# DIDA RESEARCH WEEK BOOK 2018

A walk through the research paths of the Department of Architecture of Florence

# DIDA RESEARCH WEEK BOOK 2018

A walk through the research paths of the Department of Architecture of Florence

UNIVERSITÀ DEGLI STUDI FIRENZE
DIDA DIPARTIMENTO DI ARCHITETTURA

*graphic design*
didacommunicationlab
Dipartimento di Architettura
Università degli Studi di Firenze

Susanna Cerri
Stefania Aimar
Federica Giulivo
Simone Spellucci

didapress
Dipartimento di Architettura
Università degli Studi di Firenze
via della Mattonaia, 8 Firenze 50121

© 2019
ISBN 9788833380629

Printed on pure cellulose paper *Fedrigoni Arcoset*

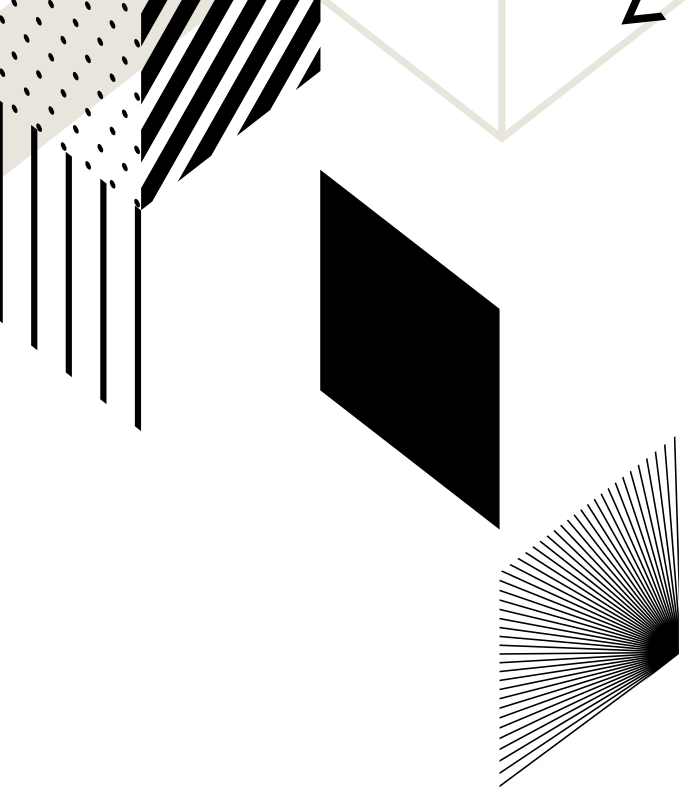
ELEMENTAL CHLORINE FREE GUARANTEED
ACID FREE
LONG-LIFE ISO 9706
HEAVY METAL ABSENCE CE 94/62

In February 2018, the Department of Architecture of the University of Florence (DIDA) promoted an open and public analysis and evaluation of the research carried out by the Department during its first five years of existence in order to define its strategy, the relationship with third and second cycle education, the role of experimental research and the DIDA-LABS laboratory system, as well as of research units and inter-university research centers.

The objective of the DIDA Research Week, through the documentation, communication and evaluation of the activites carried out by the Department in national and international research projects or in individual or exploratory projects, is an analysis and an in-depth reflection on the research activites at all levels carried out during the first five years of the Department: a wide and transparent reflection which communicates what the research carried out by DIDA is in all its different forms, calling the most qualified colleagues in Florence, Italy and abroad to discuss and to evaluate it and to contribute to the identification of future goals, strategies and actions.

The transparency strategy in scientific communication developed by the Department plays a central role not only concerning the dissemination of knowledge but above all for the effective evaluation by the entire scientific community, certainly more effective than the current assessment procedures.The increasingly international dimension of research and education requires the maximum possible transparency and accessibility of research results.

The Department's commitment to supporting scientific journals, the DIDAPress publishing, the Communication Laboratory and the first DIDA Research Week itself aims to meet this need.



