

POLITECNICO DI TORINO
SECOND SCHOOL OF ARCHITECTURE
Master of Science in Sustainable Architecture

Honors theses

Social Lighting: a project of urban light for the historic center of Rivoli

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The thesis is concerned about the issue of Urban lighting design. The realization of a project concept for the historic center of Rivoli and its castle aims to be a process of redevelopment and it is able to consider the various disciplinary components that it was decided to include in the planning for the proposed design methodology, divided into 5 parts.

The introductory part is about the theme of Urban lighting, defining the concept and the design mode. The artificial light is often considered a mere functional element in a modern city, it can raise the role of an active instrument of the urban context that becomes a real social engine.

Part one deals with territorial and urban analysis, made through an objective and subjective analysis of the designer.

The first one consists of the study of the current situation, allowing you to create an overall picture of the urban space studied, the territory, the articulation of spaces and the existing lighting.

The subjective analysis is concerned about the designer's perception, that allows you to get a greater awareness of the city by a personal point of view. The study of the city image is conducted referring to the work of Lynch, and its purpose is to understand the interaction between men and environment.

The historical analysis of Part Two defines the main steps of the evolution of the Castle. The use of the light will give back the different appearances of the monument during the past centuries, that are hardly visible in the actual image of the Castle.

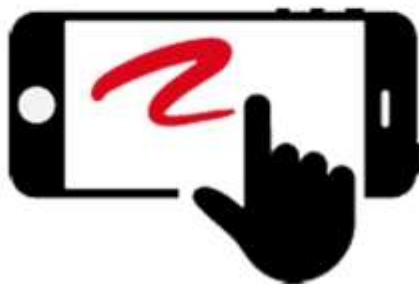
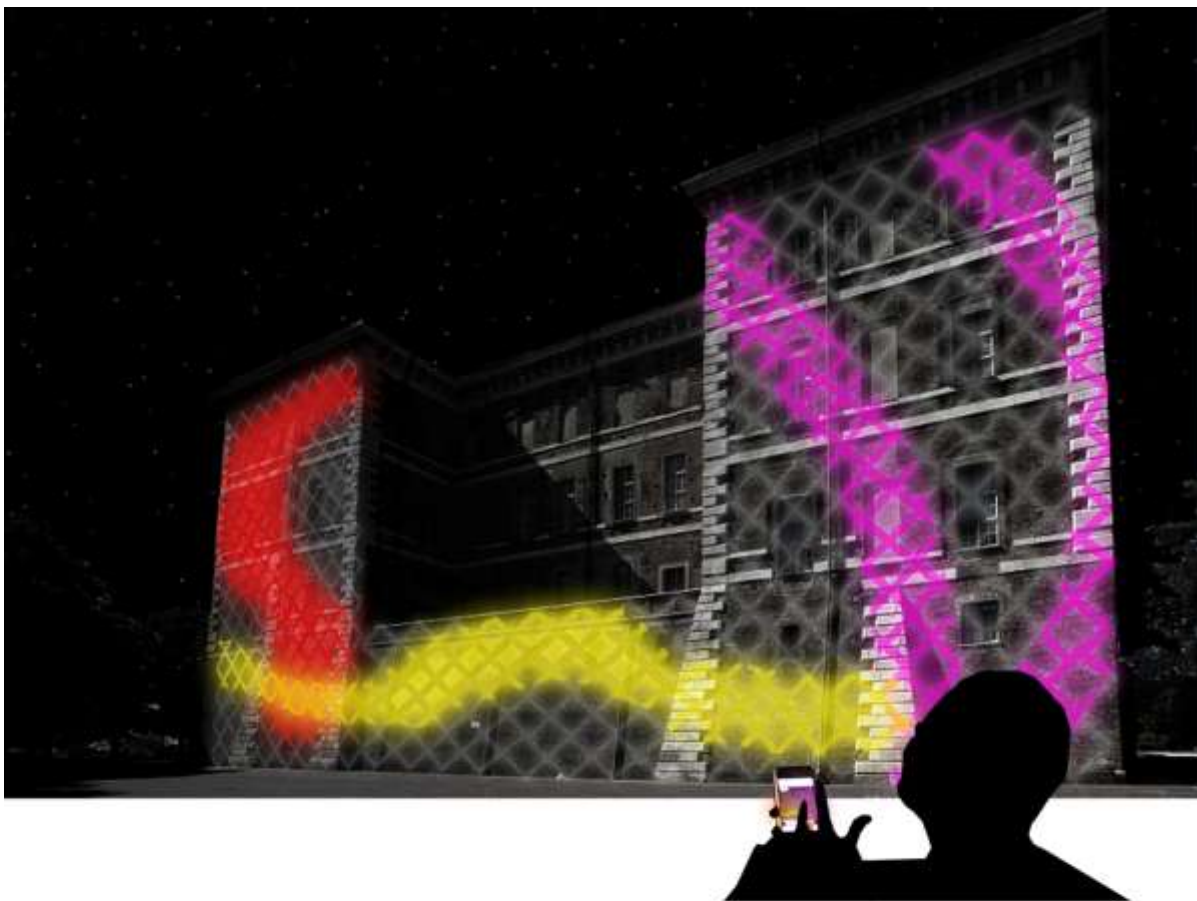
Part Three deals with the sociological point of view, introducing an unexpected potentiality of this kind of lighting design. The different categories of users, the activities and interactions that are formed in urban present spaces, are examined and defined here.

