

“Infernotti” - Multifunctional Hall of San Giovanni Battista Hospital

Original

“Infernotti” - Multifunctional Hall of San Giovanni Battista Hospital / Garda, EMILIA MARIA. - STAMPA. - (2016), pp. 118-118.

Availability:

This version is available at: 11583/2650688 since: 2020-01-31T13:06:12Z

Publisher:

France Stele Institute of Art History ZRC SAZU of Science s and Arts - Politecnico di Torino

Published

DOI:

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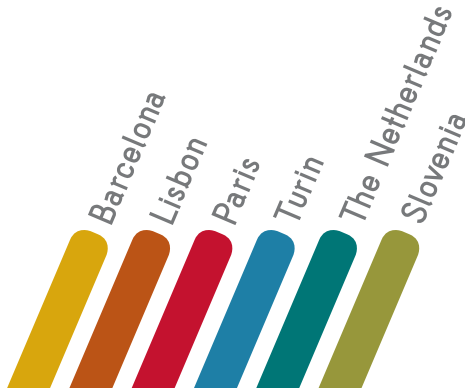
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Women · Architecture & Design Itineraries across Europe

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English language editing by Luigi Genta traduzioni

Design concept and layout by Andrea Furlan ZRC SAZU, Žiga Okorn

Revisions of design by MoMoWo POLITO's team

Published by France Stele Institute of Art History ZRC SAZU, represented by Barbara Murovec

Issued by Založba ZRC, represented by Oto Luthar

Printed by Agit Mariogros, Beinasco (TO)

Publication of the project MoMoWo - Women's Creativity since the Modern Movement

This project has been co-funded 50% by the Creative Europe Programme of the European Commission.

First edition / first print run: 3000

Ljubljana, Turin 2016






Co-funded by the
Creative Europe Programme
of the European Union



<http://www.momowo.eu>

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"Infernotti" - Sala Polifunzionale dell'Ospedale San Giovanni Vecchio



Closely related to the theme of the humanisation of care, the project represents one of the first examples of soft qualities within the hospital heritage in Turin. The space below the church, previously used as a pharmaceutical warehouse, was transformed into a multipurpose room dedicated both to care and to art exhibitions, conferences and performances. In

this way a particularly evocative space was revived - an underground room dominated by a semi-circular brick vault with nails - surrounded by a circular passage through which the dead were taken to the mortuary. Through a few careful interventions the space was returned to public use and set up as a meeting place between the hospital and the city, turning a place of death into a place of life.

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Via San Massimo, 24 - Torino

Emilia Garda, Paola Urbano

2002-2003



The design choice wanted to respect the original features with minimal intervention through the use of light and colour as qualifying elements. For economic reasons it was decided not to replace the existing light installations but simply to screen them from view by introducing a bright *velarium* placed diagonally to the floor. In order to allow the spatial

perception of the room, characterized by unique aesthetic values, the *velarium* was designed not as a traditional false ceiling, but as a light element independent of the structures from which it is suspended by means of slender steel rods. The system creates a bright wraparound effect which highlights the profile of the vault.

E.G.

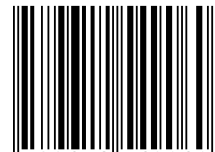
CIP - Kataložni zapis o publikaciji
Narodna in univerzitetna knjižnica, Ljubljana

72(4)
72-051-055.2

MoMoWo: Women: Architecture & Design Itineraries across Europe / [edited by
Sara Levi Sacerdotti, et al.]. - 1st ed. - Ljubljana : Založba ZRC, 2016

ISBN 978-961-254-906-0
1. Levi Sacerdotti, Sara
284877568

ISBN 978-961-254-906-0



9 789612 549060 > not for sale