



**Politecnico
di Torino**

Honors Thesis

Master's degree Science in Architecture Construction City

Abstract

The island of Mozia, although well-known academically, remains mostly unknown. Located in Stagnone's lagoon, in the province of Trapani, and founded in the 8th century BC by the Phoenicians, it boasts a millenary history. Its importance, mainly due to trade with Mediterranean peoples, made it one of the most important cities of ancient Sicily. The objective of the thesis is the enhancement of the island and its historical, archaeological, and landscape heritage through the proposal of a project that includes the development of a new hierarchy of paths and the construction of pavilions to create new exhibition spaces on the island. In the preliminary study of the project, two main directions were followed: the analysis of the historical and morphological characteristics of the island and the research (through a first general study about fashion history) of a fashion house that could bring fame to Mozia. The choice fell on Dolce & Gabbana, which has a strong connection with Sicilian culture and traditions. Starting from these initial analyses, we then deepened the study of the documentation currently available, which led us to the definition of a main axis that connects the two extreme points of the island: North Gate and the Kothon basin - a key element in the layout of the grid on which the project is based. All intertwined with the existing vegetation and cultivation system on the island in order to establish a harmonious relationship between different levels. The architectural design of the exhibition pavilions created, according to a system of wall partitions designed as enclosures that delimit spaces for hosting temporary events, completely respects the morphology and history of the place, proposing a non-invasive intervention compared to the archaeological excavations on the island. In this project, the wall, the roof, the flooring, and the vegetation are all essential elements for understanding the dialogue that these enclosures want to establish with visitors. The temporary exhibition that we propose, which involves the Dolce & Gabbana fashion house,

showcases some of their iconic pieces in relation to the island's archaeological artifacts. This exhibition will be inaugurated with a fashion show, which, thanks to the haute couture collection, pays homage to the wonderful island. The characteristic element will be the initial show that proposes a reimagining of the method by which merchants reached the island before its abandonment, namely through the use of carts that traveled along what is now known as the "submerged road." The protagonists of the fashion show will therefore be the guests themselves who, as a return to the past, will be accompanied to the island of Mozia using the typical Sicilian carts along the path of the submerged road.

Title

Architecture, landscape and fashion for the enhancement of the archaeological area of the island of Mozia.

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