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Abstract

**The diachronic project and
the measure of effects - Organisation and strategy for the
requalification of Mirafiori Sud**

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This treatise studies in an experimental way, a narrative proposal of a project for two areas of the district of Mirafiori Sud, in particular, the residential area of via Roveda and the natural perfluvial strip of the Sangone River.

In order to bring building projects into reality, it has become a more arduous and complex process for the architect to produce the required documents and drawings for the construction of the project. The number of variables that can change and interrupt the process of producing those documents are uncountable and often unpredictable.

To improve the effectiveness of the projects, the foreseeable chain of events that occur during this process has to be considered as well as become a way of aligning the internal general logic of the project.

There are two distinct conditions that exist for a project: first, a physical one (all physical objects), and a second one characterised by social objects (all the ideas and facts hidden beneath the procedures).

Thus one could claim that the architect – in order to be effective – must not solely occupy himself with making “architecture”. Not only because “architecture” in the built form is in the hands of those who construct the project, but also because the conceptual activity of design and planning is only a small part of the large number of factors that the project will be educating and partially influencing.

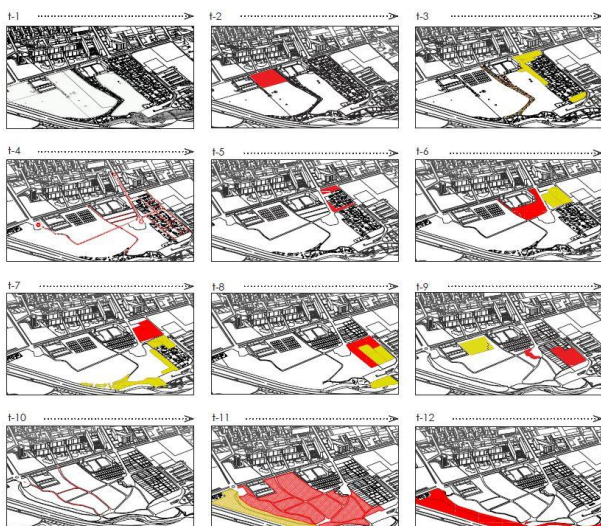
The architect has to look through a new lens that mirrors the dichotomy of the reality which entails both the bureaucratic and the physical documentations. The project is hence understood as a “documentary work”, where the “project itself is a project of architecture well before the buildings.”

There was an attempt to find a solution to this problem, experimenting with the planning through the theory of the project proposed by Alessandro Armando, Michele Bonino and Francesca Frassoldati, and illustrated in the process diagram “Watersheds. Narrative of Urban Recycle (2015)”.

In the light of these considerations, this treatise was structured in two parts: first, one of research and knowledge of the past, and second, one of planning for the future.

Therefore, a work of analysis and study was done – regarding the processes of urban transformation that previously occurred in the area – to study the bureaucratic and procedural mechanisms. Successively, information about the territory’s diverse constituent components (historic, physical, social, economic, and environmental) was collected.

This first part of the work was indispensable to study well the territory on which to “act”. The deviation diagram, in this case, was the instrument that allowed controlling the transformation strategies retrospectively. The information that was obtained and taken in consideration during the cognitive phase was of documental character.



The second part, on the other hand, was dedicated to delineate project scenarios, for which the deviation diagram is an essential result for the controllability of the project program. It allows writing programmatic project narratives for the future.

Generally, the project is a diachronic tale that does not envision the development of the future in a linear or straight way, where from one condition you naturally and antidemocratically pass to another like in a rigid cause and effect chain, but rather, it is a tale that proceeds in a “deviated” manner where the passage from one condition, A to B and so on, is crossed by uncountable

break points, each of them opening towards several possible courses of the future.

At each break point, nth ramifications open up for the project, each one possible, tellable, and falsifiable.

From the moment when deviations – i.e. exponential progressive divergences - exist on the plan of a diachronic process, one has to be able to linearise it, while not reducing the risks, but also make the motives behind why a certain course was followed and not another one falsifiable and eventually review that course.



This method does not presume to be a final promise, but it wants to be a narration that allows, in the diverse phases, foreseeing possible divergences and the bringing together all our hypothetical interlocutors around this narration in order to reduce the possibility of deviation (phase by phase).



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