



reTH!NKING

ARCHITECTURE COMPETITIONS

Carrara Thermal Baths



Carrara Thermal Baths



INTRODUCTION

Extraction, desertification, appropriation, (un)suitability, destruction... The human being has been developing their way of life with actions which are detrimental to the rest of the living creatures that inhabit the Earth. The quarries and the extraction of materials are clear examples. The extraction of materials has occurred without considering the ecosystems, biotopes, ecotones... this has only happened in order to find an individual consumer good. But, what happens when these quarries become inactive? They are areas where the human being has left his mark. Can architecture recover these spaces not only for our habitability but for a common habitability? What is the basis for this type of architecture?

The contest, called Carrara Thermal Baths, looks for two concepts: RE-NATURALIZE and RE-STORE. Let's think for a moment. How can our actions contribute to nature? That's what the contestant must investigate and propose.

Projects do not start from scratch since there is no place ever inhabited, with stories, cultures or ways of living that should be part of the experience of this location. The landscape condition of a quarry has its own characteristics, different to any other natural place, because it is a space where the artificiality has been imposed from different processes such as the extraction of materials, mobility of heavy machinery, meeting places for workers... All these processes generate a landscape with predetermined qualities.

From reTH!NKING, two concepts are considered essential as well: SCALE and DETAIL. How can anyone intervene keeping in mind the feeling of marble texture, the smells of plants, the sound of water running over the quarry or the thermal sensation of different atmospheres and in turn, incorporate the different cycles and times of the whole natural space around it? How can we cover the project? How can we live in? How can we experience it? Water is an element of shared vitality between the natural and the human. How can we create spaces of interaction where we share what we have in common?

Our current lifestyles are accelerated, instantaneous, simultaneous and marked by devices such as the clock and mobile phone. These ways of life have generated a stressed, dual and individualistic society. Could someone, from the project, stimulate other ways of life more leisurely, relaxed, related to nature? An escaping area where experimenting with new connections with nature. To project is to enjoy.

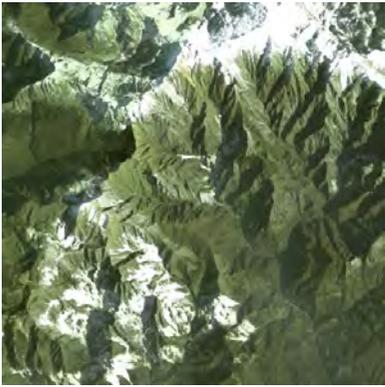
Can we intervene understanding that nature is at our level and not at our service? A place where architecture is a constant dialogue between different ways of life, remembering the idea proposed by Alison and Peter Smithson in Upper Lawn, where everything that exists had a value itself, the wall, the tree, the well...

In this century, the world is facing major challenges. One of them is the problem of climate change. One way to intervene could be the modification of the mentioned actions at the beginning of the text into other actions such as preservation, recovery, assessment, education and reconstruction. Architecture would be designed as ARCHITECTURE FOR LIFE.



PROPOSAL

LOCATION



The location proposed is Carrara Marble Quarries in the province of Massa and Carrara (Tuscany), region of Italy. Although participants are free to choose the intervention area, from reTH!NKING, we have selected an area where the topography has different staggered plains. These spaces are characterized by streams of water that flow over them in rainy season.

Carrara is located at the coast of Liguria sea and has as background the Apuan Alps, where the coexistence of diverse landscapes takes place.

The enclave has no physical barriers which separate the zone of action from the rest, therefore, it is possible to define the limits of the intervention.

The location is linked to the city by different paths that descend from the mountains. Due to the slope, these paths have a characteristic zigzag morphology throughout the landscape.



PROGRAM

The proposed program comprises the following areas:

Pool area

- Outdoor pool: 30 m²
- Indoor pool: 30 m²
- Indoor-Outdoor pool: 60 m²

Services Area

- Administration-meeting area: 20 m²
- Changing rooms and toilets: 30 m²

Note: The surfaces are approximate.

The project is designed to promote new leisure relations linked to nature and the quarry itself. These spaces may be closed, open or half-open, depending on the intentions of each project.

The design freedom is absolute and the area of intervention is free. This competition aims the participant to investigate the ways of intervention in an exploited landscape by human action, its need for re-naturation and its incorporation in pursuit of new ways of living. Studing limits, scales, views, access, materiality are the keys to follow.

*Being a contest on ideas, the participants are free to modify the given surfaces. This report must be taken as a reference for the necessary spaces so that the project is practical and as a measure for the total dimensions of the project. The participants can suggest new areas not included in this document, as deleting and combining some of the already mentioned.

reTHINKING philosophy

reTHINKING Team proposes contests far from the pessimism, with high doses of freshness and joy, restless and expansive. Definitely, it aims to stimulate and shake the architects heads who seem to be asleep and restore dignity to the profession. Being optimistic over all.

