

**COMPETITION OF IDEAS FOR THE DESIGN
OF AN URBAN SPACE IN THE TOWN OF KOBE
PIAZZA ITALIA IN GIAPPONE 2001**

SECTION I – DEFINITION OF THE COMPETITION

Art. 1 – Competition type and subject

This notice regards a single phase architectural ideas competition - open to Japanese and Italian architects who comply with the requirements of art.4 below - regarding:

**DESIGN OF AN URBAN SPACE
IN THE CITY OF KOBE - JAPAN
“PIAZZA ITALIA IN GIAPPONE 2001”**

The Bidding Authority is –“**Fondazione Italia in Giappone 2001**”- head-office: Piazza Venezia,11 – 00187 Rome-Italy.

The Competition Promoters are:

- Consiglio Nazionale degli Architetti, Pianificatori, Paesaggisti, Conservatori (**CNAPPC**)
- Direzione Generale per l’architettura e l’arte contemporanea (**DARC**) Ministry for Cultural Activities and Treasures.

The competition notice will be published in the Italian daily newspapers “Corriere della Sera” and in the Japanese daily newspapers “Asahi” and “Kobe ”. It will also be published on the Internet sites of the Italian and Japanese Professional Associations and of the specialized press.

The addresses of the competition Secretariats are:

- **Italy** – Consiglio Nazionale Architetti, Pianificatori, Paesaggisti e Conservatori (hereafter CNAPPC)
Via Santa Maria dell’ Anima, 10, 00186 Roma, Italia.
- **Japan** –Japanese Committee of the Italian Architectural Forum (hereafter JCIAF)
Spacevision (Ohtemae M2 Bld. 7F) Chuohku – Tanimachi 2-8-1, Osaka, 540-0012 Japan.

The e-mail address and the web site are:

- e-mail: piazzaitalia.cna@archiworld.org
- web sites: www.archiworld.org and www.piazza-italia.org

Proposals should be sent to the address listed in art.11

Art. 2 – Scope of the competition

The aim of this competition is to select proposals for the design of a contemporary, public, urban space in Kobe-Japan- that gives ample consideration to the unique characteristics and symbolic history of the site while also reflecting the atmosphere of Italian piazzas through its function and material use. The proposals must be based on the overall design concept of the Rokkomichi South Park (see Data no.3) and must contain innovative design solutions for the layout, the street furniture and any reconfigurations in accordance with the provisions of the town planning instruments – with special attention being paid to the collective and public use of the area.

The competition will seek to compare – in the context of the exhibition of Italian architecture foreseen within the events of “Italy in Japan 2001” – the creative potential and the similar or innovative cultural trends of a new generation of Japanese and Italian architects.

In fact, the Competition represents the great possibility of seeing side by side two different cultures, both deeply rooted in their respective pasts, yet strongly oriented towards the future.

Therefore, Piazza Italia in Giappone 2001, designed at the beginning of the 21st century, holds different meanings which young architects of both countries will be able to discover and enhance in a contemporary and creative space.

Art. 3 – Location and reference standards

The location of the area is identified in the reference documents for participation in the competition (see Art. 8)

The town: Kobe, with its population of approximately 1.450.000 inhabitants lies on the Pacific coast of Japan.

On 17 January 1995 the city was struck by a violent earthquake. Most of the city has been rebuilt over recent years and its port has become operative. Kobe is once again a very thriving town with skyscrapers, elevated motorways and five separate railway systems crowded between the green hillsides and the sea. The slower railway systems run along the

side of the hillside and also include underground lines whilst the high-speed tracks run higher up efficiently connecting all the towns along the coast and to the north-east towards Nagoya, Tokyo and Yokohama (Shinkansen). Kobe now forms an integral part of an extensive metropolitan area (which is one of the most densely populated and infrastructure-equipped areas in Japan), which includes the cities of Osaka and Kyoto. This region, known as Kansai, is served by the recently constructed offshore airport (Kansai International Airport), which lies on an artificial island. The airport passenger terminal was designed by Renzo Piano and the bridge across the Akashi straits, known as the Pearl Bridge, is the longest in the world.

