



NEMESI_II_Syllabus

Issues

In proposing the second edition of the summer school **NEMESI_Futuristic Spaces and ArchiLectures: Depero scenarios for Trento**. The main theme is the enhancement of the city's artistic and cultural heritage through the language of architecture. To integrate the visuals proposed in the first edition (available at the [NEMESI official page](#)). This second proposal introduces what we might call "ArchiLectures", or architectural readings exploring the intimate relationship between the art of Trento's Futurist avant-garde and the architecture of its public space. The aim is to interpret and reveal the artistic and cultural substratum of the city, involving an international class of students asked to develop design visions for the rethinking of some of Trento's most significant public spaces: "ArchiLectures" as futuristic visions of a city oscillating between Futurist avant-garde movements and utopian architecture.

The connection between these two dimensions, art and architecture, rooted in the city of Trento, starts from the reinterpretation of the "arrangement mechanics" that Fortunato Depero, one of the pioneers of contemporary design, employed in his well-known visualisations.

Objectives

And it is based on the artist's own idea that one of the objectives of NEMESI II is formulated, namely to explore Depero's proposals for the creation of permanent museums of his work, including one in particular: the one designed for the city of Trento, which was never built. Taking into account the cultural richness that a figure such as Fortunato Depero brought to Futurism on an international scale and the value that he still brings to the Trentino region today, the objective of NEMESI II is to restore utopian "ArchiLectures", true futuristic images that bring together the reality of Trento's public spaces with the possible artistic and architectural connections hidden in the archives. Works of art and architecture are taken out of museum drawers and brought into public spaces, becoming "urban events" that raise awareness of the city's cultural heritage.

This means making contact with local cultural institutions, such as the Casa d'Arte Futurista Depero and the Mart, between Trento and Rovereto, revealing the city's spaces to the public as if they were ephemeral architectures, through drawings, photographs, typographic creations, video collages, virtual reconstructions and 3D prints.

Topics explored

Starting from that idea of sculpture-architecture that Depero himself defined as '*Glorie plastiche-Architettura*' (Plastic Glories-Architecture), these are the themes explored within NEMESI II:

- the rethinking of some of the most emblematic public spaces in the city of Trento, selected during the summer school, through design visions using images, models and video collages, including in a virtual environment;
- the creation of an exhibition which, as part of an event open to the public, opens up new scenarios for the configuration of public spaces through the language of Futurist art;
- the publication of an open-access book that brings together everything that was discussed and achieved during the two weeks of work; as well as the editorial work (in progress) that began at the end of the first edition.

Activities and case-studies

During the two weeks of work, the NEMESI II class will be guided through the vast graphic and artistic heritage of Depero and some of the public spaces in the city of Trento, with the aim of developing design proposals for future scenarios that rethink these meeting places through a plastic-futurist code. Utopian visions that encourage broad communication and bring together the plastic value of architecture with the evocative value of art, enhanced in an exhibition that, as in the previous edition, will provide further opportunities for dialogue between academia, institutions and citizens.

The summer school activities include lectures, which will systematise theoretical information on the in-depth context and operational aspects related to the type of outcomes and the setting up of the final exhibition. Specifically, NEMESI II will explore the following aspects:

- a utopian-futuristic reinterpretation of some significant public spaces in Trento:
 - Piazza Fiera
 - Piazza Lodron
 - Piazza della Mostra
 - Piazza del Duomo
 - Piazza Cesare Battisti
 - Piazza Adamo d'Argo
 - Giardino Pubblico San Marco
- the "hybrid" restitution, both digital and physical, of Depero's "Futurist Advertising Pavilions" and the museum project conceived by the artist himself for the city of Trento, also through the use of AI. Below are the Pavilions that will be studied based on the original drawings:
 - Padiglione "Zeta", 1917
 - Padiglione a forma di faccia geometrizzata, 1923-24
 - Padiglione a compenetrazione di sezioni di solidi curvilinei, 1924-25
 - Padiglione a compenetrazione di sezioni solide di circonferenza, 1924-25
 - Padiglione del fascio, 1925 ca.
 - Studio per padiglione pubblicitario Bestetti Tumminelli Treves, 1926
 - Padiglione con tetto di prismi compenetrati, 1925-26
 - Padiglione matite, 1925-26
 - Padiglione a prismi triangolari, 1926-27
- the creation of a model of the urban area that includes the case studies and 'ArchiLettura' proposed as part of NEMESI II, to be experienced in a mixed mode (immersive/augmented).
- the setting up of a final exhibition, in the wake of the ephemeral architecture proposed by Depero and studied as part of NEMESI II, with the involvement of local authorities, national/international experts, local companies and citizens.

