

# Reflection P5

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In this reflection, I would like to shortly discuss two subjects. First the way in which I developed my project in the framework of the studio. Second, the differences between the graduation plan I made during P2 and the way in which my project developed.

The location and theme of the Re\_Claiming Rome studio created a framework for an exhilarating project and very informative process. Within that framework I am proud of my project since it is not easy to fulfill these expectations. I think I have been able to create a project with the majesty of the Rome's past and at the same time solve problems of the present.

I found my fascination -the possibility of floods of the Tiber to transform the city- quite soon, but it took me some effort to come up with a design strategy for the site I chose. I think the support of the tutors to keep on looking for a large-scale strategy to organize the site definitely helped me to improve my project. Though it cost me some time that I maybe needed to develop my project on a smaller scale.

I already noticed quite soon after P2 that my graduation plan didn't fit my project. The main reason was the scale of the project, that has been challenging and therefore very informative for me. Stimulated by my tutors I touched upon design issues that were quite new for me due to their size and complex connections. You could argue that one should try to stay in his comfort zone, but pushing myself beyond these boundaries has been a deliberate choice which I enjoyed very much. Besides that, I think the flexibility I showed can also be seen as a positive quality.

A downside of not being completely in control of my own planning is the limit of time to develop the project. The huge scale of the project did put some pressure on the way in which I had to design. Although a graduation project is a platform to show your independence as a designer, a part of me maybe expected more structure from the studio itself. Especially compared to the intense schedule of the Luxembourg and Budapest studios, the guidance has been quite relaxed. The very little number of students in the Rome studio maybe also had its influence, since I know from experience that students can push each other to a higher level.