

UniCa PhD Book XXXIII Cycle

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This volume reports, in brief, the experience of the students enrolled in the XXXIII cycle of the PhD courses at the University of Cagliari. The contributions are grouped by course and are preceded by a presentation of the coordinators of each PhD program. In two pages each student gives the reader an idea of his/her personal experience and of the results of his/her research.

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INDEX

- Introduction of the Chancellor and the vice-Chancellor
of the University of Cagliari 9
Chancellor: *Maria Del Zompo*; vice-Chancellor: *Francesco Mola*
- PhD program in Chemical Sciences and Technologies 11
Coordinator: *Stefano Enzo*
Vicecoordinator: *Carla Cannas*
PhD Students: *Andrea Beccu, Laura Caggiu, Andrea Cocco, Giulia Rossella Delpiano, Monica Demurtas, Leon de Villers Engelbrecht, Elio Fiorito, Marco Fornasier, Ilenia Langasco, Francesca Meloni, Mariangela Oggianu, Sara Pischedda, Enrico Podda.*
- PhD program in Civil Engineering and Architecture 41
Coordinator: *Ivan Blečić*; Vicecoordinator: *Roberto Deidda*
PhD Students: *Peng Bai, Mariangela Deligia, Giulia Desogus, Nicolò Fenu, Andrea Manca, Marco Moro, Dario Ruggiu, Chiara Salaris, Luca Salvadori, Roberto Sanna, Jennifer Viegas.*
- PhD program in Earth and Environmental Sciences and
Technologies 67
Coordinator: *Giorgio Ghiglieri*
PhD Students: *Erika Bazzato, Giacomo Calvia, Sergio Fantini, Marco Isipato, Andrea Lallai, Carla Mercante, Mirisina Mousavi Aghdam, Maria Mureddu, Francesco Pinna.*
- PhD program in Economics and Business 89
Coordinator: *Vittorio Pelligra*
PhD Students: *Andrea Caria, Andrea Crienti, Laura Poletti, Maurizio Romano, Alberto Tidu, Marvia Zaitsava.*

PhD program in Electronic and Computer Engineering	105
Coordinator: <i>Alessandro Giua</i>	
PhD Students: <i>Davide Aguiari, Rita Delussu, Diego Deplano, Marco Melis, Giulia Orrù, Simone Porcu, Michele Scalas, Stefano Sonedda, Dan You, Qi Zhang.</i>	
PhD program in History, Cultural Heritage and International Studies	129
Coordinator: <i>Cecilia Tasca</i>	
Deputy Coordinators: <i>Olivetta Schena, Christian Rossi</i>	
PhD Students: <i>Paola Cossu, Dario D'Orlando, Miquel Fuertes Broseta, Federico Mariano Giuntini, Miriam Napolitano, Rachele Piras, Mattia Sanna Montanelli, Valeria Zedda.</i>	
PhD program in Industrial Engineering	149
Coordinator: <i>Francesco Avmerich</i>	
PhD Students: <i>Federico Arippa, Fabio Fanari, Milad Gholami, Micaela Porta, Matteo Troncia.</i>	
PhD program in Innovation Sciences and Technologies	163
Coordinator: <i>Roberto Orrù</i>	
PhD Students: <i>Blessing Ezealigo, Virginia Pinna, Martina Piras, Hema Sekhar Reddy Rajula, Giorgia Testa, Gabriele Traversari.</i>	
PhD program in Legal Sciences	179
Coordinator: <i>Gianmario Demuro</i> ; Vicecoordinator: <i>Silvia Corso</i>	
PhD Students: <i>Gian Mario Aresu, Felice Cabiddu, Rossella Carta, Emilia Fois, Francesco Parodo, Roksolana Vasyliuk.</i>	
PhD program in Life, Environmental and Drug Sciences	195
Coordinator: <i>Simona Distinto</i>	
PhD Students: <i>Mohamad Allaw, Eleonora Casula, Serenella Deplano, Sonia Floris, Enrico Keber, Andrea Pierucci, Giulia Pitzanti, Francesco Sanna, Stefania Solinas, Silvia Stagi.</i>	

