

> The creative genius of planners and architect-inventors has bred experimentation and challenges to innovation. Yet, nothing could have happened without the foresight of clients willing to risk going beyond the established schema. The Premio internazionale alla Committenza di Architettura Dedain Minosse (international prize for commissioning a building), founded some ten years ago and sponsored by Aia-Assoarchitetti and the magazine *Arca*, is dedicated to quality works that aim to improve the built environment and cultural and social life. Every two years, the prize gives a broad overview of the state of "making architecture" in the world on different scales, with special attention to the environment, the use of energy resources and the project's social function. The most prestigious prize for 2005-2006 was awarded to the idea of "a house for the arts and an artistic house" by Joji Aonuma, a clean, simple mark in the landscape, the work of Satoshi Okada Architects. In order to represent the Nardini Distilleries, (previous page) awarded by Aia-Assoarchitetti in the Vicenza area, Massimiliano Fuksas created two worlds in constant tension: one "suspended" world of two clear ellipsoid bubbles and the other "submerged", a space carved into the land

like a natural canyon. The client prize for architects under 40 brought special attention to government and local institutions that put on building design competitions: the National Property Board in Sweden for the Museum of World Culture by Cécile Brisac and Edgar Gonzalez and the Province of Sondrio in Italy for the new school building by LFLARCHITETTI. These solid, compact buildings are places of social gathering and declarations of culture and learning.

Un premio all'architettura sostenibile / A prize for sustainable architecture

La terza edizione del premio internazionale Architettura Sostenibile

Fassa Bortolo è assegnata a Edoardo Milesi di Archos Engineering Consulting per lo stabilimento enologico Collemassari a Cinigiano (GR). L'opera dimostra come l'approccio sostenibile possa essere una pratica per la trasformazione del territorio, delle sue risorse e dei suoi consumi. E come i parametri della sostenibilità divengano determinanti nelle soluzioni compositive del progetto. La fabbrica del vino conta un superficie di 5000 mq di cui due terzi interrati. L'orientamento è influenzato dall'esposizione al sole, e la disposizione volumetrica del processo di trasformazione verticale dell'uva, dal mosto nei piani alti dell'edificio, al tramaggio e alla fermentazione nelle barriche nella cantina seminterrata di 600 mq. Climatizzazione naturale — che nella barricaia si avvale dello scambio



architecture (urban design), organized by Empirica at the Polytechnic of Turin, explored issues of the sustainability of the built environment. Various implications of the lifecycle of constructions and the urban environment are presented and assessed in environmental, social and economic terms. An expanded view and a pragmatic, interdisciplinary approach involved the different public and private interest bearers in building and urban planning. An open dialogue between researchers, academics, professionals, investors, politicians and builders placed special focus on innovators in building and engineering practices. This encounter bred dynamic impetuses and possibilities, ideas and new design approaches for a possible and desirable future and an advanced society. Issues of sustainability in building were identified and recounted through general discussions, such as those by Peter Brandon and Niis Larsson, and subject specific ones with illustrations of national and international cases, compared in four parallel sessions by experts from different countries, including Giulio Mondini, Andrea



Moro and Sergio Jaretti from Italy, Ian Cooper and Mark Deakin from England and other experts from Germany, Spain, the Netherlands, France and the United States. One workshop focused on the Region of Piedmont, specifically Turin, to highlight the important processes of regeneration and building that are affecting it and have brought major changes to the urban fabric and new domestic and international connections. The changed geo-economic situation and the recent

Olympics have launched a profound process of transformation in Turin with the building of major infrastructures, public works and research centers for innovation. A new awareness has arisen for the city's sustainable development that on the local level involves, in addition to the Polytechnic of Turin, many research centers, such as Wireless, SITI, Torino Internazionale and IISBE Italia. The conference's contents were gathered in an illustrated publication for the first time: the catalogue *Architettura Urgenza e Sostenibilità*, Associazione Empirica e casi studio e Immagini IISBE (International Initiative for a Sustainable Built Environment), 2006. (P.Q.)

termico con la pietra scavata a vista – canalizzazione, filtraggio e depurazione dell'acqua piovana, poi impiegata nell'irrigazione delle vigne, sono alcuni dei sistemi di risparmio energetico impiegati. Non solo: la scelta di materiali naturali permette di contrastare alcuni problemi legati all'attività vitivinicola; ad esempio, l'utilizzo del cedro giallo canadese garantisce, durante la fermentazione del vino, una funzione antisettica contro muffe. In uscita con Skira anche un volume che raccoglie sia i progetti delle varie edizioni del concorso, suddivisi per tipologie funzionali, sia saggi scientifici sulla sostenibilità a cura di Gianluca Minguzzi (Università di Ferrara). La quarta edizione del premio, sempre promosso dalla Facoltà di Architettura di Ferrara con il patrocinio di Fassa Bortolo, sarà aperta anche alle tesi di laurea e quindi a progetti non ancora realizzati.

