

aperture

by Giovanni Damiani

Something one immediately notices when watching GEZA's works is their capacity of zooming scales. In fact, their designs include objects getting visible from afar and nearby.

The handmade quality of details are revealed only later. Their insistence on the colour black actually hides a number of details until you get closer, both outside and inside the building. Architectural designs view themselves through its designers, who help choose the optimum lenses to watch through.

In this respect, the exhibition's titled "Aperture" – suggesting both "openings" in Italian and "photographic diaphragm" in English– looks appropriate.

We speak of photographic objectives because GEZA's architecture uses in a contemporary way: classic and very solid tools, still ancient while modern, so that you will need to change lenses to see different things, similar to what one does with a good camera.

Remaining in the photographic arena, another theme of the exhibition is framing, that is choosing where and what to see, both inside and out. This is a typical feature of GEZA, whose architecture gets truly interfaced with the landscape, not because the "natural landscape" plays the role of an architect, but because architecture boldly and consciously chooses what needs to be seen.

GEZA are determined to create architectures where interior and exterior must get together, cope with each other, even disagree if need be. Should they disconnect, they would inevitably weaken and lose power. There is nothing more distant from certain trendy architectures where all is based on the dialectical pair of Skin/Façade v. Interior.

Gri and Zucchi open frames, views and windows, which make an integral part of the surfaces in their design, to generate contacts - almost never simply peaceful ones - between different parts. They are aware that changing pace, accelerating, shortening, widening, are all ancient tools for designers to organize space. And they use these tools when carefully designing every single detail.

The result is a very congenial and respectful work with regard to architecture and clients, the environmental conditions, the setting and all the constraints related to the profession itself. However, their work never gives up the role of architecture in the world and of an architect creating architecture.

