

# VIA SACCHI

## BELOW AND BEYOND THE ARCADES

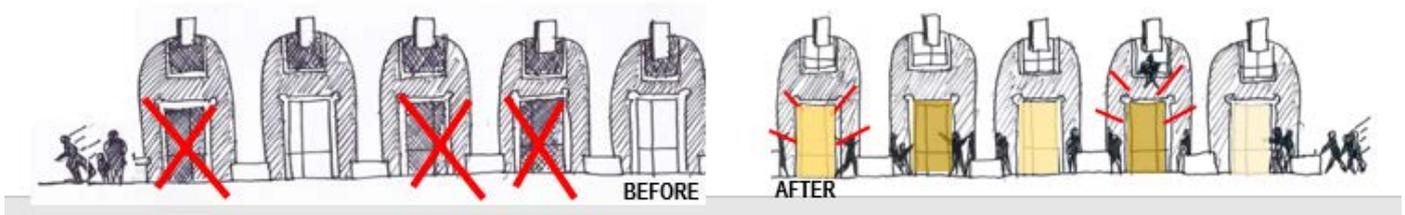
*Design contest for urban regeneration*

### CALL FOR CONCEPT AND LIVING LAB VIA SACCHI

*For students of Architecture, Design and Fine Arts*

**The arcades design, design for the arcades**

**Via Sacchi a Torino, an experience of urban regeneration.**



## Project details

### 0. Introduction

*DAD - Department of Architecture and Design of the Politecnico di Torino- contributes to the purpose of urban re-generation through researches and educational activities in the field of architecture and design, relating to the reuse of urban public areas, to different project scales and with an interdisciplinary approach.*

*With a "public engagement" approach, DAD intends to contribute to the project "Via Paolo Sacchi Design for Urban Regeneration" promoted within the UNESCO Creative City of Design network, thanks to a student consultation organized in phases: contest, selection (call for concept), exhibition, seminar and co-design atelier (Living Lab), in order to envisage processes of reuse and enhancement of the identity of city's commercial axes in physical-cultural and socio-economic decrease.*

### Via Sacchi. Project area

The arcades are an architectural and cultural heritage typical of European cities, from the late Middle Ages to the contemporary. These are a typological system evolved and varied over the centuries with both a public and commercial utility. Public use of a private space becomes an instrument for the regularization of urban design and of the representation of the city's identity.

Turin has a non-stop extension consisting in 12 km of historical porticoes. Via Sacchi, as an arcade street, was born thanks to the nineteenth-century expansion of the Porta Nuova district, together with the main railway station and the continuation of the portico system that characterizes the center of the Baroque city.

From north to south, via Sacchi extends for almost 1 km with the arcades along its west side and with the east side bounded by the railway station enclosure; the porticoes' system continues on the opposite side, as a ring in p.za Carlo Felice and along the first part of via Nizza, on its west side, while the east side is occupied once again by railway services.

The Via Sacchi first stretch was built in the 60s - 70s of the nineteenth century, the following sections between the 80s of the nineteenth and the nineteenth century. Here emerges the difference between the porticoed side - with the variety of the decorative apparatus and the continuity of its outline - and the opposite railway front, characterized by secondary functions, underused and discontinuous, while the exceptionalness of the image of the porticoes is strongly legible, in its continuity with the rest of the city center.

During the '10s - '60s of the twentieth century, Via Sacchi and Borgo San Secondo were characterized as elegant street and district, a stroll and a *loisir* area, with commercial and cultural activities, prestigious leisure venues, theaters and cinemas. Via Nizza and Borgo San Salvario, on the other hand, took on a more mercantile and productive value.

After the 1960s, the development of other central areas led to a gradual decline of residence and commerce. The aging of the commercial structure, the substitution with minor social and tertiary services towards the south and the commercial desertification of the last twenty years - up to about 40% of empty exercises - caused the loss of pedestrian and vehicular flows, the reduction of intermodality, the lack of a specific area vocation. These situations of social, environmental and economic negativity are found at the "ground floor" level and within public spaces. A further area of deterioration consists of the narrow section without functions, between the vehicular overpass of c.so Sommeiller and the railway area.