The competition site: the area where the piazza is meant to be, which is owned by the Kobe municipality, lies within a large urban development programme located to the south of the Rokkomichi railway station, in a semi-central area to the east of the town – which was one of the most badly-damaged areas during the 1995 earthquake. The entire complex covers an area of 5.9 hectares and will eventually house 1.000 families for a total of 2.000 inhabitants. The project takes particular account of the need to guarantee maximum safety in the event of future earthquakes and aims at constructing a high-quality residential fabric which, at the same time, possesses its own service sector facilities necessary for a semi-central area, as well as a system of pedestrian footpaths on various levels.

The 0.93-hectare Rokkomichi South Park lies at the centre of the complex, and is surrounded by six residential blocks and an important national road: National Route No.2. The park, which gently slopes southward, is a large rectangular, with a smaller rectangular area adjacent to its south end which directly faces the national route. The northern part of the larger rectangular area is to be left almost entirely as an open green area to be used, in the event of a natural disaster, as a refuge area for residents; it should therefore be easy to set up a tent-city within the area where a large water basin could be constructed to meet initial emergency needs.

The smaller rectangle to the south will be used as a public piazza and is the subject of the competition. The area lies between two large buildings: one, to the east, will house municipal administration offices and the other, to the west, a large fitness centre. The piazza directly faces the national route, which is very busy and highly commercial in character. The piazza will form an important meeting point due both to its pivotal position between the large residential area and the main road and to the public functions carried out by the two buildings facing onto it. The piazza will also host an important local festival called “Danjiri”, which is extremely popular among the inhabitants of the district.

The difference in level between the two areas will play a particularly significant urban role and, although there will be no architectural barriers to the disabled, it will represent an extremely important design feature.

The various project proposals may make free use of Italian finishing materials within a clearly contemporary urban design.

The project must also pay close attention to environmental aspects, by evaluating, as necessary, issues related to energy consumption, water resource management, compatibility of plant types and natural ventilation.

Emergency vehicle access and the use of the space for festival gathering should be considered including the incorporation of a level area of at least 15m x15m adjacent to National Route No.2.

The competition entries should follow the design conditions of “The Urban Environmental Design Codes” (see Data no.6).

Potential future use of the space below the site precludes the use of underground space lower than that of the interface between the site and National Route No.2 (small foundations for light posts, shelters, etc. are exempt)

The competition entries should consider that park construction costs in the City of Kobe are usually approximately 30.000 yen per square meter, for all construction costs. For the purpose of this competition, the cost of the Italian finishing materials, when called for in the project, to be donated by Italian sponsors may be considered separately.

SECTION II – PARTICIPATION

Art. 4 – Conditions for taking part in the Competition

Participation in the Competition is open to registered Italian architects, registered Japanese architects and Japanese landscape architects*(1), born after 1st January 1965, and free to act as freelance architects at the date of submission of the design documents – with the exception of the provisions of Art.5 of this competition brief.

Individuals or groups may participate and in the latter case all members of the group must satisfy the requirements of the previous paragraph.

A group will have the same rights in the competition as an individual.

Each group must nominate one of its members as a **REPRESENTATIVE** to represent them to the Bidding Authority. The group may also nominate a **DESIGN TEAM LEADER** if there is effectively such a position within the group. The Representative is the sole go-between in the competition between the design team and the Organiser.

The equal-ownership of the design is nevertheless acknowledged to all members of the group.

The individual or group participants may use **CONSULTANTS** or **ASSISTANTS**. It is not necessary that they be registered with the professional organisations, as required under the first paragraph of this article, but they must not be incompatible with the requirements of art.5 below and must not be part of the group. Their duties and powers must be defined within the group without implying a relationship with the Bidding Authority. Their qualification and the nature of the consultancy and assistance must be declared.

A participant may be part of one group only.

