

## Abstracts

### **Marginality, ethnicity and penalty in the neoliberal city: an analytical cartography, *Loïc Wacquant* (p. 7)**

This article draws an analytical map of the research programme that I have pursued in my three books: *Urban Outcasts* (2008), *Punishing the Poor* (2009), and *Deadly Symbiosis: Race and the Rise of the Penal State* (2013). In this trilogy, I have sought to illuminate the triangular nexus of class fragmentation, ethnic division and state-crafting in the fin-de-siècle polarised city. I have developed key notions to clarify categories that were still confused (such as the ghetto) and to forge new concepts that I have intended as tools for a comparative sociology of the unfinished genesis of the post-industrial precariat, the penal regulation of poverty, and the construction of the neoliberal Leviathan. Bringing the study of the contemporary permutations of class, race and immigration and of the state into a single framework shows how the racialisation, penalisation and depoliticisation of the urban turmoil associated with advanced marginality reinforce each other both in Europe in the United States.

Keywords: marginality; ghetto; dishonour

### **Are integrated policies for crisis-hit districts still possible?, edited by *Simonetta Armondi and Gabriele Pasqui* (p. 20)**

The question in the title is probed in Cinisello Balsamo, an area within the Milan conurbation that is known for its urban-policy legacy. The introduction prepares the ground for the authors' essays, which offer readings of the situation in Crocetta on different levels and of the policies and projects instigated there. In this private residential district afflicted by myriad critical issues (spatial, social and economic), the traditional forms of intervention attempted over the last fifteen years in public-housing contexts are, for many reasons, not feasible.

Keywords: Cinisello Balsamo; integrated policies; district

### **The trials of life in Crocetta as a wicked problem, *Simonetta Armondi* (p. 21)**

This contribution presents a reading of the specific factors affecting the Crocetta district of Cinisello Balsamo and frames them as a wicked problem. The essay considers all the multiple residential forms employed in Crocetta through its spaces, the invisibility of its people, the remedial approaches, and the issues surrounding the construction of an urban agenda. The underlying conviction is that, despite its singularity, Crocetta's story is now of general value for its theme of urban shrinkage, regardless of the Cinisello Balsamo policy trajectory. It exhibits

a step transition on several fronts. In particular, the margins of indeterminacy of new territories in difficulty and the rethink of the role of public and technical intervention demand a change of 'posture' in urban policy.

Keywords: multi-ethnic districts; urban shrinkage; urban policies

### **Urban and social regeneration: the 'La Mia Crocetta' project, *Camilla Mele* (p. 29)**

Many urban residential districts, whether public or private, have serious socio-economic and environmental problems. The Crocetta district in the town of Cinisello Balsamo near Milan, with almost exclusively private housing complexes from the '60s and '70s, a population density six times the town average (31,700 inhabitants/km<sup>2</sup>) and a foreign population of 44% (comprising 54 different ethnicities), is an environment with many challenges. Faced with the current recession and widespread poverty, the 'La Mia Crocetta' urban-regeneration project has deployed innovative approaches, intervention strategies and cross-disciplinary/transcultural competencies to achieve a balance between multiple ends. These include improving the quality of the built environment, increasing the area's economic attractiveness, fostering citizen participation, reducing inequalities, and promoting social cohesion.

Keywords: urban regeneration; participation; transcultural approach

### **How should urban change be supported?, *Simonetta Armondi* (p. 37)**

This essay offers a critical overview of the scientific consultancy work by Politecnico di Milano's *Dipartimento di Architettura e Studi Urbani* (department of architecture and urban studies, or 'Dastu') in the Crocetta district for Cinisello Balsamo town council. The text brings out the implications and impact of this commission aimed at creating an urban-renewal project with two 'atypical' characteristics: the local building stock is private; and the initiative is voluntary, backed by the council, independently of national or European policies or programmes. The essay traces the activity through its various stages, following the political and administrative developments while highlighting the special importance of continuity and transcalarity in urban policies.

Keywords: urban agenda; public action; social innovation

### **If the lad from Via Gluck is a Muslim. An appraisal of the policies for Crocetta, *Giovanni Laino* (p. 45)**

This contribution offers a perspective external to the Crocetta

district project, starting from a broader assessment of the experiences in Italy and overseas with place-based approaches to urban renewal. It focuses on three implications for districts like Crocetta, splinters of the post-metropolis of our times. First, it emphasises the acknowledged positive role of migrants in urban-change processes. Second, it spotlights the importance of specific urban issues recognisable only to those who live where the contemporary crisis bites. And third, it raises the need to rethink how to activate and engage ordinary people, assessing the extent to which the enacted initiatives have succeeded in mobilising individuals and social groups, not just by treating them as users but also by deploying forms of subjectification.

