

# Abstracts

## **Celestial Order in Cities and its Abandonment, *Remo Bodei* (p. 7)**

A long tradition dating back to the Pythagoreans deputed that cities should be inspired by the proportions and harmonies of the universe. Taking part in the life of the cosmos, then, human communities were to accord with its order, imitating its cyclical and regular movements. The compact nature of the civic body was further ensured by the compact nature of the community, an antidote to its disintegration. The correspondence between cosmic order and earthly society broke up at the start of the Early Modern Age when conflict was held to be a growth factor. In multicultural cities and in an era of rapid change in which individual and collective cultures seem threatened, one of the many strategies which can be adopted to integrate into one's own city is to understand and perceive it as a qualitative and non-homogeneous space with discontinuity thresholds which limit time frameworks and the development of different styles of life.

Keywords: cosmic order; closed cities; qualitative spaces

## **Towards the New Landscape Plans in Lombardia, *edited by Andrea Arcidiacono* (p. 14)**

Approximately one year ago the Lombardia Region launched a revision of its Landscape Plan (PPR) in which the Politecnico di Milano's Department of Architecture and Urban Studies (DASTU) took part in the framework of a partnership agreement with Regional Research Institute Eupolis. The objectives involved in the drawing up of this new plan prioritised the need to improve efficiency and the ability to influence planning and landscape design mechanisms with a 'landscape management' aim capable on one hand of guaranteeing effective and co-ordinated safeguarding of protected landscapes and on the other with a holistic and shared vision of the area and its identity and values, promoting and implementing new integrated landscape projects.

Keywords: landscape planning; safeguarding heritage; eco-systemic services

## **Managing the Landscape Challenges for the Lombard PPR, *Andrea Arcidiacono, Marika Fior, Gabriele Pasqui* (p. 15)**

The objective of the Lombard Regional Landscape Plan (PPR) revision launched some months ago in the context of a partnership agreement between the Lombardia Region and the Department of Architecture and Urban Studies (DASTU) was to enhance the efficacy of the plan's legal and planning mechanisms, acting selectively to simplify and integrate the current

plan's knowledge and planning framework. On one hand reinforcing the environmental and ecological scope of its interpretation of local landscape structures and on the other introducing co-ordinated operational mechanisms, procedures and criteria in safeguard management (Legislative Decree 42/2004) whose purpose is to impact on local scale planning and design with specific reference to the local characteristics of the homogeneous landscape plans and specific issue contexts or potential in landscape planning.

Keywords: landscape and territory; environmental and ecological values; operational mechanisms

## **The European Landscape Convention as the Foundation for Lombardia's New Landscape Plan, *Luisa Pedrazzini* (p. 25)**

The European Landscape Convention (ELC) is the reference point for amendments currently being drawn up in Lombardia to the Landscape Plan (PPR). The current plan, inspired by the ELC, has demonstrated the difficulties involved in the implementation of such a complex plan in terms of local scale application. The new plan focuses on simplifying mechanisms and on greater contents details but also on certain thematic and specific spatial contexts relating to the Lombard landscape. The aim is to ensure a strict correlation between safeguarding mechanisms and planning and management in order to govern landscape transformations in a proactive way and strengthening the relationship between landscape and environment.

Keywords: European Landscape Convention; enhancement; integrated planning

## **Criteria for the Active Management of Landscape Protection Limits and contexts in Lombardia, *Alberta Cazzani, Stefano Coloru* (p. 31)**

Lombardia's landscape safeguard system is extremely wide ranging: a grand total of 52% of the region is restricted on the state level pursuant to Article 136 (ex legge 1497/1939) or Article 142 (ex legge 431/1985) of Legislative Decree 42/2004. Regional and supra-national safeguards interconnect and overlap in these contexts. Such quantitatively wide-ranging safeguards have not, however, always been capable of conserving and enhancing the Lombard landscape which now presents considerable natural and developed value but also a great many decay and modification problems. In the process of revising the Regional Landscape Plan (PPR) an important component relates to defining restricted area management criteria with the

objective of substituting a passive restriction policy with active and proactive safeguards strictly linked to the area's planning and management mechanisms.

Keywords: safeguards; restriction management; Lombard landscape

**Babel Landscapes and the Plan's Paradoxes**, *Antonio Longo, Alessandro Rocca* (p. 38)

The revision of the Lombard landscape plan has highlighted the difficulties encountered by this urban planning mechanism in acting as a generative platform for new territorial resources and regulating the production of landscapes capable of measuring up to today's themes: old and new infrastructure, industrial agriculture, the abandonment of large swathes of land, inadequate maintenance and the tourist exploitation of the Alpine areas. In its pre-eminent focus on the historical and cultural heritage, the plan struggles to interact with local planning levels and daily transformation practices and rarely achieves its objectives in shaping new landscapes and territorial values. In response to the questions raised by evolving research work, ours is a reflection on these issues and on potential innovation spaces.