>The third International Fassa Bortolo International Sustainable Architecture Prize was awarded to Edoardo Milesi of Arcobios Engineering Consulting for the Collemassari wine-making center in Cinigiano (GR). The work shows how the sustainable approach can be a practice for transforming the land, its resources and its consumption, as well as how the criteria of sustainability become decisive in a project's compositional solutions. The wine production facility covers 5,000 sq. m., two thirds of which are underground. Its orientation is determined by sun exposure: the layout of the vertical process of transforming the grapes, from must on to the building's upper floors, to hopping and fermenting in *barriques* in the 900 sq. m. semi-underground cellar. Natural climate control, which in the *barrique* cellar is through thermal exchange with the exposed excavated stone – channeling, filtering and purifying of rain water, used to irrigate the vines, are some of the energy saving systems employed. Plus, the choice of natural materials combats some problems of wine growing: for example, the use of Canadian yellow cedar during wine fermentation serves as an antiseptic against molds. Skira is publishing a book that includes both the projects of the competition over its years, divided by functional type, and scientific essays on sustainability edited by Gianluca Minguzzi (University of Ferrara). The prize's fourth edition, organized, as usual, by the Department of Architecture of Ferrara sponsored by Fassa Bortolo, will also be open to graduate theses and therefore to projects that have not yet been built.

Murature di qualità. L'età della pietra è finita / Quality walling: the stone age is over.

Il volume *Murature di qualità in blocchi di calcestruzzo vibrocompresso*, a cura di Alessandro Ubertazzi, Massimo Facchinetti e Paolo Alberto Zorzoli (Pubblicazione Editore, 2006), promosso da Assobeton nell'ambito del progetto Ulisse, ripercorre storicamente l'evoluzione del blocco in calcestruzzo per proporre ai progettisti un nuovo modo di conoscere, sperimentare e utilizzare questo materiale ancora oggi ingiustamente sottovalutato da molti tecnici. I curatori hanno voluto proporre uno strumento utile e interessante dal punto di vista didattico e tecnico-informativo rivolto soprattutto ai progettisti che non hanno competenze specifiche, pur fornendo un'informazione completa, accompagnata da continui approfondimenti ed esempi. Un manuale tecnico descrittivo dei processi produttivi impiegati, delle lavorazioni eseguite sui prodotti finiti, di tutte le proprietà fisico-meccaniche alle quali queste tipologie di murature sono chiamate a rispondere. Gli argomenti vanno da una panoramica delle proprietà materiali del blocco in calcestruzzo vibrocompresso, fino alle problematiche ambientali, approfondendo le peculiarità del blocco e la compatibilità e la sostenibilità degli elementi che lo compongono nel rispetto del territorio. Una ricca galleria di immagini e applicazioni concrete ne fanno uno strumento duttile, facilmente utilizzabile, un supporto concreto per la progettazione che esalta le capacità creative dei progettisti, garantendo altissime prestazioni da un punto di vista tecnico.

>The publication *Murature di qualità in blocchi di calcestruzzo vibrocompresso* [Quality walling in vibration-compressed concrete blocks], edited by Alessandro Ubertazzi, Massimo Facchinetti and Paolo Alberto Zorzoli (Pubblicazione Editore, 2006), sponsored by Assobeton as part of the Ulisse project, covers the history of the development of the concrete block to give architects a new way to understand, experiment with and use this material, which still today is unjustly undervalued by many professionals. The editors have sought to provide a useful, interesting tool in educational and informational terms, directed primarily at architects who do not have specific experience in the subject, while providing complete

information, supported by many discussions and examples. It is a descriptive technical manual of the production processes used, the processing on the finished products, and of all of the mechanical and physical properties required of this type of walling. Subjects covered range from an overview of the material properties of the vibration-compressed concrete block to environmental issues, discussing the specific qualities of the block and the compatibility and sustainability of the elements of which it is made with respect for the local area. An extensive gallery of images and practical applications render it a flexible tool, easy to use and a practical support for planning that adds to architects' creative capacity, ensuring superior technical performance.



Marmomacc tra arte e cultura / Art and culture at Marmomacc

Futuro e innovazione tecnologica si incontrano alla 41ma edizione di Marmomacc, la Mostra Internazionale di Marmi, Pietre e Tecnologie dal 5 all'8 ottobre nel quartiere fieristico di Verona. Patrocinata dal Consiglio Nazionale degli Architetti, Pianificatori, Paesaggisti e Conservatori e dal

