Abstracts

Unstable states of architecture, *Sergio Crotti* (p. 7)

The ongoing planetary upheaval is throwing the fragmented, contaminated and replaced architectural horizon into crisis, generating a negative feedback impact on the founding principles of what is the spatial science *par excellence*, the re-establishment of which is entrusted to its release from the relativism of nihilist post-modernity. The self-referencing, globalist and icon-worshipping stereotypes popularised by the new media and by web information are causing inauspicious distortions against which the revival of theoretical thinking is acting, in the authentic meaning of the cognitive process, to decipher the legacy of the 'forefront of the most advanced disciplinary knowledge'. It is urgently necessary to free the potentials of the 'formal logic' inscribed in the deep layers of ancient knowledge, to be performed to support 'necessary' and as such, aware, designing and 'relational' architecture, which resists the invasiveness of commercial, stateless models.

Key words: architecture; theoretical practice; design

Inequality and social exclusion in global cities: some research results, *edited by Costanzo Ranci* (p. 21)

This section presents articles on the problems of the inequality and social exclusion currently existing in global towns and cities located on various continents. They are based on work done by the doctoral students on the Spud course (urban and regional planning and urban development), a doctoral research programme at the Milan Polytechnic, under the supervision of Costanzo Ranci. The analysis shows that even if they are structured differently in these cities, the problems of inequality are commonly found at the intersection of social and spatial dynamics.

Key words: global cities; inequality, social exclusion

Are large-scale regeneration plans favouring the replacement of poor by rich in Paris?, *Félix Adisson* (p. 22)

In order to fight the problem of the replacement of the lower classes by the middle and upper classes, the City of Paris is pursuing an urban policy based on the principle of a social mix. Today, the creation of social housing in large urban development projects is perceived as the best opportunity to implement this principle, even at the cost of substantially altering existing dwelling structures and the urban context. In order to discuss the role of these projects in the transfer or the maintenance of the lower classes in Paris, this paper compares the Clichy Batignolles project, an urban redevelopment project based on the principle of social mix, with the conditions of the working class neighbourhood in which the project is set. The objective of this comparision is to examine urban development in terms of the results which the City of Paris did not envisage, on the context, in terms of social change.

Key words: urban development; social mix; Paris

Chicago. Ensnared in the web of global real estate finance: mortgage meltdown and marginalisation, *Guido Anselmi* (p. 31)

'World city research' has always sought to identify links between the expansion of the world economy and social marginalisation. Changes in the division of international labour have provided the main explanatory insights. I believe that, given the financialised nature of the global economy, other theoretical instruments can be employed, such as the concept of 'financial exclusion' for example. Because of the way they have manifested in Chicago, the causes and consequences of the 'mortgage meltdown' are able to give us a chance to explain how financialisation has produced social marginalisation. Firstly I explain how the 'meltdown' of the secondary mortgage market has contributed to financial exclusion and then, in the local context, I analyse the relationships between financial exclusion and old and new patterns of marginalisation resulting from financialisation.

Key words: Chicago; financialisation; marginalisation

From the slum to the house: towards a less polarised Mumbai?, *Gloria Pessina* (p. 37)

Also famous as 'Maximum City' (Mehta, 2005), Mumbai is undergoing a period of extremely rapid growth as a result of the booming Indian economy. While numerous multinationals are opening offices in areas once occupied by cotton mills and new middle class districts are springing up on the margins of the city, most of the population still live in shanty towns. Contrasts like these within the city show Mumbai as a particularly clear case of polarisation, which raises doubts over some current housing policies designed to raise it to the status of a 'global city' and to reduce polarisation by removing the shanty towns and moving the inhabitants to new neighbourhoods. The paper focuses on Dharavi and attempts to highlight the fundamental role played by informal production in the shanty towns, the losses in this sector due to the removal of the shanty towns and the possible greater polarisation resulting from these policies.

