

Project

SAVING VENICE

Architects

DEVSPACE SPRL

Address

Venise

Programme

City

About

The city of Venice has always been the décor of a symbolic and difficult struggle between past, present and future. Venice inspired Canaletto, infuriated Marinetti, fascinated Tafuri. As strong is its symbolism, as fragile its situation, in an immensely slow but steady descent into the depths of the sea. Today, as the rise of sea level becomes a global threat, the situation of Venice seems to be no less than doomed. On a shorter notice though, a threat more immediate than the rise of the sea is the constantly increasing influx of tourists in the monumental city, causing the perennial decrease of population in the city centre.

In what could at first glance seem a doubly dramatic situation, we see a possible opportunity. In a process of patrimonial radicalism, we propose to use one problem in order to solve the other. By extrapolation of the short notice threat, touristic hysteria becomes salvation, as the eagerness of the tourist is materialized in a gigantic cylinder surrounding the city. This massive inhabitable wall simultaneously pushes away the sea rising and grasps the magnificent views on Venice in one same gesture, protecting and exploiting the city. Even more so, the patrimonial potential is multiplied by this futuristic gesture. As the inhabited wall isolates completely the water around the city from the soon-to-be ocean, it becomes possible to exercise control on the water of Venice. What used to be an ungraspable fantasy of the beholder becomes a reality.

Typology

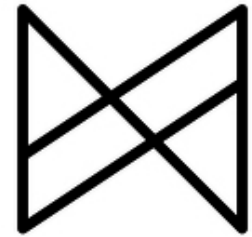
Landscape, urban areas

Status

Concept proposal

Conception

2011



DEV
space

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OTHER PROJECTS :

Stay Radical
- 2014 2014
- Venise

B&M
- 2012 2013
- Paris

Brusilia
- 2013
- Bruxelles

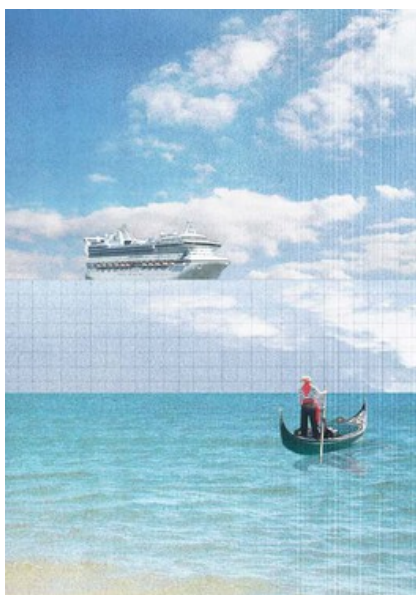
Neuilly
- 2015 2016
- Neuilly



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