



POLITECNICO
DI TORINO

Honors thesis

Master of Science in Architecture Construction City

Abstract

“Sensible spaces”

Museography and neuroscience

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This thesis work has the ambitious goal of exploring the world of architecture (with particular attention to museography) in the meeting ground between two disciplines that have started a collaboration, one could say, recently: architectural design and rigorous neuroscientific knowledge.

Finding itself within a relatively new field and still not fully explored by architects, this work aims to be a starting point and a stimulus to continue research on these issues. The interdisciplinary collaboration addressed here can have a positive influence on architectural practice, allowing to expand the knowledge and awareness of the experience of the use of spaces, not only from a practical and functional point of view but also and above all psychological and neurological one. In this sense, the field of museography lends itself well to reflections in which the contribution of neuroscience can be very important, representing at the same time a still unexplored collaboration.

The work carried out includes topics that are different from each other in the full awareness of being able to address them, at least for now, at an exploratory and superficial level, being a field that is still not well structured.

Starting from the assumption that every place inevitably affects us, modifying our way of being and acting, we tried to understand how emotional and behavioral reactions are determined.

Following a first fundamental phase that required the synthetic exploration of the theoretical arguments, which undoubtedly formed the basis of the knowledge acquired during the period of development of the thesis on the topics addressed, an experimental part was then structured. The experiment, set in an exhibition hall and organized around some simple elements that compose it, aims to verify the influence of some simple spatial variables in relation to subjective parameters.

From the analysis of the experimental data obtained, it was possible to draw some conclusions that were partly unexpected and that open up for further study and experimentation. The importance and meaning to be attributed to the experiment depends on the interpretation that can be made of the data, and certainly constitutes only the first step of a very complex investigation.