The planned activities will concern:

- lectures (presentation of activities, specialist communications on NEMESI II topics and on the use of software employed for activities);
- photographic survey;
- life drawing in the most significant locations in the cities;
- workshop activities for cataloguing, managing and reworking the information (graphics, photographs, videos) collected during the site visits;
- pecha kucha/interim group presentations to discuss work in progress;
- preparation and setting up of a final exhibition;
- publication on the activities carried out for NEMESI II, open access and for informational purposes, with a narrative of the results obtained.

Participant background

Admission will be open to a **maximum of 22 international** senior Bachelor's degree students (who have finished the 2nd year) and all Master's degree students from any background related to **architecture, engineering, communication, multimedia design, visual arts, or similar, with an interest in architecture and graphics**.

The **interdisciplinary nature** of the project therefore addresses students interested not only in the **description of architectural space in images**, but also in the **use of innovative technologies for the experience of heritage and its cultural promotion**.

Participants should be confident in English-language use (B2).

Working tools

The graphic representation will be achieved through the use of analogue, digital and AI techniques and technologies, with the aim of defining an effective and interactive narrative of the case studies selected within NEMESI II, both on the public spaces of Trento and on the Advertising Pavilions. digital and AI technologies, with the aim of defining an effective and interactive narrative of the case studies selected within NEMESI II, both on the public spaces of Trento and on Depero's Futurist Advertising Pavilions, which will be conceptually integrated through the creation of latent visual devices of imaginary and possible projects, in search of an increasingly renewed relationship between art and architecture in the identified gathering places.

The workshop activities will be supported by the teaching staff involved, who will provide basic skills through the use of software suitable for digital modelling, 360° panoramic image management (including interactive), video editing and augmented and immersive reality experiences. In summary, here are some of the possible outcomes developed during the workshop activities:

- virtual format: photo gallery, 360° panoramas, videos, explorable and accessible digital models, use of AI to integrate communication processing and develop 3D models from 2D images;
- physical format: models, 3D prints, drawings, display panels.

Expected results

At the conclusion of NEMESI II, an exhibition open to the public is planned, which will provide a forum for reflection and debate on the "ArchiLectures" proposed by NEMESI II, through the formulation of futuristic and utopian hypotheses on some of Trento's public spaces, considered as case studies. Images, video collages, 3D prints and virtual models created from archive images, including the use of AI, will illustrate the proposed connections between futuristic reinterpretations of Depero's ideas, revisited by the students, and their configuration in the public spaces selected by the class from among the case studies. Students will be able to develop further

skills through collaboration with *FabLab UniTrento* and *Level Up Trento*, which, in addition to providing access to tools, will also provide support in the design and prototyping processes of the models.

Alongside the acquisition of skills, we intend to launch a process of promoting and disseminating the existing architectural heritage, taking into account innovative and participatory forms of knowledge sharing, available to multiple user categories, with the aim of establishing additional channels of communication between scholars, specialists, citizens, cultural institutions and artistic associations.

Programme

The two weeks will be organised into three phases:

- Phase I (analytical): survey, archive research, visit to the museums involved in NEMESI II, analysis of materials;
- Phase II (configurative): critical reworking through photographs, photomontages/collages, videos, physical models and virtual modelling;
- Phase III (set-up): definition and design of the exhibition space, setting up of the exhibition.

Specifically, the planned activities will concern:

- lectures (presentation of activities, specialist communications on NEMESI II topics and on the use of software employed for activities);
- photographic survey;
- life drawing in the most significant locations in the cities;
- workshop activities for cataloguing, managing and reworking the information (graphics, photographs, videos) collected during the site visits;
- pecha kucha/interim group presentations to discuss work in progress;
- preparation and setting up of a final exhibition;
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Soft Skills

At the end of NEMESI II, students will be able to develop graphic designs that address multiple levels of information; to design an exhibition in a short time, identifying effective connections of cultural and educational interest between archival material and its possible digital applications (2D and 3D). Students will also learn to devise communication solutions that integrate different types of information (photographic, analogue, virtual) through digital technologies, in order to simulate a photorealistic experience with a view to enhancing cultural heritage.

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