The proposed competitions will be focused on 8 concepts which we think there is much to investigate and propose by architects.

We understand that architecture can not be classified, as a single project reflects on various concepts relevant to contemporary culture, but enhance several of these main research topics.

CONCEPTS



DENSITY



ECOLOGY



DETAIL



SCALE



LIMIT



MOVILITY



NATURE



HOUSING

"Cambiar de respuesta es evolución.
Cambiar de pregunta es revolución"

MAIN CONCEPTS

NATURE



Definitely Nature does not exist. We have just digitalized the last squared meter of the planet and we have it already inside our artificial (artificializador) pocket.

Landscapes made to be used, where function and architecture show up at the same time their natural and artificial condition.

Architecture and context. Establishing both terms would be again a duality, some kind of halfway between architecture and its context, an inevitable addition of both of them due to its mutual influence. It becomes a singular ecology, among which architecture and what existed before are discovered. Architecture adds as a landscape, it is landscape and not object.

SCALE



Scale is no measure or dimension (unambiguous) but capacity of relationships (ambivalent). In the same way that dynamic systems that govern our universe (and complex geometries of structures associated with them) propitiate possible zoom relations ("to-scale" each other) (as recursive phenomena of increase and development) we are interested in those configurations (or provisions) open not ascribe to any scale or better, which alter the idea of scale of scale, not in size, as Federico Soriano would signal.

Action and effect of an architecture that does not distinguish boundaries, which is dissolved. All space of this architecture would be interspace = "between".

DETAIL



Scale is not measure, or dimension, it is ability of relationship. Same way that dynamic systems move our universe (and complex geometry structure in relation with them) promote zoom relations "without scale" together (like a recursive phenomenon) interest here those open settings (or provisions) that do not ascribe to any scale: maybe, altering the idea of scale, not size, as Federico Soriano would signal-sending as well, the diffuse nature of the self / the contemporary setting (s) (s) flexible and unprejudiced resonate with and among their amazing-and ambiguous-demonstrations. Action and reaction of an architecture which does not distinguish limits, which dissolves. The whole space of this architecture would be an intermediate space "between".

(VV.AA., Diccionario Metápolis de Arquitectura Avanzada, Barcelona: ACTAR, 2002)

(MVRDV, Farmax. Excursions on density, Rotterdam: OIO publishers, 1998)

ELIGIBILITY

All students and architects or related professions anywhere in the world can participate in the contest. Participation can be individual or in groups, being eight (8) the maximum number of members. Team members can be from all disciplines (artists, philosophers, photographers, etc.), without being necessary, although advisable, the presence of an architect or architecture student. It is allowed that members are from different universities and countries.

The price of registration is the price that each participating team must pay, regardless of the number of members.

In case that one team or participant wants to submit more than one proposal for the same competition must register twice (or as many as want to present projects) paying the appropriate fee each time.

Under no circumstances should the participation of any juror, or anyone organizing professional agency relationship with any of the above will be accepted.

PRIZES

A total prize of 4.500 € will be distributed as follows:

First prize	3.000 €
	+ 2000€ grant for Master's degree MArch Valencia
Second prize	1.000 €
Third prize	500 €

- Magazine publications
- Blogs/architecture webs publications
- reTHINKING official publication

+ 10 Honorable Mention

*Depending on the country of residence of the winners, prizes may be subject to withholding or tax payments under the legislation of the country. The budget that we have comes from registration fees, thus the corresponding amount for awards will be based on the number of entries.

JURY

The jury will be composed by professionals from the world of architecture and other disciplines related to the object of the competition.

Fran Silvestre Navarro (Fran Silvestre arquitectos)
Gemma Gené Camps (Artist and Architects in Steven Holl Architects)
Fernando Royo Naranjo (Patxi Mangado Arquitectos)
Félix de la Iglesia Salgado (Ph. Architect of projects in the School of Architecture of Seville)

*All jury members have shown a willingness to be present at the voting process where the winners will be selected, however their participation is subject to their professional and educative commitments with their own studies and projects.

CALENDAR

February 29th 2015	Early registration starts
March 27th 2016	Early registration ends
March 28th 2016	Regular registration starts
April 17th 2016	Regular registrations ends
April 18th 2016	Late registration starts
May 8th 2016	Late registration and FAQ ends
May 8th 2016 20:00 h GMT + 1:00	Submission deadline
May 15th - May 25th 2016	Proposal evaluation
May 25th - May 29th 2016	Winners announcements

INSCRIPTION

Inscription periods will depend on the competition publication and will be divided as follows:

Early	35 € + IVA
Regular	60 € + IVA
Advanced	90 € + IVA

IVA: 21%

Before making the inscription one member of the team must register on our website. After completing the registration form you will receive an email with your password and the registration code you will need for your panels (#0000). It's important to keep this registration code, it will allow your team to access the intranet where you'll be able to access your registration status, payment, and the upload form to submit your project.

