

POLYTECHNIC OF TORINO  
FACULTY OF ARCHITECTURE 1  
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*Honors theses*

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**The Architecture in multicultural cities. Planning hypothesis to upgrade the lot between Via Cagliero and Piazza della Repubblica, Turin, Italy**

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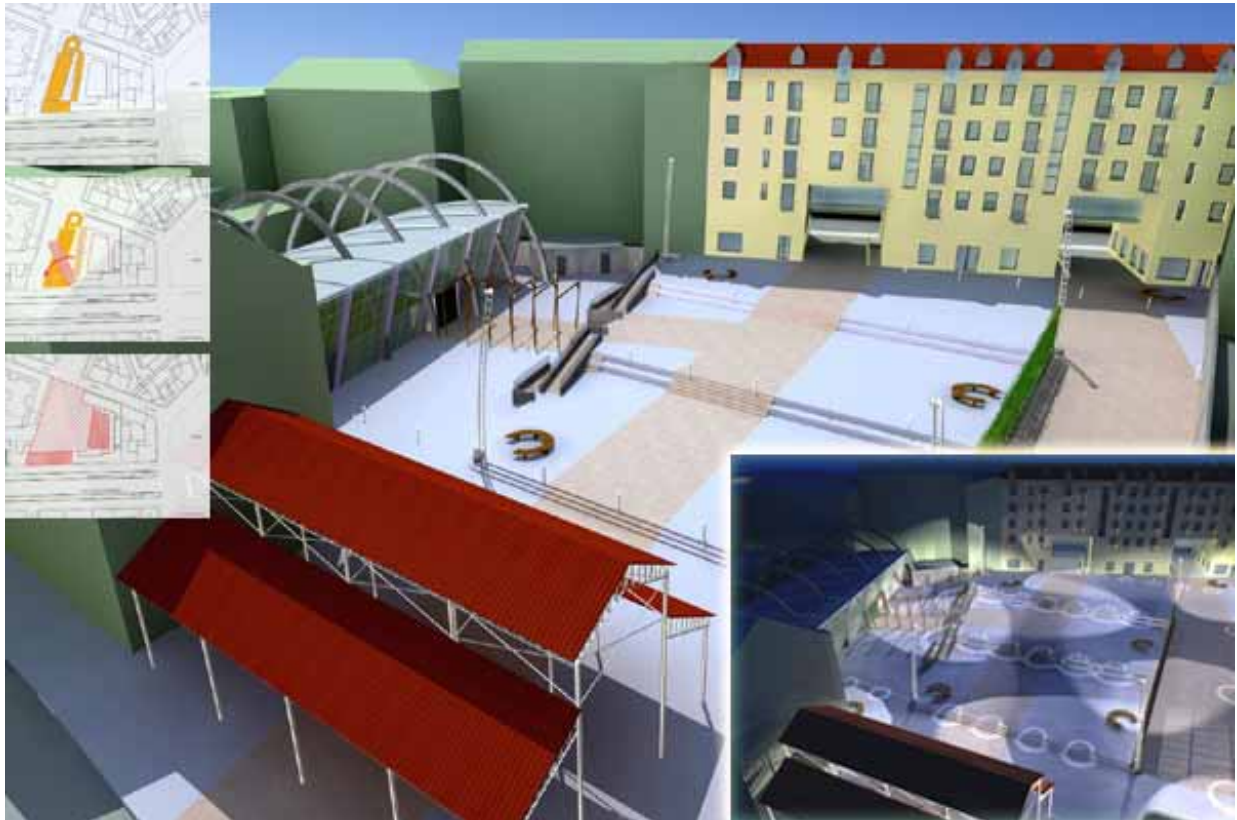
This thesis concludes a co-ordinated cycle of planning analyses and hypotheses referred to the area of Porta Palazzo and Borgo Dora. It starts from taking into consideration a more and more modern aspect for several European cities, and especially for Turin: multiculturalism. In this thesis I tried to analyse an area of our city starting from the upgrading work carried out by the Urban Pilot Plan called "The Gate" to the interviews asked to the district inhabitants as well as photographic analyses. My attempt was that of identifying the places of the on-going transformation, where to intervene and deal with a heterogeneous urban fabric as well as full of alternatives.

My planning proposal focuses on a lot included between Via Cagliero and Corso Regina Margherita.



The topics are two: rebuilding the front of Corso Regina Margherita by closing Via Cagliero and up-grading the square, which will come out in place of the inside courtyard of the adjacent building, where now is Alcione Theatre is located. A new cultural centre and an auditorium will be built in this square.

I chose to close Via Cagliero (it was opened only in 1966) for two reasons. In the original plan, this street had to be longer and it had to connect Corso Regina Margherita to Via Andreis. It wasn't so. The street (Via Cagliero) has always been as it is nowadays: short, unfinished, hidden and therefore disreputable. In my opinion, it needs a better identity. The second reason is the intention of reconstructing the avenue (Corso Regina Margherita) with a residential structure inserted into the adjacent buildings. Such work allows the district surrounding the theatre to open up and let an easier access and so more liveability to the three remaining sides, which have currently been left decline.



The square created within this new configuration, well visible to those passing through Corso Regina thanks to the two wide passageways, will contain a new cultural centre on the Alcione Theatre structure. It is divided in two levels: the square level and the lower level. The latter will contain the auditorium, which will hold music shows and film projections, all events aimed at promoting the exchange between the different ethnic groups and the rest of the city. The pavilion, which will be built at the square level and will be intersected with the bearing arches, will contain a series of multicultural events aimed at spreading and representing all the different cultures. There will be a space for temporary exhibitions, for a library, for Internet points and an inevitable refreshment room



The square will turn into a gathering as well as a passage centre connecting straight Corso Regina to the near Balon market through a route made up of different materials in order to underline the different areas, terraces and tiers to have a rest or to watch outdoor events. The whole will be made fascinating and safe by a dynamic lighting plan, which varies according to the event. Underneath this area, a two-level underground car park will be built in order to improve the accessibility of the entire Porta Palazzo area.

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