This technology, which is currently being perfected, was first applied successfully in Japan, where piezoelectric cells, fitted into a stretch of pavement, produced 0,5 KW/h electric energy for each individual pedestrian step. From this fascinating idea, a project for a domestic object was born, which could, thanks to its versatility, allow the maximum number of possible actions. Simple elements which, combined in different ways, can accompany the user under all kinds of circumstances, from exercising to resting, from playing to simply sitting down, catching and storing the energy consumed by each of these actions and making it available under the form of electricity.

The object's versatility is further evidence of its being 'green': one single object substituting the other ones represents a saving in terms of raw materials and implied energetic resources.

- -15 min sex = 1.8 KWH = one hour stove
- sitting down 20 times = 0,1 KWH = a 60W lamp for 10 min
- 10 min exercising = 1,6 KWH = hair dryer for one hour

(page 39)

Green mobile

Stanislao Gabriele Anello and Michela Maniscalco

We are convinced that one of the assumptions for a green life style is starting to critically observe what surrounds us, freeing ourselves from the usual ways in which we think, see and make things. We think that one of the most common trends to reach green aims is to enrich the urban landscape with green and natural materials. On these grounds, we imagined that the green could lose one of its intrinsic conditions, the rooting to the ground, acquiring a new mobility and a dynamic character. From this point of view, to take a step forward towards a sustainable life style implies that the individual participates in the transformation process of the urban landscape, affecting with his actions the organization of a coordinated but at the same time casual image of the city. One gives up his own comfortable means of transport and decides to carry with him a piece of urban green. When one stops or pauses, by aggregating such piece of urban green with the others, gives birth to temporary and continuously evolving parks. This would cause a functional and perceptive transformation, both in the places where our daily displacements start and finish, such as parking spaces, and on the streets and in the urban landscape in general, introducing the possibility of managing and organizing public spaces somehow through the intervention of the individual citizen.

The project aims at stimulating the use of a non-polluting means of transport, but also at triggering a collective renewal process, in which the idea of acting for oneself decays in favour of choices which allow to combine a personal advantage with an improvement of the quality of collective life. The green mobile is some kind of urban pedalo, a multiple seat bicycle which carries a tree along; it has two and a half seats, allowing two people to ride it, but gaining an extra place if coupled to another one, thus reaching five, which is the number of seats in a car. It also aims at stimulating the idea of acting together, making its usage more practical.

(page 43)

The exhibition display

by Gaetano Licata, Pietro Airoldi and Michele Cammarata

The opportunity to show the projects developed during the workshop generated an exhibition which draws again on the question: 'what is green'?

Within the space of the hall, the analogy to the green of the vegetation, the world of images and pieces of the city are intertwined on purpose, with no intention of mediating between them; on the contrary, taking the risk of causing some annoyance. After all the elaborations and discussions, the place is turned into some sort of medium, both as a physical space and thinking space, through the projects themselves and the big maquettes.

Translation by Isabella Fera

English translation from the Italian original "Cos'è Green?" edited by *Gaetano Licata*, published by "Edizioni di Passaggio" Palermo 2010 - www.edizionidipassaggio.it ISBN 978-88-903703-9-7