

## Honors thesis

## COURSE OF DEGREE IN ARCHITECTURE FOR THE RESTORATION AND PRESERVATION OF ARCHITECTURAL AND ENVIRONMENTAL HERITAGE

## Abstract

Architecture and light: the case of Po street in Turin

Tutor

Pia Davico

by

Federica Gheller

Chiara Aghemo

The porticoes are for Turin an element of strong characterization of urban space and architecture that has been able to unite and connote the city into four centuries of development.

The slanting Po street, covered on both sides, stands out in the late17th Turin ordered fabric going to subvert the rules of castrametatio which until then had dictated the magnificence of the city. From design to finalization, we had to go through a number of issues that made it a particularly interesting example where finding solutions became the input to create a scenario among the most beautiful and distinctive of the city's architecture. History, as is often the case, plays a fundamental role that is reflected in every corner of the street, where they have come together to represent representation and functionality, originality, and compositional rigor. Different souls that blend in one single way; The two sides, though in their apparent symmetry and homogeneity, teach lessons different from the story and come to characterize different characters: the north is the symbol of representation and culture of the Savoy city, the south is the soul of the strong commercial vocation. To the orderly and uniformed faces of the compositional rule contrasts the vivacity and the "disorder" that characterize the sub-port, structurally conceived in a regular form, but practically rich in singular elements.

This thesis stems from the observation of the ability to design the camouflage of anomalies in a seemingly uniform architecture, but instead combines the illumination that proposes, especially in the street fronts, difformous and incoherent solutions to the compositional rhythms and shapes of Architecture, creating shading effects that alter its perception and recognizability. The work therefore sought to identify its formal, compositional and environmental characteristics, as well as the criticalities, as a basis for founding new appropriate solutions.

The relief was realized by trying to read the relationship between the forms of architecture and everything that contributes to the image, including, above all, lighting, both natural and artificial, which is a fundamental component that influences the perceptual aspect; a contrasting vision, day and night, which raises issues about the fundamental role that light assumes in the characterization of facades and porch space.



To conduct the analysis of the street, it was necessary to create a "mapping" that would allow rigorously to analyze and compare architecture without neglecting elements.

Each block or overtaking is introduced by the territorial framing, which determines the position within the street fabric, the scale relief, and a photo kit that can spell the main distinctive elements. For the sake of clarity I found it appropriate to divide the cards of each block into two parts by referring first to the "external", the characteristics of the street front architecture, and then to the "interior", meaning the entire sub-port area, even though different elements belong to both. The subdivision allows for a better understanding of a fabric that is distinguished by its uniformity on the pavements as well as by the sub-port difformence due to the attachment to the existing building fabric.

At the end of the board that analyzes the architectural elements, there is a further insight into each inset or overflow that describes the lighting characteristics both for the exterior and the interior. Here, apart from the location, the light point typology is identified, referring directly to the Public Lighting Regulatory Plan (PRIC); It also distinguishes itself between public lighting and business.

This schematic organization is useful to relate the various elements that contribute to the layout of the street, not only highlighting what formally architecture but also what is most properly part of urban furniture, such as light, but contributes Strongly to determine its perceptual aspect.

The analysis concludes with two summary tables aimed at revealing the characteristics and the criticalities of each side of the street, analyzing not only the architectural forms but also the perception, the use of space and the lighting conditions of the day and night.