The data collected through the technique of “participant observation” and the interviews of institutional actors, is constructively used for the project, providing the basis on which the Concept is founded, concerning the definition of lighting that aims to give social cohesion and increase the life quality of the users.

In the last part the project idea is proposed, involving the historic center of Rivoli as a uniform "organism". The goal is to improve the urban space, according to the potential and critical issues identified during the preliminary analysis.

Sociological analysis is take as a key element of the reading of the territory and allows the identification of a new application form of light as a real social engine.

Here is shown how the lighting systems may become important tools of social life of the cities by available technology, in addition to their general “smart use” in terms of energy saving.

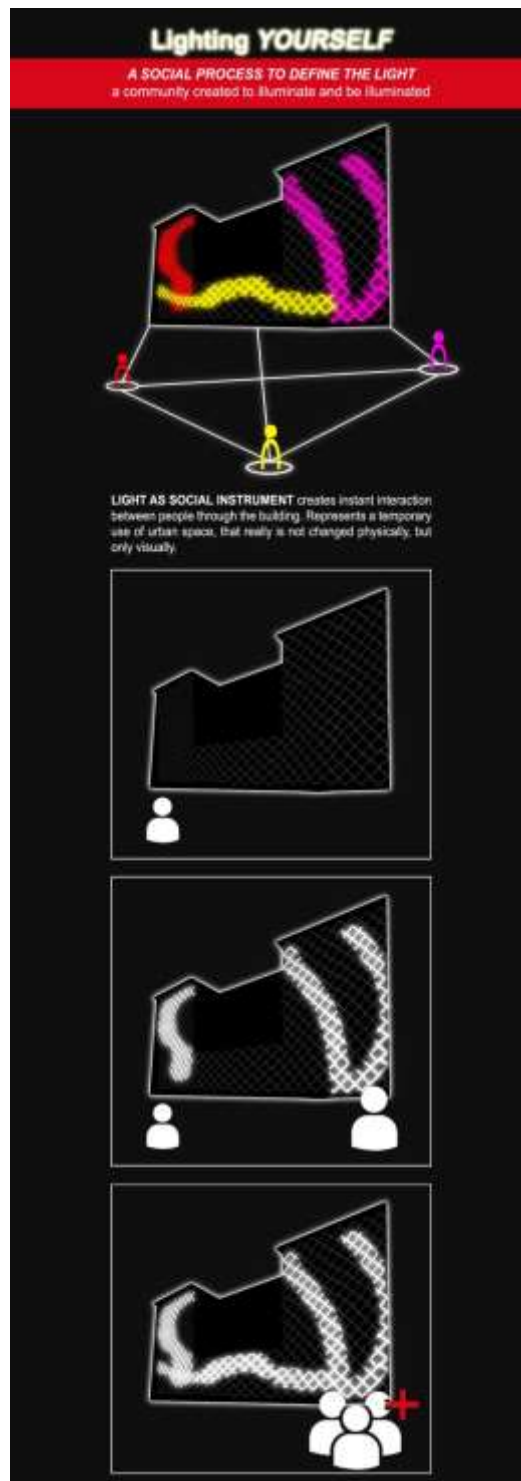


SMART LIGHTING: the light reacts instantly following the movements created by users on the screen