Keywords: landscape; regional planning; environment

**Ecosystem Services Supporting Landscape Planning**, *Stefano Salata, Silvia Ronchi, Federico Ghirardelli* (p. 45)

The assessment and bio-physical mapping of Eco-System Services is now a crucial theme in the development of suitable territorial management policies on various scales. The revision of the Lombard Regional Landscape Plan has set in motion a first experiment in the Eco-System Services (SE) context incorporating mapping as an environmental quality indicator (Habitat Quality) for the whole region. This indicator has been used both to define territories characterised by considerable homogeneity from an ecological-landscape point of view and to redefine high natural habitat restrictions in accordance with the plan. The text examines the potential and limitations of applied methodological experimentation adopted in the plan describing the variables used and the process by which the bio-physical mapping obtained was constructed.

Keywords: ecosystem services; landscape planning; habitat quality

**Strategic Environmental Evaluation of the Regional Landscape Plan. Landscape and Environment Integration**, *Gioia Gibelli, Viola Dosi* (p. 53)

In its evaluation component, VAS, the PPR treats the landscape not simply as the subject of the plan but also as a synthetic macro-indicator capable of highlighting critical issues and values in land management policies. Within the planning process VAS, the concepts of vulnerability and resilience are the basis of multi-scale 'landscape habitats' analysis methods in relation to the environmental components and resources making them up with the aim of assessing, in quantitative terms too, the state of the landscape and the effects of the transformations planned. This approach determines an important link between the Landscape Plan and VAS which is an optimal tool supporting landscape planning as a result of the integration role it plays between environmental and scenario components.

Keywords: landscape; vulnerability; resistance

**Geographical Data Construction and Sharing: The Information System for the Management of the Plan**, *Daniela Giannoccaro, Paolo Dilda* (p. 63)

The structuring of the geographical information used to support the Lombard Landscape Plan starts with reconnaissance activities relating to critical issues in the existing tools evaluated both by means of direct experiences in the use context of these tools and from the perspective of the technological evolution registered over recent years on the subject of the production and distribution of digital geographic data including in relation to the new Open Data culture. The Landscape Plan is a mechanism which is called on to manage an extremely dynamic and interrelated component system each of which is represented via territorial information which requires continual updating. The objective is to create an information system shared by the different subjects and tools capable of triggering a cyclical process of updating of the spatial information in support of the plan's decisions and management phases.

Keywords: territorial information system; open geographical data; themed mapping

**Expo 2015 and its Legacies**, *edited by Antonella Bruzzese and Stefano Di Vita* (p. 67)

In a phase in which the first Expo 2015 balance sheets are being published and post-event transformation and enhancement proposals for the exhibition site are slowly taking shape, this service gathers reflections on the various forms of territorial legacy of the event proposed by a number of scholars who have observed the organisation, implementation and staging phases of the event and planning of the post-event from a range of points of view, both internal and external to the process.

Keywords: great events; Expo 2015; legacy

**What Does the Future Hold for the Pavilions at Expo Milano 2015?**, *Luisa Collina, Laura Daglio* (p. 73)

The temporary dimensions of the architecture used for a great universal exhibition has always raised the question of what will happen to them once the event is over. After a brief historic overview which will reconstruct the many examples and management models for this life cycle conclusion, this paper will attempt a critical overview of the various approaches adopted for the second life of the Expo 2015 pavilions also in the light of the Milan event's sustainability objectives. On one hand this analysis highlights a specific legacy of the universal exhibition on the theme of sustainable development, on the other, it throws light on a number of key technological, economic and cultural questions relating to wider themes concerning the relationship between contemporary architecture and the time variable (length, life cycle, re-use, recycling).

Keywords: temporary architecture; recycling/reuse; great events

**A Regeneration Project for the Expo 2015 Legacy Material**, *Paolo Galuzzi* (p. 80)

This paper was prompted by a desire for an alternative to following the various proposals which have been set out in recent months for the ultimate use of the Expo site and seek out long lasting and practical conditions – within a context which

is anything but linear – with which every action hypothesis must measure up. The potential offered by the Expo legacy material, interpreted here as implicit legacy, can represent an opportunity to try out one of the most convincing urban regeneration projects in our country. An in-depth knowledge of the site's current characteristics and real re-use conditions is an indispensable support and accompaniment to potential medium-long term action if work on building the immediate future measurable in a three to ten year period is to begin.

Keywords: Expo; legacy; urban regeneration

**Untying the Knot of the Expo Site, a Multiscalar Node between Urban and Regional Scales, *Andrea Rolando* (p. 87)**

This paper outlines a balance sheet of the Expo event and briefly evaluates a number of outcomes especially in relation to the material legacy relating to the infrastructure network between 'hard, rapid' and 'soft, slow' systems. In reference to this specific aspect, an analysis of the positive results obtained is reported alongside certain potential improvements considering the ways in which mobility networks can play an essential role between functional requisites and spatial quality needs and considering the ways in which the vast territorial scale can positively impact on in-depth planning solutions.

