



## **6. Living bodies/Abitare i corpi**

edited by *Sara Bartolini, Chiara Belingardi, Claudia Roselli*

## Introduction

City is a complex organism made by people's interactions.

Everyone is different from another, for cultural issues, sexual preferences, age, religion, biography. The human bodies, diverse for their necessities are interacting in the urban reality, the daily experiences in the same city can be completely diverse if the experienter is men, women, children, elderly people or disable. City is the environment of our life and relationships.

Everyone has its special and specific map of the space of the city, based on his or her relationship with the space and his or her idea about inhabiting. It is very useful for planners and for people in general explore the relationships between body, architecture, and the city (**Paba**).

For example gender differences have a strong influence on social relationship, on single and groups way of life (**Bartolini**). Also age differences are to be take in account: children needs city environment for their growing up. City could be better if planned with children, because they interact with the environment in a synesthetic way (**Petrucci**).

In the last years a question about the rationality and universality (proper of the Enlightenment Age), on which was based the planning practice, is emerging; therefore planning needs a new epistemology and tools that can take in account the mosaic of human being, variety and multiple interpretation of the public and private spaces. Obviously architects and planners have a great role in designing a city valuable and understandable (**Converti**).

These tools can be found in Anthropology, especially helpful in participatory planning, in the preliminary researches to understand the problems linked to these approaches themselves (**Severi**).

We can find other tools for the contemporary interpretation of the city involving the body and their uses across art. The public space is an influential element, today, on the biological transformation of the city. Through the body's movements is possible to determine an urban evolution, showing new perspective of use of the spaces in the everyday urban environment (**Roselli**).

Theater can also be used, civic and political one, in participatory planning to make people able to show their point of view and let them aware of different point of views, as the case of Theater of the Oppressed (**Belingardi**).

Aside the identification of new urban populations, with their bodies, is growing the Security rhetoric, that makes meeting and public places increasingly more mediated and under control. Notwithstanding the inhabitants feeling of safeness isn't improving, and their possibility of action, use, transfer in different part of the city and serendipity is diminishing. In the city there are actions of domination and control of bodies and consequently groups of people that are subject to these dynamics of abuse. Dominated bodies are segregated or passer-by, other kind of human energies, on the contrary, can be individuated through bodies in action, for example in the Flash mob (**Forni**). Social fear makes people segregate and hide themselves, as it happens in gated communities. Opposite dynamics of exclusion can be seen in Shantytown (the settlements typical of Rom people) (**Romanato**).

In the session "Living the bodies" we tried to answer some questions: what it means to plan and design an accessible, welcoming city, open to everyone in every moment of life? What it means to plan spaces made for differences? How is it changing the story of the city through the emerging of new cultural and social groups? We tried to do it by exploring theoretical implications and disciplinary thoughts, by recognizing new urban exigences and differences and new urban perceptions. The aim was to suggest and to individuate new languages that let emerge the bodies and the relative new urban questions and answers connected to the bodies.

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Body, architecture, and city

*Giancarlo Paba*

Introducing gender and planning

*Sara Bartolini*

Let's play at building the city: the children for the public space

*Viviana Petrucci*

City future: methodological guidelines for balancing interests

*Fabio Converti*

Thinking about an agreement between anthropology and urban planning

*Ivan Severi*

The body and the city. The city-body. Svarnet: urban artistic research collective

*Claudia Roselli*

Inclusive planning through the theatre of the oppressed

*Chiara Belingardi*

Segregated bodies, passer-by bodies, bodies in-action

*Elisabetta Forni*

The neo-feudal landscape

*Matteo Giuseppe Romanato*

