

SIMBIOSI ARCHITETTURA NATURA

A symbiosis between nature and building

Reflection

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Aspect 1 | The relationship between research and design

Within the research the focus was based on creating a relationship between architecture and nature in order to promote user experience and well-being of the users. The design is a translation of this in a way that the greenery plays a central role in the design and that the users are encouraged to go outside and meet in the nature, while the building itself emerges from nature by organic shaped structures and fading

The design is a translation of the research outcomes that blurs the lines between the indoor and outdoor through the connection of the indoor and outdoor in terms of program; but also by creating transparency between the both and having terraces as transitional zones like researched.

Aspect 2 | The relationship between graduation topic and studio topic

The studio topic is 'human scale'. Over the years the perception of human scale is changed from nature to man made constructions. "Modern constructions are often dominated by the use of human-made materials, artificial lighting, processed air, and sensory-deprived environments with little connection to the culture or ecology of the places where they occur" Kellert, S. R. (2018)

A symbiosis between architecture and nature, also known as biophilic design, helps to make environments more connected to nature and make the human scale more site specific. This specifically is relevant to the bodies and building studio of Complex designing a 'one of' building that is of a big scale and explores the relation between users and buildings. It bridges the gap between architecture and the human scale.

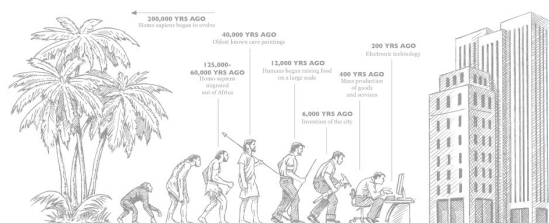


Figure 1 : Humans disconnecting from nature.

Aspect 3 | Research method and approach chosen by the student in relation to the graduation studio

The research methods given by the complex projects studio are: site, client, program, and a lens (in this case culture). This research was done simultaneously with the thesis topic research of greenery that was done through case studies, desk and literature studies. To combine both and make it project specific the thesis research was projected onto the studio research methods of client, program, site and lens:

- The types of nature inclusive buildings have been researched through literature research and case studies and where related back to what is possible on the given site.

- The lens and client research were combined into a research showing how the culture of Milan can be enriched by greenery and what this would mean for the current clients and how this could add new clients.

- The greenery that should be implemented into the project should be able to flourish in Milan and therefore domestic greenery has been researched by a site visit and desk research.

- The presence of greenery in the project changes the relationships in the programmatic functions and is therefore implemented into the relationship scheme. All in all the graduation studio methods were used and enriched by the influence of the thesis topic research and methods.

Aspect 4 | Relationship between the graduation project and the wider social, professional and scientific relevance

Cities are heating up, polluting and becoming urban heat islands. This all can lead to serious health problems, Giuffrida (2024) states the following: "Poor air quality was linked to 50,303 premature deaths in Italy in 2020, according to the EEA. Most were in Milan, but Cremona in Lombardy was the Italian province with the highest proportion of deaths – between 150 and 200 per 100,000 residents – attributed to PM 2.5". Greenery can be a solution to these problems since it can clean the air and help reduce heat and so more urban nature is needed in the city of Milan. In this case the research is projected onto the city of Milan, but essentially the research can be applicable onto other case studies and help the architectural world become more biophilic and therefore restore balance between man (made) and nature in the built environment.

Aspect 5 | Ethical issues and dilemmas you may have encountered during graduation

The concept of this project is based on encouraging people to go outside and improving their well-being and experience though having different pavilions in a green park with routing between both. This can add to a positive lifestyle and improved well-being but can also be challenging for people with physical disabilities and the elderly who are vulnerable to weather conditions. This challenged the ideal concept of fully being outdoors and inclusiveness and health for all and therefore a midway had to be created by having the pathways between the buildings covered and creating elevators inside the buildings after all. This does not add to the ideal concept of a healthy lifestyle within the greenery but is needed for inclusiveness. This shows that sometimes a concept or idea cannot be executed fully like intended but can be executed with other measures in order to create the same idea but make it feasible.