Once registered you will have to make the inscription through our website: <http://rethinkingcompetitions.com/> by paying the fee (it will depend on the period) The submitting instructions will be sent once we receive the payment.

After 5 days we'll not be made repayment. Repayment's costs shall be borne to contestants and never in charge of platform.

DISCOUNTS

It is possible to lower the price of the entries to any Rethinking competition registering multiple teams simultaneously. If you are a teacher and want to use our competition as an exercise you can take advantage of discounts and involve the largest number of teams. For every 10 teams will save 30% of the total enrollment.

* For the applicable discount teams should be registered at the same time. The payment will be the total of all the teams.

PAYMENT

The payment method will be the one that best suits the team, considering that payments made by Bank transfer must have as a concept the code team. If we receive a payment that is not properly identified we won't be able to relate it to your team and your participation will not be confirmed until you provide a proof of payment.

Bank Deposit the account data will be provided when choosing this option. Once the registration fee is paid it will not be refunded in any case. Registration dates are subject to the receipt of payments, not the time of issue.

Any type of management fees and / or bank charges will be borne by the participant.

Credit or Debit Cards: All card payments will be handled by PayPal to ensure data security. Rethinking not have access to your card details. The inscription will be received instantly.

Pay-Pal: the inscription will be received instantly.

All payments via bank transfer must bear the registration code as a subject and the Account Owner must be the person you are enrolled in the contest.

DOCUMENTATION

The following information is available for download on the website of Rethinking:

- Contest Brief & Rules
- Bases completas en ESPAÑOL
- Complete rules in ENGLISH
- Graphic Material
- Site Photos
- Orthophotos
- Site .dwg drawing
- Communication Material
- Competition's trailer
- Poster

Participants will create their own graphic documents or use materials from other sources, leaving the team Rethinking exempt from any liability for infringement of copyright or other intellectual property rights.

PRESENTATION

Participants must submit a single A1 (59.4 x 84.1 cm) landscape (horizontal) where the **registration code (order number, #0000 or #00000)** obtained at the time of registration must appear. Remember checking the spam inbox. You must also choose a **Slogan** or title for your project.

This CODE must be placed in the panel in the upper right corner, together with a SLOGAN which can be placed anywhere. Panels delivered in vertical or without the code and slogan can be excluded from the competition. The file must be a JPEG, and it must be less than 8 mb.

We will also ask the team to submit a .doc document with a summary of the project in 90 words and a representative picture of it. This will be used for a future publication.

You will receive more specific instructions on this matter once you complete the inscription.

The documentation included in the panels will be the necessary to understand the project, each participant can choose: graphic representations, model pictures, perspectives, sketches, renderings, texts, etc.

The jury will evaluate the quality of architectural design and its clear presentation and general composition.

Shall not be required, although it will be appreciated, to solve the project construction or structural systems. Not necessary to have into account standards established, urban or constructive.

The project must be understood mainly through the artwork. In the sheet may be included text, although the presence of a large amount is not recommended. The official language of the competition is **English**, any text written in another language will not be considered.

Models can't not be delivered.

When payment confirmation email is sent to the person registered a document with instructions and forms for the team are included. Always check the spam box.

EVALUATION CRITERIA

The Rethinking team will provide to each jury member a document where the basic concepts which its own vision of the architecture is based on.

The jury, once understood the profile and concerns of Rethink!NG, will give their personal assessment based on their knowledge and experience on the architectural project.

The jury will be revising all deliveries, where finally, it was particularly valued the Rethink!NG spirit and the adequacy of the response to the problem and achieved goals, reviewing the response that each project gives to each concept, methodology and research accomplished.

In this latest round finalists, honorable mentions and the winners will be designated.

The jury reserves the right to award proposals that do not comply any of the parameters of these rules as long as it represents an improvement in the project.

FAQ

From the start date until the deadline, all those questions that help to better understand the project and its objectives as well as on the functioning of competition may be proposed.

The questions not resolved in these rules or in the figures for "frequently asked questions" section of our website should be done through reTHINKING page on Facebook, which can be accessed from the top menu of any page our website. Any question must be sent to contact@rethinkingcompetitions.com

INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY

Once submitted, the material will be given to rethinking for future publications and promotions of the contest. If used for other purposes, the authors retain all rights to their proposals.

The information submitted may be edited by the team for reTHINKING to adapt it for publications, but never altering the original project.

NOTES

Rethink!NG reserves the right to make any changes in the competition rules (dates, deadlines, requirements, etc.) as long as these benefit the majority of participants and improving the competition. Any modification of the bases will be announced on the official website of reTHINKING on Facebook, remain the responsibility of the participants to visit frequently.

The project proposed here is fictitious and will not be built. The material provided to participants may have been modified by reTHINKING to improve the project conditions, so that drawings, photographs and other documentation may not match reality.

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