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Progettare l'altrove. Considerazioni sul ruolo dell'ermeneutica per un'architettura utopica

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*Abstract: Designing the Elsewhere. Considerations on the Role of Hermeneutics for a Utopian Architecture*

The political role of architecture in urban space design is still a significant philosophical issue. Starting from the assumption that cities can actually be understood as material texts, Paul Ricoeur's hermeneutics has described the architecture as a creative *mimesis* of space. Textual hermeneutics applied to architecture, if crossed with Ricoeur's reading of ideology and utopia, allows today to qualify the figure of the architect as a critical and transformative narrator of the urban dimension, and, thus, to identify his political task in the imaginative effort of thinking a utopian *elsewhere* which is, at the same time, rooted in cultural and historical identities of designed places.