

PRESENTATION

The urban void potential and its regeneration: the case study of *aterro da Boavista* (Boavista Embankment)

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“The urban void potential and its regeneration: the case study of *aterro da Boavista* (Boavista embankment)” is focused in the analysis of the urban void giving it a potential role in finding the ways to establish links between areas of the city through the creation of several possibilities in regenerative process.

The challenge to intervene on an urban void together with the discovery of its potential as a source of innovation and its importance role for the consolidation of the city were determinant for the structure of this dissertation. To explore the universe of the urban void as well the need to understand how it appears and manifests in the city were also a concern. A priori it arises questions on how to intervene, which concerns an architect should have in order that the needed regeneration is achieved and can contribute positively to the existence of the cities?

This dissertation is divided into three parts. The first one refers to a study that covers a brief historical view about the city development and leads us to the appearance and definition of the urban void concept. The modernization of the city and its consequent urbanism development are the guidelines for the intervention on a urban void. At the second part we analyse the Detail Plan for the oriental area of the “*aterro da Boavista*” (Boavista embankment) conceived by the architect João Luis Carrilho da Graça. The last one describes a practical case in Piacenza which was the final fifth year’s project developed at the Politecnico di Milano – Campus Leonardo, during the Erasmus program. Thus we confront the two approaches that refer to the memory, develop the present reality and try to introduce as an interesting action for the future of the city.

Keywords: urban void, *terrain vague*, contemporary city, regeneration.