

# MuSuon

— Summary of Group Work —

International Workshop

*Lungo il Muson. Il paesaggio delle vie d'acqua da Mirano alla laguna di Venezia*

Treviso - Mirano (Venezia)

18.-22.06.2019

*Initiated by the Fondazione Benetton Studi Ricerca, an International workshop on the water system and landscape along the Muson river was held at Spazio Bomben in Treviso in June 2019, coordinated by Luigi Latini and Simonetta Zanon of the Fondazione Benetton. Three interdisciplinary groups of architects, landscape architects, agronomists, forest engineers, economists and others were directed by Imma Jansana, Thilo Folkerts and the director of the landscape program at the foundation, Luigi Latini. The group lead by Thilo Folkerts and assisted by Giacomo Casentini worked on sites in the small city of Mirano. It further consisted of Andrea Caspoli, Dino Genovese, Riccardo Locati, Carolina Pelosato, Marica Succi.*

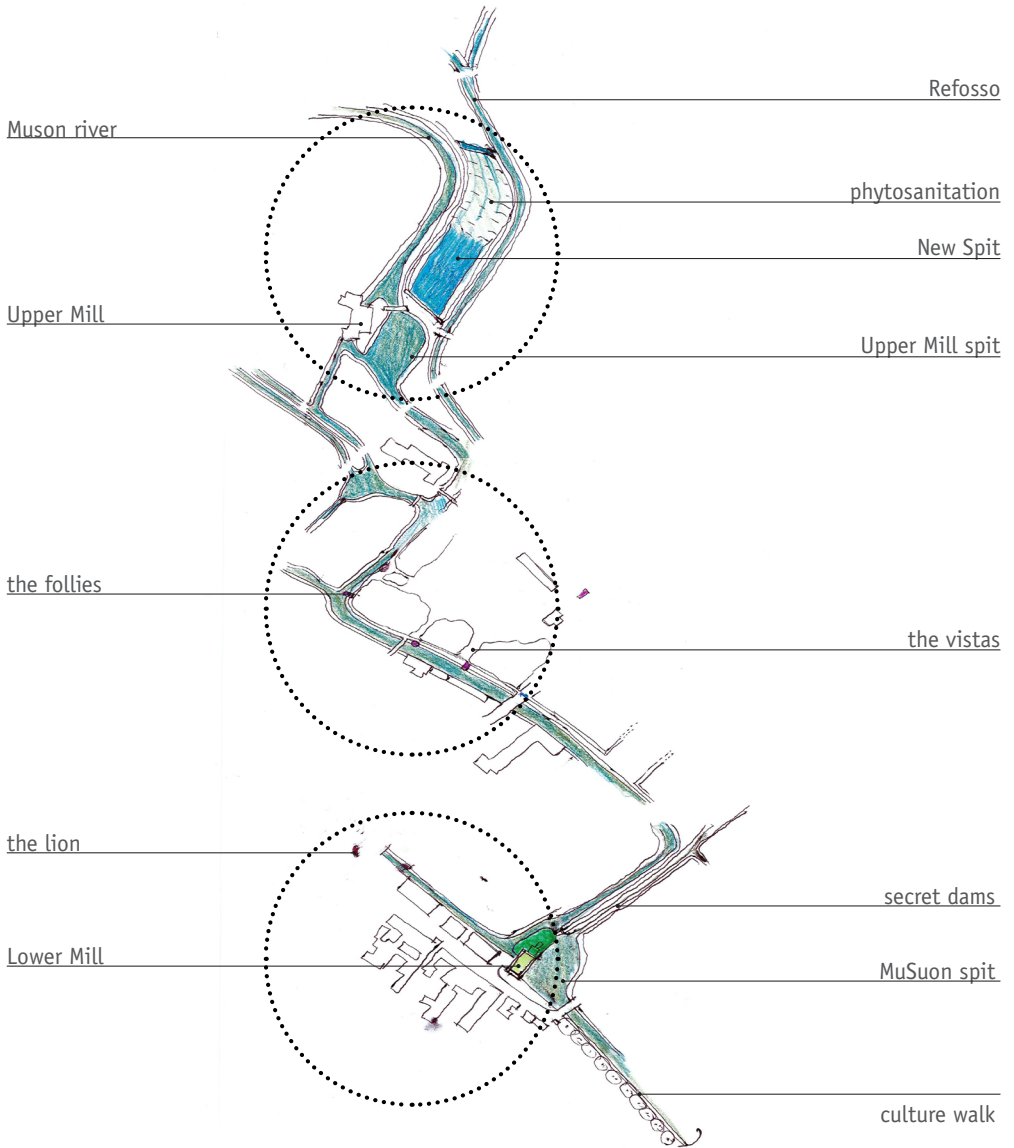


## MuSuon

Nel vecchio opificio, alberi raccontano.  
Storie di acqua e storie di terra, paure.  
Voci di relitti, amori tra carpe.

