



POLITECNICO
DI TORINO

Honors thesis

MASTER OF SCIENCE PROGRAM
ARCHITECTURE (CONSTRUCTION AND CITY)

Abstract

**Palazzo Grassi S.p.a.
1983-1988**

Birth of an institution

Tutor
Prof. Edoardo Piccoli

by
Daniela Penna

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The work of my thesis is concentrated on the restoration of Palazzo Grassi, that happened in Venice between 1984 and 1986.

My curiosity to deepen this theme was born following my participation of my internship in the Fiat Engineering archives which, at the same time, has matured within the program of research and recover of the same archival fonds given in 2009 by Maire Tecnimont (actual owner of the documents) to some professors and researchers of the Dipartimento di Architettura e Disegno Industriale del Politecnico di Torino.

More specifically my contribution was concerned in studying some restoration sites of historic and monumental buildings (like Palazzo Grassi, Venaria Reale or Stupinigi) undertaken by FE from 1980's and filed by me to converge in a book named *Maire Tecnimont. I progetti Fiat Engineering 1980-2000* (pubblicated in 2012 by Michela Comba).

Following these studies with the supervision of my professor (expert in the history of 1700 architecture and author of the text *Tra restauro filologico e Italia S.P.A.: interventi nel settore dei beni culturali* contained in the text named above) I therefore started, during 2014, my thesis project about the restoration site of Palazzo Grassi, that, more than the others cases, seemed useful to investigate why, in the beginning of the '80's, a multinational company like Fiat began to be interested in the architectonic restoration of large buildings and how this intervention has contributed to define and redefine its image. Starting from this assumption the thesis was therefore articulated in two parts: the first (based esclusivamente on archive documents) ending in the reconstruction of these facts and the second (based instead on press reviews) ending in the historicisation of the facts in the political culture of that era.

Finally, the conclusion of the work (realised with the supervision of Prof.ssa Comba) is about the study of the three archivistonic fonds I based my thesis on (Archivio Storico Fiat, Archivio Progetti Fiat Engineering and Archivio Corrente della Soprintendenza di Venezia), which highlighted contents and boundaries, in relation to the problems that actually interest the Sistema Archivistico Nazionale.

For further information please contact:
Daniela Penna, danielapennaj@libero.it