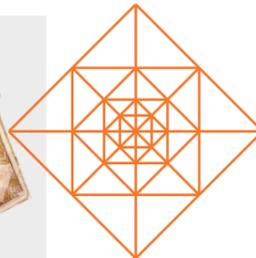


RIQUALIFICAZIONE di PIAZZA JORGE CHÁVEZ detto GEO DOMODOSSOLA - 2010 / 2014

JORGE CHÁVEZ SQUARE RENEWAL - DOMODOSSOLA Italy - 2010 / 2014 code J 168



aerial view before the intervention (Geoportale Piemonte 2010) - 1 : 5000



overall plan before and after the intervention - 1 : 5000
Bottom : site plan before and after and geometric and urban patterns - 1 : 2500 and 1 : 10000

Previous state :

The Square, dedicated to Jorge (Géo) Chávez Dartnell, aeronautics pioneer, fallen in Domodossola at the end of the first crossing flight of the Alps in 1910, was characterized by a simple rectangular space with a monument dedicated to the pilot in the centre, work of the sculptor Luigi Secchi (1923). The square originally was simply surrounded by a ring of Plane trees. At a later time, two rows of Lime trees were planted in the centre, and in the '60s the internal part was surrounded by a second ring of Cedrus Glauca Atlantica. The internal part of the square was delimited by a stone curb and the terrain was covered with gravel and asphalt. The Cedar trees, too thick and enormously grown, deprived the Plane and Lime trees of their living space and they were seriously damaged. In 2010 the square looked like an uncultivated wood where all the trees were sick and about to fall down. On the centenary of Chávez's deeds, the Association d'Ossola Museums and the Municipality, took part to a Interreg project FESR - European Union) to celebrate the anniversary, and among the works which were programmed, there was the restoration of the monument and the requalification of the square, the construction of an outdoor site-specific path of 13+1 works of art connecting in fourteen stages other places in the city, some of them in the landscape of Chávez's flight across the Sempione Pass, with the city of Brig, the starting point of the adventure.



above, right: Western view ,bottom : children kindergarten and the marbles playground

left: northern view

Photo: Walter Moroni "La Stampa"



Credits:

- project: Gianni Bretto & Lidya Re (Barboso-Botto-Re Associated)
- building site supervision: Gianni Bretto
- safety: Lidya Re
- electrical engineering: Alberto Barboso
- lighting design: Lara Del Soldà
- agronomy: Gianmauro Mottini
- phytopathology: Franco Lattanzio
- Topography: Moreno Bossone/Geogroup
- geology: Alberto Valcarenghi
- geomechanic check in situ: CSL (Centro Servizi per il Lapideo), Massimo Marian, geologist
- restoration of the Chávez monument : Vittorina Bertuolo
- design and structural engineering for book-crossing shelter: Gianni Bretto and Engineering Departement Metalco Spa (Luigi Vialto, Alessandro Bertino)
- artists: Gisella E. Giordano (sculpture/poetry) and Antonio Avena (supergraphic) / GAROU, Giacomo Platini (electronic musical poem)
- responsible for the procedure and supervisor : Paolo Lampughani (Musei d'Ossola Association)
- coordinating: Patrizia Bianconi (Musei d'Ossola Association)
- firms and vendors
- Impredil Srl (constructions)
- Green Garden (green areas)
- Metalco Spa (street furniture and book-crossing shelter)
- i Guzzini Spa (lighting)
- BL Acoustics (sound system and video surveillance)

Description of the intervention:

Chavez Square goes back to the early '900, like others squares in Domodossola, it is rotated of 45° respect to the urban plan of the end of the 19th century. The project, was developed in line with that diagonality. The first lot (square and garden) has been realized. The second (external sidewalks, car parks and new trees), is awaiting funding . Perspectives generated by moving along the stone-paved paths, frame changing visions of the monument to Chávez and the urban landscape. The geometric pattern (ad quadratum) is similar to that of the layout of the Italian gardens represented in the 1700s planimetries of Domodossola. Schematic of a cosmic principle, it was formerly used in esoteric rituals related to the founding acts (of cities, buildings, gardens).