Keywords: social activation; urban-regeneration policies; citizens

**Places, specificities, integration: on the Crocetta district and urban renewal, Francesca Governa (p. 52)**

This essay presents the outcomes of an 'external' study of the Crocetta district project. It is an opportunity to identify the difficulties and conflicts in the recently concluded season of urban-regeneration and -renewal policies, to discuss the lines to pursue as the research and experimentation moves forward, and to take a broader view, including of some more general questions about urban-renewal processes and the means of implementing them. This contribution focuses on three issues: the district as a policy arena; the 'atypicality' of the Crocetta urban-regeneration project; and the return of the problem of the domestic dwelling, with the resulting need to carefully rethink the appeal – which is often just lip service and window dressing – to the virtues of integrated projects.

Keywords: integration; district; urban-regeneration policies

**Experimentation and realism: possible policies for the Crocetta district, Gabriele Pasqui (p. 57)**

This contribution suggests a 'realist experimental' approach for Crocetta, taking its cue from the recognition of the genuine sea change in integrated urban policies in Italy and Europe. Against this background, the article considers why it is essential in a setting like Crocetta to experiment with brand new intervention mechanisms and tools. The reasons are as follows: the uncertainty over resources and timescales; the fluid, plural, unstable nature of the resident population and its manifest difficulties in adopting recognised forms of representation; and the serious economic dimension to the resident families' housing problems. The essay proposes levers for action, in the presence of real and symbolic places where different people can live side by side and the unused building stock; together, they can offer fitting policy tools and trigger virtuous regeneration mechanisms.

Keywords: integrated policies; mechanisms; policy tools

**Architecture and regeneration of an industrial area: Nera Montoro, Terni, edited by Barbara Coppetti (p. 63)**

The study commissioned from Dastu by Terni Research, a holding company operating in the green-economy arena, progresses a strategic project in a 24-hectare industrial site. The activities now under way here concern three themes: energy production from renewable sources and waste; recovering raw materials by treating old tyres; and reclaiming sites and cleaning up contaminated water. In synergy with the client's innovative vision, which supersedes the old industrial models, the research develops new

architectural- and environmental-regeneration strategies for this production site. Lying within the Terni industrial area, which conserves the memory of Italian industrialisation's early days, Nera Montoro is also part of a sensitive rural environment that breeds a strong sense of identity.

Keywords: countryside; industry; architecture

**A new hub in Italy's green industry, Stefano Neri, Federico Zacaglioni (p. 66)**

This contribution is not an academic paper; rather, the text is the client's, with a very limited thematic revision by the editor. It highlights the company's innovation objectives, the initiatives launched, and the environmental renewal efforts through the new activities in the Nera Montoro area. The first part expounds the convergence of intentions needed to build synergies between architecture and industrial spaces and between a university institution and a private client. A list follows of the work done in the industrial area, with some quantitative data to illustrate the environmental impact and significance of the strategies devised.

Keywords: genius loci; circular economy; renewable energies

**Looking beyond the factory: an architectural perspective, Roberto Spagnolo (p. 69)**

Regeneration and renewal of services and technology areas is one of the most pressing and most discussed themes in contemporary urban dynamics. Indeed, the future of our cities and landscapes must be underpinned by a deep, radical rethink of the status quo in these areas, starting right from those places that now lie abandoned or underused. To regenerate these places, one of the main aspects that urban and architectural design must probe is compatibility between the qualities of the existing contexts and the (spatial, figurative and type) characteristics of what will have to replace them. The most important structures and physical systems must therefore be identified and selected to fashion a new dialogue that can recognise, distinguish and recompose the values of these places, in poetically eloquent forms.

Keywords: recomposition; regeneration; modification

**Themes and forms in industrial space, Barbara Coppetti (p. 74)**

The process of physical, spatial and industrial regeneration under way in Nera Montoro seeks solid synergies with the power of the Valnerina landscape, as evoked by the significant presence of water and by the way its movement en masse is controlled to generate energy. The hydro-energy sector has a strong underlying utopian drive, which shaped the valley's anthropogeographical scale long ago and then, in the early decades of the 20th century, set a series of landmarks in the form of hydroelectric power stations, celebrating the new energy of a new century. Today, the architectural and industrial renewal project at Nera Montoro brings these influences up to date, offering novel spatial forms that can inform and implement the process that is unfolding.

Keywords: water; energy; utopia

**Memories of an industrial landscape, Alisia Tognon (p. 80)**

In the last two centuries, major steel and chemical works have been built in the countryside along the River Nera between Narni and Terni. The great transformation from a share-cropping to a predominantly industrial society has altered the rhythms, the ways and the pace of life and the forms of this landscape. Here,

industries become a means of sustaining not only the local economy but also the cultural richness and heritage that they represent in their weaving of relationships between industrial products and nature.