Key words: shanty towns; informal economy; social polarisation

Social inequalities and their spatial expression in the city of Shenzhen, *Chiara Geroldi* (p. 44)

This paper examines social inequalities present in Shenzhen, the China's first 'Special Economic Zone'. Shenzhen has grown from three hundred thousand to nine million inhabitants in just thirty years, opening its doors to foreign investment. The inequalities are due mainly to the possibility of acquiring a permanent urban stay permit – an urban hukou – which gives access to city services, better paid work and consequently an adequate housing market. Today almost three quarters of the population of Shenzhen consists of Chinese migrants who do not possess an urban hukou and are therefore excluded from the 'right to the city'. The paper looks firstly at the labour market structure in Shenzhen and access to jobs in relation to the hukou system. It then shows the correlation between the growth of the city and the increase in inequalities. Finally, it assesses the presence of polarisation, the possibility of a middle class emerging and the ways in which inequalities manifest in spatial terms.

Key words: Shenzhen; social inequalities; hukou

Social segregation in Singapore. Case of the construction guest workers, *Yanin Chivakidakarn* (p. 52)

Singapore is one of the few global cities in the world with no informal settlements. Despite this, there is a clear presence of socially segregated areas, related in particular to the practices of unskilled migrant communities who move to an urban environment to provide services for the big city. The paper analyses the reasons and nature of the 'geographies of inequality', by using the keys to interpretation proposed by Wacquant on the relationship between forms of social segregation and globalisation. The paper also takes a look at polices. The phenomenon may in fact be understood as part of a government strategy towards these recently migrated poor groups in the population in which the controlled access dimension seems designed to create a 'temporary two tier social structure' which does not encourage integration.

Key words: inequality; urban segregation; integration

Knowledge, conservation, use of former Italian psychiatric hospitals, *edited by Maria Antonietta Crippa and Pierfranco Galliani* (p. 60)

Since the end of the 1970s when Law n. 180 decreed the closure of mental hospitals, the architectural and community characteristics of former Italian psychiatric hospitals has so far remained unexplored. The 2008 Prin research on this question, which was also to result in a geographical computer database connected with the National Archive System, laid the foundations for putting concrete processes in motion to safeguard this huge tangible and intangible heritage in which the traces of a 'care system' are inscribed, which reflects the features of Italian society since the first years of the young unified state. Although of value from many viewpoints, former public sector psychiatric hospitals in underused and run down areas can in fact become a concrete opportunity for integrated conservation action and urban recovery to make use of them for social utility purposes on a different scale.

Key words: psychiatric hospitals; integrated conservation; valorisation

Mental hospitals in Italy. Historical problems and prospects for making use of them, *Concetta Lenza* (p. 62)

This paper reports the objectives and results of a research project entitled 'Mental Hospitals in Italy in the nineteenth and twentieth centuries. A map of the historical and architectural heritage to acquire knowledge and to make use of them'. Financed by the Ministry of Universities and Research as part of the 2008 Prin Programme. It highlights the problems of 'constructing the history' of the architecture of mental hospitals (starting with the choice of the preliminary methods concerning the period in time and the particular nature of the subject studied) and it underlines the role of critical knowledge as an indispensible condition for making proposals to develop and make use of former mental hospitals. The general questions addressed are framed in examples taken mainly from the history and the conditions of mental hospitals on mainland southern Italy, set in a comparison with the national and European scene.

Key words: mental hospitals; history; valorisation

Mental hospitals in central Italy: know them to recover them, *Maria Luisa Neri* (p. 68)

This paper summarises research on former mental hospitals in the areas of the former State of the Church (Latium, Marches, Umbria, Emilia), in addition to the four cases outside the papal territories (Reggio Emilia, Piacenza, Parma Colorno and Forlì). The first objective of the investigation was the history and architecture of the individual buildings which must be reflected closely in the hoped for action to protect and enhance them. In order to achieve this second objective, the information acquired was processed in order to be able to use it also for these purposes. Three case histories were briefly considered (Macerata, Rome, Reggio Emilia) chosen from the seventeen analysed as examples to illustrate the work performed.