Muson che fluisce, ma Musa si ferma,  
riesco a sentirli, riusciamo a buttarci,  
mulini di sotto, mulini di sopra,

MuSuon, Musuon, musuon, muson



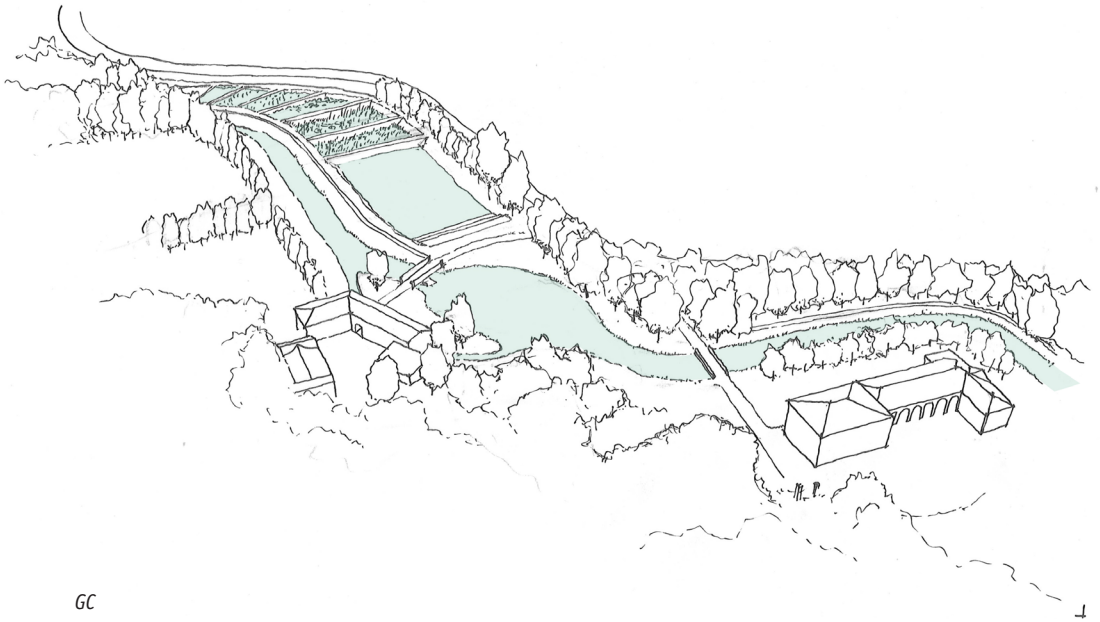
Thilo Folkerts

## Accessing the network — three points of contact

Part of the overall workshop that aimed to assess and revalidate the Muson river, our group focussed on three specific situations in Mirano where landscape architectural interventions and projects might be initiated. The aim of all of these project sketches is to connect the community of Mirano with “the flow” of the Muson river—today and tomorrow. We tried to develop images that are as concrete and suggestive as possible, A concrete appeal towards materiality and spatiality might more likely instigate discourse and discussion.

At the same time, the short period of the workshop obviously allowed only for a very limited and poignant development of such proposals.





