

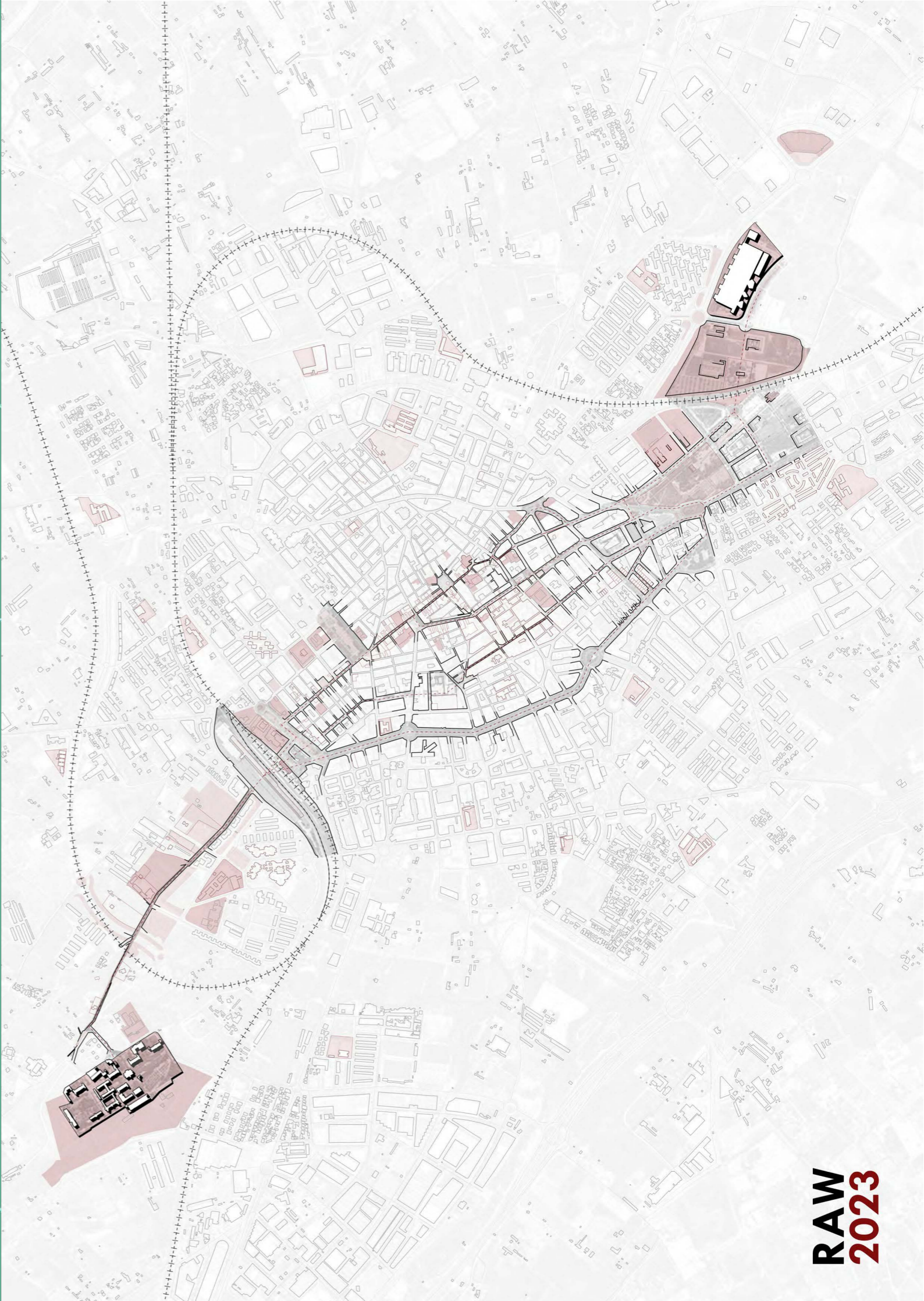


Centre d'Art Cal Massó, Reus
Aug 28th - September 8th 2023

Reus Architecture & Urban Design International Workshop

Escola Tècnica Superior d'Arquitectura de Reus
ear raw

- collaborating institution
- participating universities
- hosting institutions
- UNIVERSITAT ROVIRA I VIRGILI
 - REUS HORIZA 32 AJUNTAMENT DE REUS
 - UNIVERSITÀ DELLO STUDIO DI GENOVA
 - KU LEUVEN
 - ETH ZÜRICH
 - UNIVERSITÄT GÖTEBORG
 - COAC



