

RI-FORMARE PERIFERIE, Milano città metropolitana.

5 chances to make public space with nature.

Areas:

1_ Ketherine Ashe _ Livigno-Jenner

Nature **inside** the building

2_ Cany Ash _Via Adriano

Nature **along** a corridor

3_ Elizabeth Hatz _Cascina san Bernando, Cascina Grangia, abandoned railway

Nature **over** the infrastructure

4_ Anna Marie Fisker _Spazio pubblico Lorenteggio

Nature **at** ground zero

5_ Louise Wright _Lambro Axis

Nature **on** the border

Abstract

The ongoing environmental crisis, the destruction of natural resources simultaneously with the demographic expansion and the unstoppable urbanization of the planet suggest an instant need to change the way the city is designed. Planning must no longer consider nature as an inexhaustible resource but as the real principle of design. It is necessary to move towards a new planning idea based on the re- naturalization of urban space: it is an attempt to integrate biodiversity in the city through a process of environmental recolonization.

Within this new resource containment strategy, the voids, the residual spaces, the abandoned places and the infrastructures of the city are becoming increasingly important. These are places of absence and of waiting that generate a widespread condition of marginalization and degradation, both physical and social, and which connote the concept of periphery, on a larger scale. Periphery is defined not only by its distance from the centre of the city but by the appearance of some phenomena such as the absence of connections, the mono functionality of uses, poverty, lack of integration. The areas become an opportunity to rethink the city's fabrics, and a resource to activate urban transformation processes focused on regeneration, recolonization, recovery, re-naturalization, at different scales.

In this scenario, the role of nature appears as the design of public space, rethought at a both symbolic and real level. The space becomes a place of re-sewing between the city and the periphery, to complete the overall image of the city, and a tool by which to improve connections, the increase in multi-functionality and the reduction of privatization and exclusion, which today characterize the suburbs.

Within the process of re-sewing, the workshop aims to investigate the relationship among city, nature and public space, to show how design could offer new perspectives on some of the key issues of our time.

In detail, the guest architects will be asked to investigate possible future urban scenarios for one of the sites (selected from the strategic areas of Ri-formare Periferie), taking into account some project themes: