



Title – En Plein Air. Architettura minima, sostenibilità massima | Minimal architecture, maximum sustainability

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CUP (National Project ID) – F73C23002080008

Department – Department of Architecture and Arts

Iuav role – Lead Partner

Partners – Berlin International University of Applied Sciences (Germany); Associazione “Art for the World” (Geneve, Switzerland); CARYATIDE (Paris, France)

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Source of funding – Public notice *Sustainable Architecture for Cultural Places*, issued by the Italian Ministry of Culture - General Directorate of Contemporary Creativity.

Link: www.creativitacontemporanea.cultura.gov.it/architetturesostenibili-edizione1/

Description – By promoting mindful consumption, this research aims to explore design interventions that are tailored to minimal intervention—interventions capable of understanding the existing structure and redefining it through new uses. The decision to focus on **outdoor cultural spaces** (en plein air), even through unconventional methodological approaches, reflects the need to restore the central role of public space as a place of identity capable of fostering community engagement. The research is based on the premise that culture today requires **minimal architecture** with **maximum sustainability**: minimal construction effort, maximum recyclability of its components, minimal energy expenditure during construction, and maximum utilization of components and spatiality.

Research in archives, libraries, and foundations will be accompanied, on a practical level, by the redesign of spaces and interviews with designers. The cases will be evaluated according to design methodologies based on reducing environmental impact and conserving resources at all stages (from production to decommissioning and potential relocation elsewhere), with particular attention to materials, energy consumption in production processes, and CO2 emissions during transport.

Objectives – Through design approaches that rediscover forgotten places and redefine the meaning of urban and natural landscapes, the ultimate goal is to define a **selection of minimalist, open-air architectural structures** that are modular and sustainable, with a strong social impact and capable of integrating the pragmatic with the existential, relevance with boldness, and creativity with common sense. In addition to providing transferable methods and tools that can be applied in Italian and international cultural contexts and serve as a means for training a new generation of designers, the research aims to demonstrate the vast design possibilities of minimal intervention—capable not only of altering the design and perception of an empty, abandoned, or forgotten space, but above all of stimulating the capacity for interaction among those who inhabit it.

Through design approaches that rediscover forgotten places and redefine the meaning of urban and natural landscapes, the research aims to highlight how sustainability is not merely about transforming the way spaces are built and maintained, but also about changing the ways in which the “spectator” interacts with them.

Website – www.iuav.it/enpleinair