## 1. CALL FOR CONCEPT

### Competition organizer

Politecnico di Torino, Dipartimento di Architettura e Design – DAD

### Responsibility for the Procedure

Rossella Maspoli, Claudio Germak, Elena Dellapiana, Marco Bozzola (Dipartimento di Architettura e Design - DAD, Politecnico di Torino).

### Partners

Assessorato alla Cultura Città di Torino, Tavolo Progettazione Civica Città di Torino  
Fondazione Contrada Torino  
Comitato Rilanciamo Via Sacchi  
Accademia Albertina delle Belle Arti  
Network Unesco Creative Design Cities.

### FOCUS

The **Call for concept** is aimed at an international comparison for students of the University Schools of Architecture, Design, Art, on a real case for the project of urban regeneration: the public space and the system of the arcades of via Sacchi in Turin, defined as the suburbs of the city center, currently in a state of commercial decline.

The **Call for Concept** asks students to outline a concept of approach to the re-generation of "via Sacchi", as an area of **creativity, inclusiveness and sustainability**. The call offers the opportunity to participate, after a selection, to a **Living Lab** that deepens the proposed scenarios with experts, administrators, associations of citizens.

Today the street is characterized by three paths: the west porticoed side which features via Sacchi, the middle, a road traveled by public and private transportation and the east side barrier to the railway, where there is a pedestrian and cycle path. The northern edge consists of the facing towards the station central square (p.za Carlo Felice). The south edge (on its east side) has a narrow band in conditions of abandonment (below the c.so Sommeiller overpass).

The arcades of via Sacchi are part of the wider historical path of Turin's arcades (12 km). Due to the commercial decrease, even the arcades on the opposite side of the station, corresponding to Via Nizza, suffer a significant level of urban degradation. For these reasons, since some years, both these areas are the object of social attention and redevelopment interventions by different players (city administration, neighborhood and sector associations, architectural heritage superintendents, citizens).

The **Call for Concept** requires, as a contribution, a design concept (not a project in detail) upon one or more of the axes indicated for Via Sacchi, with the aim of triggering processes of re-generation and attraction for this area.

#### *Identifying:*

**functions and ways of use of the streets:** encouraging the establishment of new creative activities and proposing ways to communicate them (i.e temporary shops and showrooms, venues for cultural associations and social, spaces for information point and collective interest services, co-working areas, spaces for craft activities and makers); increase physical access for all in safe conditions (public transportation stops, cycle path and pedestrian on the east side, pedestrian connection between via Sacchi and via Nizza); enhancing the paths on the railway side (spaces for social activities, relational and communicational spaces, walls, bus stops).

#### *Involving:*

**the components of the urban scene, respecting the historical values:** arcades (i.e. architectural elements, shop windows, signs, sunshades, inter-pillar windows, furnishing and communication equipment); the middle road (i.e. pedestrian barriers, sidewalks, public transportation stops); railway side (i.e. tree-lined and low-rise, road signage, furniture and communication equipment).

#### *Developing:*

**analogical and/or digital solutions for the use and communication of paths; permanent or temporary equipment systems; light & sound scape and communication tools.**



## GOALS

They are goals of the **Call for concept**:

- to imagine **new potential functions for the ground floor** of the arcades and for the pedestrian and cycle path along the opposite railway border, confirming and enhancing the historicity of the architecture, of the sense of belonging and resilience of places at changing the ways of life and of the consumption in the city;
- to conceive ways of transforming places and spaces like as a "**model**", that can be declined in other parts of the Turin arcades system or of suburban places with similar conditions of commercial decrease and consequent decrease of attraction;
- to experiment at different scales, in association with traditional solutions for the fruition and construction of a public space with identity, possible new technologies in the direction of the "**smile city**", a word that refers to the association between "smart", ICT platforms and IOT interactive systems and "social", in favour of a tangible and intangible accessibility to urban places and inclusive relationships between people.

