TEN MODEST SUGGESTIONS FOR A NEW ATHENS CHARTER

1 - The city as a high-tech favela.
2 - The city as a personal computer every 20m.
3 - The city as a place for a cosmic hospitality.
4 - The city as an air-conditioned full-space.
5 - The city as a genetic laboratory.
6 - The city as a living plankton.
7 - Research models of weak urbanization.
8 - Realize faded and crossable borders.
9 - Realize reversible and light infrastructures.
10 - Realize great transformations through micro-projects.

These projects are not meant to be realized. They are not utopias for the city of the future, but reflections on the city today. The world has changed, but the culture of project hasn’t yet. The city is nowadays no longer a whole of architectural boxes but a territory of men, facilities, information, immaterial relations. The models of weak urbanization try to combine architecture and agriculture, technology and meteorology, goods and sacred cows.

INFINITIES

We nowadays live in a world that has no exterior side, neither political nor geographic; a global world made of the sum of many local economic and environmental crises. An infinite world, but not a definitive one: unlimited but with limits of development; mono-logic but ungovernable; without borders, but without a global image. A world made of many worlds; dull, polluted, where everything melts and expands itself; to survive, it has to reform itself day by day with new laws, new statutes, new projects, in order to manage its “out of control” induced activity. Every intervention has to be reversible, incomplete, elastic, because what is definitive is dangerous. An infinite world which space is filled with the bodies of seven billion people, by flows of information and by numberless goods, that make circles, aggregates and vibrations that totally fill the urban scene. The only possible reform of the city has to be found within the interstitial spaces, in the home economies, in the human relations; within our minds.

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