EAR RAW'23
The linked city
Reus Architecture and Urban Design International Workshop

ORGANIZERS
Reus Town Council
Reus Superior Technical School of Architecture EAR

PARTNERS
Oficial Institute of Architects of Catalonia. Tarragona Branch
Rovira i Virgili University, URV

VENUE
Cal Massó Art Centre. (Pròsper Bofarull, 7. Reus)

PARTICIPATING SCHOOLS
Escola Tècnica Superior d'Arquitectura, Universitat Rovira i Virgili
Facoltà di Architettura. Università di Genova
Eidgenössische Technische Hochschule ETH Zürich
Faculteit Arkitektuur KU Leuven
School of Global Studies. Göteborgs Universitet

PARTICIPANTS
12 EAR scholarship students
3 scholarship students Genova
3 scholarship students Brussels - Ghent
3 scholarship students Göteborg
3 scholarship students Zurich

Student recruitment:
Motivation letter
Academic CV
English level

Scope of the scholarship:
Accommodation in university residence and 1/2 board during the days of the workshop.
Free enrolment of 4 ECTS credits.

Invitation to RAW '23

There are many disciplines that envision future scenarios, but it is architecture that has the mission of shaping the environment to suit human activity. The greatest virtue of architecture and urbanism is probably their capacity to regenerate the scenarios of life. In the book of the first edition of the RAW, the urban model strategist of the city municipality of Reus, Ton Salvadó, claimed that, just as a medical school has a decisive influence on its clinical hospital, a school of architecture could also have a decisive influence on its city.

Having assumed this responsibility, and far beyond to just focusing on administering "palliative cures", the school's A+U studios and, in particular, the RAW International Workshop have been devoted to developing tools, strategies and actions capable —in an uncertain context— of pointing out opportunities, identifying potentials, anticipating paths and, in short, to use the innovation and daring of the academy to imagine new ways of living.

In a context of emergency —climatic, social, residential, economic, of governance— the university can become an accomplice of the city and its surrounding landscape, and turn them into its living laboratory. We would therefore like to take this opportunity to invite you on behalf of the Reus School of Architecture to the next edition of RAW, which will take place at the Cal Massó Art Centre in Reus between Monday 28 August and Friday 8 September 2023. We hope to make Reus the best case study with the participation of some of the European schools of reference and make this next workshop a new opportunity to attend at an alchemical reaction arising from the mixture, contrast, cooperation and commitment of students and teachers.

What is RAW?

Eighteen years ago, on May 5th, 2005, a few of us teachers started talking about what we wanted the future Reus School of Architecture to be like. Only four months later we were putting into practice for the first time some of the intuitions born from this dialogue. From the very beginning, the Reus School of Architecture was considered an emerging centre at a national level, and it is currently leading the Spanish ranking of architecture universities despite its short trajectory.

Perhaps one of the secrets of its success was to inspire its Architecture and Urban Planning studios with the modus operandi of the ILA&UD. A method that had been developed at the summer workshops held in Urbino, Siena, San Marino and Venice, where every year and during intense weeks, successive generations of students and professors from some of the most prestigious European and North American schools gathered around some of the members of the Team X such as Alison & Peter Smithson, Aldo Van Eyck or Giancarlo De Carlo.

Any Catalan, American or Swedish scholarship student, was immediately struck by the freshness, courage, and utopic principles of these senior architects. The same daring attitude that had dynamited the X CIAM of Dubrovnik, where the younger generation spoke up and reminded Le Corbusier et al, that architects had to work, above all, for society.

On 4 June 2005, just thirty days after our founding meeting, De Carlo, the ILAUD's leader, died in Milan. By then we weren't yet ready to honour his memory by organising any workshop in Reus. But after a few years, when COVID-19 was closing the universities, we finally got in touch with some of the institutions that, we believed, could be more in tune with our concerns and with our unified way of working with architecture and urbanism.

