**blue in architecture 09** has been an international symposium focused on water. It aimed at furthering the knowledge of urban, economic, environmental and technological sustainability in project design, with the goal of enhancing quality standards in planning and design processes.

**blue in architecture 09** intended to promote opportunities for interdisciplinary collaboration, by enabling communication between experts, researchers, practitioners, administrations and public agencies, private companies, designers, infrastructure and service network managers, and public, private or cooperative entities involved in the planning, carrying out and management of architectural and urban projects.

**blue in architecture 09** was conceived to broaden the awareness of and to support projects dealing with urban transformation, technological innovation, and synergetic development between energy and the environment. It intends to focus on issues that are now of primary importance in urban transformation and local development processes.

**blue in architecture 09** has been a three-day program focused on five topics.
topic one
climate, water, energy and cities

Climate changes, water and energy influence today’s and tomorrow’s urban design, provoking, at one and the same time, both a lack of and an excess of water. Urban civilization has always developed around the use and control of water resources, and dependence on fossil fuels can be reduced through the use of renewable energy sources generated, once again, from natural water resources.

what we wanted _ what we asked
Historical studies, energy systems analyses, projects exploring urban history and new strategies for resource allocation that can prevent or make positive use of the climatic changes underway, so as to optimize the use of energy resources on an urban scale.

Iuav scientific coordinator: Erich Trevisiol

topic two
climate change and flood strategies

Climate change necessitate new emergency strategies that influence today’s and tomorrow’s urban design: the rising sea level and the recurring flooding of coastal and river-front cities demands new, from short to mid-
to long-term urban design strategies.

In short term, the management of housing emergency during periods of crisis and the survival of inhabited areas and rural dwellers in reaction to the catastrophic are problems that, on architectural-constructive level, involve concepts such as: provisional, reversibility and sustainability.

Assessing risk and vulnerability in medium and long term is an integrant part for sustainable urban design. New technologies for defending coastal areas and human settlements can limit the effects of extreme events, but their definition must also to be considered in developing new urban design and industrial/technological strategies.

what we wanted – what we asked

studies, analysis or projects marked for using strategies – both as immediate response to emergency or as foresight for controlling water and protecting of human settlements – that can influence today’s and tomorrow’s urban design.

luav scientific coordinators: Giovanni Mucelli and Claudia Tessarolo

topic three
architecture in a no-water world

Climate changes involve new strategies for conserving, reusing, recycling, reclaiming and treating water resources in desert environments or areas undergoing desertification. Insufficient water supply heightens conflict
and discrimination, but can be limited by urban design policies requiring responsible resource allocation. New technologies, new water desalination and reuse systems, and the possibility of constructing and dwelling in buildings/cities that demand responsible resource allocation can mitigate the social, political and spatial consequences of inadequate water supply in extreme climates.

**what we wanted _ what we asked**

Studies, analyses or projects that explore the environmental changes caused by a shortage or total lack of water. Proposals should identify new strategies, settlement guidelines, and technological solutions for inhabiting large areas of the world where the lack of water is a present and future emergency.

Luav scientific coordinator: Jacopo Gaspari

**topic four**

**liquid ethics**

Environmental ethics is a fundamental issue for sustainable policies, regardless of the perspective from which they are approached. The fair distribution of water resources is pressing issue that must be met with new political, legal and cultural regulations capable of avoiding new conflicts, injustice and human drama.
what we wanted _ what we asked
Studies, analyses and projects engaged in reassessing the ways in which planning and management processes are approached in world in which water, in short supply, is becoming a bone of contention or a source of fear and destruction.

Iuav scientific coordinator: Benno Albrecht

**topic five**

**amphibian architecture**

Climate changes are constantly producing new land patterns, defining vulnerable, often temporary regions: ambiguous border zones that call for a new approach to design and new architectural possibilities. Amphibian architecture provides a solution in water and in the places where land and water meet, imposing a conscious use of resources.

what we wanted – what we asked
Studies, analyses or projects exploring alterations in water environments and those areas where land and water meet. Proposals should identify new location strategies and ways of altering the environment that are capable of making conscious use of alternative energy.

Iuav scientific coordinators: Patrizia Montini Zimolo and Sergio Pascolo
blue in architecture 09
Water, Climate Change and Architecture
focus and debate on a fluid and sustainable future

First International Symposium
September 24th-27th | 2009
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Communication and graphic design
Pietro Tomasi with Elisa Brusegan and Servizio Comunicazione e Stampa IUAV

with the precious contribution by
Francesca Ciarini, Emanuele Dal Zot, Jacopo Galli, Chiara Leonardi, Nicola Maniero, Sara Montanari, Laura Montermini, Andrea Serreri, Laura Verenini

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