

# SENSE THE\_EXHIBITION

A NEW WAY TO LIVE SARAJEVO  
SARAJEVO EARNS NATURAL SHARED ENVIRONMENT

## THE REGENERATION OF THE MARSHALL TITO BARRACKS

EXHIBITION OF THE PROJECTS BY THE STUDENTS OF UNIVERSITY OF FERRARA DESIGN LAB

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University of Ferrara | Department of Architecture  
Architecture Master Degree Program | Architectural Design Labs

IIIA Prof. Alessandro Cambi, IIIB Prof. Alessandro Gaiani, IIIC Prof. Alessandro Massarente

Modules Tutors: IIIA Alice Gardini, IIIB Guido Incerti, IIIC Alessandro Tessari  
Collaboration Assistants: Elena Guidetti, Giovanni Bazzani

Workshop and Exhibition coordinator: Guido Incerti, Richard Lee Peragine

In collaboration with : DA Dani Arhitecture | Days of Architecure  
and Faculty of Architecture, University of Sarajevo

Dean. prof. mr. Mevludin Zecevic,  
Vice dean for international relations prof.dr. Amir Causevic

Prof. dr. Adnan Pasic, Prof. dr Erdin Salihovic, doc.dr. Mladen Burazor  
Senior teaching assistants Dr. Nermina Zagora and Dr. Senka Ibrisimbegovic

Collaboration assistants: MA Zulejha Zatric, MA Aida Botonjic, MA Emina Alic



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# SENSE

# A NEW WAY TO LIVE SARAJEVO SARAJEVO EARNS NATURAL SHARED ENVIRONMENT

## THE REGENERATION OF THE MARSHALL TITO BARRACKS

### An introduction by Prof. Adnan Pašić

Since the end of Ottoman rule to the present day, Marijin Dvor has been the city's urban laboratory. After the last war's destruction, Marijin Dvor experienced two major phases of urban development. The first, until the first decade after the war, was characterized by an enthusiastic approach, with several ambitious international town planning and architecture competitions for the Master Plan of the extended area of Marijin Dvor, the Sarajevo Concert Hall and the University of Sarajevo Campus. Their winning projects were implemented in the city's urban plans, with citizens and professionals looking forward to the city's future urban development of those next 10 years. The second phase, the last 20 years of development, saw a deregulation of previous urban and architectural planning, and introduction of the current trend of urban development and laissez faire. Nevertheless, the Marijin Dvor area remains the ground zero of the urban and architectural future of the city of Sarajevo.

Due to a long planning process, further slowed down by the unexpected introduction of the U.S. Embassy within the project area, the site's Master Plan still presents a traditional model of planning based on urban blocks that are defined in a very symbolical fashion. The ambition for the future design solution of the University Campus is the integration of open spaces, architecture and landscape through the transformation of the University Campus into a Living Room in the centre of Sarajevo. The vision for the future University Campus is to create a unique urban and architectural environment as an open place that integrates academia, research and cultural production with the city and its citizens as a lesson on how the future Sarajevo should learn from Sarajevo itself.

### The workshop and the exhibition

Sarajevo is a complex ecosystem, both local and universal at the same time, near and far. It is a frontier where opposites repel and attract each other. It is a crossroads of economic, social, landscape, historical, urban and architectural flows. Sarajevo is as much an identity as it is a hybrid. Full and empty, large and small scale, hyper-dense and super-landscape. Past empires, present ideologies, mahalas and council estates, sacred and profane instances, envelop anyone who decides to live the city. All in a rather limited area by the standards of a modern capital city.

In Sarajevo, as in any frontier or border place, anything can happen. Like any border - bearing in mind that as such they are nobody's property - Sarajevo can be as much a space of segregation as it is a space of freedom.

The semantic density and urban physicality are the reasons why the Department of Architecture of the University of Ferrara made it the research subject of the Urban Design and Architectural Studio of the third year.

Sarajevo is in fact an ideal research subject. The intensity of everything that the city gives birth to is an element that puts in crisis anyone who has to face a project in the city.

The crisis, from the Greek word / as in Krisis, mutation, is the element to which architecture can give a unique response: answering the questions of the city, knowing that at the same time other problems will be created. The Krisis is in fact a state of alert and tension that involves everything and everyone, that is often impossible to freeze. Sublimating this moment is the challenge that the students were confronted with in the design of the University Campus in the area of the former Barracks Marshal Tito.

The selection of projects (a total of a hundred were developed in the first two years of research) tries to show through the work of the students, a possible development of the Krisis - the mutation - that the city is experiencing today. A city that must have a clear vision of where it is in the world, what surrounds it, what its essence is in an urban ecosystem, a landscape and a social complex in daily mutation and regeneration. So the Sarajevo Earns Natural Shared Environment

