

## SUMMARIES

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### **The domestic space planning. Not only a “building question”, but also a “meaning question”,** by *Carla Landuzzi*

This article is based on an historical background about the domestic place planning in Italy, with particular attention to the last years. Several meanings of “home” are considered. More in general, home is seen as the concrete expression of many perceptions of reality. Home is considered as a relational space too, an intersection in a city where all the traditional distinctions and functions are changing.

**Key words:** home, dwelling, domestic space, city.

### **Interview to Massimo Iosa Ghini,** by *Carla Landuzzi*

During a talk with Massimo Iosa Ghini, one of the most important Italian architects and designers, some elements emerged about what is that inspires architecture today, the problems connected to globalization and urban sustainability, the specificity of inhabiting, and the cultural and architectural aspects of construction recovery.

**Key words:** architect, urban sustainability, construction recovery.

### **Home, sweet Home... The House “in Mind”,** by *Alessandra Farneti*

In a psychological perspective, the house is a complex harmony in which time and space, sounds, colors, nights and days, seasons and years contribute to the individual development and to the construction of identity from the first time of life to the old age. House *holding*, indeed, allows to establish strong intergenerational relationships. We consider here the different representations of house in each stadium of growth.

**Key words:** different representations, house, stadium of growth.

**Town and architecture in the relationships between inhabited and inhabitant. Urban isotropy and architectural individuality, by Luigi Bartolomei**

The millennium has been opened will be the time of urban dwelling. In 2007 it seems that the urban population has reached the rural one with a growth curve that does not seem to change its inclination. The city, however, over the past two centuries, has become from a symbol of progress, a symbol of chaos and congestion, necessary place, legacy of last XIXth century industrialization, but at the same place unsatisfactory union of isotropic spaces not appropriate for the inescapable individuality of each inhabitant.

One of the last urban utopias of the last century, Broadacre City by Frank L. Wright, was in fact an anti-city made only by architecture, that wanted to return to man the vast horizons of contemplation and architectures corresponding to the individuality of inhabitants.

The contemporary city has thickened, on the contrary, following the simple building trade, with ready-made solutions to the physiological needs of housing, aggregating isotropic spaces unable to characterize single places.

A new citizenship is rising, however, using since her birth the new means of a genuine cosmopolitanism, which will certainly bring radical changes in the design of housing and architectures, influenced by the new channels of information and the attendance of the virtual world. Which cities and which architectures for the plural and cosmopolitan actual citizenship?

**Key words:** dwelling, architecture, town, land Membership, utopia.

**Between action and emotion. A phenomenological comprehension of living places, by Alberto Bortolotti**

The daily world is made up of bodies which interact each other. In this world architecture frames all the innumerable relationships, she is a particular kind of relationship herself, between men and nature, as between earth and sky. Exactly as architecture meets some human requests, she gives birth to feelings at the same time. This way men build many landscapes which can be read in such different ways. Landscape was called “a great palimpsest” by Giulio Carlo Argan, and also “a huge deposit of human labours” by Carlo Cattaneo. Anyway it is the product of our minds, too. So what kind of instruments do we need to make out the landscape meanings? The progress of science, although it's based on conventional arguments, tells us that it's possible to give objective answers to every problem about reality. However we should realize that a quantitative approach

of knowledge could be put aside sometimes, to understand the all qualitative sides of our existence.

**Key words:** living, phenomenons, place, project, architecture, landscape.

**The dimension of space. For a “spatialist” sociology,** by *Emilio Gardini*

In this paper, we shall analyse the dimension which space assumes in urban sociology using micro-sociological experiences of the social action. Space and place have different connotations and their relationship indicates the meaningful dimension which is determined by human action. Physical space is the effect of human action and becomes a part of social experience when it assumes a certain, aesthetic and functional value. In this paper, we will consider some sociological positions which have privileged the “spatial dimension” in order to compose a theoretical framework which takes into account the perception of space in ordinary experience.

**Key words:** space, place, perception of space, urban sociology.

**Houses in the days of crisis: a contemporary story,** by *Giuseppe Scidà*

The essay starts by analyzing the free-trade turning point of the Western capitalism in the ‘80s, followed today by a new evolving trend, due to the weighty financial crisis set off in the USA and spread all over the world.

The paper focuses bankers’ and borrowers’ behaviours before the blast of the real estate bubble, weighing the causes concerning granting/raising of credit to buy a house, that’s to say some traditionally sound and reliable goods. Nevertheless, the irrational euphoria regarding the market trends drove the bankers to a self-deception whereas the borrowers were inclined to be deceived, as they considered a house as a real answer to their dream-primary need.

**Key words:** financial crisis, real estate bubble, house, bankers, borrowers.

**A Fera o’ Luni: the transformation of an historical market,** by *Emma Finocchiaro*

This article examines the changes undergone by a trade area in the old centre of Catania: the market in piazza Carlo Alberto, known as *a Fera o’ Luni*, where it is possible to see a rapid increase of activities, due to initia-

tives put into effect by the latest foreign immigrants. Besides, the essay deals with the challenges issued to local authorities. It is necessary to think new forms of urban governance, of the participation processes and of the general rules in order to regulate urban life in a context characterized by a high socio-cultural and ethnic heterogeneity.

**Key words:** market, foreign immigrants, socio-cultural and ethnic heterogeneity, urban regeneration policies, social capital, governance.

**The deprivatization of religion as a geographic fact: the case of Ave Maria Town, by *Giuseppe Carta***

During the last decade the rapprochement of religious groups in the public realm had become a major issue for social sciences. Whilst the use of spatial and even geographic metaphors has been widely introduced in the academic debate to talk about religion, geography of religion as a subfield of human geography has gained a deep theoretical renewal. Departing from insights of Casanova, Kong and Knott, this paper aims to critically analyze the inherent urban dimension of deprivatization of religions. The case of study is Ave Maria Town, an exclusive residential community founded by a conservative Catholic think-tank following the thinking of theologians such as Michael Novak and Richard J. Neuhaus. The focus is on the occurring relationships between public administration and religious agencies within the symbolic construction of territorial identity and the defining of urban planning policy and practice. The study argues that a geographical approach can further explain the inner transformations of religion in modernity.

**Key words:** geography of religion; urban sprawl; theory of secularization; neoliberalism; post-modern city.