THE PUBLIC SPACE. DESIGN, CONSTRUCTION, MANAGEMENT

As urban areas represent complex systems, their transformations are ruled by different shapes, ways and times, depending on the different international contexts in which they are located. The peculiarity of the European cities is due to their construction through the stratification of identities, shapes, systems and uses, that they have found representation in the structure of the public space, and in its tangible and intangible characters.

In contrast to what happens in vastly extended world megalopolises, the public space in the European cities is still an important social collector. In fact, in its articulated configurations - street, plaza, garden, urban park, etc. - it becomes the bearer of multiple dimensions: cultural and semiological, fruitive and perceptual, environmental and eco-systemic, architectural and material. Public space expresses the desires and contradictions of the communities that live it which contribute to its definition. Therefore, the public space is the extraordinary synthesis between the past and the present, the setting for individual and collective life, for the shared perception of identities and meaning, and, at the same time, it is the place for confrontation and conflict. It is a rest area as well as a passing space in which fluxes of people, goods and pieces of information meet. The public space can be a space for singularity and excellence, but at the same time the scene of decay, neglect and anomie.

These articulated values define the public space as a cross-cutting issue of high relevance for the academic research, for critical investigations as well as for new design strategies.

Since the '80s the idea of public space as an equipped place serving the community - and therefore presenting an inter and multi-scalar project dimension - guides the research into the analysis of the physical components that make up an area (building curtains and porches, soil and pavements, equipment and services, art pieces, artefacts and technical objects, etc.), as these are the elements that support the fruitive qualities, the efficiency and the symbolic meaning of the public space itself. At the same time, the definition of performance requirements linked to the building construction processes -as comfort and aesthetics, low maintenance and easy cleaning, durability, reliability and safety - connects the project of the public space to rational and necessity principles, forcing the designer to consider a balanced time-cost-quality framework.

Further contributions are focused on the environmental sustainability of the built space, assuming an adaptive vision, therefore preferring the built/natural and full/void relationships contained in the shapes and creation processes of the European cities' cultural tradition. Thereby, the environmental design has to re-imagine the public space taking into account its ecosystem potential in answering the growing demand of ecological wellness and quality.

In light of these considerations, the Call's aim is to collect theoretical, methodological and research contributions (projects, examples, good practices, constructions, public space management conceptions, etc.) that are representative of the contemporary debate, with particular reference to the following topics.

1. The public space as organizational element for the urban phenomena and contemporary landscape design; **as a place for the social life**, a multi-functional collector for uses and activities, an integrated system of equipments for the safe fruition of the area; a space for virtual and physical multisensory accessibility, dedicated to inclusive and participatory activities. The topic includes:

- the design of urban and peri-urban spaces with proper solutions finalized to temporary and/or permanent configurations;
- the trial of innovative process for cultural driven reactivation (events, micro-actions for neighbourhood spaces, LivingLab, LabGov, data collecting methods like crowdsensing and crowdsourcing, etc.);
- the transfer and application of advanced tangible and intangibles technologies (advanced smart systems, components and materials, enabling and responsive technologies, digital and sensorial instruments for the maintenance, the information and the fluxes control).

2. The public space as environmental infrastructure, functional to the pursuit of urban sustainability goals. The topic includes:

- the public space as a quantity and qualitative standard;
- the retrofitting of the infrastructural urban grids in a "blue" and "green" key, as well as the use of nature-based solutions, urban greening/foresting and urban agricultural techniques to enhance the ecosystemic quality, healthiness, safety and security of the urban space;
- methods, tools and indicators to design and assess the environmental quality of the public space.

3. Public space and governance, with insights focused on the management innovation of the processes related to programming, designing, producing and controlling the transformations of the public space. The topic includes:

- the procedural and regulatory framework for the creation and the "care" of the public space, considering also co-design participatory models, private-public partnerships and experimental forms of green procurement;
- the use of advanced competitive procedures to design and implement the interventions;
- innovative elements in the design and management of the construction phases, whereby the maintenance and adaptation works become a permanent construction site.

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CALL FOR PAPERS | TECHNE | 19

PUBLICATION DATE TECHNE | 19 MARCH 30TH, 2020

Authors are invited to send an abstract of **4.000 characters**, spaces included, in Italian - or English, in case of foreign author - which must include the main contents envisaged by the article to be proposed.. **Each author can submit only one abstract** (individually or within a group of authors).

The abstract must be written in a concise and clear manner, making an effective response to the CALL theme and following the track of the following points:

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

The authors are required to specify whether the contribution is intended for the "Research and Experimentation", "Essays and Points of View" or "Advanced Search (Under35)" section and to indicate the relevant topic. **Abstracts without indication of the type of contribution and topic will be taken into consideration.**

In particular, the article "**Research and Experimentation**" and "**Advanced Research (Under 35)**" will have to highlight:

- approach and / or methodology;
- results: analytical, propositional and debate aspects;
- originality: explaining what is expressed again and for whom;
- limits of research and significant developments;
- cultural, practical and / or socio-economic implications (when present);
- reference research / research, relevance of the topic, subjects involved, possible financing.

In the case of an article for the "**Essays and Points of View**" section, attention should be paid to:

- cultural and scientific background related to the subject matter;
- analytical aspects, critical framework or debate on the topic;
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For both sections, the abstract has to be introduced by specific keywords, reflecting the essential elements of the paper (max 5).
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The abstract has to be sent to redazionetechne@sitda.net by **May, 17th 2019**, **using the sheets attached to this call**.

The authors of the accepted abstract will receive information by the Editorial Team starting from **June, 28th 2019**. Once the abstract has been accepted, the authors are invited to submit the paper by **September, 20th 2019**. The received abstracts will be submitted, anonymously and purified of the elements of possible identification, carried out by the Board selection.
The paper has to respect the limit of max:
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including notes, images/ ables (max 8**), captions and bibliography** (max 5 references)**.**

Authors of accepted contributions, reviewed by double blind peer review by referees, will receive the results by **November, 15th 2019** and the final draft of the article, eventually integrated on the basis of the referees' observations, imust be delivered by **January, 10th 2020**. The articles must be written entirely in Italian and translated into English (including image captions and the texts of tables). The texts, bibliographical references, images and notes must comply with the "Regulations for Authors", shown on the magazine's website at the address: http://www.fupress.net/index.php/techne/information/authors. **Failure to comply with these rules may determine the non-acceptance of the paper.**

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ABSTRACT: Research and Experimentation - Advanced Research (Under 35)   Cod.

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Topic *(indicate only one)*   1.   2.   3.

Title *(max 95 characters, including spaces)*

Keywords *(max 5)*

Approach and/or methodology *(max 1.000 characters, including spaces)*

Results: analytical aspects, proposals, debates *(max 1.000 characters, including spaces)*

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Analytical aspects, the state of the art of the critical fields and debates on the topic *(max 1.500 characters, including spaces)*

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