### Architectural Design Lab IIIA | Miss Sarajevo

Time, strife, tension, nature, diversity, monument, layers, these are just some of the features that shape the elusive and shifting identity of the city of Sarajevo. A long sequence shot of European history takes place along the waters of the Mijlacka river, starting from Novi Grad to Otoka and then Skenderija, to its culmination in the Bascarsija, and combines different times and languages that give us today a constellation of heterogeneous cultures and visual experiences. Minarets and domes, voids and hyperdensity, Modernism and Ottoman decoration, all these elements are spread over an unique landscape, where the Avaz Twist Tower, the Gazi Husrev mosque and the Sveti Preobraženje church coexist in one single horizon. Different periods come together in one single time "Is there a time for first communion, a time for East Seventeen, is there a time to turn to Mecca", as the U2 sing. Guarded by the harsh nature of Mt Trebević and Mt Bjelašnica, Sarajevo is far away from every kind of contemporary homologation, with its spontaneous atmosphere, and for this reason with its non-conformism. In this uniqueness of events and differences the city reveals itself, giving back in return fragmented spaces, scales, density, materials and inhomogeneous languages. With our project on the area of the ex-Barracks we've tried to expose this dormant identity by crystallising it in a series of projects about the potentiality of diversity, with the goal of finding out a potential spatial language. Sarajevo is a great constantly evolving palimpsest and for this reason the traces that exist in the area are received like living material in the fundamental masterplan, created in a collective way. Every student was been able subsequently to contribute by overwriting new hybrid languages and contemporary spatiality with a specific project, continuing the eternal writing through times of the city, singular and specific. This experiment has restored a vision of this informal and free part of the city, that has no defined limits, where public and private space lose rigidity, where natural and artificial hybridize easily, and buildings are boxes opened to innovation. The diversity of languages is the language that has created a new surreal geography. Miss Sarajevo Here she comes, Surreal in her crown.

### Architectural Design Lab IIIB | Adaptive Campus

The regeneration of the Kasarna Marsal Tito is an opportunity to transform a former barracks on the University Campus, today dismissed. The Campus is therefore considered here as an urban part of experimental nature, both in its more autonomous expression and in that of being an integrated element in the urban fabric; a university environment that can become a key community for the development and regeneration of a circular city. Working on the mutation of the area of the former Kasarna Marsal Tito and on its existing architectures and spaces, therefore, does not only imply simply preserving them, protecting them, fixing them, but that it is also necessary to proceed further, through a sustainable circular system of overlapping - an overwriting of places and of the existing buildings and inserting different philosophies into current lives, shapes, spaces and materials. The application of the method refers to the concept of a circular system: a model that puts back into circulation resources that have already been used but that aren't yet totally obsolescent, so that it is possible to obtain not only primary material (recycling) but also a new device by converting waste into value. A device that results from the integration between what exists and new insertions, implemented via the logic of minimum intervention. A project strategy based on urban insertions, or Clusters, that are punctually able to revitalize the object itself and then the whole environment, through an osmotic principle, connected through an open space made up of paths and services, which act as a single background and connection of the whole complex.

This approach allowed the articulation of projects through different compositional grammars including interventions at different scales and on different spaces: a sort of new urban metabolism. The tools used, precisely because they have been generated by strategy and not by formal language, have the characteristic of being adaptive to the project, and are able to satisfy the possible reconfigurations over time. We thus worked through a series of juxtaposed figures, hybridized together to interpret the previous layers and introduce new ones. The strategy has therefore used adaptive tools that include interventions at different scales and on physical and digital spaces:

Grafting: with the tactics of Landmark, Density, Urban Markers and Box in the Box

Parasite: with the tactics of Adaptive prostheses

Border: in its meaning of Limit / Edge / Inhabited Margin

Level 0: open spaces as a connection system, platform ground in the form of a vacuum or fabric, and social capacitor

In-between: with Infill and Pocket Park

The overall result is to exchange an overall replacement intervention project, with a generative intervention project, able to promote a solution for the reconditioning of the existing and a continuous mutation so as to make the project itself adaptable to the flow of time. Work in and with time.

### Architectural Design Lab IIIC | Mutations

Design exercises have been carried out on a place in Sarajevo that could be considered "mutational": Marshal Tito Barracks were destined to a new university campus and became a possible occasion to regenerate a part of the city where wounds left by the Balkan conflict are still evident.

The objectives behind the redefinition of this place were:

- to define a process in which the program becomes a tool for exploring reality through strategies of knowledge / interpretation / transformation, capable of holding together the characters and mutations of the existing reality, new needs expressed by people and social communities, in a perspective of sustainable development;

- broaden the concept of recycling, moving it from the traditional one of intervention on material objects to the one of second and renew life of both places and communities;

- to identify adaptive design tools, through which is possible to define a new alphabet, composed of signs and meanings capable of translating into the technical and social intervention the identity values expressed in local communities and changing differences typical of contemporary world.

The redefinition of these anthropized places in cities as Sarajevo takes on the characteristics of a work of contamination between preexistence, heritage, identity and new modes of use, organization and participation of local communities in the dynamics of transformation of the city.

Students were asked to explore the project site through 4 progressive exercises: using mapping practices coming from cartographies to read mobility, energetic, natural and societal networks in the city; representing some elements (soil, walls, roofs, spaces, environment, routes, visions) to reveal some hidden characters of the urban place; defining spatial concepts through which is possible to compare and intertwine parts of a university campus; developing urban strategies through overlapping of different scenarios coming from an open debate among group of students.

Through these educational experiences, students can explore in the city sensitive points of intensity, strategic areas, places of sharing, occupied spaces, relationships in continuous negotiation. These are possible foundation of that genetic heritage that will be able to produce new social forms and new opportunities for architectural design on which to start acting, attributable to involuntary morphologic principles that, if properly addressed, can trigger new mutations within the urbanized territory.



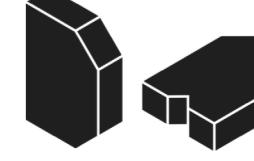
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