The ILA&UD had been an excellent excuse to gather talented young people together with old rebels. But the intimacy created in the Reus International Workshop surprised us all. The mixed chemistry of different schools and different cultures. The detached vision of outside eyes. The accompaniment of teachers and well-informed professionals. Situated between pandemic waves, the first RAW was, in short, a blessed temerity and a small academic miracle. Twelve days of intensity, proximity, friction and coexistence of 40 people who walked hundreds of kilometres through Reus and its surrounding landscapes; because stepping on the ground is undoubtedly the best way to grasp it. Without masks -thanks to strict health controls- the group came together as if the human face had just been invented. A group that transformed Cal Massó into a true centre of urban debate, where the open doors, the cycle of Key Lectures, the large scale model of the city and, above all, their own restlessness, brought about the emergence of a complete and complex ecosystem of interaction, synergies and complicities of incalculable pedagogical and human value.

The Reus' urban axis that goes "from hospital to hospital and from station to station" will be now our opening movement. We will play it on a chessboard that, in contrast to the first edition of the RAW, has perhaps fewer argumentative columns, but certainly more articulated rows. We will emulate the movement of the horse, jumping and dotting the urban fabric from south to north.

We will start our game at the expectant surroundings of the new Reus Hospital and of the Bellisens University Campus, with its future train halt and its nearby bus station. Then we will cross the city centre by tram, on foot or by bicycle, until we'll reach the old hospital and the current railway station. We will then find a way to continue our walk through the city over the railway cut. At this point we will rediscover the cultivated landscapes and the water infrastructures still present along the Boca de la Mina promenade. We will finally reach the promontory of the Pere Mata Institute, where we will regain the panoramic view of Reus.

Reus, the setting for the RAW

Reus, the protagonist of the RAW workshop, is a medium-sized city located in the centre of a region called not by chance "El Camp"; a short distance from the sea, on a fertile plain with a gentle slope, furrowed by a web of tiny streams that, when dry, often act as paths. Paths that lead through the fields that the Romans laid out two thousand years ago. Land planted with vines and orchards, hazelnut trees and chicken coops, some of which have been left fallow.

By a decree of 1309, King James II of Aragon granted Reus the right to a market. It was immediately a centre for wheat, oil, wine, almonds and hazelnuts, which were produced in the surrounding areas. The growth of the town in the 18th century was vertiginous, rising from 2,056 inhabitants in 1717 to 28,780 in 1887. In 1805, work began on a utopian canal to link Reus to the sea by navigable waters. The construction of the railway structure linked to the city culminated in 1891 with the direct line between Reus and Barcelona and, from 1894, to Zaragoza and Madrid.

In the 19th century, the city's centre of gravity shifted northwards with the construction of the stock exchange and the Fortuny Theatre. The gold rush, a period of strong economic growth and the proliferation of the bourgeoisie, allowed the city to renew itself piece by piece, with eclectic but high quality architecture. The most striking of all, the Pere Mata Institute, a visionary hospital for the mentally ill designed by the architect Lluís Domènech i Montaner, was to be the model for Barcelona's Sant Pau hospital.

The industrial and commercial bourgeoisie competed to build the best houses. None of them is the work of Antoni Gaudí, the city's illustrious son, but some are designed by his disciples: Joan Rubió, Domènech Sugranyes. The one that most changed the architectural language of the city because of its location and delicacy was Domènech's Navàs house.

The countryside was also filled with fine villas. The farmhouses constituted a collection of excellent architecture, always surrounded by groves and gardens. They were, simultaneously, places for leisure and for controlling agricultural production. Before the Spanish Civil War (1936-39), the town still kept a balance between its downtown and the productive —and lively— landscape that surrounded it. The territory was a harmonious mosaic that the demographic growth of the 1960s and subsequent speculation would definitively wipe out.

The ethnic repression that followed the Spanish Civil War in Catalonia, dismantled the many political and civic institutions and associations that were one of the city's greatest assets. Some of them remain: the Reading Centre, El Círcol dels Senyors, Reus Deportiu, the Reus Ploms Swimming Club, which are still today a true intangible heritage of the city.

