



PROCEEDINGS

**ARCHITECTURE,
ARCHAEOLOGY AND
CONTEMPORARY
CITY PLANNING**

"State of knowledge in
the digital age"

VALENCIA
18-20th May 2015

Valencia, Spain
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**editors:
Giorgio Verdiani
Per Cornell
Pablo Rodriguez-Navarro**

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Scientist workshop:
ARCHITECTURE, ARCHAEOLOGY AND CONTEMPORARY CITY PLANNING
"State of knowledge in the digital age"

The workshop took place in Valencia, Valencia, Camino de Vera, Universitat Politècnica de València, School of Building Engineering (Escuela Técnica Superior de Ingeniería de Edificación) Building 1C, first floor, boardroom.

Workshop organizing committee:
Pablo Rodriguez Navarro, Giorgio Verdiani, Per Cornell

The workshop has been realized in collaboration between Universitat Politècnica de València, Spain, the Architecture Department of the Florence University, Italy, the Department of Historical Studies, University of Gothenburg, Sweden.



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Pictures from the workshop

Giorgio Verdiani

DiDA (Dipartimento di Architettura) – School of Architecture – University of Florence

Abstract: Behind a conference, behind the proceedings and the book left to testify the complexity and the mountain of ideas flowed in few days, there is always the group of people who debated all the subjects, and their life around the event. So documenting with pictures is a nice way to add something more to the acts, and its something that can be done with group pictures, with reportage pictures, with casual shots, but is also something that can be done with an effort, the one that trying to capture the real essence of visit and of the people around. In this closing contribution it is possible to see a selected series of images from the workshop, the visited towns, but no people posing or common postcards, only few shots to put in order what was done and trying to capture the involvement of the participants to the workshop. All the pictures here are taken and post processed by the author.

Keywords: Photography, Workshop, Valencia.

Social activities: visit to the Archaeology Museum in Valencia and to the downtown

A very interesting architectural space, showing and mixing new and ancient elements from the story of the town.

One of the main positive aspects is the continuous interaction between the townscape and the museum, the parts, even when from

a remote past are not isolated and almost nothing remain unexplained.

Some original architectural solutions, like the pool lighting the ancient baths are worth of mention. Physical models and well balanced multimedia integrate information where needed. A perfect place to start the discussion about urban asset and historical traces.



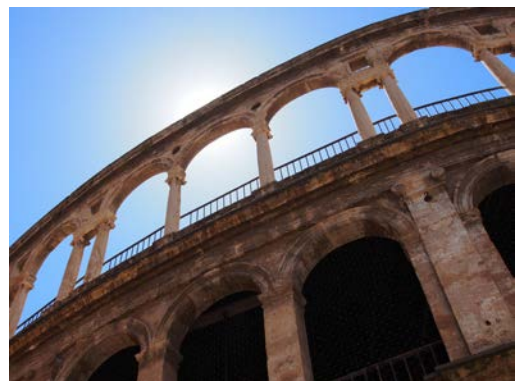


Out of museum, visit to the downtown

After such an archaeological premise, the visit continued in the Valencian old town. The walk to the town centre pass by the Cathedral, the central Market, the alley and the streets of the downtown, allowing to appreciate the contest, the urban mood, the specific aspects of a lively town. The specific moment seems quite interesting for this visit, showing a mix of old and new elements, a tension toward transformation frozen by the economical difficulties brought by the crisis. Here the holes in the urban fabric and the decay appears partially integrated by street art operations, colourful works, inclusion of new global ideas with the tradition of



the places. “Continuity” seems the word. But almost in an unexpected way. The visit starts from the ancient archaeological remains, but just to find the archaeology of the present. The



time run forward faster than ever, or at least it gives this impression. Certain elements, like street art and temporary setup, even if can strongly influence the contest, have such a

brief duration to require an archeological approach after few years, if not after months. This continuous changing in the urban contest has been well focused by James Dixon and in



Valencia as in many contemporary towns this is clearly readable. Once more the layers in the town center are all present: from the ancient time to the present, a long development made

of rethinking and reuse of the space, not crystallized around a single idea of town, but still ongoing. The present is the time in which all happens and this looks clear.



Social activities: bike tour of Turia river

Helped by the wonderful weather, the visit took the whole day, bringing all the participants along this modern and pleasant park, visiting the main architectures and some interesting location in its surroundings.

Days of the workshop (next pages)

Obviously, the presentations of all the participants, questions, answers, discussion. The interest and the intention to bring on this experience.







In discussions on urbanism, the need to involve new actors has been a major theme of recent debate. In this field, throughout Europe, various ways of allowing citizens to take a more direct part in planning is stressed. It is also important to look at the role or lack of role played by particular research fields. Architecture plays a major role in city planning. While archaeology has become increasingly involved in field projects in urban environments, the discipline seldom plays an important role in city planning. In several countries and particular cities this situation has been questioned during the last decades. In May 2015 a group of scholars from different countries met in Valencia to discuss about the relationship between Architecture, Archaeology and contemporary City Planning. This book collects the final papers from that meeting.



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