## DIDA RESEARCH WEEK 5 YEARS OF RESEARCH BY THE DEPARTMENT DIDA 2013-2017: AN ASSESSMENT FOR THE FUTURE PROGRAM.

**19-23 February 2017**

Santa Teresa, via della Mattonaia 8, 50121 Florence

**Monday 19 February**

Disciplinary research

Interdisciplinary and multidisciplinary research

**Tuesday, February 20**

Competitive research, horizon 2020, industrial research, design research, research for the third mission

Research communication, magazines and scientific publishing

**Wednesday 21 February**

The Ph.D. Course in Architecture

**Thursday 22 February**

Research, training and profession. DIDALABS, Research Units and Research Centers

Applied research experiences

*Round table*: Research, training, profession: DIDA Open perspectives

**Friday 23 February**

Research, training and profession in the design area: scenarios and strategies for the design and project area

DIDA RESEARCH WEEK

# BOOK 2018

## TABLE OF CONTENTS


### INTRO

**DIDA Research Week. Overview of DIDA research environment from 2013 up to 2018** **15**
Saverio Mecca

**Map 1** Research Map 18

### DIDA RESEARCH STRATEGY | A general view

**Projects and relations between fields of knowledge** **23**
Giuseppe Lotti

**Towards an innovative doctorate** **27**
Giuseppe De Luca

**Didalabs. Clusters and applied research** **31**
Giorgio Verdiani

**Map 2** DIDAlabs. Inside Research 34

**Understanding research through communication. Concept, methodologies and tools of DRW** **37**
Susanna Cerri

**Setting Connections. Inter-university Centres** **41**
Roberto Bologna, Paola Gallo

**Map 3** Internationalisation of research 44

### DIDA RESEARCH MAP | 2013-2018 47

**DIDA Research Systems** **55**

**Inter-university centres ABITA_CIST_TESIS** **57**

ABITA

TESIS

**Laboratories** **97**

A&P - Architecture & Project cluster 99

Architecture and Auto-construction | LAA

Prato Laboratory | Laboratorioprato

Technologies for the Mediterranean Area Laboratory |TAM Lab

Theatre | Architecture Laboratory | TEARC Lab

Urban Design Laboratory | UD

AHCV - Architectural Heritage Conservation and Valorisation cluster 113

Architectural Heritage Restoration and Conservation | LARC

Architectural Survey Laboratory | LRA architecturalsurveylab

Cultural Heritage Management Laboratory | CHM_Lab

Heritage City Laboratory | Heritage City_Lab

Materials and Structures Testing Laboratory | LPMS

DSI - Design and Sustainable Innovation cluster 143
Communication Laboratory | didacommunicationlab
Design for Kids
Italian Design for the train | DIT lab
Ergonomics & Design Laboratory | LED
Modelling Laboratory for Design | LMD lab
Multimedia Architecture Interaction Laboratory | mailab
Reverse Engineering Interaction design | Rei Lab
Sustainable Design Laboratory | sustainabilitylab
ICT - Information Communication Technologies cluster 189
Informatic Laboratory of Architecture | informaticlab – LiA
Cartography Laboratory | LCart
Photography Laboratory | LfA
Architectural Model Laboratory | LMA
Architecture Video Laboratory | VI.D.A. lab
TEL - Territories, Ecosystems and Landscapes cluster 205
Critical Planning & Design
Laboratory of Sociological Research on Design, Architecture and Planning | LabSo
Landscape Design Lab
Laboratory of Ecological Design of Settlements | LaPEI
Plans and Projects for the City and the Territory | PPCT
Regional Design Lab

**PhD Programs** **241**
Architectural and Environmental Survey and Representation
Design
History of Architecture and the City
Landscape Architecture
Technology of Architecture
Urban and Regional Planning and Design

**Research Units** **305**
Cities and Regions Across Local Boundaries | A.VAST Area Vasta
COmmunities REsilience | CORE
Documentation and Management of Small Historical Settlements | DM_SHS
Exploring Landscape Architecture | ELA eu.med.
Florence Accessibility Lab | FAL
Heritage and Euro-Mediterranean Design | Dar_Med
International Group on Urban and Architecture Design | INTEGRO_UAD
Landscape, Cultural Heritage. Project | PPcP
Local and Indigenous Knowledge Systems and Innovation | INN-LINK-S
Projects on Environment, Cities and Territories in the South | ProjECTS
Urban Bioregion Project | PROBIUR
Sustainable Urban Projects & Research | SUP&R
Technology for the Project | TxP_R

