



PERFORMATIVE NATURE

Barcelona International Landscape Architecture Biennial

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X International Landscape Architecture Biennial

Máster d'Arquitectura del Paisatge -DUOT - UPC
ETSAB- Escola Tècnica Superior
d'Arquitectura de Barcelona
Avenida Diagonal, 649 piso 5
08028 Barcelona-Spain

TECHNICAL DOSSIER

Title of the project DELTA FLOW Redefining the CITY's relation to the SEA

Authors Dermitzaki Iro, Kasviki Vasiliki, Touska Aikaterini, Yiangou Andreas

Title of the course 08EM13_Design on the Edge Between Land and Sea _ Urban Pools

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Teaching Staff Venetia Tsakalidou, assistant professor AUTh, dr. architect AUTh, M.Arch The

Bartlett UCL

Department/Section/Programofbelonging Graduate course, Faculty of engineering University/School Aristotle University of Thessaloniki, School of Architecture

Written statement, short description of the project in English, no more than 250 words

The port of Thessaloniki is a particular coastal scape; an artificial, industrial environment, which has proceeded with great landfill earthworks, in order to satisfy the increasing commercial demands of the city. The course addresses the design of open public spaces with minor interventions at the second pier of the port. It aims to uncover new ways for the city to reconnect to the water element, through the design of a place of reference; a welcoming hub for multiple activities for people of all ages, promoting spaces for wandering, relaxation and encounter. A complex of urban pools, event spaces and areas for the enjoyment of nature are combined with pedestrian and cycle routes, transportation networks and small-scale building facilities.

The proposal takes advantage of the pier's special characteristics and transforms its landscape into a transitional space between the city and the sea, where people are exposed and encouraged to get in contact with the water element through various conditions.

Following the traces of a pre-existing stream, which used to flow and extend to the sea, we create a hybrid space between the industrial and the natural. The design is based on the concept of the delta flow, a particular interaction between water and land, which continually changes through time, offering a great variety of spatial qualities and formations.

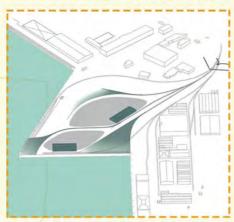
For further information

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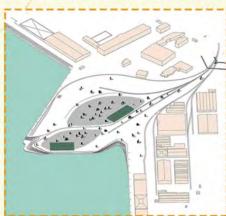
T: + 34 93 401 64 11 / +34 93 552 0842 Contact via email at: biennal.paisatge@upc.edu Consult the web page http://landscape.coac.net/

Concept//Stage 1//Site situation

Concept//Stage 3//Redefining the edge of the pier at the end of the old rails



Concept//Stage 4//Defining areas-uses



Concept//Stage 5//Desired result

DELIAFEOW

The port of Thessaloniki, in northern Greece, is an artificial and industrial environment which in the past, in order to satisfy the increasing commercial needs of the city and thus the need for space, had to deposition a great amount of land.

Today, the second pier has to change into a recreation site, and more specifically an urban pools' site, as a continuation of the first pier's regeneration, in order to redefine the city's relation to the sea, completely changing the site's character.

The main characteristics of the pier are its great extent, its hard to define boundary in relation to the sea, as well as its geometry which fiercely pierces the sea, allowing only two edges to come in contact with it.

Our main goal is to take advantage of the pier's special characteristics so that we turn the area into a transitional space between the city and the sea, where the people are exposed to and are encouraged to come in contact with the water element through various conditions.

From a distance, people usually recognize the port through very specific elements. Cranes, the grey landscape, dust, industrial buildings, containers, to name a few. However, in this vast area exists a natural element that can no longer be seen.

redefining the CITY's relation to

the SEA

An extremely useful tool during the design process was the old train tracks, as an element of orientation through the vast port's area, as well as an element of separating the second pier into sub – regions based on the different use, or accessibility level.

The tracks are mainly used as the visitors' guides, as water or vegetation vessels, or they just deliver water that ends up in the sea.

Sixty years ago, at the very same point where the second pier is situated, one of the most important streams of Thessaloniki used to flow and extend into the sea. It was called the Anagenniseos Street Stream.

Using the stream's existence as a guide, as well as the unique conditions that characterize a river's extension into the sea or "delta", our concept consists of the creative translation of

