



Socially Situated Architectural Pedagogy

Socially Situated Architectural Pedagogies

- SArPe -

Public Exhibition Report

October 2023



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1. Introduction

Among the activities proposed for work package number 4, which concerns the Project's communication and dissemination, there is also the organization of public exhibitions over the course of three years. Unipv is leading this activity, working closely with SG, who will provide direct input to the Open Lab and collaborate with the network of groups and educators they are affiliated with. KUL, UMA, and ITU will also make contributions to this activity in their respective settings. ZDA will provide support for ITU's activities. The grant is, in principle, evenly divided among the partners to facilitate the local delivery of exhibitions. In general, 3000€ will cover direct expenses such as venue rental, printing, inaugural events, and surveys. A bursary of 1000€ may be provided to support local organizations. All other indirect costs, such as staff time, are considered a form of project co-financing. Unipv and Spazio Gioco will share the aforementioned budget and collaborate on its execution. ZDA will also complement and support ITU to the extent of their capabilities.

2. Content

Public exhibitions are key to disseminate architectural knowledge. They will be hosted locally by HEI institutions to boost networking, participation and engagement of local communities and stakeholders. These are a powerful way to communicate and disseminate in architecture, thanks to the use of various media. Provides a platform for situated engagement, and maximising impact locally. It makes project outcomes available to those who do not have access to the internet (project website and social media) and offers public gatherings for different stakeholders to meet and share opinions. It is also key in achieving O.4.

2.1. Public exhibition in Pavia

The first example of a public exhibition was held in Pavia on October 14-15, 2023, in collaboration with IT.A.CÀ - Responsible Tourism Festival, which in its 15th national edition focuses on the theme "A WHOLE DIFFERENT STORY - Communities narrate the territories."



Il Borgo Ticino si racconta attraverso la lente prospettiva degli studenti dell'Università: voci, bisogni e... alcune proposte per integrare il Parco Rossignoli. Siamo chi siamo, ma anche chi raccontiamo di essere. Oggi più che mai le parole per raccontarci sono importanti. Così come le relative pratiche che ne conseguono. Vogliamo ascoltare e raccontare storie considerate marginali ma che nascono in quegli spazi dove la marginalità diventa un luogo radicale di possibilità: uno spazio di resistenza.

Evento in collaborazione con Associazione Parco Vivo, Associazione Aerel e altre associazioni attive in Borgo Ticino.

Info e prenotazioni
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A cura di Ioanni Delsante, Maddalena Duse e Linda Migliavacca,
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Image 1 – Exhibition poster

The occasion allowed us to organize an exhibition titled "SAPER ASCOLTARE (UN QUARTIERE) E PROGETTARE "DAL BASSO" (listening and planning from below): Borgo Ticino tells its story through the perspective of university students: voices, needs, and... some proposals to integrate Parco Rossignoli. We are who we are, but also who we tell ourselves to be. Today, more than ever, words to describe ourselves are important, as well as the related practices that follow. We want to listen to and tell stories considered marginal but born in those spaces where marginality becomes a radical place of possibility: a space of resistance." An event in collaboration with Parco Vivo Association, Aerel Association, and other active associations in Borgo Ticino, which also saw the participation of representatives from the partner organization Spazio Gioco.

The exhibition included the display of various materials produced by learners from the Architecture and Architectural Composition course held in the second semester of the academic year 2022/2023. The module, led by Professor Ioanni Delsante, was designed and carried out with ideas that align with the themes of SArPe.



3. Actions

The possibility is to properly disseminate design activities through a variety of means, including audio-video and visual materials.

3.1. Public Exhibition in Pavia

The event was organized directly in the neighborhood of the project site for the Compo1 module at the Pavia Borgo Ticino District Library "Angelo Gambini," located at Via dei Mille 130 in Pavia, during October 13-14, 2023, as an activity within the IT.A.CÀ festival.

The first step involved reaching out to the existing associations in the project neighborhood, which had already been mapped for both the Compo1 module and the SArPe project, to request a venue that could host the exhibition and be part of the neighborhood's flows. Then, we contacted the students from the module to find volunteers willing to participate in the exhibition and share their perspectives on the Compo1 process and the course project. Finally, we reached out to the local stakeholders once again to formally invite them to the public event since, on the same day, a local workshop with the stakeholders was also scheduled to take place.

The initial information and participation requests were sent through an email mailing list built during the initial phase of the SArPe project for mapping stakeholders within the city of Pavia. This mailing list was further developed prior to the start of the Compo1 course.





Images 2,3 – Internal photos of the room before the exhibition

The exhibition involved the use of various communication methods based on the steps taken by the students. The initial project approach included the psychogeographic *dérive* exercise with video outputs created by the learners. Subsequently, they transitioned to boards representing the role-play exercise, followed by the creation of a SWOT analysis. Finally, there were boards and physical models created in groups for the final exam.

The exhibition was set up in a single room, where the walls were used to display the learners' boards, which were framed with colored cardstock, along with their portfolios. In addition, two tables, each with a television, were used to showcase videos, exhibit physical models, display other portfolios, and present the self-assessment modules administered to students during exam dates. A projector was employed to introduce the two main components of the exhibition: the SArPe project and the pedagogical approach to the Compo1 module.



Images 4,5 - Internal photos of the room during the exhibition

The boards of the six projects chosen to be exhibited are the ones that performed the best at the end of the exam, but they are also the ones that conveyed a greater sense of participation and understanding. Meanwhile, almost all of the portfolios created by the learners were exhibited.

The organization planned four different moments during the Saturday 14th October:

- Arrival of the participants and a brief explanation of the projects and materials on display.
- Presentation of the project themes, including SArPe and the Comppo1-beyond module.
- Viewing of the videos created during the *dérive* in Borgo Ticino by the learners.
- A roundtable discussion on the themes of the case study and SArPe with the stakeholders in attendance.

4. Targets

The quantitative targets concern the number of people showing up and/or attending the initiative (target = 50 over a three-month period). The qualitative targets relate to the level of satisfaction from participants (target: >90% high or very high).



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4.1. Public Exhibition in Pavia

Participants at the exhibition in Pavia, during the two days of opening, consisted of 30 adults from various associations and backgrounds, accompanied by 6 children. We contacted 18 participants through a mailing list to provide a qualitative evaluation of the exhibition. Out of the 18 people from the mailing list, 8 responded to the questionnaire. The question regarding overall satisfaction with the organization of the exhibition, "How satisfied are you with the exhibition on a scale from 1 to 10?" had an average result of 9. So, it is possible to state that the satisfaction target of >90%, rated as high or very high, has been achieved. Furthermore, they were asked, "Would you be happy/willing to attend other events organized by us?" and the response was "Yes" from 100% of the participants.

5. Critical Reflection

5.1. Public Exhibition in Pavia

The exhibition created to showcase the projects of the University of Pavia's learners was very successful, particularly among users who frequent and/or reside in the neighborhood under study. This success can be attributed to the learners' ability to capture significant aspects that were either strengths or weaknesses for the community.

Among the feedback on the displayed materials, the *dérive* videos created by the learners were highly appreciated because they effectively conveyed the essence of the places where they "wandered." Therefore, a participant suggested sharing these videos in their entirety on the project's website as an additional dissemination tool.

6. Images

Image 1

Image 2

Image 3

Image 4

Image 5