PhD program in Mathematics and Computer Science	219
Coordinator: <i>Michele Marchesi</i>	
Vicecoordinatore: <i>Roberto Tonelli</i>	
PhD Students: <i>Francesco Cannas Aghedu, Silvia Frassu, Walid Iguider, Stefano Lande, Stefano Nuvoli, Giuseppe Antonio Pierro, Raza Saeed, Sergio Serusi.</i>	
PhD program in Molecular and Translational Medicine	239
Coordinator: <i>Sebastiano Banni</i>	
PhD Students: <i>Alessandro Atzei, Antonina Balsamo, Emanuela Casula, Simona Onali, Silvia Pisanu, Marina Serra.</i>	
PhD program in Neuroscience	255
Coordinator: <i>Paola Fadda</i>	
PhD Students: <i>Rosamaria Lecca, Irene Lorrari, Paolo Masia, Sara Maria Pani, Angela Maria Sanna, Valeria Serra, Marcello Giuseppe Tanca, Susan Velásquez González.</i>	
PhD program in Philosophy, Epistemology and Cultural History	275
Coordinator: <i>Gabriella Baptist</i>	
PhD Students: <i>Giada Corrias, Marco Demurtas, Marco D. Dozzi, Fabrizia Giulia Garavaglia, Giovanni Maria Mulargia, Marina Pisano.</i>	
PhD program in Physics	291
Coordinator: <i>Paolo Ruggerone;</i>	
Vicecoordinatore: <i>Umberto D'Alesio</i>	
PhD Students: <i>Samuel Belin, Antonio Cappai, Alex Chauvin, Chiara Fais, Roberta Farris, Michela Lai, Stefania Porcu.</i>	
Acknowledgements	309

Field Architecture

Farms as landscape tool in Sardinia

Roberto Sanna



Architect. Ph.D. student in Civil Engineering and Architecture at DICAAR, University of Cagliari. His research deals with the design issues related to the transformations of rural landscapes and architectures in the low-density areas. Author of the project CURATORIAS, by which investigates the current state of the landscapes of Sardinia and their historical dynamics. Didactic assistant in the design courses and thesis laboratories of the school of architecture at the University of Cagliari where he develops his research joining local and international teams, conferences and workshops.

The research experience has been developing since 2015 by attending in academic research groups studying the transformations of rural landscapes. The need of an architectural approach to such issues have been in-depth at the University of Toulouse, France, during the Phd course by joining the historical analysis with the 'future' capacity of the project.

The thesis deals with the conflict between artificial and natural, geometrization and re-naturalization, infield and outfield. The aim of the research is to explore and understand the features of the low-density built environment in the island of Sardinia, that is the architecture of the farms. The heritage built outside the borders of the villages, starting from a condition of literally inexistence until the 19th century, has now become about 1/3 of the entire built heritage of the island. Such a large-mesh network of farms and rural devices widely controls the dif-

ferent and complex types of the island's landscapes. Farmsteads colonize the territory at different depths, from urbanity borders to wilderness, guaranteeing a widespread and extensive management of rural landscape transformations. Many rural artifacts, made of productive buildings linked to farming and breeding, have therefore a recent origin that overlap with the historical and minimal control systems of the countryside: pastoral enclosures, single-cell artifacts, isolated rural churches. Such devices replicate those settlement features that have designed over time the low-density structure of the Sardinian settlement, which, like other similar Mediterranean contexts, is based on the wise and constructive use of the residual space resulting from rural activities.

From this point of view the thesis *FIELD ARCHITECTURE – Farms as landscape tool in Sardinia* tries to understand how contemporary forms of agricultural production influence the continuous rewriting and transformation of the anthropic landscape. Understanding the internal dynamics of the rural exploitations, the relationship between abiotic devices and biotic dynamics can become a key interpretation for the “low density” architecture project that become so much necessary today for its strategic role regarding the climate regulation and the ethical production of rural goods.

Dessi A., *et al.*, Long-time rural landscapes: new models for sustainable and resilient project. In: Conte A., Guida A. ReUso2019. Matera. Patrimonio in divenire. Conoscere, Valorizzare. Abitare. Gangemi; 2020. 2455-2466.