



Workbook of Affinities

Updating the Grand Tour.
Memory and Invention of the
European Built Environment

The *Workbook of Affinities* comprises 7 sections that synthesise the results of the exercises undertaken by the UpGranT Consortium in the conception of a learning by travelling pedagogical model, re-empowering the Grand Tour's long-standing practice.

Section 1 UpGranT Consortium

Section 2 Politecnico di Milano · POLIMI

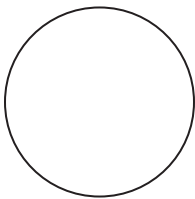
Section 3 Faculty of Architecture – University of Porto · FAUP

Section 4 Alma Mater Studiorum – University of Bologna · UNIBO

Section 5 Art Academy of Latvia · LMA

Section 6 Aristotle University of Thessaloniki · AUTH

Section 7 Estonian Art Academy · EKA



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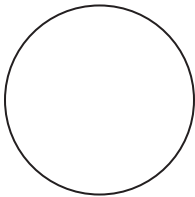
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Foreword

– Helder Casal Ribeiro,
Silvia Ramos



Almost three years after the beginning of the UpGranT project, the “Workbook of Affinities” synthesises the results of the consortium’s architectural exercises in conceiving an *in situ* pedagogical model, or, in other words, a learning by travelling methodology hinged on the (re)interpretation of real buildings, re-empowering the Grand Tour’s long-standing practice.

The present publication guarantees equal voice to all partners, individually and collectively, in terms of their affinities (close relationships, shared qualities) and their differences (otherness, distinct character), particularly in relation to townscape, architecture, and design practice.

To establish a common ground, highlighting affinities and differences, the “Workbook of Affinities” is written in a single language and organised into seven sections: one for each partner institution, portraying cultural identity, and a common section in which the entire consortium participates.

This common section – Section 1 – includes not only an overview of the project’s objectives, goals, and dynamics, along with the main shared events and productions toward an UpGranT method, but also a set of essays that present each partner’s final perspective or last contribution to the project theme.

The individual sections – Sections 2 to 7 –, although dedicated to the work of each partner institution – Politecnico di Milano, Faculty of Architecture – University of Porto, Alma Mater Studiorum – University of Bologna, Art Academy of Latvia, Aristotle University of Thessaloniki, Estonian Art Academy –, share a common structure, enabling comparative readings. These sections feature a precise selection of the fundamental, representative exercises developed by each team – Grand Tourists, Grand Tour, Souvenirs on Exemplary Buildings, Learning by travel with... –, in a layout that values interpretative essays through the concept of drawing with text and writing with drawing, presented in the form of original short texts and visual essays (Wall Atlas) that pair images from the authors with archival documentation, along with an interview with a living architect in practice. These exercises were based on the same premises, criteria, and analytical models. All deviations represent the corresponding partner’s personal and cultural approach or perspective. The contents in each section are the entire responsibility of the partner organisation and their authors.

The “Workbook of Affinities” is available in digital, open-access, and print formats. The book’s design interprets both its character as an exercise notebook, in A4 format, with a soft cover and standard paper, and its organisation into independent yet interconnected sections, printed in seven detachable fascicles, published simultaneously and bound together by a paper strap.

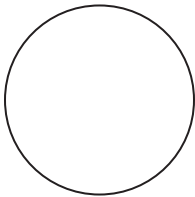
The workbook’s structure encompasses the meaningful ethos of learning by travelling by bringing together different matters/interpretative accounts on a selection of architects, travels and buildings, demonstrating the trans-temporal and trans-geographic generative role of travel, capable of sparking the interest of new paths not only in students, researchers and professors, from different scholarly levels and areas of interest, but also professionals of architecture, culture, travel, tourism and the public interested in the themes of arts, architecture and creative process.

The goal of this book is to celebrate architecture as a social and cultural imperative through travel and creative awareness.

The “Workbook of Affinities” is an occasion to express UpGranT’s complete gratitude to the many Institutional Partners, listed at the end of the book’s first section, for their effective and always assiduous support. A special thanks also goes to all the Grand Tourist Architects for their significant contributions.

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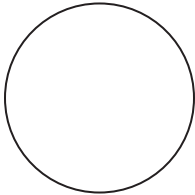
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