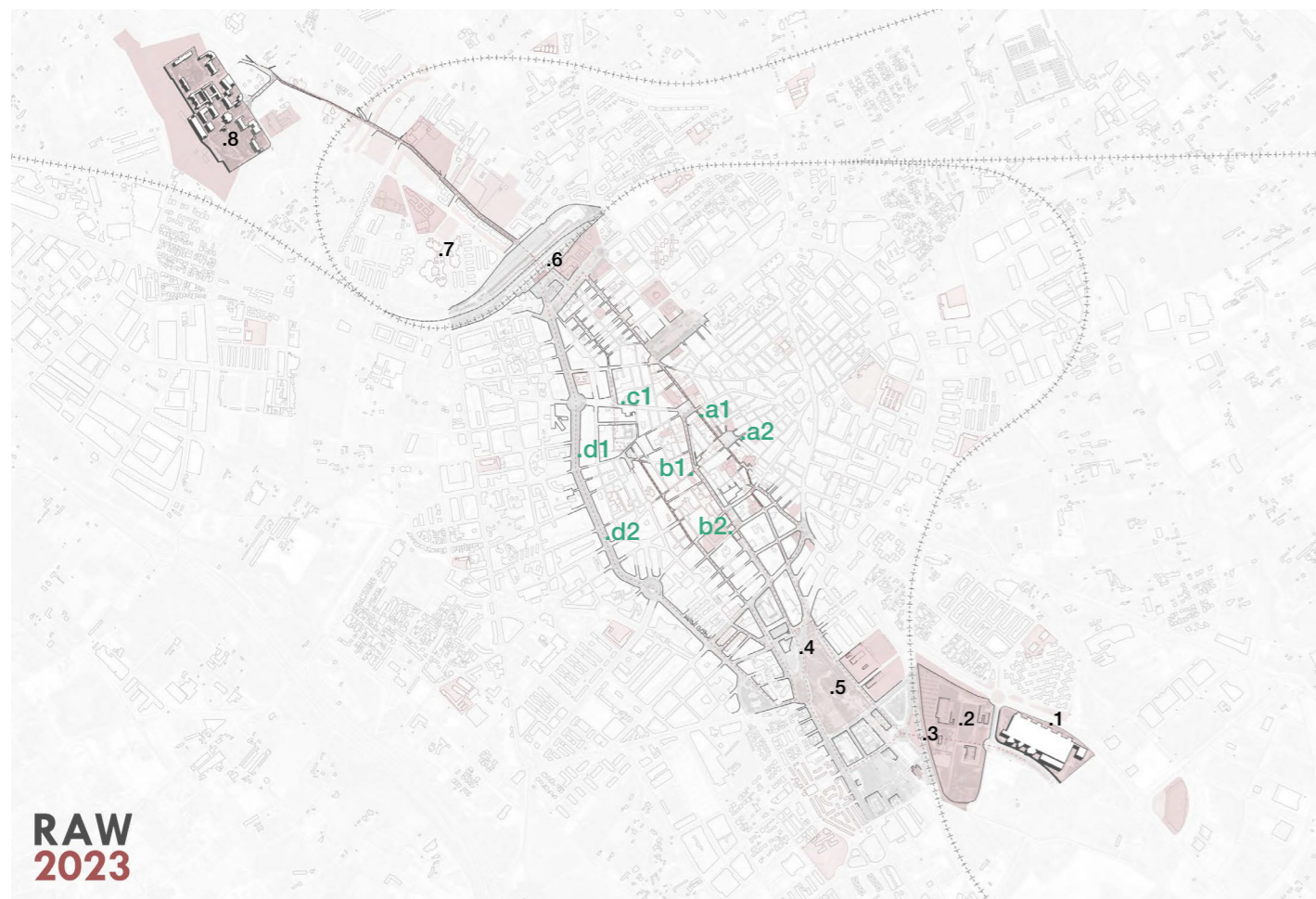
Today the city has around 110,000 inhabitants, and even if it has long since ceased to be the second most populated city in Catalonia, it continues to form the second metropolitan area of Catalonia together with the nearby city of Tarragona, the ancient capital of Roman Hispania (135,000 inhabitants), and together with a constellation of smaller towns that dot El Camp. All of them articulate a dense and fragmented urban landscape, comparable in its patched-up structure to those found in the Benelux, north-west Germany or Denmark. A territory, in short, made up of agricultural land, industrial areas —such as the main oil refinery in the western Mediterranean— services and large facilities. An area of some 25 km in diameter which, with its international airport, high-speed railway station and university, is home to around half a million inhabitants in winter and doubles its population in summer with its cultural, sun, beach and gastronomic tourism.

