The inability of the contemporary city to create human interactions, plus an evident detachment of architecture from everyday life along with the loss of its social purpose, leads to wonder in which Value architecture must believe to produce urban spaces as social and cultural identity.

The research identifies this Value in the Human Scale that, thanks to its inter-disciplinary and inter-scalar attitude, can fill the social gap between architecture as an object, politics and everyday life in city spaces.

Starting from the meaning of Human Scale related to the 21st-century cities, and Jan Gehl’s researches, the theoretical framework is constructed around human science and built environment and converged into the most human aspect of the city: its politic.

The formulation of new design paradigms, the role of communication and narration of city and urban performances influenced by the pressure of the central crisis of the century, are identified through the revisiting of new and old disciplines as service of the public realm.

This research suggests a political and architectural analysis of city spaces realized in recent years thanks to specific urban strategies (NYC model starting from Bloomberg administration) and spatial visions (BIG Bjarke Ingels Group).

The thesis aims to propose a relational and organic synthesis between designers and administrators work through the common factor of the Human Scale.

Keywords

#humanscale #citydesign #urbandesign #publicpolicy #people #publicrealm #jangehl #urbanstrategy #architecture #newyork #big #humancenterdesign
0 - INTRODUCTION
The perpetual crisis of architecture
The value of architecture in the city of the 21st century: the HUMAN SCALE

1- THE HUMAN SCALE
The Human Scale definition
The Gehls _ From Italy to Human Scale
Discovering the Human Dimension (from ‘68 movement to humanistic design)
Interdisciplinary aspects: social and cultural processes in architecture and urban design

2 - (ARCHITECTURE+CITY) HUMAN SCALE = URBAN DESIGN
Polis: the human dimension of public space
People, Place, Politics and Process: Urban Design as Public Policy
International Organizations and Cities (UN-Habitat, SDGs, UCLG, New Urban Agenda etc)

3 - CITY DESIGN: NEW DESIGN PARADIGMS, MEDIATED CITY and URBAN PERFORMANCE
Mediated City (Manifesto And Architects; Semiotics And Urban Design; Visual Communication / Mapping Etc; Human Centered Design / Design Thinking)
Urban Performance (demographic patterns (aging and disability) Accessibility; international economics (globalization and the demise of distance); environmental pressures (sustainability, resource conservation, energy); security; human mobility.
Design Paradigms (making of good public places; expression of private and public environments in the city; aesthetics of popular demand)

4 - THE HUMAN SCALE OF CITY DESIGN: TWO EXAMPLES
New York City model
Bjarke Ingels Group

5- CONCLUSIONS
Bibliography
Appendix