GC

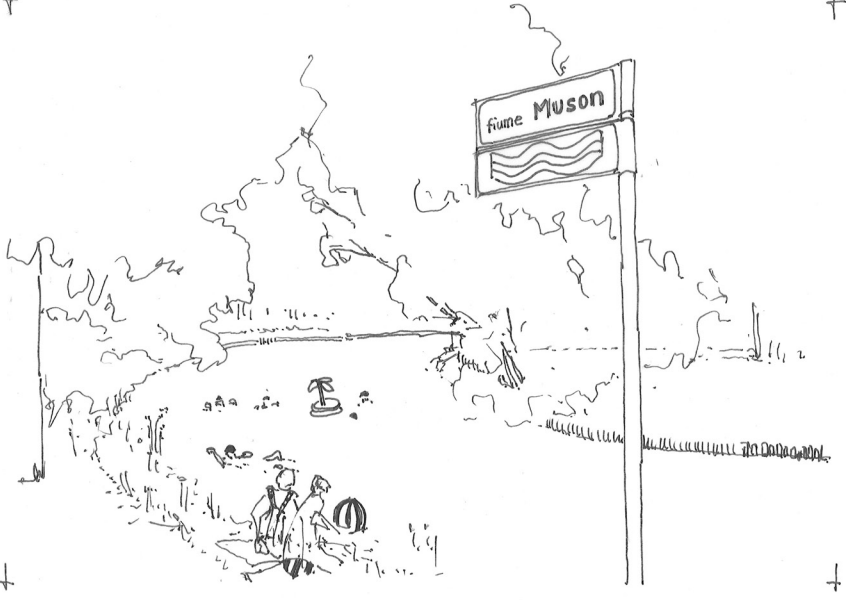
## (1) The future bath

### working with the body

The Upper Mill is at the transition point between city and landscape. Surrounded by parkscape and trees, its millspit constitutes a poignant invitation for recreation. Historically, one would most certainly have found children and also adults making use of it as an informal bath, a possibility that today might not have lost its potential attraction. The water quality, however, is a new concern and that of the Muson will be difficult to guarantee. Updating the traditional local hydro-engineering knowledge could fruitfully be applied in the creation of a nature bath next to the millspit applying phytosanitation and filtering—techniques that have been successfully implemented internationally in recent decades. The Muson becomes a physically tangible public good.

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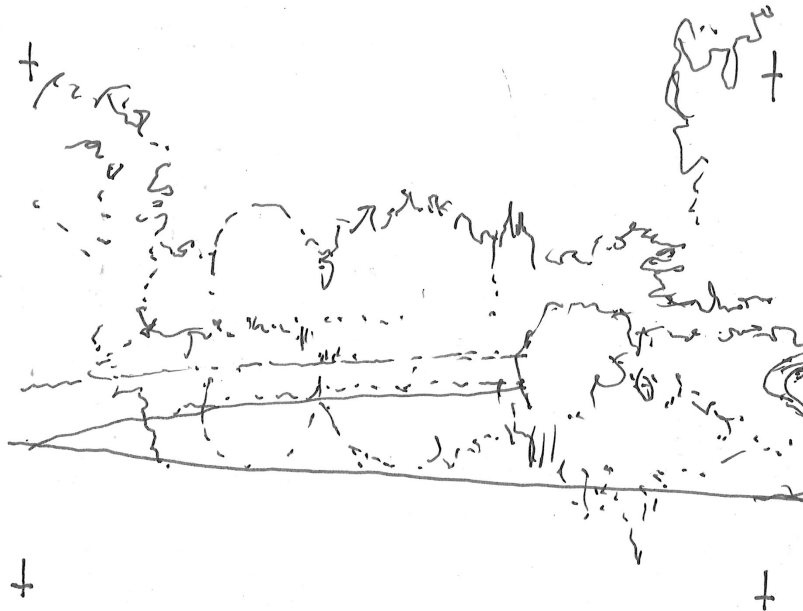




