

TECHNOLOGICAL CULTURE, THEORIES AND PRACTICES OF ARCHITECTURAL DESIGN

Architectural Technology has always played an innovative role in reinterpreting the relationship between theory and practice in architecture, supporting the strict connection between the theoretical thought and its real outcomes, between the idea and its realization, and looking at the implications that construction and management aspects have on creative and design action in its theoretical foundations.

Issue number 13 of *Techne* will investigate aspects related to the relationship between theory and practice in architecture, with the aim of collect original contributions of research, experimentation and critical essays able to define the design's conceptual scenarios represented by conceptual data and realization practices within which defining the complex system of relationships that bind "worldview", design concept and technologies in the environmental transformation process.

The relationship between theory and practice in architecture express a complex system of technical choices in technical, artistic and architect activity and in "reciprocal implications with outlooks who invest the great movements of thought in a specific historical period" (P. Gregory, "Theories of architecture" in *XXI Century*, Treccani 2010). Technique, according this viewpoint, it is something more than just a means or functional factor, or rather an educational and cultural value that allows to mediate between subjectivity and objectivity, experience and reason, knowledge and operational capabilities.

Relations between theories and practices of the project have changed over time and have faced, through over the last 40 years, relational and content transformations that require an understanding of the established dynamics. In the face of ongoing crisis of modern concepts of order and determinism, should be appropriate to understand if, at the end of great narratives and of the myth of progress, how present is a kind of "drift" of the culture plurality and diversification and of values, or what remains of the continuity of the modern that claims the importance of the links between design thinking, cultural concepts, values and impact in building construction.

In this logic the construction may assume a central role in the understanding of "architectural phenomenon" as an example and methodological manifesto of cultural position.

The required contributions should therefore feed a debate

around issues that offer wide horizons, open and problematic to the *technological culture of architectural design* with reference to the following topic areas:

- the role of the technological culture within the theories and practice of architecture, coincided also in an interdisciplinary dimension and testified in epistemological reflection and constructions;
- systemic and ecological theories and practices, within the project of process phases related to design, production and management;
- performance theories and practices, able of integrating the functional, environmental and technical approach with the cultural, social and psychological elements of inhabiting;
- methods and tools to strengthen the information content of the project: aspects of problem solving, decision-making skills, project management;
- evolution and innovation of design "categories" (meta-design, system design, open design, executive and operational design);
- project constructability and implications of the construction process in the design action;
- contribution of environmental culture to new lines of research on the issue of technology design and technical-constructive experimentation: new interpretative keys of disciplinary tools of architecture design related to the request for renewed environmental performances and qualities;
- value of interdisciplinarity as a dialogue between technical culture and human sciences, including technological disciplines and specialist contributions.

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Authors are invited to send an abstract of **4000 characters** (spaces included) in Italian (or English, in case of foreign author). The abstract is intended to report the main contents planned to be proposed in the article. The abstract has to be written in a clear and concise

manner, showing an effective correspondence to the topic of the call. Furthermore, the abstract has to follow the following structure:

- object of the proposal and aim of the article;
- approach and/or methodology.

Authors are invited to specify if their contribution is targeting the “research and experimentation” or “essays and viewpoints” section.

In particular, the “research and experimentation paper has to outline:

- results: analytical aspects, proposals, debates;
- originality: by explaining what is new and for whom;
- limits of the research and significative results;
- cultural implications (practical or socio-economic) when present;
- reference to research/researches, relevance of the topic, subjects involved, fundings.

In the case of an “essays and viewpoints” proposal, attention has to be given to:

- cultural and scientific background with regard to the proposed topic;
- analytical aspects, the state of the art of the critical fields and debates on the topic.

For both sections, the abstract has to be introduced by specific keywords, reflecting the essential elements of the paper. The abstract has to be sent to redazionetechne@sitda.net by **October, 25th 2016**. The authors of the accepted abstract will receive information by the Editorial Team by **October, 31rd 2016**.

Once the abstract has been accepted, the authors are invited to submit the paper by **December, 2nd 2016**. The paper has to respect the limit of **max 20.000 characters**, spaces included, in the case of single author; **max 24.000 characters**, spaces included, in the case of multiple authors. The papers will be submitted

to a double blind review and the authors, whose papers have been accepted, will receive further information by **December, 22nd 2016**. The final version of the paper, integrated with the suggestions given by the referees, will have to be submitted by **February, 3rd 2017**.

Texts, bibliographic references, images and notes have to follow the rules for the authors, available at the following address: <http://www.fupress.net/index.php/techne/information/authors> Selection and review procedures are explained at: <http://www.fupress.net/index.php/techne/about/editorialPolicies>.

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