

Of Stones and Travelers

The Venetian Matter: a productive machine in its own consuming
Of Stones and Travelers

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Project Information (EN)

00_Prologue

Venice is experiencing a transitional moment in its existence. It represents the symbol of the difficult relationship between cities and tourists, stones and travelers: the situation in which the city is evolving into a productive machine in its own consuming. The imbalance in people's different gradients of permanence in Venice has triggered the transformation of the historical center into an economic machine, acting merely in response to tourists' needs. Such character of the city has been determined by the definition of its dichotomy, the contrast between its picturesque historical center and the anonymous industrial character of its outskirt. The project aims to understand and test the way in which the permanence of visitors in Venice can be affected via architectural terms, by releasing the pressure of tourists on the historical center while offering them services for longer stays to experience the city in its totality.

01_The Island

The Storage Tank Island in Porto Marghera is the place identified for achieving this result: the redevelopment of the industrial site is an opportunity to test how the assemblage of the city can evolve without being stuck in its picturesque idea. Due to the immanent presence of the ambivalent character of Venice, expressed by the oil tanks and by being an island, the project area represents the ideal territory upon which create a new condition for living in the city by combining the two characters of the venetian dichotomy. The researched value is the understanding of Venice as an assemblage, as a combination of different layers which relationship defines the character of the city. Its dissection and application in modern time is the goal my project has pursued in its unfolding.

02_Venetian Dichotomy

The design develops in-between the existing oil tanks, regenerated into social condensers and therefore as containers of new public functions. The in between spaces are divided in two different levels: the ground floor for commercial activities and the upper floor for residential units. Their contrasting figure grounds, simultaneously opposite and complementary, are the expression of the two facets of the venetian dichotomy. It is by offering a modern interpretation of what Venice is as a city that the project presents itself as an alternative perspective on the future of the island, with the aim of affecting positively its future transformation.

Projectinformatie (NL)

Prologue

Venetië beleeft een overgangsmoment in zijn bestaan. Het staat symbool voor de moeizame relatie tussen steden en toeristen, stenen en reizigers: de situatie waarin de stad evolueert naar een productieve machine in zijn eigen consumptie. De onevenwichtigheid in de verschillende gradiënten van permanentie van mensen in Venetië heeft de transformatie van het historische centrum in een economische machine in gang gezet, die louter handelt in reactie op de behoeften van toeristen. Een dergelijk karakter van de stad is bepaald door de definitie van haar tweedeling, het contrast tussen het pittoreske historische centrum en het anonieme industriële karakter van de rand. Het project heeft tot doel de manier te begrijpen en te testen waarop de duurzaamheid van bezoekers in Venetië kan worden beïnvloed via architecturale termen, door de druk van toeristen op het historische centrum te verlichten en hen diensten aan te bieden voor een langer verblijf om de stad in zijn totaliteit te ervaren.

Image List

Filename	Caption	Credit
axo_1633356330.jpg	Of Stones and Travelers_Masterplan	Riccardo Sforzi
0_1633370467.jpg	Of Stones and Travelers_ +0	Riccardo Sforzi
1_1633370474.jpg	Of Stones and Travelers_ +1	Riccardo Sforzi
models_1633372002.jpg	Of Stones and Travelers_ Venice's Analogies	Riccardo Sforzi
untitled-2_1633372314.jpg	Of Stones and Travelers_Social Condenser Catalogue	

The images above are included in the ZIP under /images.