

# Ottagono

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## BOLOGNA ISTANTANEA SULLA CITTÀ

**MATERIALI**Ceramica  
e grandi architetture**EVENTI**Alvaro Siza  
protagonista  
a Markitecture**TREND**In vacanza ad Atene  
con Karim Rashid**FOCUS**Mario Botta  
e il design anonimo  
in Brasile

## BOLOGNA SNAPSHOT OF THE CITY

**MATERIALS**Ceramics meets  
great architecture**EVENTS**Markitecture,  
starring Alvaro Siza**TREND**Karim Rashid's Greek  
holiday**FOCUS**Mario Botta and anonymous  
design in Brazil





**Marata associati, sede dell'azienda IMA ad Ozzano, Bologna. La plastica compenetrazione dei volumi coesiste con la riduzione della scatola architettonica a puro gioco di piani, memoria operante di una ricerca neoplasticista raffreddata nelle sue espressioni più di maniera. La dissonante coesistenza di materiali naturali ed artificiali amplifica la ricerca di un linguaggio in cui gli opposti rinunciano programmaticamente ad una improbabile sintesi.** Marata Associati, IMA offices in Ozzano, Bologna. The flexible permeation of the volumes coexists with the reduction of the architectonic box to a pure play on levels, the result of neo-plastic research, cooled in its more mannerist expressions. The discordant coexistence of natural and artificial materials accentuates the research of a language in which opposites programmatically concede an improbable synthesis.

inforced by the importance of the stakeholders involved in large-scale urban adaptation projects: the city council, university, trade fair district, state railway, city transit board, and charitable foundations. The forecasts contained in the Urban Center by Mario Cucinella provide a picture of this strategy. The "real" city, untouched by the propaganda and ideological pronouncements, has continued to develop spontaneously through design research into the "singular", often in reciprocal indifference. The wide-reaching changes underway register the dynamism of another city, promoted by actions that grow "systematically" into a critical condition with respect to the logic of urban marketing that permeates all large-scale works, accelerating its existence while waiting for construction sites to open. The intermittent nature of the interventions does not limit its value, it confirms the vitality of a professional fabric that aspires to strengthen its presence. In the picture painted here, the plurality of the expressive languages proves the fragmentation of the instances and the individual quality of the results obtained, impossible to use as responses to recurrent circumstances. Uniqueness and singularity are traits that seem to distinguish the various operating hypotheses. The thematic breakdown of the sample selected amplifies the exceptionality and ordinariness of the instances. In the elegance of the solutions, the institutional building industry is the exception to the rule. In the museum of the city, an unusual property constraint on the shared parts of the building suggested to Bellini to occupy the courtyard with an additional stairwell, while Cucinella's design for the new city hall stands in contrast with the historic layout of the Bolognina, replacing its figurativeness with a sculptural language similar to the Dutch contemporary sensitivity. Construction in the services industry tells another story. Fragments of the mega-structural imagination are present in the new trade fair pavilion by Cerri, while the suggestion of a renewed neo-plastic sensitivity can be found in the proposal by Marata for

Ozzano, which resolves the conflicts inherent to contemporary production areas. Educational construction represents another confirmation of this theory. In Granarolo, Andrea Modelli achieves a city in miniature, demonstrating the lesson imparted by Ettore Sottsass Jr, while Open Project tackles the theme in terms of a landscape architecture. Open Project again shows off its contextual sensitivity in its adaptation of the former Officine Minganti for new commercial purposes, while Massimo Iosa Ghini renovates the "W.P. Lavori in Corso" to confirm the value of the architecture as a commonly used product in today's consumer society. Residential projects reaffirm the critical comparison with the ordinary urban landscape. Brini, Marzot and Righetti project the neo-realist culture into contemporary times; Brini relates again to the modernity of the urban single family home while Volpe effectively reinterprets the current industrial heritage. So, while the imaginary city uses exceptional tools to impose its consistency to the design process, for conflict resolution, the real city appears to indulge in rhythms and phases, without sacrificing the existing.

