



POLITECNICO  
DI TORINO

# Honors thesis

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COURSE OF  
Degree in Architecture for Sustainability

*Abstract*

To protect, to enhance and to give an identity  
a common house on the “Place du Refuge” in Marseille

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The work presented in this thesis is the result of the considerations and objectives that have been brought within the Atelier Design Final prof. Arch. Jean-Marc Huygen professor of the School of Architecture of Marseille, following within the project double degree agreement between the two schools.

All work conducted within this Atelier are based on a new concept of the city, clearly described by Alberto Magnaghi in his book "The Local Project". Starting with a lot of thought into use in recent years, sustainable development the author takes us into his idea of self-sustainable local development, which involves a much more challenging and multidisciplinary as fielding the main socio-economic variables of the organization and their relations. The author focuses in fact, to a territorial approach, addressing the issue of sustainability, paying attention on the environment of man, reportedly as a virtuous system of relations between the components of the territory itself: the natural environment, the 'built environment and the anthropic environment.

The vision of sustainable development territorial led so a new consideration of the company based on his local scale (territorial) and trying to establish strong interactions with the site.

This general idea is linked to super pilot (in Italian super-isolated) created through the work of Rueda played in Barcelona. Starting from the size of the smallest element which is the Spanish city (manzana or isolate) has sought to build a city on a human scale. Bringing the same ambition within this workshop and wanting to transform Marseilles into a "city frugal", has tried to start a small portion of his, such as the historic district of the Panier. The work of the Atelier has been divided into five macro-groups that have been trying to focus everyone on a certain aspect: mobility; diversity and density; the reference identity (developed in the project that we are preparing to present in these pages); the abandoned spaces related to the concept of terzo- place; relations with the outside and the other districts. Only through an established study and synthesis of all five issues covered it will be possible to build, develop and then live a real streamlined frugal city of the XXI century. To aspire to obtain a real city frugal so you have to proceed from the particular to the general starting from the simplest relationships that make up the city life: interior / exterior, public / private, civic use / private ...

Among other topics, the issue on which I have focused most was that of identity, to strengthen the cohesion of the Panier district and its inhabitants, and transform the space into a place of encounter, exchange and interpersonal interaction.



The site chosen for the project better experience such a study place du Refuge, located in a central position the old quarter. This space, still indefinite, is the result of a series of demolitions that took place during the last century. These have allowed the discovery of historical findings of no small importance: the remains of a Roman villa with mosaic pavement, other ruins of successive ages and numerous tools now on display in the museum of the history of the city, at the Centre Bourse.

The proposed project, sensing his great potential, aims to build in this space the main place of the Panier where the past and present bind to build the future of the oldest district of France; where each citizen can feel it right and where it can collaborate on the development of the site and the neighborhood; where each inhabitant can be the hero and start a series of constructive relations with others.





All this through a project involving the design of the square (more uniform and easier to read), the discovery and appreciation of historic ruins through a garden of memory, the realization of a common house for all the people in which to organize events , exhibitions, shows and meetings of different character. The common house where you can socialize and grow together, to share emotions and hopes, or just improvise farmers in the garden city planned on the roof.



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