3 themes on one axis

The first edition of the Reus architecture and urban design international workshop —The City Foreseen— produced a series of reflections and proposals based on a matrix made up of three themes, crossed with three city's physical axes. The housing emergency, post-industrial heritage and mobility/intermodality were thus woven into the spider's web formed by the radial urban axes of Riudoms, Montblanc and Salou. The results of the joint work of the RAW were presented by the participating teams on the final day of the Workshop, and summarised together with new conclusions in the book presented in the mid-term seminar held on 30 September 2022.

In the next edition of the RAW, The linked city, we intend to develop reflections and proposals on three other themes which, in this case, will be informed by a single interwoven physical axis that crosses the city from south to north like one of those arrows that pierce hearts: the axis that runs from "hospital to hospital" and from "station to station". And just as the themes of the last edition linked heritage with the need for housing and mobility, those of the next edition, without ever forgetting the problem of housing, will address the healthy city, the accessible city and the city of knowledge.

The city allergic to bureaucracy that sooner or later cancels knowledge.



“From hospital to hospital and from station to station”

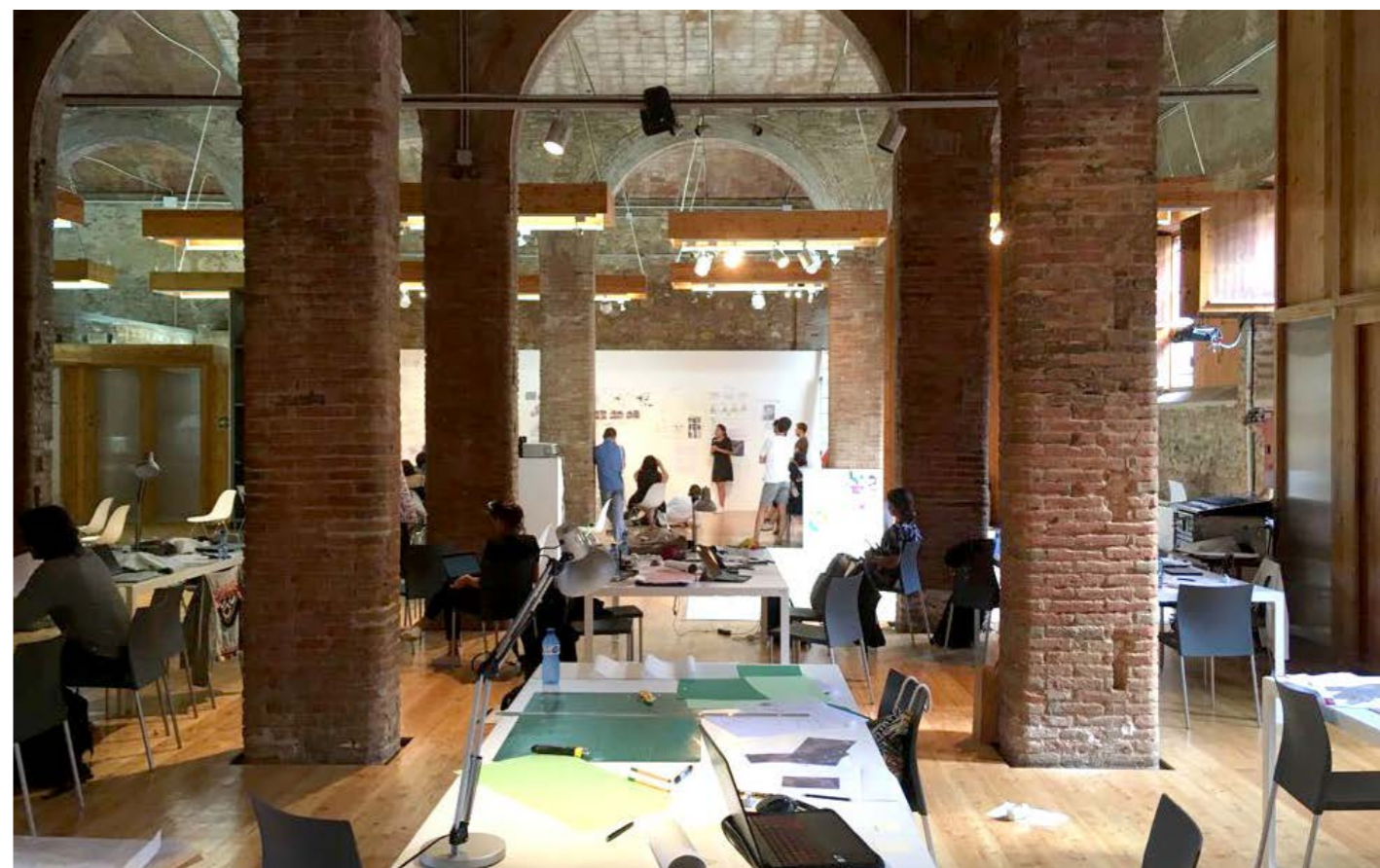
The Sant Joan de Reus University Hospital (1) is a huge health facility located in the south-east end of Reus. It is the reference hospital for Baix Camp and the south of the province, that is, for approximately 200,000 inhabitants.

