Fall 2018 workshop BETWEEN TOWER AND RIVER 5-8 November 2018

Introduction

FLORENCE

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The workshop "Between Tower and River" continues the long-time collaboration between Kent State University Florence, College of Architecture & Environmental Design and DIDA, Dipartimento di Architettura dell'Università degli Studi di Firenze.

Previous experiences have seen students engaged in architecture workshops and studios focused on the reconstruction of the urban fabric in small Tuscan historical centers: Bientina (2008), San Miniato (2011), and Magliano in Toscana (2017 and 2018).

Project site

Located between Ponte Vespucci and Ponte della Vittoria, the Torrino di Santa Rosa is a building that was part of the defensive system of the third and last circle of walls. It dates back to 1324. The tower - which originally protected the Porta di San Frediano - was also known as the Torre della Sardigna (Tower of the Sardigna) because urban waste was abandoned in its vicinity. Coming from Lungarno Soderini you can recognize the nineteenth-century tabernacle built between the city gate and the tower; it contains a Pietà (with Saints John the Evangelist and Mary Magdalene) probably painted in the early sixteenth century and generally attributed to Ridolfo del Ghirlandaio. The work is what remains of the nearby oratory of Santa Rosa di Viterbo, demolished in the mid-eighteenth century. Today, in the garden surrounding



the tower, a modest building houses the premises of a recreational club.

Program

We imagine the demolition and substitution of the existing building built near the tower and the overall redesign of the open spaces between the bank of the river and the road.

The activities to be allocated in the new structure are for leisure time and study and are intended as a facility for the neighborhood. The functional core of the project will consist of a literary café and a room dedicated to collective activities - meetings, book presentations, conferences. It is possible to connect the new buildings with the old tower. Particular attention will have to be paid to the relationship between the building and the relevant empty spaces (gardens, courtyards, patios).

Specifications

Literary café: 400 sqm Kitchen: 100 sqm Changing rooms and staff services: 25 sqm Services for the public: 25 sqm Multipurpose room: 200 sqm

The maximum height of the building volumes is 7.00 m., assessed from the street level (this height corresponds to that of the existing city walls).

Calendar

- Monday 5 November
- 10:30 am: workshop kickoff
- 11:30 am: visit to project site
- 2:30 to 6:30 pm: team work
- Tuesday 6 November
- 9:00 am to 7:00 pm: team work
- Wednesday 7 November
- 9:00 am to 7:00 pm: team work
- Thursday 8 November
- 9:00 am to 3:00 pm: team work
- 3:30 to 7:00 pm: final presentations