the Upper Mill spit inspires the body and becomes a recreational zone



AC





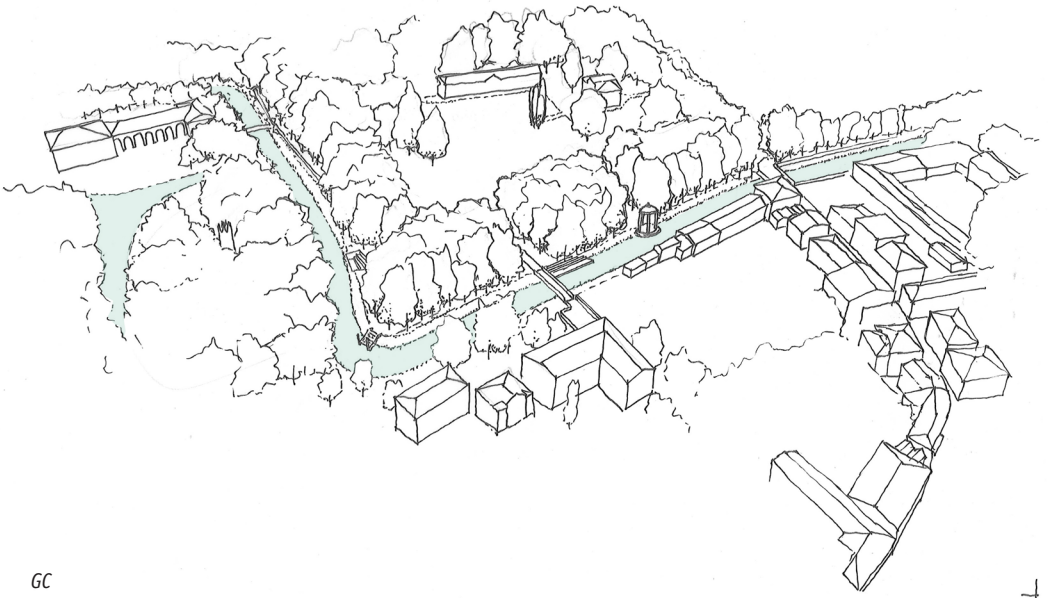
AC

development of local hydrotechnological knowledge  
towards the future: phytosanitation for a nature bath



coming close: keeping traditional structure, adding new technology





GC

## (2) The river's goods

### updating the community's cultural heritage

The historic gardens around the Villa Belvedere constitute a central public cultural asset. While permeated and determined by the Muson, the gardens do not realise the full spatial and topological potential of this important element. Reusing themes and issues of the typology of the 19th century landscape garden, sculptural and scenographic accentuations could extend the public park's space and programme towards the river. We could imagine: A pavilion as a spatial construct that could mediate historic and contemporary narratives. A Venetian landing that would create an open point of access to the Muson. As a small didactic sensation: a window into the river (not unlike the sunken pathway to the landing at the Villa Lando). Sculptural and artistic accents along the park's riveredge—even temporary.



Reuse of themes and means of the 18th century garden:  
The pavilion as mediator of space and narration

*RL*



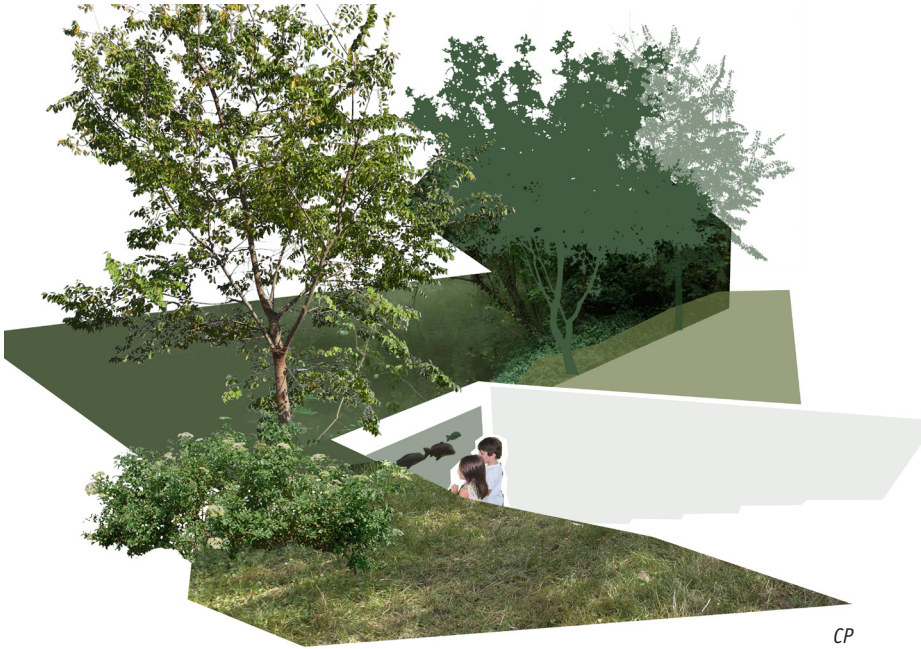
Curating the park: small interventions, even temporary