Keywords: memory; regeneration; landscape

**Industry in the park: architecture, energy, landscape. Project strategies,** *Sandra Maglio, Elena Scattolini* (p. 86)

The planned development of the Terni Research industrial area is set to renew the current production infrastructure by adding new architectural structures and pursuing several initiatives to enhance the open spaces and hierarchise the existing approaches. The client wishes to transform the current industrial setting into a new production hub for green energy where some of the additional functions and activities will be open to the general public. The backdrop of special landscape interest makes this an exceptional project; hence, it is vital to properly plan the intended relationship between the built and natural environments. Keywords: regeneration; architecture for energy; architecture and landscape

**Parco Agricolo Sud and Expo 2015: towards new governance for Milan's periurban agriculture,** *Francesco Vescovi* (p. 92)

The Parco Agricolo Sud, a large protected rural area south of Milan, is increasingly threatened by consumption of land. In recent years, in the absence of an overall strategy and adequate funding, it has seen a series of new local networks and initiatives become established within its boundaries involving various groups united around projects to strengthen the farming economy and to renew the environment and landscape. Milan's Expo provides a timely opportunity to systematise this new asset. The managing body's mandate and structure could be changed to create a metropolitan agency for periurban agricultural development led by a partnership between the main players currently active in the field, using the local action groups in the EU's Leader+ approach as a template. The park would therefore need to be strategically planned as a confederation of 'rural districts' coordinated by the agency and conceived as a flexible mosaic of integrated inter-municipal projects for food production and landscape use.

Keywords: periurban agriculture; rural districts; local marketing

**Holiday homes on the margins of Italian town planning,** *Francesco Curci* (p. 101)

In Italy, the town-planning disciplines have never systematically studied the second-home phenomenon, even though its impact on much of the country, in all regions, has been decisive. This article explains why it is extremely important that town planning develops specific expertise and knowledge on the management of second-home areas while aiming to integrate as closely as possible with other disciplines that tackle this subject. After defining and framing the phenomenon, this contribution provides some figures on second homes in Italy, before moving on to discuss the case of San Giorgio and Torre a Mare. These adjacent coastal districts south of the city of Bari offer interesting scope

for studying the evolution of the holiday-property developments and their ambiguous and disjointed relationship with the local councils and with the governance of the territory.

Keywords: second home; residential tourism; coastal settlements

**Reading between the lines. Four exercises starting with the design of the plan for Genoa,** *Andrea Vergano* (p. 110)

The lines of a town plan always embody a planning approach that can be relatively easy to discern – as in the 'green line' and 'blue line' of the city of Genoa's new urban plan. This essay advances a critical viewpoint on the relative importance of these lines framing the urban margins, through four exercises: a revision of the model of the linear city, which combines with that of the compact multi-centred city; an exercise in doctrine on the relationship between the plan's design and form (in an unreformed legislative framework, like that here in Liguria); a rhetorical exercise wherein designs and words cooperate to decode and communicate the plan; and an exercise in imagination, where the lines rediscover their importance in the plan, offering glimpses of possible ways to renew the city.

Keywords: urban design; plan form; urban margins

**Restoring private housing in post-earthquake Abruzzo: an analysis of the estimation procedures,** *Sebastiano Carbonara* (p. 119)

This paper looks at cost estimation for the private buildings damaged by the earthquake that hit the Abruzzo region in 2009. The Italian state again funded the entire reconstruction effort. The initial legislative measures revealed a more careful approach to the expenditure needed to restore the main dwellings, while limiting the money available for all the other private buildings; this approach was subsequently revisited. This paper shows how the new framework, in which main homes and second dwellings were treated essentially the same, could increase the overall cost (even by 50%+) of restoring private buildings compared to the initially envisaged outlay.

Keywords: private-building cost estimation; post-earthquake reconstruction; Abruzzo

**Mantova: deciphering the city, deciphering the architecture,** *Luisa Nava* (p. 126)

Tracing the development of Mantova's urban form is the key to seeing how the growth of a contemporary city betrays the ways in which society seeks a sense of belonging. The interrelation between *urbs*, *civitas* and *polis* has always generated urban forms bound up with everyday life, and this is true for urban sprawl, too. Three observations on Mantova's development – bringing together parts of buildings with their own identity, the need to manage the downflow of water and military defence, and the close links between open space and architecture – confirm how the tension between stasis and movement, dwelling and exchange, memory and planning, origin and destination, has always fostered new fabrics and architectures that represent the identity of the place.

Keywords: Mantova; city; urban morphology