Key words: type; mental hospitals; protection

The modern process of a psychiatric institution, established and then denied, *Maria Antonietta Crippa* (p. 74)

The paper gives a very brief outline of the issues and problems of the psychiatric hospitals examined in the historical study conducted by the Milan research unit of the Prin on 'Mental hospitals in Italy in the nineteenth and twentieth century. A map of the architectural heritage to acquire knowledge and to make use of them'. It contains considerations on the 'construction of the history', identifying, amongst other things, the necessary distinctions between legitimate denial of the structures as psychiatric institutions and the features of the architecture and landscapes and the spatial practices of collective life, in terms of its physical components and the dimensions of representation and imagination, to be recovered from confused *damnatio memoriae* procedures, which caused serious harm to national culture.

Key words: construction of history; architecture as a spatial practice; institution denied

The controversial destiny of psychiatric hospitals in Italy: reuses and abandonments, *Ferdinando Zanzottera* (p. 81)

The author first reviews all the significant steps in the legislation, that followed the 1978 law on psychiatric care, which set in motion the processes which closed Italian mental hospitals and had a strong impact on them, with their abandonment and decay.

The terms of the legislation helped make the debate and the means of their reuse complex, which is described briefly here for mental hospitals in the central northern and north eastern Italy, with rapid identification of the most evident failings with regard to their protection and use. The paper also gives a very brief summary of some of the solutions adopted locally to integrate these 'citadels of mental care' into their urban contexts, looking at a variety of cases with results ranging from a certain degree of quality and even excellence to episodes of serious neglect. The examples also highlight the most urgent issues with regard to a definition of the framework for the recovery of the mental hospitals analysed.
Key words: psychiatric hospital ; reuse; valorisation

The hypothesis of a psychiatric hospital by Daniele Calabi: designs and achievements, *Adele Simioli* (p. 85)
This paper reviews the work of Daniele Calabi as an architect of psychiatric hospitals. It examines his theoretical and design contributions with a particular focus on the Verona-Marzana psychiatric hospital, his only design (1963) together with that for Catania, to have been partially built. The fundamental themes of Calabi's architectural research in the psychiatric field can be seen in the Verona hospital: the choice of designs which are not central but of the village type in order to create warm environments grouped together; attention to the creation of spaces where patients can socialise; and the openness of the mental hospital to the town and its inhabitants, a precursor of the philosophy behind Law n. 180/78, which just a few years later was to radically change mental health care in Italy and in the world.
Key words: Daniele Calabi; hospital architecture; psychiatric hospital

Psychiatric hospitals and museums: cases in Venice and Milan, *Valentina Raimondo* (p. 89)
The objective of this paper is to assess and compare two very particular museums, the *Museo d'Arte Contemporanea Paolo Pini* (Mapp-Paolo Pini contemporary art museum) in Milan and the *Museo del Manicomio di San Servolo* (San Servolo mental asylum museum in Venice). The Mapp is a contemporary art museum in which the pavilions containing the hospital wards have been used to house works of art. The San Servolo museum, on the other hand, contains a rich collection of records and medical and scientific exhibits which trace the history of the psychiatric hospital. Both these institutions are located inside former psychiatric hospitals and constitute a valid attempt to transform environments and architectures linked to the painful events of a still recent past.
Key words: Mapp; San Servolo; museum in a mental asylum

Past/present: recovery and reuse of the former Paolo Pini psychiatric hospital in Milan, *Pierfranco Galliani* (p. 93)
The former Paolo Pini hospital in Milan, built between 1921 and 1924 at Affori, is a paradigmatic interpretation of the design of a modern psychiatric hospital, in which the rules governing the spatial distribution of the pavilions consisted of a self-referencing morphological model, based on the scientific and spatial assumptions of separating patients, by gender, disease and treatment and of isolating them from the surrounding en-

vironment. Following the process of abandonment and reuse imposed by the 1978 'Basaglia Reform', today the former hospital is an emblematic example of the delinking of architectural features and their meaning, which occurred with the change of the original uses and the informal growth of the outer city area. The architectural integration of the rigid morphological layout and the redesign of its borders are able today to give rise to a new formal and organisational order designed to enhance the identity of the place.
Key words: pavilion based morphological system; abandonment; urban recovery

