

Contemporary Ecologies - Energies for Italian Architecture

Sustainab.Italy

An overview of contemporary Italian architecture focusing on sustainability



A project edited by
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GANGEMI EDITORE

VIVA/CMIA - Science Museum

Bragança (Portugal) - 2007

The project is the result of a Design Competition for young architects organised by Bragançapolis in association with Europan.

Compared to the historic centre around the castle, the site area is low-lying and physically near the waterfront. It plays a major role as an important junction bet-

ween several public roads reactivated under the Polis Programme. These elements have led to a building/pathway solution which "offers" the city fully accessible rooftops designed as ramps. The latter create the necessary links between the different levels (the river and historic centre).

The rooftop space is a major space for meditation and contemplation, emphasising the relationship between the city and the river. The floors/parapets along the north and west elevations are all at the same level, a nearby horizon line which, in contrast, emphasises the slight inclination of the rooftop promenade.

As a result, the relationship with the surrounding landscape is controlled by the progressive opening and closing of vistas.

The interior has two main exhibition rooms which differ both in size and natural lighting as well as an intermediate service area designed as an open space between the two rooms and the exterior: the internal/external limit is represented by the glass walls of the façades, stretching the interior space up to the exterior walls and merging the inside and outside landscapes into one.

The metric uniformity of the glass façades absorbs the variations in their make-up during different conditions of solar exposure, optimising thermal performance and natural lighting without losing uniformity. The solution adopted for the south façade is an interesting solution in the field of sustainable architecture.





Giulia de Appolonia

Giulia de Appollonia was born in Pordenone, Italy, on April 8th, 1969. She graduated in architecture with honours in 1994 and lived in Portugal from 1991 to 2004. In 2001 she began working as a university professor with the Autonomous University of Lisbon. She began her professional activity in 1993, working with the architect J. L. Carrilho da Graça, in Lisbon.

She worked in this studio until the year 2000. In 2000 she opened her own private studio in Lisbon. Her projects include designs for the rehabilitation and restructuring of private buildings, and the VIVA/CMIA Science Museum in Bragança (Portugal), currently under construction. In 2005 she returned to Italy and opened a new studio in Pordenone. In 2007 she moved to Brescia where she founded the ABDA company with Camillo Botticini, Nicola Martinoli and Stefano Ferracini. Her recently completed projects are mainly designs submitted to competitions and include: the competition for the Headquarters of the Architectural Association in Faro (Portugal), 2nd Place, 2003; the competition for the Design and Construction of a new Auditorium, a services building and the requalification of the open space of the High School campus in Schio, 3rd Place, 2004; the competition for social building "Living in Milan", Honourable mention, 2005; the competition for a multifunctional building, conference hall, and executive offices for the Animal Health Institute of Brescia, 1st Place, 2005, in which she acted as group leader; the competition for the New Headquarters of ARPA in Ferrara, 4th Place - 2006.



Client: Bragançapolis
Surface: 1.100 m²
Cost: 950.000,00 Euro