

Abitare la Terra *Dwelling on Earth*

rivista di geoarchitettura a magazine of geoarchitecture

PER UNA ARCHITETTURA DELLA RESPONSABILITÀ FOR AN ARCHITECTURE OF RESPONSIBILITY

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Con il numero 37 la rivista "Abitare la Terra", a quattordici anni dalla sua nascita, cambia il suo formato, ma non il suo obiettivo: la tutela dell'ambiente e la promozione di una architettura, che abbandonata la tendenza all'esaltazione individualistica delle grandi personalità creative, che ha condizionato la produzione architettonica degli ultimi decenni, torni ad essere una disciplina rigorosa, che ha per obiettivo il miglioramento della vita di tutti gli esseri viventi e per questo non rinuncia a utilizzare i frutti di una esperienza secolare che coinvolge le diverse civiltà umane. Il termine Geo-architettura, che si legge nella testata, è stato coniato da Le Corbusier, nel 1942 per la sua riflessione su *Les trois établissements humains* e allude a una architettura che abbracci tutto ciò che l'uomo ha costruito sulla superficie terrestre. Per noi oggi Geo-architettura vuol dire una architettura umile, che, sia arte senza per questo ammantarsi della superbia del nuovo fine a sé stesso, che si faccia carico della necessità di proteggere l'ambiente, di ridurre i processi di inquinamento, di combattere la disuguaglianza tra i popoli, di ridurre i processi che attraverso i cambiamenti climatici rischiano di distruggere gli equilibri del pianeta e il suo paesaggio. Per fondare la Geo-architettura è necessario a nostro parere: imparare dalla natura e dalla storia, rispettare l'identità dei luoghi, recuperare la "coralità" degli spazi urbani, abbattere gli sprechi di risorse non rinnovabili e di tempo umano, contrapporre a uno sviluppo senza limiti, che presuppone una impossibile "crescita infinita", una crescita spirituale di cui si avvertono i primi sintomi anche nella architettura.

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Fourteen years after *Abitare la Terra* was published for the first time we have decided to change its format, but not its goal: to protect the environment and promote architecture. No longer an architecture that has abandoned its tendency to praise and exalt larger-than-life creative individuals and the architectural works that have influenced recent decades, but an architecture that is once again a meticulous discipline focusing on improving the lives of all living creatures; an architecture that exploits the 'fruits' of its centuries-old history and many different civilisations.

The term Geo-architecture at the top of the front cover of this issue number was coined by Le Corbusier in 1942 when he wrote *Les trois établissements humains*; the term refers to an architecture that embraces everything man has built on the earth's surface. For us, Geo-architecture means humble architecture, an architecture that is art without necessarily the arrogance of being an end unto itself; an architecture that assumes the responsibility of protecting the environment, reducing pollution, fighting inequality between peoples, reducing the processes of climate change that may destroy the balance that exists here on earth and its landscapes. We believe that to create Geo-architecture we need to: learn from nature and history; respect the identity of places; reinstate the "choral nature" of urban spaces; drastically reduce the way we waste non-renewable resources and human time; and replace unlimited growth (involving impossible "endless growth") with spiritual growth, the seeds of which are now beginning to grow in architecture.

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summary

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Monumental Architectural Complex of the Incurables in Naples, the interior of Pharmacy.
Photo by Carmine Gambardella

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OF RESPONSIBILITY



Between stratum and substratum: an urban design project for the Lotti and Tronari quarries in Naples

BRUNA DI PALMA, PASQUALE MIANO

The relationship between stratum and substratum preserves the deepest story of the construction of the city of Naples and the project for the area of the Lotti and Tronari quarries, in the Sanità district, fits into this traditional and suggestive way of inhabiting the different urban layers moving between high and low, light and shadow, natural and artificial.

The system of the double quarry, one of which is outdoor, the Lotti quarry, while the other is hypogean, the Tronari quarry, lies between the northern part of the historical center and the Capodimonte hill and is characterized by a particular excavation topography with about 60 meters difference in altitude. Lost its original function, today this great open space is a frag-

ment of nature surrounded by the buildings, isolated from the Capodimonte Park and the public spaces of the district and abandoned.

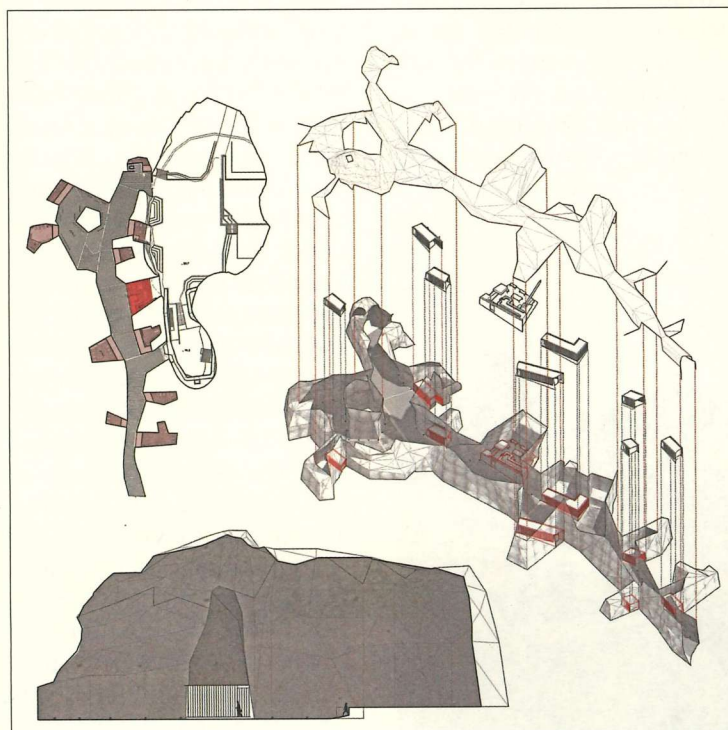
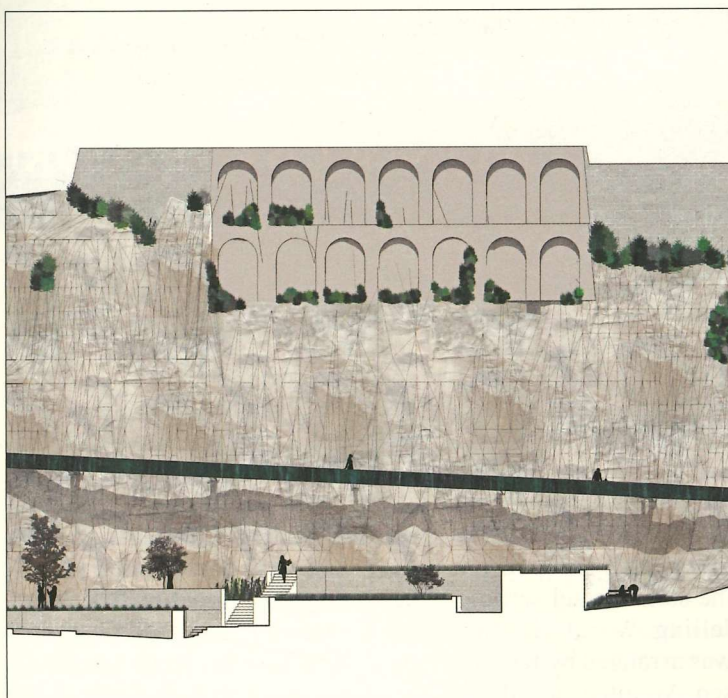
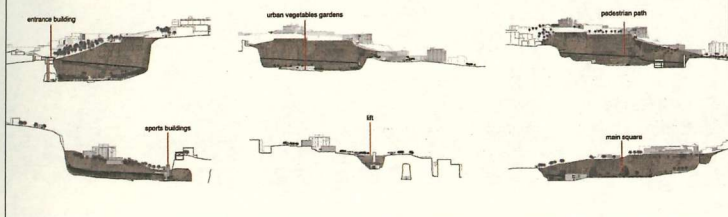
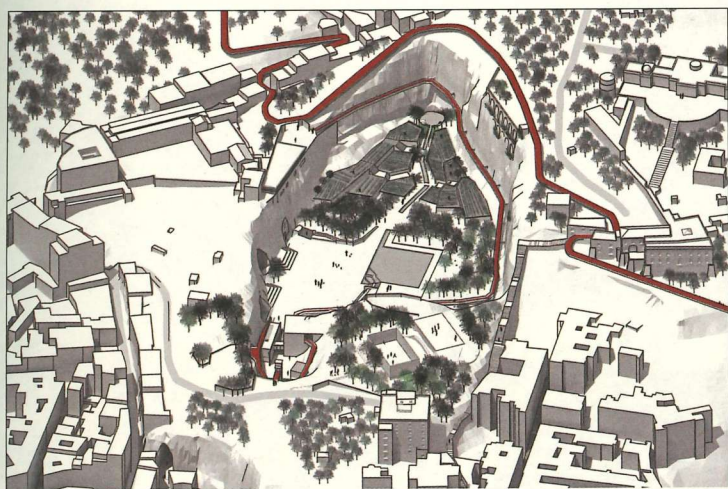
The National Interest Research Project "The care of the city and the city of care", Prin 2015, worked on this topic with the aim of outlining a planning strategy able to prefigure new urban conditions such as the people health's improvement and, at the same time, the "abandonment's sick" urban and architectural spaces refurbishment. In this perspective, the area of the Lotti and Tronari quarries can be imagined as an urban hub of healthiness, a trigger for a changing process in a therapeutics way and through which it is possible to regenerate the open public space of the city by inserting it in a continuous urban path linked

to the themes of citizens' care, well-being and health.

The new system of connections, that enhances the double quarry system, follows its particular morphology and develops starting from the highest, most collective and panoramic area, reaching the lowest level and therefore allowing to go inside the park of the former outdoor quarry and then to creep into the spaces of the former underground quarry. Through the design for the new space of the Lotti quarry the concept of park is re-interpreted as a multifunctional public nature, also by the introduction of a functional variety that enriches the possibilities of healthy use of the area with urban vegetables gardens, water tanks, sports facilities and spaces for outdoor sports and aggregation. Through

the re-development of existing paths and the definition of additional connection areas, the quarry-park is related to the near underground quarry for which the design proposal works on a further space for well-being and speleo-therapy.

In conclusion, for the Lotti and Tronari quarries it is not conceived a simple re-use proposal, but a set of multiple actions derived from the geo-morphology and landscape features of the urban context of the Sanità district. By the project the quarries join a sequence of re-activated and connected urban spaces, in part preexisting and partly new, thus becoming places of great suggestion and, at the same time, significant spitting image of a double city composed of multiple levels. ■



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1. The Sanità district, view from the Astronomical Observatory (author: Chiara Iaselli, 2018).
2. General design proposal for the new wellness hub (graphic processing: Chiara Iaselli, 2018/19).
3. Frontal view of the new pedestrian path connecting the different levels of the area (graphic processing: Chiara Iaselli, 2018/19).
4. Design proposal for the underground public space of the Tronari quarry (graphic processing: Chiara Iaselli, 2018/19).
5. Design view of the new urban healthy park (graphic processing: Chiara Iaselli, 2018/19).
6. Design view of the new wellness underground space (graphic processing: Chiara Iaselli, 2018/19).

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