**Scientific Journals** **345**
Firenze Architettura
Contesti
Territori
Scienze del Territorio
Opus Incertum
Ri-Vista

**DIDA Research Programs** **359**
**A&P - Architecture & Project** **363**
Archtecture & Project 346

**AHCV - Architectural Heritage Conservation and Valorisation** **485**
Architectural and Environmental Survey and Representation 486
Conservation of Architecture and Cultural Heritage 572
History of Architecture and the City 604
Materials and Structures 648

**DSI - Design and Sustainable Innovation** **697**
Design 698
Technologies of Architecture 714

**TEL - Territories, Ecosystems and Landscapes** **745**
Landscape Architecture 746
Urban and Regional Planning and Design 752

# Genealogies_01
## Landscapes, settlements, architectures, things, times

**La linea sospesa**

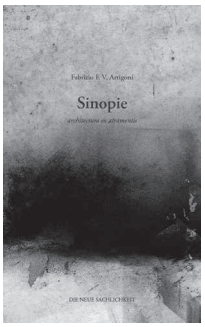
**Landscape design**
Cutigliano - Pistoia (I)
2016

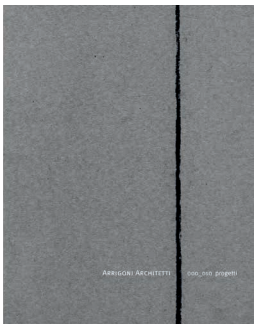
**Design Group**
Arrigoni Architetti
Marco Arrigoni
Fabrizio F. V. Arrigoni
Damiano Dinelli

**Atelier**
Valerio Cerri
Valentina Satti
Marinella Spagnoli

### Relationships of descent

One of the major ways humans have of organizing their world is through genealogy or relations of descent. In theogonies, or tales of the origin of gods, or in legendary lists of human offspring relations of descent and the association of characteristics, territories, and spheres of influence with descendants provide a means of mapping the cosmos and the human world. In traditions concerning animals and plants, relations of descent are most prominent in myths of human origin and in totemic materials.



