

POLITECNICO DI TORINO
SECOND SCHOOL OF ARCHITECTURE
Master of Science in Architecture (Environment and Land)
Honors theses

Architectural competition **fuori dal tunnel**
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The **A32** motorway Torino - Bardonecchia is an important road link with France and the same can reach the ski resorts in Susa's Valley.
For this reason the integration of the infrastructure with the territory is an issue always present in SITAF's intents (company concessionaire of the motorway), so that starts a series of initiatives dedicated to the environment, based on the promotion of the territory and the development of human resources.
In this context, the SITAF holds now a competition of Ideas under the name "**Outside the Tunnel**", whose purpose is to identify solutions that allow mitigation of visual, environmental and aesthetic elements of the final of A32 motorway in order to improve the integration in the landscape.

Today, the planned highway through an area which has always occupied by forests. Imagine to return on that wood to find its natural qualities: the play of light and shade, the sounds of wind in the trees, the cries of animals that lived there, the feeling of freshness of the green, the alternation of seasons gives a new life to the forest, changing the look month after month.
The tree is a based element of organic recognition, over time whose branches are defined according to a growth spiral.
Our need is to improve a human environment immersed in nature.
Autumn...needles lie down a natural tissue of the ground, and covered himself and itself with snow during the winter...
Eight metal spirals wrap the infrastructure, transforming it into an organic object, that to barrier (boulders of concrete and asphalt castings without a plan) becomes the link between man (town) and nature (forest).
The spiral structure is an element that does not close the highway, it allows to see her function and her strong presence, but it shows in an opposite way than before: all its aspects are filtered by the new form, it changes the DNA of highway.
It is a spontaneous structure, although always different, the shape changed, its spontaneity is natural, still retains the same array. It's a "green structure", it's a skeleton that has the possibility to fill in part of climbing plants.

During the winter the structure acts as the branches of a tree, covered with snow, confused with the surrounding snow-covered landscape. The structure refracts light, as if it could absorb the light of vehicles to turn them into a brighter picture.

Imagine an intricate highway exit or a bleak emptiness created by the spans of a viaduct...

Spaces that become unusable and so wasted, besides being intrusive in ecosystems.

Our intention is not limited to an aesthetic mitigation of the infrastructure, but also draws attention to give new functions and then the exploitation of space more "dark", which is helping to transform the limited plan of this infrastructure in an ambitious architectural design.

The road is not only a means of shift, but it's renewed in a place lived by 360 degrees; people do not try more revulsion against their works, but it will be attracted exploiting the full potential.

The empty spans of a motorway viaduct can accommodate aggregation sites, leisure and work useful to the whole society.

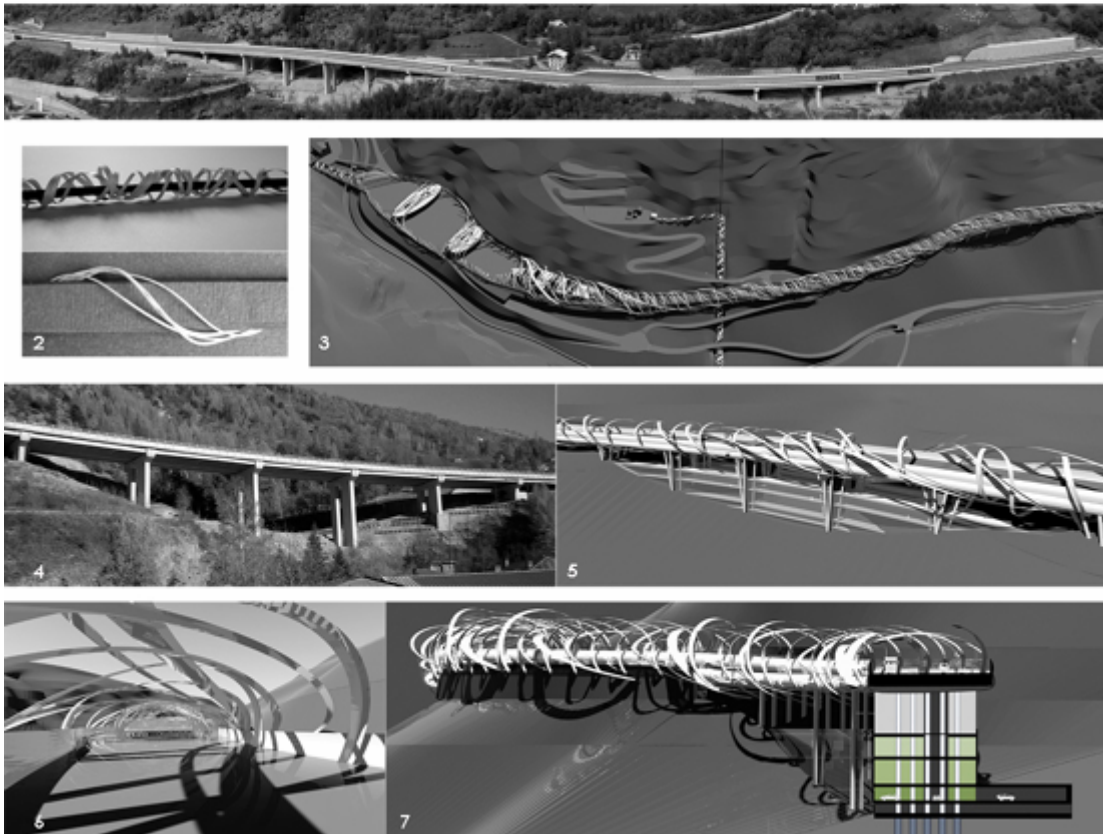
Giving new functions to the infrastructure and its "dark spaces", the highway becomes a "plug urban" which relates to the natural environment and becomes part of the urban environment integrated into its functions.

Indeed there weren't also positive aspects surrounding the intervention of mitigation might be an end in itself.

The global project involves a radical future improvement of the face and the essence of the town of Bardonecchia, making the whole society will interact and take a profit.

architectural competition fuori dal tunnel

- 1 parte dell'area d'intervento / part of project area
- 2 dinamica e principio della spirale / dynamic and principle of the spiral
- 3 il progetto / the project
- 4 nuova immagine interna dell'autostrada / new interior image of the highway
- 5 prima / before
- 6 dopo / after
- 7 sezione trasversale del viadotto / transversal section of the viaduct



This project, detailed in this thesis work was judged the winner of first prize in the competition of ideas "OUT OF THE TUNNEL".

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