

## Architecture as a “Connection”

### *Barcelona imports the Geneva model*

Every year **Cities Connection Project (CCP)** chooses **two European cities** and connects them through their shared knowledge and **renowned architects’ projects** in a ‘back and forth’ event.

The project exhibits **20 selected works** from both cities hosted in the guest city and proposes roundtables, discussion meetings with professionals, conferences and other activities open to the general public.

BARCELONA, November 2014 **Cities Connection Project**, which regularly connects **outstanding European city architecture** with the city of **Barcelona**, has chosen **Geneva** for its **second event**. The project, led by architects **Nicola Regusci** and **Xavier Bustos**, began in 2013 born from a desire to establish cultural networks between Barcelona and guest cities. *“The goal is for architects to explore **new approaches to looking at our cities, establish professional relationships and share their vision on urban development**”*, explains Cities Connection Project co-founder, **Nicola Regusci**.

Besides the exhibition of 20 selected works from both cities, the event includes a catalogue, conferences, roundtables, discussion meetings with professionals and institutions and several visits to the local architecture studios, with the aim of **generating synergies between architects, cultural agents, administrations and universities**. According to the selection criteria, the *Connection* project aspires to create a showcase for functional architecture committed to the current social reality, **breaking away from mass media architecture**. Architects under the age of 50 have built the selected works during the last ten years. *“We have managed to gather professionals who have actually had an impact on the current architectural panorama of both cities. This is a significant achievement because it seldom happens that architects meet together to share and connect, in both formal and informal environments”*, says Cities Connection Project co-founder, **Xavier Bustos**.

Last year, Barcelona connected to the Swiss region of **Ticino**, under the theme “Architecture and Territory”. This year is the turn of **Geneva**, with future events already being considered in cities like **Berlin, Zurich** and **Brussels**. The aim of Cities Connection Project is for each event to be the catalyst for an ongoing dialogue between architects from the selected cities. *“We imagine a future with a **wide European network of connections between professionals and institutions, a neuronal system capable of generating a critical and open-minded vision about the projection of our cities**”*, **Bustos** and **Regusci** acknowledge.

The second edition of Cities Connection Project will take place in **Barcelona from 13<sup>th</sup> to 23<sup>rd</sup> November** with the support from the **Arts Santa Mònica Centre de la Creativitat**. The exhibition **Import GENEVA**, under title **“Building Geneva Projects versus challenges”**, is dedicated to 20 collective housing projects built during the last ten years by architects from Geneva.

**Export BARCELONA**, the second phase of the exchange, will take place **from 5<sup>th</sup> to 26<sup>th</sup> February 2015**, where 20 selected Catalan architects will present their work at the **Geneva SICLI Pavilion**, thanks to the collaboration between **Cities Connection Project** and the **Maison de l'Architecture**.

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# CITIES CONNECTION PROJECT

\_IMPORT GENEVA



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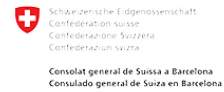
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