



NETWORKING URBAN CONTINUITY

Role of Public Spaces in seeking an urban continuum
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Design Thesis for Degree of Master of Science in Architecture,
Faculty of Architecture & Society,
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ABSTRACT

The thesis examines the role of the public realm to infill the fragmented fabric existing in our urban cities today. The public realm has transformed with evolution of the society. In today's plural society, characterized by being variegated and diverse, the public realm demands inclusiveness and flexibility to become the common for an integrated urban fabric.

Identifying Milan with potential signs of multicultural plurality, it is clearly evident that the city has major plans underway to accommodate its growing demographics, associated services and the changing scale of the city. It is a city under transformation currently competing to announce its arrival in the global map with large scale events like the Expo 2015. The transformation projects identified and planned, aim to provide the adequate facelift. Ex Scalo Farini is an area that falls under the transformation urbis of the city. Currently an urban void, the brownfield has an immense potential of contributing to the aspirational vision of the city. With the presence of a railway to its south, it is separated from the city but it is simultaneously surrounded by a strong network of mobility and cultural infrastructure (existing and future) which act as flux generators.

With the idea of generating a peoples' space through public space(s), the thesis investigates the role of the public realm to integrate the context in and around the site to exemplify continuity with the living city and its potential plurality. The architectural symbolism is investigated under part of the urban proposal, that of an integrated urban artifact invoking a debate of social sustainability and multicultural pluralism for the city.

The thesis seeks to achieve an urban continuum as a common to conjoin the urban void, the fragment back to the urban fabric and network urban continuity in the city and aspiration of Milan.

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