Keywords: infrastructure networks; slow mobility; landscape planning

**The Organized Civil Society in Expo 2015: Cascina Triulza and Triulza Foundation, *Giuliana Costa* (p. 91)**

Expo 2015 and the issues it brought forward were an ideal occasion for the dissemination of the ideas, themes, values and activities which characterise the commitment of civil society organisations. For the first time in the history of the universal exhibition these latter took part in the event with their own pavilion, called 'Triulza Farm' and managed by the Foundation of the same name, representing a plurality of players. This paper will retrace its genesis and development before, during and after the six months of the event itself. Governance mechanisms and the conditions which made this enterprise possible will also be described as will the processes of innovation and the legacy effects which this has, at least potentially, triggered in the metropolitan area.

Keywords: Expo 2015; Triulza Farm; innovation and legacy

**Learning from (Milan) Expo, *Antonella Bruzzese, Stefano Di Vita* (p. 95)**

In the months immediately following on from the Milan 2015 Universal Exhibition this paper proposes to explore the event's local impact contributing to the considerations under way on the ability of these great events to continue to act as change factors in this phase of economic, political and social uncertainty determined by the current status quo. Considering six themes – great infrastructure, accessibility/public space, involvement/visibility, cultural legacy, technological innovation and exception state – and observing the short term territorial effects both the critical aspects and elements of innovation which have been features of the Milanese experience and which could impact on the future both of the exhibition site and of the metropolitan region are recognisable.

Keywords: Expo Milan 2015; urban change; urban innovation

**Mega-Events and Legacies: Milan Expo 2015 and the Future Event City, *Mark I. Wilson* (p. 106)**

The great exhibitions have been considered a characteristic feature of world urban dynamics since 1851 even though the event has evolved and changed over time. Expo is now once more at a watershed: changes in the economic frameworks and cultural reference points requires us to update our approach to this type of great event. Milan Expo 2015 in many ways developed a 21st century exhibition model better suited to the needs of a society with full access to global information and widespread travel and new experience opportunities. While public opinion questions the costs and operational conditions involved in such events, the time is ripe for us to ask ourselves what approach will be taken in future by host cities.

Keywords: mega-events; great exhibitions; Milan

**The London Olympic Games and the Regeneration of the East End, *Francesco Curci, Luca Gaeta* (p. 110)**

Right from before London's candidacy the London Olympic Games of 2012 were linked to the requalification of the East End. The British people made it the driving force for a redistributive urban planning strategy aimed at improving the social and environmental conditions of some of the most disadvantaged districts in the city. For this reason the Queen Elizabeth Olympic Park, headquarters of the main Olympic structures and athletes' village, was designed with its legacy in mind, i.e. the post-Olympic reconversion of its infrastructure, buildings and open spaces. Three years after the Games, urban regeneration is under way in the ways planned not without certain modifications prompted by the changed economic and political scenario. Whatever the specific outcomes, having planned a great event within the framework of the development objectives of the host city is a correct local government decision.

Keywords: urban regeneration; legacy; Olympics

**Time and Design. Great Events, Designing in Unstable Conditions *Andrea Migliarese* (p. 120)**

Taking on the design of a great event requires architecture and urban planning disciplines to measure up to the specific features of unstable contexts by means of a conceptual shift from an interpretation of design as product to its interpretation as process. Measuring up to 'territories in movement' requires an ability to think of a different relationship between time and design such as to develop a possible composition chronometry in which time parameters become architectural practice variables. The framing concept put forward by Bernard Cache enables us to develop an idea of flexibility which is simultaneously restricted prompting us to consider great events as opportunities to set out a spatial armour capable of orienting and facilitating future transformations and contributing to the construction of the public city.

Keywords: great events; time and design; unstable contexts

**Building the Urban Space Collectively as a Change-Focused Practice, *Elisabetta Antonucci* (p. 129)**

This paper fits in to the current tension between the progressive expansion of capital accumulation logics which take the form of a tendency to territorial and service privatisation, the erosion of the space for action and resident participation and the multiplication of forms of defence of the right to use and space production in

cities. In Venice in recent years a variegated geography of urban experimentation has been taking shape. This includes the participatory design process taking place at the former Ospedale al Mare on Lido di Venezia, an island which has been made fragile by the speculative logics which have impacted on it recently, and initiated by a citizen council from 2011 onwards. This process has been observed from the perspective of outcomes in terms of reconfiguration of the area, generation of new territorial management and intervention strategies, the launching of a collective learning process via a constant critical re-elaboration and reflection process.

Keywords: urban and territorial practices; participatory processes; urban regeneration

**Land Protection in Lombardia. A Law Constructed on the Possible and not on the Necessary** *Paolo Pileri* (p. 137)

Since December 2014 Lombardia has had its own law for the

reduction of land use. It is an interesting and not unambiguous cultural step. Certain steps have been feeble and avoid taking on/resolving crucial issues which are at the heart of land use and interlink with many structural territorial management elements. But this is not all. Parts of the law effectively go to the extent of constructing the bases for the legitimisation of new land uses thus contradicting themselves. The worry highlighted by the region's various technical reports is that this is a legislative tool which is still half-hearted. The doubt is that the entity of the challenge which this issue requires has not been fully grasped and that levelling down strategies made up of mediation above all have been preferred to courageous innovations, solutions which are closer to what it is possible to do than to what needs to be done.

Keywords: land use; urbanisation containment; territorial governance