Editorial

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«*Small is beautiful*».
[Schumacher 1973]

For a journal that deals with architectural drawing and representation, the topic of this issue No. 14, *Analog Models*, edited by Alberto Sdegno and Pedro Manuel Cabezos-Bernal, is certainly of great appeal, and this is demonstrated by the high number of contributions arrived at the editorial office at the end of the call for papers.

Architecture, in its scalar reduction, arouses a fascination that is not limited to its seductive dimension as an object, but proves to be fundamental for its function of representation, which is valid, to use the words of Pierre-Alain Croset, "as the crystallization of a thought and as an anticipation of a constructive reality" [Croset 1987].

Even today, in the field of architecture teaching, the model constitutes a formidable support for depicting, simulating, experimenting, designing and expressing one's idea before creating a product, but also for communicating through the use of the volume, using the three dimensions: length, width, height, which leads to dealing with positioning in space: longitude, latitude, altitude.

Talking about models today is even more interesting given the increased awareness of the potential of digital; in this field the practice of drawing has received important stimuli to innovate and prove to be a decisive tool in graphics, as in design and, above all, in architecture. We believe, in fact, that it is impossible to think about architecture without drawing, and the physical model constitutes a closely related expression.

Already from the call for papers reference was made to the well-known essay by Massimo Scolari *L'idea di modello* [Scolari 1988] which clarifies the use of the model both as a tool of representation and as an object of communication of the architecture. In this issue we want to highlight the theoretical and concrete meeting point between geometry and drawing, between digital and analogue, in consideration of the contributions that 3D printing has introduced into the practice of architecture, from mock-up to the model defined in scale.

The index opens with a *Cover* entrusted to the curators who, for years, have characterized their research in the field of new representation and communication technologies such as 3D modeling, virtual reality and 3D printing.

The *Image* chosen to comment on for this issue is the axonometric model of House X by Peter Einsenman, described by Paolo Belardi. The three-dimensional representation follows an unhinging geometric principle that relates the 'three-dimensional reality' and the 'axonometric transformation'.

The selection of contributions took into account four focuses: the first, *Micro Architectures and Mock-ups* is opened by the essay by Marco Gaiani, curator of the exhibition *Palladio designer* (Vicenza, Palladio Museum, 12 April - 5 May 2024). The contribution frames the production of both analogue and digital models in a theoretical and experiential context, also taking into consideration the motivations that guided them.

For the second focus, *New Materials for New Technologies*, the editorial team has chosen to open with an essay by Eduardo Carazo Lefort and Álvaro Moral-García which deals with the importance of the material with which the maquette is made, considering it not so much a casual physical support, but an expressive quality chosen by the craftsman, such as, for example, the great Renaissance and Baroque production of wooden models for architecture.

Riccardo Migliari opens the third focus affording the theme *Models as Drawings* taking us back to the essential value of projective geometry and the geometric relationships that are established between the different elements of the object for the reconstitution of the forms represented in space.

Finally, the fourth focus, *Models of Structures, Structures of Models*, opens with Adriana Rossi's contribution on the need to use the model to understand complex structures.

The theme of the model also found further confirmation in the *Readings/Rereadings* column with the intervention of Veronica Riavis in the famous monographic issue *Rassegna, (Maquette)*, No. 32, of 1987.

Speaking of recently published volumes, this issue features reviews of: the curatorship by Laura Farroni, Manuela Incerti and Alessandra Pagliano *Rappresentare il tempo. Architettura, geometria e astronomia* (Representing time. Architecture, geometry and astronomy); the volume *Linguaggi Grafici. Fotografia* (Graphic Languages. Photography) edited by Enrico Cicalò, Valeria Menchetelli and Michele Valentino, the monograph by Adriana Rossi titled *Sant Cugat del Vallès. Verso l'accessibilità dei dati* (Sant Cugat del Vallès. Towards data accessibility); the monograph *Città sospese fra capi e fiumare. Strategie identitarie* (Cities Suspended Between Capes and Rivers. Identity Strategies) by Marinella Arena; the proceedings of the second conference *DAI. Il Disegno per l'Accessibilità e l'Inclusione* (Drawing for Accessibility and Inclusion, Udine, 1, 2 December 2023), edited by Alberto Sdegno and Veronica Riavis.

Finally, some of the main events organized or sponsored by the UID that have taken place in recent months have been reviewed: the new edition of *I libro : I disegno* (1 Book : 1 Drawing) which marks the fourth year of life and has maintained a large following among all UID members; the *Seminario informativo, formativo sulla valutazione* (Information and Training Seminar on Evaluation) held in Rome on 14 March 2024 and organized by the UID commissions on Training and Research; the *Giornata di studi internazionale eXploЯA* (eXploЯA International Study Day) organized in Rome on 15 March 2024 by the group of young winners of the 2023 Cardone prize; the event *Dialoghi con gli archivi di architettura* (Dialogues with Architectural Archives) scheduled in Pescara on 10 May 2024 by the Archives commission; the symposium *Giornate della Rappresentazione e Conservazione del Patrimonio culturale contemporaneo - Prima Edizione. Un Dialogo Possibile: Rappresentare e Conservare il Contemporaneo* (Days of the Representation and Conservation of contemporary cultural heritage - First Edition. A Possible Dialogue: Representing and Preserving the Contemporary), curated by the School of Conservation and Restoration of Urbino, DIAPReM/TekneHub and the Department of Architecture of Ferrara, on 30 November 2023; and the symposium *Innovazione e Internazionalizzazione della Ricerca. Esperienze nazionali e internazionali innovative a confronto tra memoria e amnesia* (Innovation and Internationalization of Research. Innovative national and international experiences comparing memory and amnesia) organized in Ferrara by the Internationalization and Innovation commissions of the UID, on 19 March 2024.

Numerous other meetings that have taken place and are taking place in recent days will be present in the next issue.

Finally, I would like to give a preview of issue 15 of the journal which is currently being prepared for December 2024. The theme is *Representation Inside and Outside the Landscape*, edited by Maria Grazia Cianci with the studio Balmori Associates and Darío Álvarez Álvarez. Once again a dialogue has been chosen with one of the disciplines of Area 08 Engineering and Architecture, and the landscape, as the curators write in the call for papers, intends to address scholars of these themes, inviting them to reflect on the relationship between representation and landscape, between description and interpretation, between "being inside" and "being outside" of the landscape itself.

I conclude with sincere thanks to the authors, the editors and the reviewers of this issue, to the entire editorial committee, and in particular to Valeria Menchetelli and all the editorial staff for the great work carried out once again with great quality and punctuality.

Reference List

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Schumacher, E.F. (1973). *Small is beautiful. A study of economics as if people mattered*. London: Abacus.

Scolari, M. (1988). L'idea di modello. In *Eidos: The Canadian Graduate Journal of Philosophy*, No. 2, pp. 16-39.