Title – Heritage Recharged. Conservation Practice and Energy Efficiency in Contemporary Architecture

Scientific coordinator – Sara Di Resta

CUP (National Project ID) – F13C25000980001

Department – Department of Architecture and Arts

Iuav role – Lead Partner

Partners – Polytechnical University of Milan - Department of Architecture, Built Environment, and Construction Engineering; Docomomo Italy APS; Chamber of Commerce of Brescia

International scientific partners: TU Delft – Faculty of Architecture and the Built Environment, section Heritage & Architecture (Netherlands); Pier Luigi Nervi Project Foundation (Belgium); Fondation Le Corbusier (France)

Financial supporters – Agosti Nanotherm srl; B5 srl, Arthema sas

Duration – 14 months

Start – 28/08/2025

Closure – 15/10/2026

Project budget – € 89 700.00

- € 70 000.00 funded by the Italian Ministry of Culture
- € 19 700.00 co-funded

Iuav budget – € 64 000.00

- € 54 000.00 funded by the Italian Ministry of Culture
- € 10 000.00 co-funded

Source of funding – Public notice *Sustainable Architecture for the Restoration of Contemporary Art*, issued by the Italian Ministry of Culture - General Directorate of Contemporary Creativity.
Link: www.creativitacontemporanea.cultura.gov.it/architetturesostenibili-edizione2/

Description – The focus on energy efficiency in contemporary architecture necessitates a balanced consideration of **sustainability** issues and those pertaining to the **conservation of buildings**. Energy and microclimate considerations are integral components of the conservation design, as are structural safety measures and the conservation treatment of surfaces. In light of these considerations, the research project proposes a shift in approach, from mere compliance to performance enhancement, within limits that ensure the preservation of the buildings' heritage value.

The proposal is informed by the multidisciplinary expertise of the **national and international team** and is based on an in-depth understanding of the evolution of European and national legislation on energy matters. The analytical methodology is based on the documentation of 30 case-studies of recognised quality, constructed from 1945, which have undergone energy retrofits to their systems. The buildings represent a broad range of typologies and functions, whilst also ensuring the objective of covering a wide spectrum of climate zones.

The case-studies constitute descriptive models that guide in a multi-level learning process. The structure is defined starting from an analysis of the most recent studies in the field while being coherent with ICCD and GDCC standards, with the aim of elaborating an informative database with the highest interoperability and integration levels in relation to the CLIO National Catalogue System.

Objectives – The goal of the research project, which is structured according to a research methodology characterised by exemplarity and replicability, is to provide an **analytical framework** capable of guiding informed decisions that address both **sustainability and conservation** in an integrated approach. The volume to be published by the end of 2026, in Italian and English, is S. Di Resta, V. Pracchi (eds.), *Heritage Recharged. Restoration and Energy Efficiency in Contemporary Architecture*, Silvana Editoriale, Milan 2026.

Instagram – @heritage_recharged