Smart Lighting

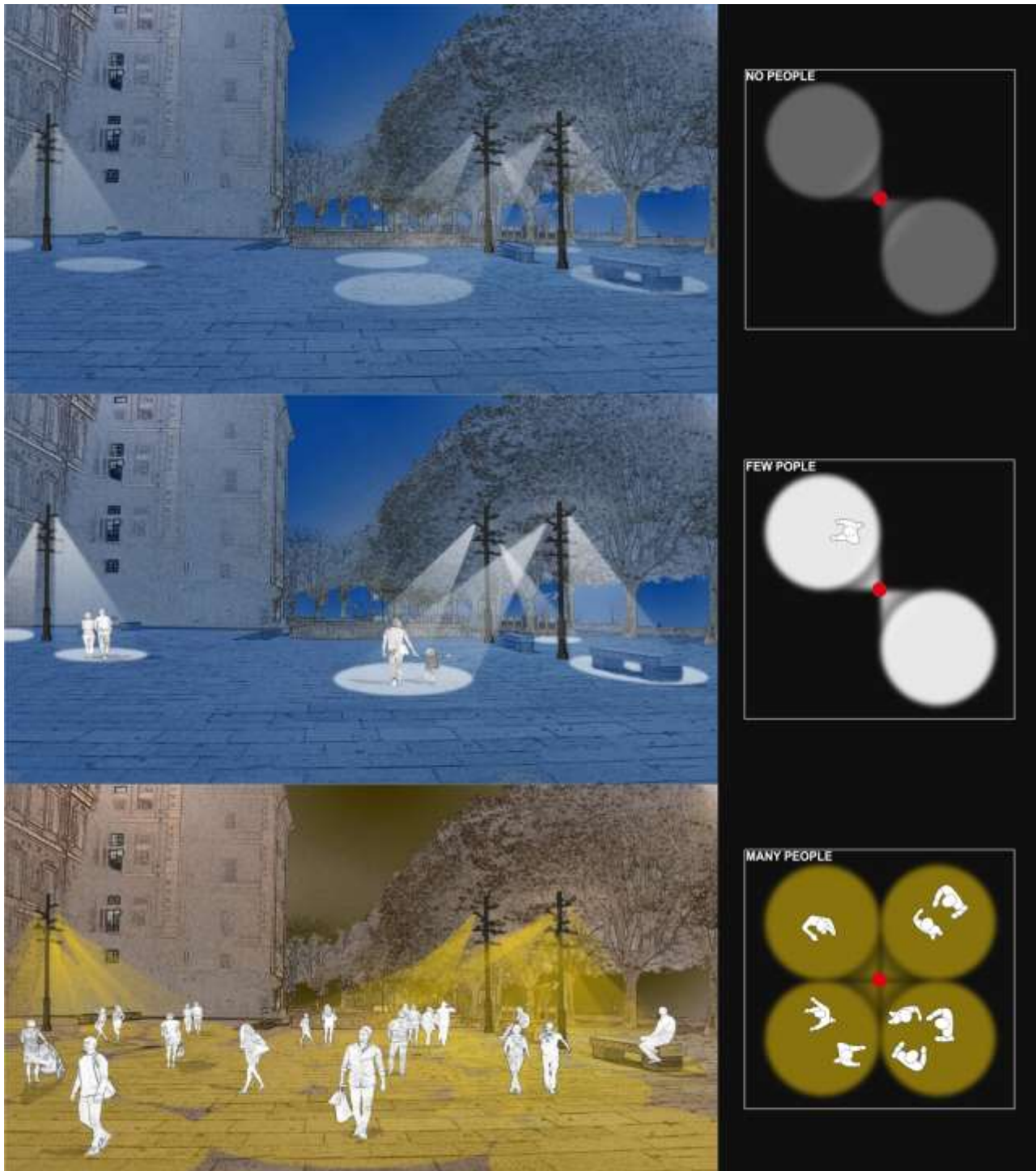
The light then becomes not only a functional element and enhancement of the historic center, but serves as a co-star, in a space where the undisputed star are men, through their movement among the architectures, which are as scenic backdrop of urban space.

Lighting YOURSELF, a social process to define the light, a community created to illuminate and be illuminated. Men by meeting create an electric field of the relationship among themselves, the others, the architecture and the space in which are located.



Social Interaction

In this project *is not lighting that defines the space, but are people, that through their movements and depending on how they "live" the urban area, "light up" the environment and always define a different image.*



Ignition system of the devices according to the presence of people

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