

12. / 13. September

SAVE THE DATE

UAH!

GOES BIENNALE

Talking about
**Unconventional
Affordable
Housing!**

19th International
Architecture Exhibition
Biennale di Venezia

Biennale Sessions and Discussion
at the Austrian Pavilion
Agency for Better Living

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Talking about Unconventional Affordable Housing!

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19th International Architecture Exhibition – Biennale di Venezia
Biennale Sessions and Discussions
at the **Austrian Pavilion – Agency for Better Living**

Unconventional Affordable Housing * explores new possibilities of contemporary housing and living at the intersection of affordability and unconventionality, starting from a reflection on existing housing practices, policies, and projects, and experimenting transformative reuse in three Italian contexts investigated by the project partners – Bari, San Donato Milanese, Trieste – and in further locations selected by the European universities participating in a design studios network.

The event at the **19th International Architecture Exhibition** will entail the presentation of selected projects as well as six discussion sessions starting from six guiding questions – or provocations – which have emerged from theoretical and design explorations: these questions aim at stimulating an exchange on key issues and tensions in the contemporary debate on housing affordability and innovation. The sessions provide a forum to discuss how housing is conceptualised, produced, inhabited, and maintained, and what alternative approaches could look like.



* **UAH!** is a Research Project of National Relevant Interest (PRIN 2022), funded by the European Union – Next Generation EU.

FRIDAY 12.09

Biennale Session

→ Corderie dell'Arsenale, Sala d'Armi Nord, 1° piano

11.30-13.30 *Presentations of projects from the Design Studio Network*

Discussion:

Talking about Unconventional Affordable Housing!

→ Giardini, Austrian Pavilion

15.00-16.00 *(Why) do we have to share?*

16.00-17.00 *Affordable for whom, and for how long?*

17.00-18.00 *Where's the line between the home and the city?*

SATURDAY 13.09

Biennale Session

→ Corderie dell'Arsenale, Sala d'Armi Nord, 1° piano

11.30-13.30 *Presentations of projects from the Design Studio Network*

Discussion:

Talking about Unconventional Affordable Housing!

→ Giardini, Austrian Pavilion

15.00-16.00 *Can't we just demolish it?*

16.00-17.00 *Who manages and takes care of it?*

17.00-18.00 *What if no one owned it?*

(Why) do we have to share?

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12. September h. 15

This session explores the meaning and implications of shared living, balancing its potentials, challenges, and necessity in a world of limited resources.

12. September h. 16

This session examines the relative nature of affordability and who is involved in producing it, exploring hybrid housing-support models and the potential of self-managed, community-led approaches as alternatives to market or state provision.

**Affordable for
whom, and for
how long?**

Where's the line between the home and the city?

12. September h. 17

This session explores the thresholds between the domestic and the urban, questioning the blurred boundaries where housing intersects with public life.

13. September h. 15

This session explores reuse as a strategy and necessity in housing, examining how working with the existing – despite its limits – can foster affordability, innovation, and new ways of dwelling.

**Can't we just
demolish it?**

Who manages and takes care of it?

13. September h. 16

This session explores housing management, questioning power dynamics, participation, support structures, and the roles of different actors in creating and maintaining inclusive, sustainable, and caring living environments.

13. September h. 17

This session explores housing beyond ownership, focusing on access, collective management, and urban commons as alternatives that challenge property norms and reframe housing as a right.

**What if no one
owned it?**

BIENNALE SESSION

12. / 13. September, from 11.30 to 13.30

During the two-day event, the outcomes of projects developed by students of a European Design Studio Network will be presented in the Biennale Sessions at the Corderie dell'Arsenale.

Design Studio Network: Politecnico di Milano (Italy), Universität Innsbruck (Austria), Universidade de Coimbra (Portugal), Universidade Lusófona Porto (Portugal), Universidade do Porto (Portugal), Instituto Superior Técnico – Universidade de Lisboa (Portugal), Technische Universiteit Delft (The Netherlands), Northumbria University Newcastle (UK), University of Nicosia (Cyprus).

Curators: Gennaro Postiglione (coordinator), Francesca Serrazanetti, Constanze Wolfgring (Discussions), Marta Aversa, António Carvalho (Biennale Session)



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