In Tarragona, barely 15 minutes away by car, there is another hospital of similar size and capacity, a good example of the competition held between the two cities to attract territorial facilities. Next to the Reus hospital is the Bellisens Campus (2) of the Rovira i Virgili University with the faculties of Economics, Business, Architecture and some of the departments of the Faculty of Medicine. The URV also performs territorial balances with the nearby campuses of Tarragona (Chemistry, Engineering, Oenology, Education, Nursing, Arts and Law), also located 15 minutes from Reus by car, and Vila-Seca (Geography and Tourism) just 8 minutes away. The southern node of the axis between our hospitals and stations is therefore under the gravitational pull of the double planet formed by the two largest cities in the province. A force of attraction that has led the central government, after many years of claims, to commit itself to the future construction of a railway halt (3) at this point.

We start, therefore, from three pieces: Hospital (1), Campus (2) and the future southern train Halt (3), which together with the nearby bus station (4), constitute important urban fragments, with their mutual relations still disturbed by the railway tracks, and still to be defined. The Mas Iglesias park (5), between the future halt and the bus station, is the point at which our route divides into four parallel beams that cross the city and its old quarter, before merging again further north in front of the Main Reus Train station (6). Each of the four routes crosses an ever newer and more westerly layer of the thousand-year-old onion that is Reus. **a)** The route that crosses the old centre of the city through its main street (a1) and its market square (a2). **b)** The route that passes through the space freed up by the old city walls (b1) and the European gauge railway station (b2) that, until 1975, linked Reus with its port. **c)** The route that infiltrates through the neighbourhoods (c1) that grew to the west of the walls and, finally **(d)**, the modern ring road (d1), with forgotten works by Enric Miralles (d2), along which the future tramway is planned.

Whether by one or the other route, whether on foot, by bicycle or by tram —but trying to avoid the omnipresent car— we arrive at the main Reus railway station (6) with its wide stretch of tracks, almost 10 hectares in area and 150 metres wide, which makes any attempt by the city to link up with its landscape and northern districts (Boca de la Mina and Barri Gaudí (7), by Ricardo Bofill) almost impossible at the present time.

Once we have crossed the railway tracks, the northern tip of our cupid's arrow signals the historic Pere Mata psychiatric hospital (8), built by Lluís Domènech i Montaner between 1897 and 1912, and extended with new care buildings in later years. It is here that our route stops and where it is best understood that Reus can still aspire to revive its love affair with the Mediterranean landscape that encircle it.



The accessible city

The accessible city is the one that understands mobility as a right for all citizens, and not as a privilege. Mobility that does not discriminate on the basis of health, income or class.

It is the one that offers fast and convenient strategic connections between the city's nodal points.

It is the city of bicycles and pedestrians, where both coexist without having to compete over the same space.

It is the city with clear, easy, intuitive and well synchronised public transport modes.

It is the city that takes care of the mobility of the elderly and people with motor disabilities.

It is the city that makes them visible and discriminates them positively in public space.

It is the city that is also well connected by public transport to its immediate surroundings and to its neighbouring cities: the city of the Trampcamp.

It is, of course, the city conveniently connected to its international Airport.

And the city that has an airport well connected with the region, taking advantage of the nearby high-speed train.

It is the city capable of overcoming its urban barriers and corsets; of traversing, for example, its

ts railways and expressways safely and easily.

It is the city that offers well-designed, attractive and safe cycle lanes, both intra-urban and inter-urban,

well coordinated and complementary to the tram and the bus.

It is the city that guarantees vertical access (lifts) within its public and private buildings specially in its ageing neighbourhoods.

It is the city that provides assistance and care for the elderly at home,

not the one that forces them to move in order to be cared for.