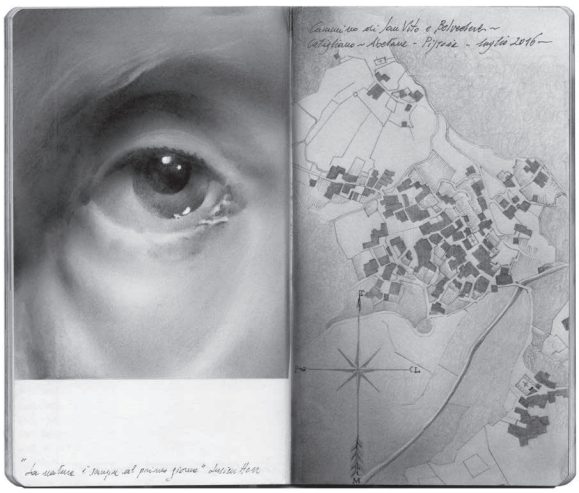



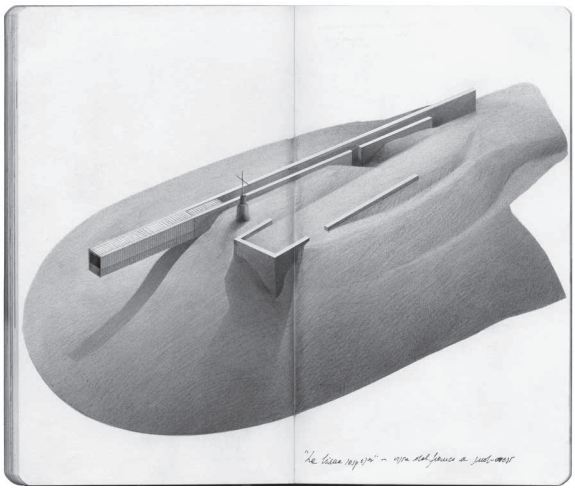

### Ten points (as an introduction)

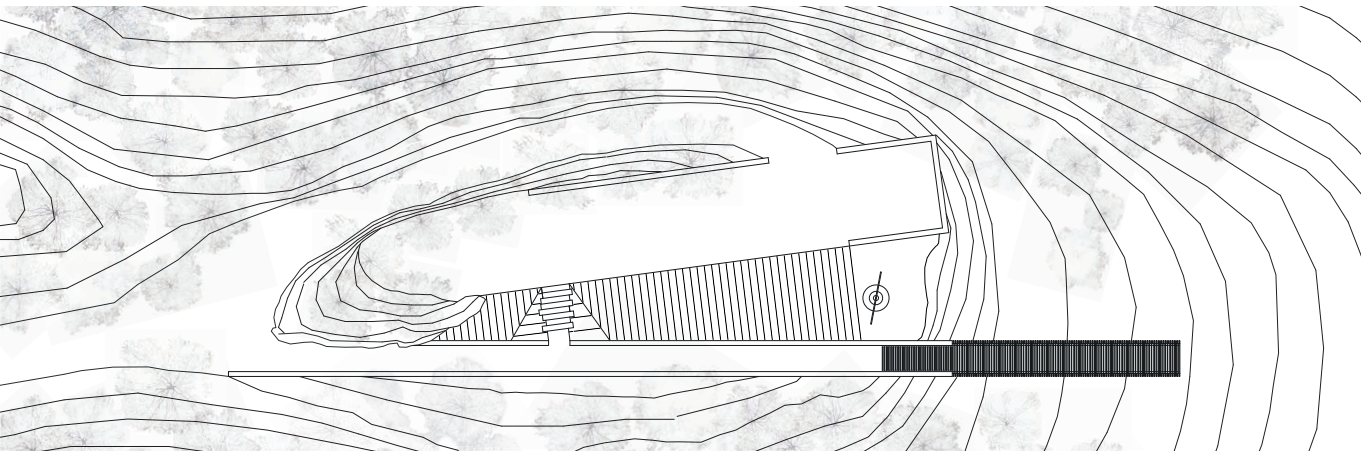
**01** architecture is presence, station of a built form **02** form, *morphe kaì tò eìdos*, is the rational expression of a thought **03** form is rhythm, structure, of materials **04** one builds because one inhabits **05** architecture is the juncture of grace and necessity **06** architecture is a collective thing, in any case a *res publica* **07** architecture is a moral system, that is to say *une promesse de bonheur* **08** architecture actuates the place by rewriting its face and its destiny **09** architecture actuates memory by reorganizing its voice and its meaning **10** architecture actuates the three modes of time but its end - its aim and its termination - is ruin.

### On San Vito stroll

The bridge over the Pianone river separates the medieval village of Cutigliano from the cemetery and from the last houses to the south. From here, after the ancient church of San Bartolomeo, a promenade begins which ends on a small-sized open space called the San Vito hillock. The road, in just under two kilometres, disposes of its urban garb and gradually approximates the rusticity of the mountain path: only a thin shadow between beech and white fir trees. An end closed by an abrupt ascent sanctions the end of the path; here there is a clearing crowned by dense vegetation and marked by the light of the sky, the remains of an oratory and a slender iron cross. The project detects and consolidates the inclinations, the latent inclinations in the place, trying to fix more precisely its most original features. An incision reveals a passage between two dark walls: the extreme offshoot of the journey completed and suspended line of the slope: the construction of a point from which the look of the traveller will slip between the Ximeniana, the torrent of the Lima, the azure profiles of the Apennines.