Art. 5 – Incompatibility of the participants

The following may not participate in the competition:

- members of the Jury, their spouses or their relations up to and including the third-degree;
- Bidding Authority administrators, advisers and employees (including those on limited contracts), Bidding Authority consultants with ongoing contracts and the employees of Public Bodies operating in the same sector in which the competition is being conducted and with functions concerning the same subject;
- employers or others who have any business or ongoing legally-sworn relation members of the Jury;
- those participating in the preparation of the notice of the competition and of the attached documents or being part of the technical Committee for the preparation of the competition.

Art. 6 – Incompatibility of the members of the Jury

The following may not be members of the Jury:

- participants, their spouses or their relations up to and including the third-degree;
- employers and employees of the participants and those having working relationships with them.

Elegibility for Japanese landscape architects

Those who participate in this competition need satisfy one or more of the following requirements:

- experience as chief designer for designing a park or open space of more than 2.500 square meters;
- authorized as a First-class (registered) architect and building engineer or First-class (registered) landscape construction and management engineer;
- membership with any of the following: Japanese Institute of Landscape Architecture, Architectural Institute of Japan, City Planning Institute of Japan, Japan Society of Civil Engineers, Japan Institute of Architects, Japan Society of Urban and Regional Planners, or Japan Urban Design Institute.

Art. 7 – Enrolment procedures

Participants can enrol in the competition exclusively by filling out the web form at the site www.archiworld.org or www.piazza-italia.org

The enrolment web form must be filled out by a single participant whether intending to participate individually or as the representative of a design group; in case the enrolment form concerns an association or company, it must be presented by the legal representative (who must fit the conditions stated under Art.4).

The enrolment web form contains, in addition to the information in the same contained:

- Name and surname of the participant or representative;
- Professional address;
- Professional association and enrolment number (if available);
- E-mail address, used for sending the enrolment confirmation.

Once the enrolment web form has been completed and sent via web, each participant will receive, via e-mail to the address indicated, a document confirming receipt of the application for enrolment,

The confirmation document will include, in addition to the other information included on the web form, the following data:

- Name and surname of the participant or representative;
- Professional address;
- Professional association and enrolment number (if available);
- E-mail address to be used for sending the enrolment confirmation;
- E-mail address (AWN e-mail) username and password, which will be assigned for participation in the competition;
- Date of enrolment.

The enrolment-confirmation document, printed on the participant's letterhead paper is to be signed and date-stamped, must be attached to the competition documents as official record of enrolment, according to the modalities laid out in Art 10 and Art.11, and sent by 26 April 2002.

Attached to the competition documents must also be the receipt of the enrolment fee of **100,00 Euro**. The payment must be made by 26 April 2002, by means of bank transfer to: Consiglio Nazionale Architetti, Via Santa Maria dell'Anima,10 – 00186 Roma - Monte Paschi di Siena, 8641 headquarters, account no. c/c 507.48, ABI 1030, CAB 3241, citing as the purpose for the transfer: *"Concorso e Mostra Italia Giappone"*.

Each participant will be given a free identification login (username and password), the settings (SMTP, POP server) necessary to the configuration of the assigned mail box (AWN e-mail) in the main software (MS Outlook and Netscape Communicator).

Using the assigned mail box (AWN e-mail), the participant will be able to send and receive competition correspondence.

Using his login – username and password – the participant will be able to:

- download the documents (see Art.8);
- access areas of the web site reserved for information related to the Competition.

The mail boxes will be of the type:

- for Italian participants <name initial. last name@archiworld.org>;
- for Japanese participants <first and last name.jp@archiworld.org>;

The mail boxes (AWN e-mail) assigned for competition enrolment will remain available for all e-mail purposes and for access to the services of Archiworld Network even after the deadline of the Competition.

Art. 8 – Request for documents

All the following documents will be made available in digital form to the participants with effect from 6 February 2002 on the Web area created in the Internet sites: www.archiworld.org and www.piazza-italia.org

The available documents are:

- Enrolment application form;
- Explanatory requirement report;
- Location maps (1:2.500 and 1:10.000) and aerial photographs;
- Outline of the urban redevelopment project;
- Urban environmental design codes;
- Site condition and building condition (1:500 - 1:1.000);
- Three-dimensional models of the site (CG);
- Vicinity maps and images;
- Information about materials from Italy;
- Climate information for the Kobe area.

