

POLITECNICO DI TORINO
FIRST SCHOOL OF ARCHITECTURE
Master of Science in Architecture (Construction)
Honors theses

Albiano Shooting: a synthesis of contrasts in the exploration of planning

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Global view

Our presentation revolves around the five main questions leading journalism to identify our topic and then outline our design's development by answering to the question "how?".

Who? An emerging team of architects considering their degree thesis a first approach to the world of professional practice. The aim is accepting compromises preserving experimentation.

The awareness of a complex and saturated market as of architectural profession has lead us to explore practical issues and marketing strategies that are an academic world's prerogative.

Nevertheless we don't want to lose the research-based approach driven by genuine experimentation which is typical of novices and which is expressed by deep attention we paid to great studios such as OMA and FOA.

Indeed our work has been inspired by "Wonderland" magazine's ideas and it is underpinned by literature on the planning stage. Following Coxe and Maister's teachings on this subject, lead by the admiration towards outstanding associate architects who distinguished themselves for their innovative approach and non-hierarchical organization, inspired by the deep ingrained trust in the initiative and in the juvenile creativeness, we attempted to trace a path towards the setting up of a professional studio that can work for us, here and now.

When? Nowadays. Against the backdrop of a plain cohabitation of different ways of living in our homes' space that are influenced by social transformations.

Where? Albiano. Ivrea. A typical province town where housebuilding is the result of conventional rules rather than of tradition.

What? Chance: a construction company bought a narrow plot of land in the town outskirts. The P.E.C. (settled executive plan) crosses the land dividing it into four residential units. The landowner has kept the first site to build his private house as catalogue's prefabricated following Rensch Haus's project. Moreover the latter has been commissioned to restore the owner mother's farmhouse. The three remaining houses' plan triggers our participation in the project.

Why? Developing a case study with a stress on the architectural issue of single-family residences.

Along with this path we abided by three guidelines:

- _ the dialectic relationship between the natural, cultural and historical context
- _ the evolution of people's way of living in today's society
- _ the need for comparison with regulatory burdens and market problems

How? Metamorphosis is the starting point of the project that embodies the willingness to gradually transform matter reconciling aesthetic issues and new ways of living. However, not only were we interested in the end result but in the creative process as well and its different inherent possibilities. On the other hand interpreting the tradition's suggestions traces the line along which the transformation unfolds. That's why the overall and articulated structure has drawn our attention. It shapes the four residential units as an integrated system, as a "village" revolving around a generative hub: the "lane" conceived both as connection and as dividing line, designed as boundary both accepted and rejected.



Ground floor plan



South west elevation

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