# Genealogies_02
## Landscapes, settlements, architectures, things, times

**UNIVERSITY-FOUNDED RESEARCH AGREEMENT**

UNIFI | DIDA
School of Architecture
Second Cycle Degree

DIDA Research Unit
DM_SHS
Documentation and Management of Small Historical Settlements

**Geometric Survey**
City walls
northeast sector
Magliano in Toscana
Scientific responsible
Alessandro Merlo

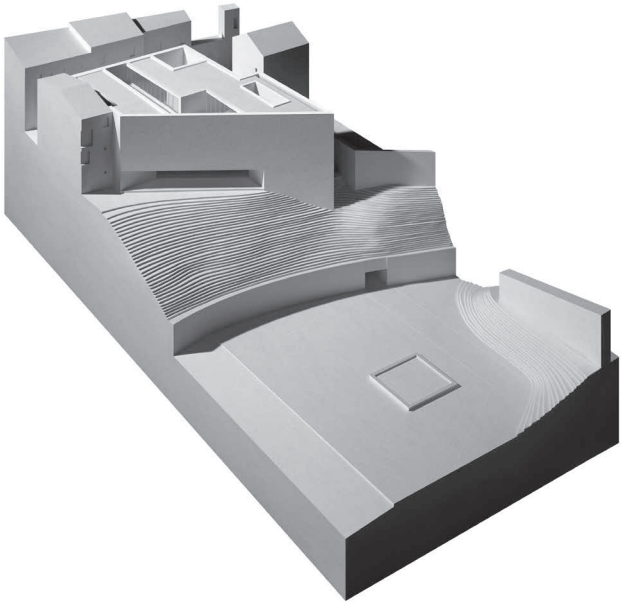
**Research Group**
Marco Corridori
Giulia Francesconi
Mattia Genuini
Giulia Lazzari
Elisa Luzzi
Riccardo Montuori

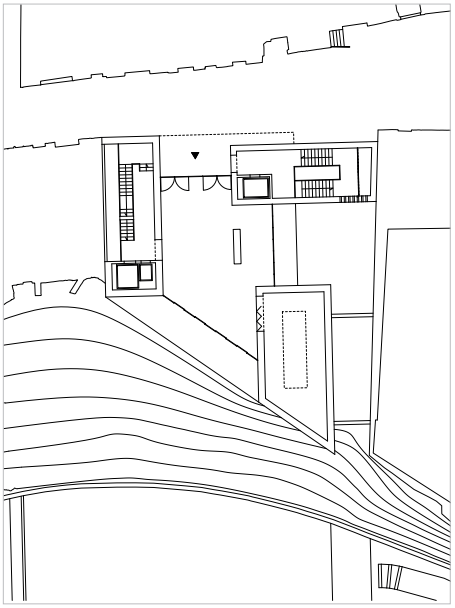
**Impronte**
project for
Magliano in Toscana

**Students**
Francesco Rega
Alessandro Sordi
Daniele Vanni

### Sutures
**Old stone to new building, old timber to new fires**
**T.S. Eliot, East Coker (Four Quartets n. 2), 1940**

Without resigning the discussion to a narrow path and the rigidity of terminological orthodoxy or to a universe of obligatory cross references (the organ, the plant, the city as a tree, etc.) Suture/s is understood explicitly here as the will to sew, to repair, to recuperate; it makes manifest a common condition shared by a large portion of European and urban environments (and not only them), that the act of transformation involves places already densely constructed, where it is easy to see a chain of [human] manipulation in excavated layers. The palimpsest of existing obstacles to a romantic ideology of creation, ex-nihilo, invites less ingenuous action and more wariness and consciousness. This immanent, unrepentant presence of the past, determines a strategy that is primarily observed and a study of facts, of the physical and social conditions that give structure to sites. Among the first: orientation, natural light, materials, weavings, temperature, colours, vegetation, the right to a view. Among the second: collective expectations and needs, the social environment, culture, architectonic typologies, technological knowledge and histories. The suture indicates a cure and a recovery (the recover from a sick state) but it is not consolation. In contemporary times, we have lost our way home and the perfection of our origins. This loss is connected to the restoration of Kultur which is definitively broken; not least of all, one can't possibly find a street that is capable of taking us into a radiant future and palingenetic progress. A successful project constructs a concrete condition from which it has grown, not hiding or worse, erasing the inherent contradictions: similar to the destiny of bios, art sutures produce noble scars.





