

5. Architecture and City: experiences of Urban Design in Italy and Guang Dong

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1. The research in architecture

The City is seen as the great sea toward flow the various and numerous rivers of research in architecture. The sentence by L.B.Alberti: The house is like a small city and the city is like a large house, stressing a recognized Italian tradition of research studies on the city, is a brief indication of the issues linked to urban transformations, issues more relevant than ever given the widespread phenomena of urbanization of large parts of the world, the problems of the diametrically opposed so-called Shrinking Cities and the severity of the effects of climate change and energy issue.

In the spirit of L.B.Alberti quotation – which closely combines the architecture of the building and the architecture of the city – the research in architecture mainly concerns the relationships among nature, technique, history and society, involving in a rich interweaving the techniques of analysis and building and urban design with organization, planning, security, construction, conservation and the practice of a profession whose role has taken on ever greater responsibility within the human destiny.

Due to the complexity that the City has to face in the future, it is useful to have a broad and open confrontation shared by different cultures and to consider the special role of Education in architecture.

2. Recent experiences of urban design in Italy and Guandong.