Online registration is necessary in order to download the documents, as mentioned in art.7.

The registration, which is free of charge, only allows document downloading and is not valid for enrolment as per Art.7.

Art. 9 – Queries

All requests for further technical information must be e-mailed in English to the Secretariats (see Art.1) no later than 25 February 2002. A summary of the requests for clarification received from participants, and corresponding answers, may be consulted online at www.archiworld.org and www.piazza-italia.org through 7 March 2002.

Art. 10 – Submission of design documents

The design documents must be submitted to the Japanese Secretariat named in art.1 in a sealed, **anonymous** envelope by 5:00 p.m.(local time) **on 26 April 2002**.

If delivery of the design documents is entrusted to a courier (Post Office or authorised courier), they must be despatched before midnight (local time at point of dispatch) of the same day and must arrive by **10 May 2002**, before 17,00 (Japanese time). Any delay will be deemed grounds for exclusion. The documents must be submitted anonymously. Nothing on the package must identify the participant in any way. If the postal authorities request the sender's details, the name of the professional organisation to which the participant or representative belongs must be indicated. The Bidding Authority may not be held responsible for loss of the package, nor is the Bidding Authority responsible for any payment for cash-on-delivery despatch.

Art. 11 – Design documents.

The design proposal must be presented on three A2 panels (59.4 x 42cm).

The A2 panels must display a title or "motto" composed of a maximum of three words and five Arabic numerals in the top right-hand corner.

The language of all documents must be English.

The metric measurement system must be used and drawings must indicate a graphical scale reference so that they may be published in a reduced format.

The drawings, black and white or colour, mounted on lightweight, rigid panels, must contain the following:

- general plan of the design and its insertion into the urban context (1:500 scale);
- plan of the piazza (1:200 scale);
- cross-section of the project (1:50 - 1:200 scale);
- axonometric drawings, perspective views, photomontages and any other type of suitable graphic representation to illustrate the design choices.

Descriptive texts, in English, for a maximum of 2000 characters can be freely distributed among the panels.

The participants are free to choose the layout of the drawings, which may be composed either vertically or horizontally.

In addition to the drawings, participants must prepare a CD ROM (CD-R, CD-RW) ISO 9660 (ISO-Level 2) containing:

- Reproductions of the competition drawings in TIFF or JPEG or EPS format – resolution 2480x3508 pixel – 150dpi.
- In addition to this, the CD ROM may include a video animation with a max. duration of 120 seconds, with the following characteristics:(video material will not be reviewed by the competition jury members but may be used as part of a permanent online exhibition. (see Art.12)
- Quicktime format (min. 30 version) for Windows and Apple platform (Windows File Extension: mov. or .qt)
 - Video Screen Size: max. 800x600
 - Audio: max. 2 track, 16 bit, 44.1 kHz

As an alternative to the video animation, the participants may produce a presentation in either: (this material, as stated for the video material, will not be jury reviewed.

- HTML language – viewable with a normal Web browser (Netscape Communicator 4.5 - or later, or Microsoft Internet Explorer 5.0 - or later (max 10 pages)
- or in Acrobat pdf format - to be viewed with Acrobat Reader 3.0 or later (max 10 pages)
- or in Macromedia Flash (max 500 kb) format.

The same title or “motto” which appear on the panels, must also be indicated on the face of the CD ROM and on the outside of a sealed OPAQUE envelope. Details of the individual designer or the design group must be given inside this sealed envelope.

