes through workshops, self-construction activities, and seminars related to community self-determination. These are project tools that have been poorly tested in Western contexts, which are still strongly tied to an ideological conception of participation indebted to the experiences of the 1970s. The community engagement that co-design processes related to spatial (body-centered) education generate can lead people to better understand the places where they live, increasing risk awareness and leading to a state of preparedness and DRR-DRM.

In front of the lack of co-design experiences focused on community spatial education in Europe, exploring case studies in non-Western contexts becomes crucial, where the pressing challenges of climate change and environmental crises have accelerated the need of actions for resilience and preparedness. To grasp the potential coexistence of various participatory approaches within a project, examining recurring experiences in the works of certain architects proves invaluable over isolated instances. Yasmeen Lari's work can be a first example of architectural participatory practice against fragilities, a contemporary form of co-design blending traditional knowledge with spatial implications in DRR, DRM and CCA. She co-founded the Heritage Foundation of Pakistan in 1980, a non-profit organization dedicated to researching, publishing, and conserving cultural heritage, particularly focusing on humanitarian and low-cost architecture. Lari's thought revolves around the concept of "barefoot social architecture", emphasizing low environmental impact and community-built objects. One standout example of her work is Karavan Ghar, a project of self-built houses with traditional materials, co-designed with communities affected by the 2005 Kashmir earthquake. Lari's approach blends self-determination with appropriation, fostering a vision of resilience and community-driven development. Inspired by circular economy and zero carbon construction, the DRR-Compliant Sustainable [Lari 2012] is an illustrated manual that provides technical solutions to improve traditional building techniques, and to engage and train artisans for the reconstruction of disaster-affected settlements. Since spatial education and training are relevant parts of risk prevention, other tools developed by Lari are the Disaster Preparedness Manual and DVD [Lari

et al. 2013], edited both in English and Urdu for a widespread comprehension [Corradi 2021]. Alongside the guidelines for building efficiently and safely, the manual contains illustrations and photographs that describe actions to be taken before, during and after disasters, that could be easily understood and communicated by population. The second case study is Elemental S. A., coordinated by Alejandro Aravena with Andrés Iacobelli and Pablo Allard: a program with social aims that proposes solutions for fragile populations in South America. Often the projects promoted there must deal with contexts subject to risk and uncertainty of various types: this is the case of Villa Verde Housing in Constitución (Chile), a key neighborhood for post-earthquake and tidal wave reconstruction of 2010, which is inspired by models of informal settlements spread across the continent and encourages residents to take an active role in reconstruction through seminars, workshops and incremental design. The owners were invited to participate in activities centered on how to realize the completions of their housing: the opportunity to customize buildings looks at the theme of appropriation of space through education, which is accompanied by an awareness of risk and projects reconstruction into future temporalities with the activation of bottom-up processes. «These workshops, given their technical nature [...], tend to be conducted by architects; however, it is essential that they are well-coordinated with the institution that is coordinating the community, [...] whoever is in charge of the on-site social work with families» [Aravena and Iacobelli 2016, p. 462]. In conclusion, this work of re-signifying co-design methodologies by looking at non-Western contexts can be an effective process for DRR, RRM and CCA if considered as a shared knowledge building with a bottom-up orientation around the themes of spatial education with a bodies-centered perspective. Because the awareness of one's body in the space and of belonging to a community of bodies coincides with the knowledge of being in a place [Bianchetti 2020, p. 8]: this calls into play the ability to recognize oneself in it, in a set of meanings that juxtapose the identity of the place with the identity of man [Norberg-Schulz 1979].

ENDNOTES

[1] "No man is an island entire of itself; Every man is a piece of the continent, a part of the main; if a clod be washed away by the sea, Europe is the less, as well as if a promontory were, as well as if a manor of thy friends or of thine own were; Any man's death diminishes me, because I am involved in mankind. And therefore never send to know for whom the bell tolls; it tolls for thee" [Donne 1624].

[2] Co-design. Theories and practices for transformation, mitigation and resilience. PhD candidate: Francesco Airoldi; supervisor: Prof. Emilia Corradi. Politecnico di Milano, AUID PhD program, Dipartimento di Architettura e Studi Urbani.

REFERENCES

- Aravena, A., & Iacobelli, A. (2016). *Elemental. Incremental housing and participatory design manual*. Ostfildern: Hatje Cantz Verlag.
- Bianchetti, C. (2020). *Bodies. Between Space and Design*. Berlin: Jovis.
- Corradi, E. (2021). The future underpinned by the past. In Berlingieri, F., Corradi, E., Cozza, C., Forino, I. (eds.) (2021). *Yasmeen Lari. An Architect*. Milano-Torino: Pearson - Politecnico di Milano.
- Donne, J. (1624). Meditation XVII. In Donne, J. (2015) [1624]. *Devotions upon Emergent Occasions*. Columbia: CreateSpace Independent Publishing Platform.
- Lari, Y. (2012). *DRR-Compliant Sustainable Construction Build Back Safer with Vernacular Methodologies: Technical Support Programme*. Karachi: Heritage Foundation of Pakistan.
- Lari, Y., Meadows, A., & Meadows, P. S. (2013). *Disaster Preparedness Manual*. Karachi: Heritage Foundation of Pakistan.
- Norberg-Schulz, C. (1979). *Genius Loci. Towards Phenomenology of Architecture*. New York: Rizzoli International Publications.

FIGURES

Fig. 1- Prototype of the self-built Karavan Ghar, developed by Yasmeen Lari (top left); the INTBAU Training and Resource Center in Makli (Pakistan), designed by Yasmeen Lari and built with a collective effort by residents in 2019 (top right); the incremental design of Villa Verde Housing project by Elemental S. A. in Constitución (Chile), 2010 (down). Graphic reworkings by the author.