

ALESSANDRA CAPANNA – EDIFICI PER LA SCUOLA, EDIL STAMPA EDITRICE DELL'ANCE, ROMA, 2013

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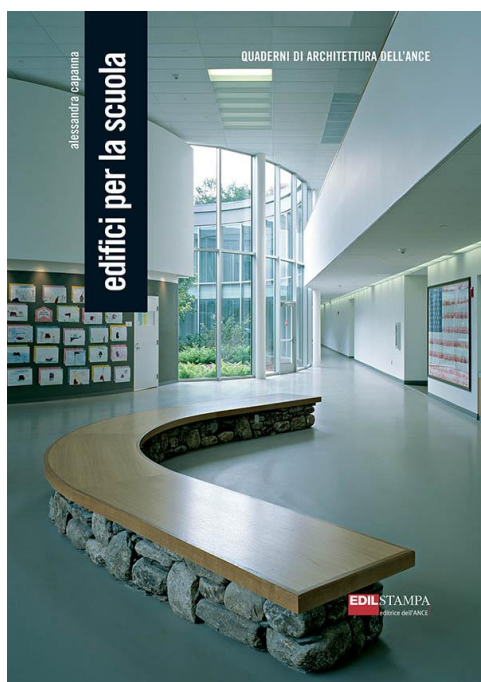
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Abstract. Present paper is the review of the architecture book “Edifici per la scuola” by Alessandra Capanna, The book is published by EDIL STAMPA Editrice dell'ANCE, Rome, 2013, with ISBN 978-88-7864-100-6. Professor Dr. Architect Alessandra Capanna is architect and professor of Architectural Design within Faculty of Architecture, Sapienza University Rome, Italy.

Key words: book review, architecture, architectural design, Sapienza University, UAUIM.



1. Book review

“Edifici per la scuola” (“Buildings for schools”) written by architect Alessandra Capanna is a contemporary architecture book presenting highlights within both theory and practice research based on

design thinking and reevaluating educational program. As the beginning of the 21st century is based on mutations and changing paradigms within architectural concepts, functions and reorienting the priorities by changing needs and society, the book “Edifici per la scuola” (“Buildings for schools”) is making an interesting recent history on the 20th century education design program, moving towards nowadays approach in architectural understanding of the proposed concept of “new school”.

Both a wide collection of built projects and also decoding paths on algorithms designs regarding the “new school” programs and new inquiries answers on architecture, the book is presenting six theoretical based chapters – presenting the concepts: “new school”; “space and learning - school as place of experimenting creative principles.”; “models of spatial organization and urban role”; “two research themes” (maternal

schools vs. kindergartens); “sustainability challenges”; “projects and realizations” - followed by a wide presentation and architectural approach comprehension on multiple built case studies - presenting four educational age concepts: “schools for children” (schools for childhood); “primary schools”; “second level schools for first and second grade”; “school ensembles”.

The theoretical part of the volume is based on a brief historical presentation composed on main striking case studies that have written the new concepts of the 20th century in making mutations within the classic educational program reformatting the learning space, the new built models are presenting as highlighting the changing in the design thinking core but also in reevaluating the program for new teaching manners.

The case studies presented as highlighting and detailing conceptual theoretic approach, are commented by the author architect for underling several new 21st century educational-architectural expression utilities: building communication with sustainability principles but not at least the connection with the ground and landscape level, stretching towards nature and benefiting of natural sunlight and ventilation principles; creative spaces forming an understandable place and shaping educational community where the random meeting and learning by playing are similar important and enveloped in user-friendly materials. Presented case studies in the second half of the volume are from a wide perspective and location settings: 28 examples illustrated (images, plans, etc.) and detailed with architectural comments, from

Italy (11 case studies), Austria (1), Swiss (2), Denmark (1), Finland (1), France (1), Spain (1), Germany (3), Norway (1), Low Countries (1), Afganistan (1), Chile (1), Colombia (1), USA (2). The book “Edifici per la scuola” (“Buildings for schools”) is an interesting correlated research - research by design analysis, and a basis for understanding on contemporary architecture. Written in Italian, the volume has a qualitative design and printing visual materials, hard cover edition is in full polychromic, 256 pages, and an introduction is written by Paolo Buzzetti, President dell'ANCE (Capanna, 2013).

2. About the author

Alessandra Capanna is architect and professor of Architectural Design within Faculty of Architecture, Sapienza University Rome, Italy. Alessandra Capanna is PhD Architect in Architectural Composition (Theory of Architecture) and coordinated the research project "School Reform and Its Implications on School Building Standards" (Sapienza, Università di Roma, 2017). Alessandra Capanna was Invited Professor of International Diploma Projects Committees -March 2017 Session- within Faculty of Architecture, “Ion Mincu” University of Architecture and Urbanism Bucharest.

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