TANGIBLE - INTANGIBLE HERITAGE(S): AN INTERPLAY OF DESIGN, SOCIAL AND CULTURAL CRITIQUES OF THE BUILT ENVIRONMENT

• Paper / Proposal Title:
Unexpected outcrops of “heritage” in historical contexts: the house-shack of the Poet Valentino Zeichen in Rome

• Format(s):
In-person presentation / Written paper

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• Abstract (300 words):
The research focuses on the “house-shack” of Valentino Zeichen (1938-2016), a very famous poet of the roman and Italian cultural scene. Located in Rome, in the very heart of Borghetto Flaminio, inside the “cultural” axis of Flaminia Street, the house-shack is a micro-place with a high poetic density deeply in contrast with its architectural and formal inconsistency.
Assuming that any architectural artefact is a tangle of tangible and intangible values, Zeichen’s house-shack draws our attention on some fundamental questions: what shall we document and how? How can we assess its value from a historical and critical
standpoint? What kind of conservation should be performed? How could we use such “informal monuments” as drivers for urban regeneration?

The research developed on this cultural “topos” (huge in terms of intangible value and irrelevant in terms of material consistency) pushes to the limit the disciplines connected with the Representation, History, Restoration and Design of Architecture. Standard methodologies are in fact inadequate in this case being mainly oriented to the investigation of tangible values of artefacts and not to their intangible components. This evidence has drawn us towards the reinterpretation of some consolidated paradigms: from the very fundamentals (concepts and methods) of architectural disciplines to the need of a sound multidisciplinary approach exceeding the limit of Architecture. Our experience has reinforced the idea of Representation, History and Restoration of Architecture being across-cutting tools for the elaboration of a critical assessment on artefacts as well as for the passing on to new generations of values that are fragile, vanishing and intangible like those expressed by the “House of the Poet”.

This “extreme” research topic about knowledge, conservation and possibly management and fruition has led to original methodologies we consider innovative to improve the typical top-down approach used in urban regeneration interventions.

• Author(s) Biography (200 words each):

Carlo Bianchini - Architect (1991), PhD in Survey and Representation of Built Environment (1995), Carlo Bianchini is Full Professor at Sapienza University of Rome and presently the Director of the Department of History, Representation and Restoration of Architecture. He has been involved in several national research projects (COFIN 2002, FIRB 2003, PRIN 2004 and 2007) and EU funded projects (UCH2 – Euromed Heritage 2 Programme, HECDP – Tempus 2003, ATHENA - Euromed Heritage IV UE Program) often being author and scientific responsible. Author of about 100 scientific works his research main interests focus on Cultural Heritage (tangible, intangible), on Survey and Modelling and, lately on Virtual Museums and BIM. He has been participating as invited speaker in several conferences in Italy and abroad often chairing specific sessions (CAA 2009 - USA / CAA 2010 – Spain / CAA 2014 Paris /CCA 2016 Oslo) and as keynote speaker at 2007 Leica Geosystems Worldwide HDS User Conference (USA). Carlo Bianchini is also member of some cultural and scientific associations: Herimed (amongst the founders he is member of its Steering Committee), ASSIRCO (deputy president since 2011) and Unione Italiana Disegno – UID.

Alfonso Ippolito - Architect, PhD and Associate Professor at “Sapienza” University, Ippolito has developed research projects applying methodologies and development of reverse modeling with applications of 3D laser scanner, and development 3D digital models for architecture. He works on and with innovative surveying techniques, which
rely on 3D laser, low-cost 3D data capturing, data processing aiming at its the optimization in relation to architectural and archaeological representation and analysis. He works actively on problems concerning prototyping, managing and optimizing of surveying procedures. He has took part in several Cultural Heritage projects (tangible and intangible). Among these, studies on the St. Peter’s dome at the Vatican, the wooden model of St. Peter basilica by Antonio da Sangallo the Younger, the Arch of Giano in Rome; the Roman theatre and amphitheatre in Mérida, Spain; the El Khaseneh theatre and the royal tombs at Petra, the theatre in Jarash, Jordania. He teaches at the Sapienza University at the Faculty of Architecture, at higher education level, and courses for PhD degree in History, Representation and Restoration. Since the 2017 is editor in chief of IGI Global’s Advances in Library and information science (ALIS) book series. ISSN: 2326-4136, eISSN 2326-414.

Antonella Romano - Architect, Ph.D. in History of Architecture (1999, X cycle). Assistant Professor in History of Architecture at the Department of History, Representation and Restoration of Architecture, Sapienza - University of Rome, she is specialized in History of contemporary architecture. Adjunct professor from 2000 to 2008 of History of Architecture at Faculty of Architecture “Valle Giulia”, she has received a research grant (2006-2008) at the Department of Architectural History. Member of the Faculty of Ph.D. courses in Architettura. Teorie e Progetto. Member of academy board for Didactics of Master Degree Courses in “Allestimento e progettazione di componenti” and Progettazione, adeguamento e gestione degli alberghi, at Faculty of Architecture “Valle Giulia”. Responsible for cultural and scientific partnership agreements with foreign universities. She published articles and essays about history of contemporary, baroque, medieval, late ancient architecture and about methods in architectural history. Publications of hers have been funded, with competitive examination, by “Comitato Nazionale per le Scienze di Ingegneria e Architettura” (National Committee for Engineering and Architectural Sciences) within "Consiglio Nazionale delle Ricerche" (National Research Council).

Simona Salvo - Architect, Master of Science in architecture at Sapienza University (1997) and PhD in Architectural Conservation (2000), tenured Assistant Professor and Researcher at 'Sapienza' University of Rome. Her interests focus on theoretical and methodological issues concerning the conservation especially of modern and contemporary architecture, and on the dissemination of restoration principles and theories in today's globalized culture. She has been member of research teams of National and International relevance investigating methodologies about the preservation of low-income modern residential estate (2013-2016). Member of the Scientific Committee for the restoration of Pirelli Building in Milan (2002-2004), she has coordinated the consulting team for the preservation of Casa Malaparte in Capri (2002-2004). Lately, she has coordinated research activity on the School of Mathematics at
Rome’s university campus (2009-2017). She is also a registered architect and has practiced professionally in the field of architectural conservation, also experiencing the forefront of the Pirelli Building restoration work. Responsible for cultural, scientific and academic international cooperation in the field of architectural conservation with several international academic institutions in Europe and abroad (China Brazil), she has participated to a number of national and international conferences and authored many scientific publications.

Martina Attenni - Architect (2014) and PhD student at Department of History, Representation and Restoration of Architecture at Sapienza University of Rome, she graduated discussing a thesis on new surveying methodologies and technologies for digital documentation and virtual reconstruction of the ancient archaeological Etruscan site of Pyrgi. Since 2013, she collaborates within the courses of representation and survey at Sapienza. She works in some research projects concerning the surveying of complex archaeological sites, the study, analysis and modeling of architectural and urban elements. In particular, she studies new image-based 3D surveying technologies for data acquisition and processing, 3D data modeling and integration between traditional and digital representation. She has developed skills in the use of systems for the acquisition and processing of data through low cost methodologies for non-contact surveying, use of systems for digital 3D and 2D representation, working with mesh and nurbs surfaces, systems for the visualization and management of point clouds, texture-mapping operations, return and frame rectification, post-production data management. In recent years, she has been studying the BIM (Building Information Modeling) processes focusing on the knowledge, management and communication of Heritage. She takes part in various national and international conferences authoring some scientific publications.