Experiential Design – Rethinking relations between people, objects and environments

• **Paper / Proposal Title:**

  Quito Open Code

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• **Abstract (300 words):**

  Quito is located at 2800m altitude, wedged between the Andean volcanoes and, crossed by creeks and Equator’s zero line, which separates the world into Northern and Southern hemispheres. The city is a place of environmental fragility and risk, where different forces meet. The sum of these differences informs an urban context that seems difficult to understand: we can consider it as a palimpsest of layers that needs interpretative keys to be firstly understood and lately transformed. Those changes cannot consist in superficial interventions, as it happens nowadays, however they should compose a system of structured actions. The paper proposes an interpretation/intervention strategy that identify all the structural assets of the place through the definition of a system of interpretative readings. Three pairs of terms, Nature/artificiality – Space/Time – Fragment/System, have been actively identified to generate a series of maps showing a peculiarity inside the city represented by the presence of a landscape traces system that advice on a potential urban structure. The research interprets the traces, which coincide with Quito’s creeks, as the
infrastructural backbone of the urban transformation. Those "spines" are considered a tool for re-generating the urban environment from a physical-spatial, socio-cultural and technological-environmental perspective. This strategy generates a productive nature principle of infiltration able to transform empty and residual spaces into "reserves" for the city. In the case emergencies occur those places would turn into safe areas for people.

The expected results will show a process that we call “open code”, which is composed by fixed parts (reserves) and mutable ones that are not possible to be determined in advance but allow to define “guidelines” people can follow.

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

Dario Giordanelli is full-time professor of Architectural Design in UTE University of Quito (Ecuador). He has an International profile as Double PhD architect for researching and studying in Polimi (Milan, Italy) and Etsas (Seville, Spain). The research interests lie at the intersection of Landscape and Architecture. The current investigation centers on the topic of quick-obsolescence-scapes. These can be considered experimental places where to apply innovative strategies of regeneration. Research by design approach is the cultural tool to focus in the architectural discipline by combining theories with the materiality of Architecture. Work as architect has been conducted in parallel with the research; this because the relation between theory and practice is considered essential.

Paola Bracchi is full-time professor of architecture design in UTE University of Quito (Ecuador). She has an international profile as Ph.D. architect for researching and studying in Politecnico di Milano at the international School pf Ph.D. in Architectural and Urban Design.

Between 2010 and 2017 Paola Bracchi collaborates to different researches in architecture and urban design of the Politecnico of Milan like: PRIN Research “Theories. techniques, methods of description and design interpretation of marginal urban tissues” (2010-2012), Compass House (modular houses prototype for the emergency; 2015); Urban Hub. Creative cultural industries for Piacenza (2015-206); Piacenza 4.0 (New vision for the future city; 2016); MAPS European Project: Military Assets as Public Spaces, Urbact III (2016-2017).

In July 2014 she won the public selection for the activation of a triennial research fellowship to the research activity called: “Creative landscapes: strategies and methodologies for the development of productive, interactive and dynamic projects for Expo 2015”, at the Politecnico of Milan.
In the UTE university she is the referent of International relations and events, is part of the research team “Observatorio Urbano” and she is the coordinator of WinAReQ an International Workshop in Architecture and Landscape Design.