CITIES AFTER CARS
Metropolitan beauty vs.
urban make up

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THE PROJECT

Cities After Cars is a research project composed of a programme of workshops by which citizens are called to participate in activity of envisioning. It is an hands-on experiment to re-visualize future city spaces without the presence of cars; yet, it is not concerned with services or mobility systems. We aim instead at advancing imaginary, by creating together a gallery of vision of beauty using craft materials and visual toolkits, acting in an open canvas where unexplored communal aesthetic perspectives and landscapes will be built.
THE PROCESS

The research is currently in the phase of data gathering through the workshops and will be followed by data dissemination through public exhibitions, and data analysis through policy guidelines development. Participants are on the front-line of city imagination: they are encouraged to consider beauty over functionality, to cherish meaningfulness versus convenience, as well as to reclaim individual wishes and collective inspirations over technical needs and necessities. Workshops represent a systematic exercise of the “what if” through which the city after cars can be imagined, unfolded, and – eventually – created by the inspiration of minor alternatives, and without the uniformity of the major technological systems.
THE DESIGN ROLE

Each workshop will produce a series of images that will be collected into a gallery of visions of future cities as seen through the eyes of their citizens. By running the workshops in urban settlements of different scale, nature, and geography we will collect a variety of visual artefacts that are the seeds of a conversation about how a city without cars might spring not from planning or management point of view, but in the choice and imaginary of its citizenry.