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THE ROMAN COASTAL SYSTEM. Architecture and landscapes between history and climate change

14 and 15 March 2022 _ Aula Magna della Facoltà di Architettura a Fontanella Borghese Roma, Piazza Borghese 9
a cura di Claudia Mattogno (DICEA) e Maria Grazia Turco (DSDRA)

The conference "The Roman coastal system. Architecture and landscapes between history and climate change" aims to investigate the development process of the settlements that took place along the Lazio coast from Civitavecchia in the north to Monte Circeo in the south. Ostia Antica and the mouth of the Tiber River will be the area of emerging interest between the two extremes of the long geographical strip.

In this coastal area there are ancient testimonies of human presence. Here prehistorical finds, traces of Roman roads, ancient port structures transformed later into archaeological and natural complexes, defence systems such as watchtowers, salt pans, woods and Mediterranean scrub, farms and hydraulic reclamation works, constitute the historical wealth of the territory.

These morphological and environmental characteristics include numerous archaeological and architectural presences in a complex physical context marked by important modern and contemporary anthropic transformations as well as by the effects of recent climate changes.

Faced with the complex contemporary situation, the different coastal landscapes show a sort of resilience that tries to resist the overwhelming transformations caused by the legal and illegal building pressure due to the demand for new homes, the expansion of tourist equipment and transport infrastructures such as Fiumicino International airport demonstrates.

The aforementioned ability to remove the briefly summarized changes founds on the cultural and environmental identities of many different places. These potential presences should foster a new strategic vision for the near future. Therefore, conscious projects and practices have to create a new care of the territory based on sensitive approaches to social needs while preserving the historical, cultural and environmental heritage.

To challenge climate change it will be necessary to involve local communities and the various stakeholders according to a new synergistic relationship with the administrative powers at all levels: from central government to local administrators.

The conference organization wants to involve different international experts asking them to discuss their approaches in research projects on the theme, the products of theoretic and practical studies crossing the conclusions with the results of two University project research of Sapienza:

- -"I diversi paesaggi del sistema costiero nell'ambito territoriale della Regione Lazio. Conoscenza e prospettive di valorizzazione", ricerca di Ateneo 2020, prof .Maria Grazia Turco coordinator
- -"SOS Climate Waterfront. A strategy of excellence in research and innovation to design tools for the waterfront to face climate change" a project research of European Program Marie Skłodowska-Curie Actions Research and Innovation Staff Exchange (RISE) Call: H2020-MSCA-RISE-2018 by FoCuS Sapienza interdepartmental research centre.

The event will take place in presence according to the anti Covid 19 provisions.

The remote connection of the conference is at the link: https://us02web.zoom.us/i/82360208510