E
C
B
B'
D
I
H
L
G
G'
G''

# Genealogies_03
## Landscapes, settlements, architectures, things, times

**UNIVERSITY-FOUNDED RESEARCH AGREEMENT**

UNIFI | DIDA
School of Architecture

Single Cycle Degree in Architecture
Academic year
2015-2016

**Tutor**
Fabrizio F. V. Arrigoni

**Technology Consultant**
Roberto Bologna

"Onde as águias pousam"
Cultural center in Montemor-o-Novo
Évora (P)

**Project**
Martina Calcinai

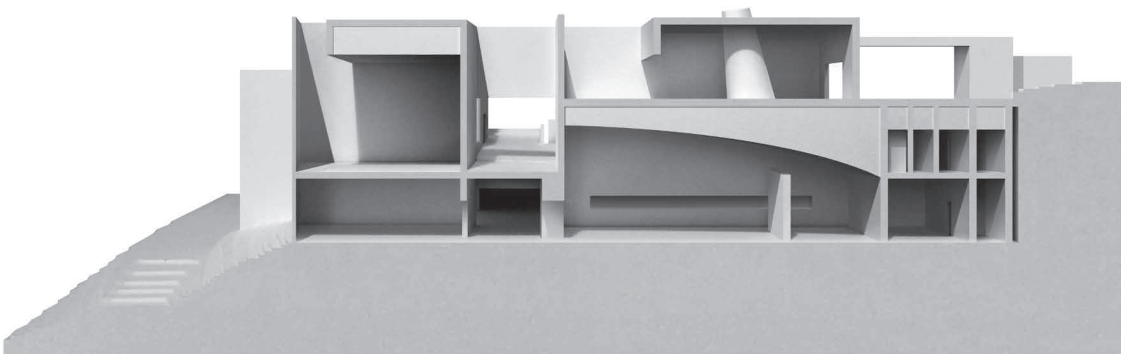
### Finis studiorum

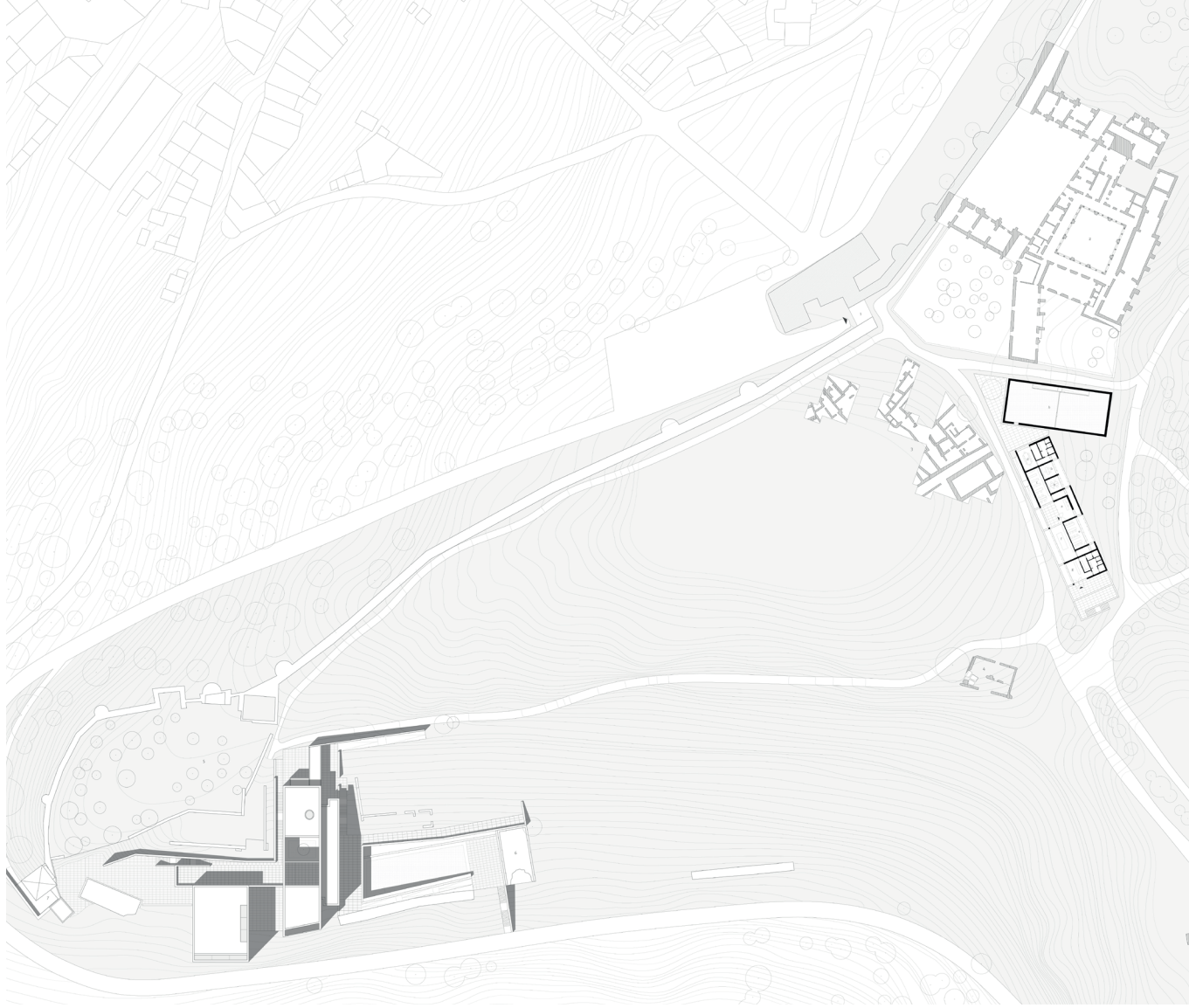
This graduation thesis confirms a very complex and diversified course of study; while on the other hand, it is always, if done with correctness and radicalism, a conflictual exercise, an exercise of Krisis. As such we note a tension and friction between the characters which is the student's contribution, between the collection of knowledge that the transmission has the task of protecting and preserving in continuity - the inevitable premise of any cognitive process - and the entry of an unexpected/destabilizing sense/sensibility. It is a contrast, a friction, analogous to that created by the same project between the objective conditions found and its horizon of modification, but which unlike the latter is often reduced, masked by overestimated and immediate constraints of identity or academic affiliation. The drafts of this thesis show magisterium and at the same time they measure the possible metamorphoses: suspended between adhesion and flight, obedience and freedom, proximity and distance, they are the most mature and responsible expression of the spirit and of the practice of a design school and the first independent exercise of the future Baumeister.