*The proposed goal is consistent with the guidelines established by the European Parliament for the "European Year of Heritage 2018", to encourage the greatest number of people to discover and get involved in the cultural heritage and strengthen the belonging to a common European space. It also matches to the program of "Torino Design of the City 2018, towards an accessible city", annual event related with "Turin Creative City UNESCO", to be held in Turin from 12 to 21 October 2018.*

## REQUIRED DOCUMENTS

- A. A single graphic document** (A1 horizontal format 841x594 mm) to illustrate the "concept of design approach" to one or more axes of the via Sacchi among those described and one or more design occasions among those described for the area under study.  
The scale and composition of design boards must allow an adequate understanding of the design vision (graphic schemes, storyboards, masterplan, renderings, in addition to conventional representations).  
The file must be in high definition (max 30 MB), in electronic pdf format, according to the attached model. The images must have a resolution of 300 dpi.  
The project board (document A) must have a title as indicated in the attached layout.
- B. Registration form** with contact information, and **Disclaimer** filled and signed by each participant, in pdf format (according to attached Document B in word). The second part of document B relates to the **short curriculum** of each participant or of each individual member of the group.

**The official language is English, therefore all the texts of documents A. and B. must be in English.**

No further or different products than those indicated are allowed.

## SUBJECTS ADMITTED TO PARTICIPATION

Students, single or in groups of up to 3 members, from schools of architecture, design and fine arts, both Italian and international, enrolled in courses for the Academic Years 2017-18 and / or 2018-19 are eligible to participate.

Groups can be multidisciplinary and composed of students from different Universities or Academies.

The group is a unique entity and the paternity of the proposals will be recognized to all the members.

Participants will could not use other consultants and collaborators.

It is not allowed to participate in the Call with more than one proposal or group.

The Call will be shared through the university networks, the Turin municipality and the UNESCO Creative Cities network.

## TERMS OF PARTICIPATION

Participation is free.

Participation takes place under the personal responsibility of the competitors who are responsible for the originality of their works.

In the case of a group (of a maximum of 3 members), a group leader must be appointed, the sole responsible and contact person with the contest promoter. The contact name must be explicitly indicated in document B.

Those who are relatives up to the third degree of the scientific curators can not participate

## DOCUMENTATION

The contest announcement and the illustrative documentation can be viewed and downloaded from the website:

(<http://viasacchi.designcontest.polito.it>)



- via Sacchi. Past and present (pdf)
- via Sacchi. Future (pdf)
- via Sacchi Aerial view (jpg)
- via Sacchi CTR (dwg)
- via Sacchi - Prospects and block plans 1-6 (dwg)
- via Sacchi - Prospects and block plans 7-9 (dwg)
- via Sacchi – Under-arcade v Legnano-Montevecchio (block 5)
- via Sacchi - Under-arcade v Pastrengo-Legnano (block 6)
- via Sacchi - Under-arcade v Governolo-Valeggio (block 8)
- Project board – Document A.
- Form Curriculum vitae, Registration and disclaimer form B (word).

*The preparation of the call for proposals involved the multidisciplinary analysis of the site, through the preparation of geometric and photographic survey materials, history of architecture and socio-cultural analysis, with literal, artistic and testimonial contributions.*

*The graphic documentation is elaborated according to the study: Cristina Boido, Via Sacchi, in Dino Coppo and Pia Davico (eds) Politecnico di Torino. Department of engineering of building and territorial systems, Il disegno dei portici a Torino: architettura e immagine urbana dei percorsi coperti da Vitozzi a Piacentini Celid, Turin, 2001.*

*The video is prepared by the Multimedia Lab, DAD, (scientific manager Franca Ceresa with Pietro Merlo and Riccardo Covino), with a narrative report on the situation and the history of via Sacchi and its neighborhood (through interviews, assembly of iconographic, photographic documentation and graphics).*