The sealed, opaque envelope must also include:

- enrolment form with the receipt of payment of the enrolment fees (100.00 Euro);
- a complete breakdown of the design group components, subdivided as follows: Representative, Design Team leader, Designers, Consultants, Assistants;
- declaration from each participant regarding compliance with conditions under Art.4.
- appointment of representative signed by all group members, including any consultants and/or assistants;
- authorisation to exhibit the project and to quote the names of the designers and any consultants and assistants (failure to submit this authorisation will not represent a reason for exclusion from the competition);

The representative and the designers must also enclose:

- proof of enrolment in the professional association in their home country;
- letter of authorisation to participate, in the event of some working relationship with authorities, institutions or public administration.

The exterior of the package containing all documents requested and the sealed, opaque envelope must read exclusively:

International Ideas Competition, Piazza Italia in Giappone 2001

Japanese Committee of the Italian Architectural Forum (JCIAF)

Spacevision (Ohtemae M2 Bld. 7F) Chuohku – Tanimachi 2-8-1, Osaka, 540-0012 Japan..

Art. 12 – Participation in the permanent online exhibition

All participants holding a login ID, as described in articles 7 and 8, may take part in the permanent online exhibition which will be set up on www.archiworld.org. Participation in the exhibition is free of charge. Participants in the competition who wish to present their projects within the exhibition will find details in the competition web site.

The projects will be made public, together with details of the participant’s ID five days after the announcement of the winners. The winning and noteworthy projects will be grouped in a separate section.

The projects must be presented in accordance with the following technical specifications:

- up to 5 colour or black and white images in JPEG or GIF format. Resolution 800 (wide) x 600 (high) pixels. Max. size 100kb for each image.
Alternatively, Macromedia Flash format animation. Resolution 800 (wide) x 600 (high) pixels. Max. size 500kb;
- a short description of the project (max.1800 characters);
- a short presentation of the authors (max.1800 characters).

Images and texts must be sent by means of the auto publication system which will be set up on the web site www.archiworld.org.

The sizes and resolutions specified for the images should be complied with in order to avoid deformations or errors in publication, and the relative texts should be as concise as possible.

With the publication of their projects, the participants in the exhibition explicitly authorise the www.archiworld.org Web site to use the documentation in other forms of multimedia or paper publishing, but the authors will retain the intellectual rights to the projects. As necessary, for technical and/or for reasons related to the operation of the Web site, the administrators reserve the right not to publish some of the projects or the entire exhibition after a given period. The administrators of the www.archiworld.org web site also reserve the right not to publish projects which may for some reason offend people and/or morals according to the current legislation in Italy.

Art. 13 – **Schedule**

Date of publication of the competition notice	31/01/02
Date for request of documents	07/02/02
Deadline for requests for clarification	25/02/02
Deadline for replies to requests	07/03/02
Deadline for enrolment and delivery or despatch of CD's and drawings	26.04.02
Deadline for acceptance of despatched documents	10.05.02
Start of Jury's activities	15.05.02
Completion of Jury's activities	31.05.02
Notification of results of competition and exhibition of designs	04.06.02

Art. 14 – **Time Extensions**

The Bidding Authority may extend the programme time only in exceptional circumstances, in order to ensure a better outcome of the competition.

The notification of extension will be published with the same means as the notification of competition, sufficiently far in advance and in any case before half the originally planned time for preparation of the design documents has elapsed.

SECTION III - JURY'S DUTIES AND COMPETITION RESULTS

Art. 15 – **Jury Composition**

The Jury is made up of 10 active members with voting rights (5 Japanese representatives and 5 Italian representatives) and 2 alternate members.

The Japanese representatives are: nominated by JCI AF- Fumihiko MAKI, Chusuaku YASUDA, architect, and Ryoko UEYAMA, landscape architect; a representative of the city of Kobe; a representative of the residents of Kobe.

The Italian representatives are: nominated by CNAPPC –Gae AULENTI, Franco PURINI, Livio SACCHI, architects; nominated by the DARC - Pio BALDI, architect; nominated by the Foundation - Salvatore DAMIANI.

The alternate members consist of an Italian architect, nominated by the CNAPPC and a Japanese architect nominated by JCI AF.

Meetings of the Jury will be valid only if all members are present.