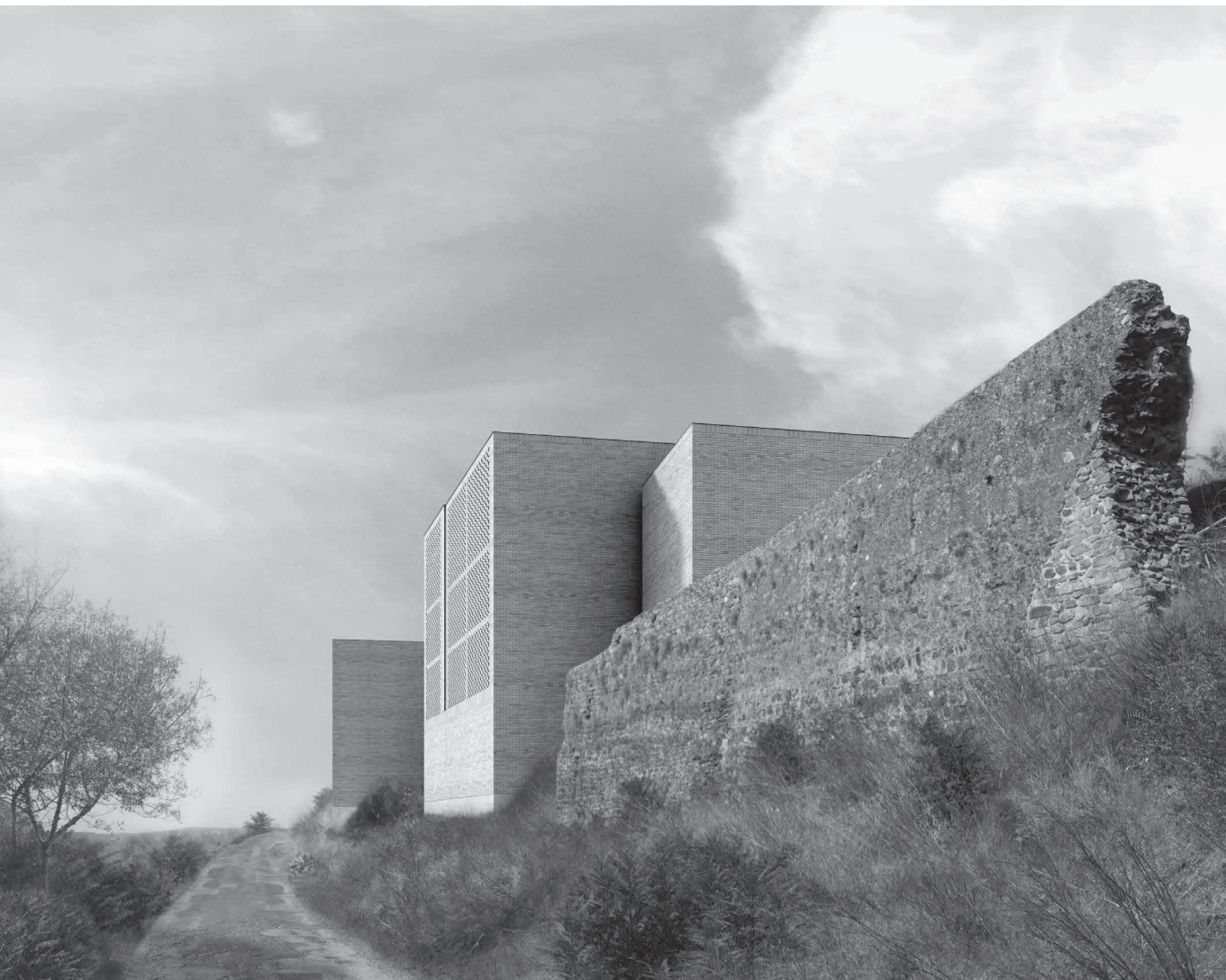
### Onde as águias pousam

**"Em Montemor-o-Novo, o viajante começa por visitar o castelo, que da longe, visto de nascente, parece uma sólida e intacta construção. Mas, por trás das muralhas e das torres desde lado, não há mais do que ruínas."**
**José Saramago, Viagem a Portugal, 1981**

Among the soft undulations of the ground that marks the landscape of Alentejo, on a rise that fractures the monotonous horizon there are the first traces of the city of Montemor-o-novo. The castle, which has been progressively abandoned over the years, contains within its walls the eldest testimonies of the city. In this place full of memories are located the two buildings of the new Cultural Centre arranged along the path that runs from Porta Vila Santarem towards Porta del Anjo. The first part of the building is confused with the ones of nearby convent of Nossa Senhora da Saudação and guides the visitor towards the view of the south; the second presides over the portal of Igreja de Santa Maria and offers itself as an instrument for recomposing the soil and the existing scattered ruins.







Printed by
Rubbettino Print | Soveria Mannelli (CZ)
for **dida**press
**Dipartimento di Architettura**
Università degli Studi di Firenze
April 2019

UNIVERSITÀ
DEGLI STUDI
FIRENZE

DIDA, the Department of Architecture of the University of Florence, performed an open and public analysis and evaluation of the scientific research carried out during the first five years of activity since its establishment, in order to define its research strategies, their relationship with the 2nd and 3rd cycle education, the role of experimental research and the system of labs at DIDA (DIDALABS), as well as the role of research units and interuniversity research centers.

The aim of the DIDA Research Week Book 2018 is to communicate the results of such research, in all the aspects which were carried out at DIDA during its first five years of activity.

ISBN 978-88-3338-062-9