Interpretation and change in the composition of the context of the Paolo Pini in Milan, *Mario Scaglia* (p. 101)
Action undertaken to recover the architecture of the former Paolo Pini psychiatric hospital in Milan, set in the fragmented and in some ways ambiguous layout of today's city. It is framed within a co-ordinated system of references and relationships which bring together and match the architectural dimension of the psychiatric hospital with the morphological systems that constitute the features of the surrounding urban context. What unfolds in this way is recovery which works systematically. It integrates modifications and functional changes to the interior spaces of the former hospital with the development and consequent regeneration of environmental resources that form part of the urban fabric of the city.
Key words: morphological changes in composition; multi-scale approach: rewriting the context

Milan Polytechnic and Città degli Studi. Programmes, designs, creations (1912-1927), *Laura Balboni, Paolo Corradini* (p. 106)
This paper starts with the records that were found during the course of research conducted in public and private archives in Milan, which revealed the existence of unique drawings of great interest and with a direct comparison with the relative buildings. It then discusses the events which led to the construction of the *Città degli Studi* campus in Milan, focusing on the Polytechnic area and on an examination of some of its main buildings. The study forms part of a larger research project which looks at the changes and expansions of the city that occurred until the 1960s. It throws new light on the building of the campus through the sequence of the proposed designs until they were implemented with a focus on the relationships between building, teaching and research programmes, with the objective of forming a body of knowledge of use in safeguarding these buildings of this historical centre.
Key words: *Città Studi*; Polytechnic; designs

Conserve to know and to act. The Dastu archives, *Giuliana Ricci* (p. 120)
As an introduction to the papers that will be dedicated in future editions of the journal to each of the archives conserved by the Dastu Department of Milan Polytechnic, mention is made of initiatives, which since the 1970s, have had the objective of identifying, studying and conserving primary sources relating to twentieth century design and teaching. The department also works to acquire, study and make use of personal records which document teaching and design in the last century, gravitating above all around the Milan Poly-

technic. The length of the period covered and the variety of the types of record identify moments of cultural and technical history that were developing continuously, and saw different systems of drawing, both in terms of surveying and intermediate and final design.
Key words: archives; department; conservation

The roots of the 'Turbine'. Genealogical reconstruction of the 1963 Milan Inter-Municipal Plan, *Corinna Nicosia* (p. 128)
The 'Turbine', seen symbolically as a turning point with regard to a planning tradition and theory which is now in its death throes, to all effects and purposes constitutes a new way of practicing and understanding urban planning. This very elementary image is just the tip of an iceberg, the base of which is still firmly anchored in theories and lines of thought which were appearing on the Italian academic scene for the first time, leaving an irreversible mark on its future. Regardless of the failure of the project and the polemics that arose over the affair, it is important to take a new look at the Turbine and to reconstruct its planning and theoretical basis, in order to both grasp its substantial nature and also to understand the meaning of some of the urban images which still today characterise the Milan region.
Key words: Turbine; city region; inter-municipal plan

Active life: sport, city and public space, *Elena Donaggio and Andrea Zorzi* (p. 139)
Many point to the virtues and benefits of physical activity for human health, but we feel it is important to broaden this thinking to include the urban space of our towns and cities as a support which can either favour or inhibit the adoption of healthier and more active life styles. This paper argues that sport represents a potential factor for social and urban development, even though many statistics indicates that large numbers of people in Italy take no part in any physical activity. On the other hand, spaces for sport in our towns and cities seem to have become more closed and confined, being relegated increasingly to 'specialist places'. It is therefore useful, as many cases demonstrate, to rethink the diffuse practice of sport in urban space outside dedicated facilities.
Key words: sport; public space; community practices