The healthy city

It is the city that restricts car traffic and encourages walking and cycling: is it the 15-minute city?

It is the city that facilitates the practice of sport, not only in specific equipments,

but also in the premises of schools, institutes and universities.

It is the city that takes care of its surrounding landscape seeking for physical and psychological health.

It is the city that protects and promotes biodiversity.

It is the city fed with local products grown in its immediate surroundings.

It is the city that is concerned about not polluting, that takes care of the quality of its air,

its land and its water; it is the city that responsibly protects its water resources.

It is the city that encourages active ageing, incorporating the elderly into the community,

involving them in society's initiatives and giving them an important role in the care of children and youngsters.

It is the city that, as much as possible, cares for the elderly at their own homes,

and not only in primary care centres and nursing homes.

It is the city that links its hospitals with the population,

that guarantees health care —physical and psychological— for the community.

It is the city that does not separate and isolate its inhabitants in dispersed urban developments, but mixes and brings them

together in the public space of compact urbanism.

It is the city that takes care of its living spaces, its streets, squares and facilities, from its libraries to its theatres.

It is the one that allows the youngest to go to school on safe roads.

The city of knowledge

It is the city that generously generates and shares knowledge in all its forms.

The city complicit with its university, and the university complicit with its city.

The city that knows how to transform libraries into meeting places.

It is the city that is sensitive to the environment.

The city that demands education, training and knowledge from its politicians;

the city that also demands that they keep their promises.

It is the beautiful city, where every building, every street and every district shows empathy for its neighbours and where good

architecture is protected and promoted as a cultural asset and a source of collective recognition.

It is the city of performing arts, theatre, circus, dance. The city of the Trapezi festival, and of the Fortuny and Bartrina theatres.

It is the city whose civil society is mobilised and active. It is the civic city of the Círcol and the Centre de Lectura, which organises

meetings, conferences and festivals to rethink and get to know each other better.

It is the city of trust, the city that takes advantage of the ideas of its inhabitants and that knows how to attract talent from other

places; the forum city, the place for the free exchange of ideas.

It is the city that values its public meeting places, its squares and pedestrian thoroughfares.

The city that relates to the agrarian culture of the surrounding landscape and recognises itself through it.

It is the city that defends minorities, women and the brave. The tolerant city,

which is accepting and interested in those who are different.

The non-paternalistic and non-normativist city, which encourages the autonomy of the citizen.

The city allergic to bureaucracy that sooner or later cancels knowledge.

CALENDAR

Dates: 28/08 to 08/09 2023

Monday 28th August	Institutional reception: City Council representatives Presentation of the workshop, theme, scope and people. Organisation of the 4 groups. Delivery of dossier + basic kit.	Saturday 2nd September	Visit of Tarragona / Free
Afternoon:	Guided tour of the city of Reus.	Sunday 3 September	Visit of Barcelona / Free
Tuesday 29th August	Morning: Key Lecture 0: Presentation of the city of Reus and working framework. Guided tours: 4 independent itineraries	Monday 4th September	Morning: Workshop. Proposal Afternoon: Workshop. Proposal
Afternoon:	Key lecture 1: Accessible city: mobility strategies (Reus) Key lecture 2: Accessible city: mobility strategies (KU Leuven) Workshop. Diagnostic analysis	Tuesday 5th September	Morning: Workshop. Proposal Afternoon: Workshop. Proposal
Wednesday 30th August	Morning: Key lecture 1: Sustainable city: strategies for resilience (Reus) Key lecture 2: Sustainable city: strategies for resilience (Zurich)	Wednesday 6th September	Morning: Workshop. Proposal Afternoon: Workshop. Proposal Closing Key Lecture (Gothemburg)
Afternoon:	Workshop. Diagnostic analysis	Thursday 7th September	Morning: Workshop. Proposal Afternoon: Workshop. Proposal
Thursday 31st August	Morning: Key Lecture 1: City and knowledge: innovation and research strategies (Reus) Key Lecture 2: City and knowledge: innovation and research strategies (Genoa)	Friday 8th September	Morning: Workshop. Proposal Afternoon: Final Review. Closure Evening: Concert open to the public. Dinner + party
Afternoon:	Workshop. Diagnostic analysis	Saturday 9th September (party)	Free return
Friday 1st September	Morning: Workshop. Diagnostic preparation by teams Afternoon: Intermediate Review Dinner + party		