If an active member notifies that he will be unable to attend a particular meeting, due to reasons beyond their control or for whatever reason, the alternate member of the same nationality will be called to participate in the meeting. If this occurs for two consecutive meetings, the alternate member will permanently replace the active member.

The Chairman of the Jury may be elected among the architects who are active members on the occasion the first meeting.

Decisions of the Jury will be by majority vote. In case of a tie the Jury President's vote prevails.

Jury members may not receive appointments from the Bidding Authority and from the Administration/owner of the property regarding the subject of the competition either as individuals or as members of a group.

Art. 16 – **Jury Activities**

The Jury will be summoned at least 20 days in advance. The Jury must start its activities within 20 days from deadline for the submission of the design documents and complete its activities within the following 20 days.

The Jury will carry out a secret preliminary check to ensure compliance of the documents with the competition requirements before fully examining the documents.

The Jury's activities will be made public and the Minutes of those activities will be taken by the Secretary and kept for 90 days by the Chairman after the announcement of the winner.

The Jury will make its evaluation on the basis of the following criteria:

- the characteristics of the proposal which recall that an Italian piazza is a meeting place, an area for events and

- public exhibitions and a space that reflects the unique local community;
- functional and innovative characteristics of the design in the arrangement of the areas;
- qualitative and formal features of construction techniques, finishing materials proposed and street furnishings;
- quality and in-depth study of the proposed design with regard to the particular urban context.

The Jury may define further criteria but will not contradict those in this competition notice.

The final report will be made public, with details of the rankings and the corresponding reasons, the methodology followed and the procedures adopted.

Once the ranking is made, the Jury will publicly open the sealed envelopes of all the participants, check the documents and their compatibility and subsequently award the prize. If the highest ranked competitor is excluded as a result of this procedure, the 2nd highest ranked competitor will be awarded the prize.

A list of all the participants and the Jury's report will be sent to all the participants, to the CNAPPC, to the DARC and to the JCI AF when the ranking has been finalised.

Art. 17 – Competition results and prizes

The competition will be concluded with a ranking, the award of 2 prizes and cost reimbursement for 3 other participants.

The following prizes will be awarded:

- 1st prize: 10.000,00 Euro
- 2nd prize: 7.000,00 Euro

The sum of 6.000,00 Euro is available to the Jury to reimburse the costs of the next 3 worthy designs as they see fit.

The first 30 ranking designs will be presented and projected at the exhibition on Italian architecture referred to under Art. 2 of this competition notice.

All winning participants will be officially notified personally within 30 days of completion of the Jury's activities, to be published in the specialised press in Japan and Italy and the CNAPPC and the JCI AF will be notified.

If the Jury is unable to rank the participants within the time provided for in Art. 13 above, the total prize amount will be divided equally between all the participants.

SECTION IV - FINAL CONDITIONS

Art. 18– Exhibition and publication of Designs

The Bidding Authority will publish the participants' proposals after the results have been announced by means of an on line exhibition and will select the first thirty by means of a display of the proposals to be held in the foreseen exhibition (art.2).

Art.19– Return of designs

All the designs, with the exception of the 1st prize-winner, may be collected by the participants (at their own expense) during the 30 days after completion of the exhibition.

The Bidding Authority will no longer be responsible for conservation of the designs after that time.

The Bidding Authority retains all property rights to the winning project and may donate it to the City of Kobe, subsequent to award payment, respecting all legal guarantees and copyright.

Art. 20– Competition notice rules

This competition notice has been prepared on the basis of the scheme published by the CNAPPC.

Participation in the Competition constitutes acceptance of all its stated norms.

The notice has been communicated to the various Organisations interested with an invitation to make it known to its members.

This competition is supported by:

Architectural Institute of Japan (AIJ)

Japan Society of Civil Engineers (JSCE)

City Planning Institute of Japan (CPIJ)

Japanese Institute of Landscape Architecture (JILA)

Japan Institute of Architects (JIA)

Consultants of Landscape Architecture in Japan (CLA)

Japan Society of Urban and Regional Planners (JSURP)

Japan Urban Design Institute (JUDI)