*RL*



traditional Venetian landing for open access to the Muson





*CP*

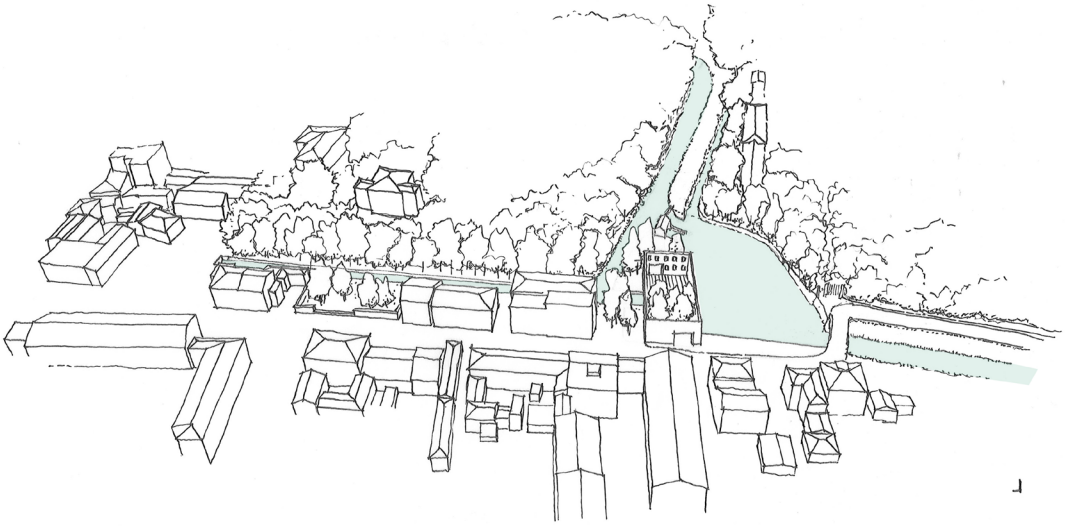
Representation and didactic in a 18th century garden:  
making the life in the river known



*CP*

small interventions





GC

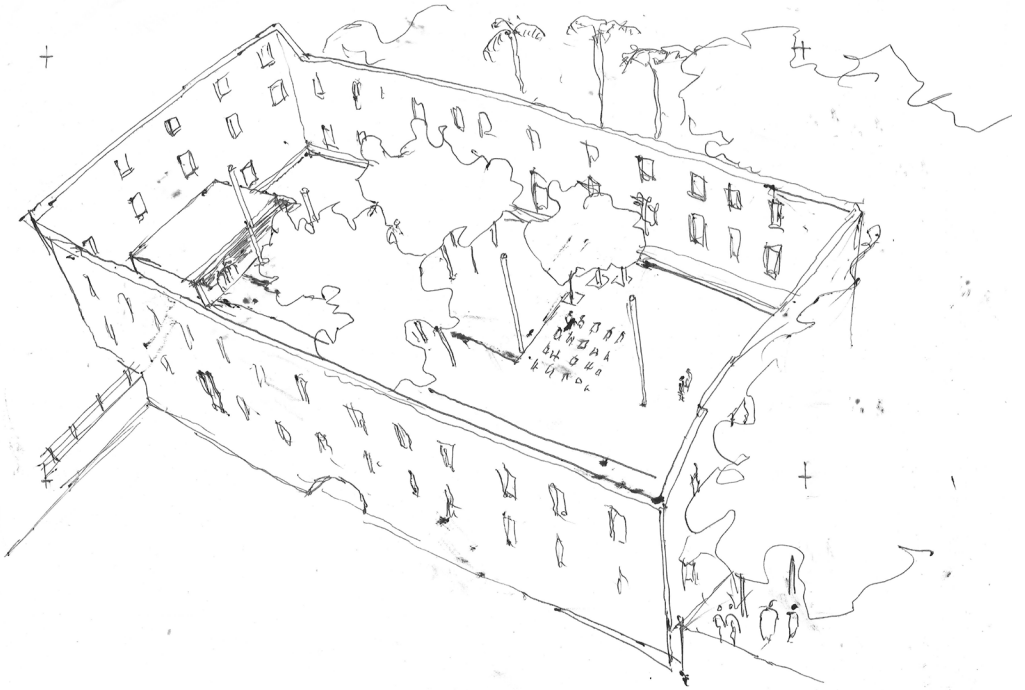
### **(3) Making use of the void**

#### **community intervention**

The Lower Mill is in the heart of the city. It is a fundamental connecting element between the urban tissue and the aquatic system. It must be considered a pivotal asset of the community. Fallen into disuse and decay, the architectural void between the remaining walls may serve as the venue of innovative and low key cultural life. As a cultivation of the site the Lower Mill might be opened as a garden of Mirano—even just for a season, or another season, or another season ...



MS



The void with the remaining architectural structure is dynamically filled through cultural events, through the cultivation of the site. The Lower Mill might become the Mirano Garden – for a season, for seasons ...





### **The lion's bath.**

One time per year, the Venetian lion sculpture that squats in the new fountain in Piazza della Pace might be brought to the Lower Mill's spit to bathe it in the Muson's waters. Concurrently, the community would devote itself to some maintenance of the water system, jointly activating public space, and recreating traditions with the Muson.

*Images by*

*Thilo Folkerts, Giacomo Casentini (GC), Andrea Caspoli (AC), Riccardo Locati (RL), Carolina Pelosato (CP), Marica Succi (MS)*