*Experimental setting of scenarios (AR, immersive techniques) aimed at illustrating the social, economic, functional, environmental settlement of the arcades of via Sacchi is provided with the collaboration of the City of Turin - Municipal Police Division - Urban Security Service - Investigation Unit Scientific and Technological (coordination Gianfranco Todesco).*

## DELIVERY METHOD

Documents A and B must be sent to the address [viasacchi.callandlivinglab@polito.it](mailto:viasacchi.callandlivinglab@polito.it)

- through a mail transfer file platform if the size of the 2 files (A + B documents) is more than 20 mb (megabyte)
- by email, if smaller.

In any case files must not be sent through a compressed folder of any format (such as RAR, ZIP, 7-Zip, ACE, CAB, GZip ...).

**Deadline for receipt of applications: September 30, 2018, h 12.00 (Italy).**

## INFORMATION

For the relations between the contest promoter and the participants, until the awarding, will be used exclusively:

- the web page: [viasacchi.designcontest.polito.it](http://viasacchi.designcontest.polito.it)
- the email: [viasacchi.callandlivinglab@polito.it](mailto:viasacchi.callandlivinglab@polito.it).

Any recurring questions and answers will be reported in the FAQ on the web page.

All requests for information must be in Italian or English.

## Acceptance of conditions and processing of personal data

Participation in the Call determines that all competitors accept, without reservation, all the rules and conditions relating to the Call and the Living Lab.

Personal data may be communicated to other subjects exclusively for the purposes strictly connected to the initiative, which are part of the institutional Politecnico's activities and will be disseminated only in relation to the enhancement of the proposals. Pursuant to the EU regulation 679/2016 (RGPD), the participants authorize the processing of their personal data with the participation in this call and for the University's public interest purposes, in compliance with the principle of lawfulness of the processing referred to in art.6 of the RGPD paragraph 1 letters b) and e)

We also inform you that the holder of the data treatment is the Politecnico di Torino, located in C.so Duca degli Abruzzi, n. 24, 10128 Turin, in the person of the Rector. The contact details of the treatment holder are PEC: [politecnicoditorino@pec.polito.it](mailto:politecnicoditorino@pec.polito.it).

As an interested party you have the right to obtain from the Politecnico di Torino, in the cases provided for, the access to personal data and the correction or cancellation of them or the limitation of their processing or to oppose their treatment (Articles 15 et seq. of the Regulations).

Just in case, the specific request to the Politecnico di Torino has to be presented by contacting the Data Protection Manager at the Polytechnic of Turin, C.so Duca degli Abruzzi, n. 24, 10128 Turin, email: [dpo@polito.it](mailto:dpo@polito.it)

Interested parties who believe that the processing of their personal data is in violation of the provisions of EU Regulation 679/2016 have the right to lodge a complaint with the Guarantor, as previewed by art. 77 of the Regulations, or to take appropriate judicial offices (Article 79 of the Rules).

By participating, the competitors authorize the use of the delivered works for all the purposes described in this announcement.

Participants are forbidden to disclose or publish proposals before the different steps of selection and publicity provided for by the contest organizer, without specific authorization.



## SELECTION CRITERIA

The Selection Committee, after excluding the non-compliant proposals, will evaluate the accepted proposals on the basis of the following evaluation criteria:

- **consistency with the context and goals**
- **innovation ability**
- **overall concept of the regeneration process**
- **communication skills**
- **attention to environmental, economic and social sustainability**
- **enhancement of architectural and cultural values.**

## JUDGING COMMISSION

The Judging Commission will be composed of n. 5 members:

1 attorney of the contest promoter (Polytechnic of Turin - DAD Department of Architecture and Design)

1 attorney of the City of Turin

1 attorney of the "Fondazione Contrada di Torino"

1 attorney of the Accademia Albertina of Fine Arts in Turin

1 attorney of the "Rilanciamo Via Sacchi" Committee.

The names of the members of the Selection Committee will be announced on the website.

The result of the Judging Commission's decisions will be motivated by the assignment of scores, according to the identified criteria.

The Judging Commission decisions will be recorded in minutes signed by all the members, kept in the acts by the Contest Promoter.

## SELECTION AND AWARDING

### Selection for the Exhibition

The best proposals presented will be exhibited in via Sacchi during Torino Design of the City, between 12 and 21 October 2018 in collaboration with Fondazione Contrada, City of Turin, Comitato Rilanciamo Via Sacchi.

### Selection for the Living Lab

Among the students selected for the Call for Concept exhibition, 9 will be invited to participate to the international **Living Lab** that will be held in Turin, approximately between **Friday 1st March and Monday 4th March 2019**.

**Selected students from university schools of architecture, design and art, Italian and international, not living in Turin, will be awarded a reimbursement of expenses (€ 500.00), with the obligation to participate in the International "Living Lab " in Turin.**

The contest promoter proclaims the selected proposals after the necessary checks on administrative documentation and incompatibilities.

## PROMOTION

All the selected works and the results of the **Living Lab** will be published on the dedicated page of the Politecnico di Torino website, and in a specific catalog and disseminated internationally, also through the Creative Cities Unesco network.

## 2. LIVING LAB

### Co-design workshop

The Living Lab is aimed at the comparison, exploration, experimentation and evaluation of innovative ideas.

The international Living Lab, launched in 2017 from a preparatory phase, will be in 2019 the laboratory of comparison, evaluation and co-design development of the most significant approaches and proposals emerging from the Call for Concept.

During the **Living Lab** 2019, the selected students will participate in the laboratory activities, in March, through meetings with the city stakeholders (citizens, city users, associations, companies, public administrations ...) and seminars with qualified professionals and scholars.



The **Living Lab**, will see also the participation of students selected from the Master's Courses of Colleges of Architecture and Design Study Courses at the Politecnico di Torino.

### **Preparatory phase. October, 10th 2017**

The preparatory phase included a first seminar, structured as a participatory design debate, with the participation of experts, local administration's officials, journalists as well as students and citizens (see Annexes, about 80 participants).

The complexity of the context (urban landscape, mobility and transport, trade, culture, architecture, urban history, memories ...) and the number of the involved people is aimed at moving the design to an inclusive community team.

The result of discussions proposed early ideas of urban space and reuse to be offered to students and designers as a ground to grow a new mix of functionality and visual layout, summarized in the attached Documentation.

The "Service design" for regeneration is the highlighted possible approach, understood as a mediator of knowledge, skills and as a facilitator of communication.

As part of the "Torino city of design", the results were presented to citizens in the # SACCHI56 info-point coordinated by the Fondazione Contrada Torino (20-30 October 2017) and presented at the International Seminar "Design of the City: Design for Citizens", (October, 12th 2017, Aula Magna Cavallerizza Reale, Turin, Citizens design their city, Report on Via Sacchi Living-Lab).

Analysis and initiatives of the partner Committee "Rilanciamo Via Sacchi" are available on the website: <http://viasacchi.org/>.

### **VIA SACCHI\_Below e beyond the arcades - Time schedule**

<b>October, 10th 2017</b>	First Living Lab at the Torino Design Week 2017, with preliminary presentation of the call Call for Concept
<b>February/June 2018</b>	Conception of the Call for Concept
<b>July, 30th 2018</b>	Call for Concept launch
<b>September, 30th 2018</b>	Deadline for the projects delivery
<b>October, 7th 2018</b>	End of the work of the Selection Board Commission. Communication to selected students. Invitation.
<b>12 October 2018</b>	Press conference
	Results exhibition and collective evaluation, under the Via Sacchi arcades.
<b>March 1st – 4th 2019</b>	Living Lab with selected students, tutors and experts
<b>March/September 2019</b>	Elaboration of Living Lab result – report preparation and final publication
<b>October 2019</b>	Final presentation

