

FONDAZIONE
SOZZANI

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Kris Ruhs

In 1990 Carla Sozzani had a vision for a new creative hub in Milano that at first no one could anticipate. Located in an industrial building on the other side of town from the Accademia di Belle Arti di Brera on a small corso next to a garage and a car park, the Galleria Carla Sozzani opened in 1990 and would host an exhibition by American artist Kris Ruhs – the first of over three hundred exhibitions dedicated to photography, art, design and fashion that would transform the building at number 10 and turn the whole corso Como into an international cultural destination.

No one foresaw that the Galleria Carla Sozzani, now Fondazione Sozzani, would galvanize the art community and would become one of the principal cultural sites in Milano. More than thirty years after having transformed a whole area, Carla Sozzani brings her vision forward, expanding the Fondazione Sozzani to a second venue.

Carla Sozzani and Kris Ruhs will explore the energy of a new atmosphere and showcase arts and crafts in a vibrant new neighborhood, Bovisa.

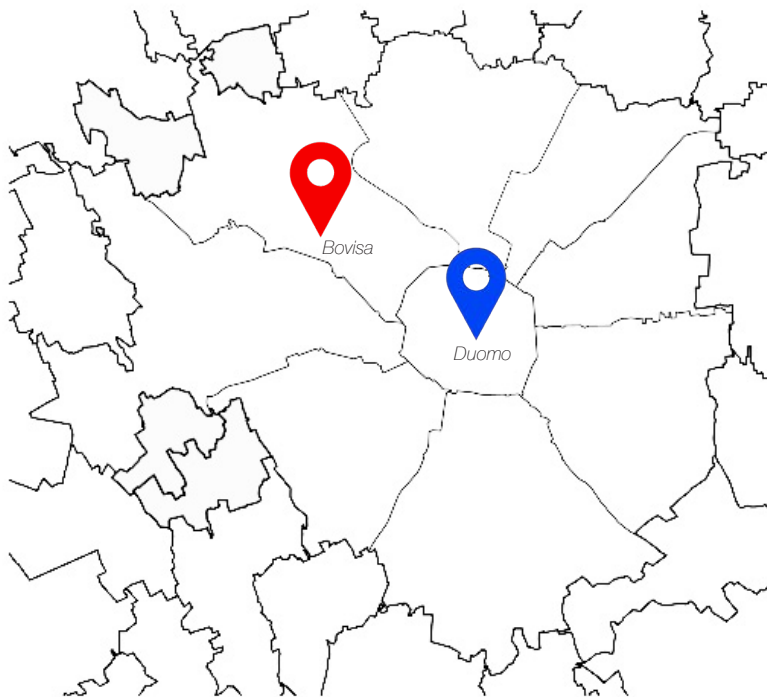
PIONEERING NEW AREAS

MILANO, BOVISA

The Bovisa district is located north of the city center. Bovisa was born as a rural district, a place for agricultural trade. Its name is supposedly derived from the Italian word "bove", meaning ox.

The area was easily accessible, so at the end of 1800 the first industrial factories were built there.

Bovisa became a real industrial center, which started to play a fundamental role in the economic and industrial development of Milan.



BOVISA, INDUSTRIAL ARCHEOLOGY



Fabbrica Montecatini, 1944, Bovisa



Fabbrica del gas, Bovisa



Fabbrica Fratelli Livellara, Bovisa



Bovisa, Stazione Nord



Milano Films, 1913

In the second half of the nineteenth century, Bovisa became the seat of chemical and mechanical factories, railway stations and film studios. At the beginning of 1906, another productive enterprise was established in Bovisa: the gasometers of Unione del Gaz and then Aem, giving light and heat to the whole city of Milan until 1982. Bovisa was known as an industrial region, with a predominance of small factories and shops. It was a working-class district. The workers used to meet up in taverns and dairies, the typical Milanese "Latteria".

Remnants of 19th century factory buildings and industrial structures are a distinctive feature of the district. Prominent landmarks of Bovisa include large abandoned gas holders that sparsely punctuate its skyline. An example of industrial archaeology in Bovisa was built in 1935, Oleificio Balestrini (formerly "Cristalleria Fratelli Livellara"), an Art Déco building at Bovisasca 57. Since 2015, 'Spirit de Milan' has opened in the building, creating a place to eat, drink, dance and get in touch with the traditional Milano spirit.

THE POLYTECHNIC OF MILANO

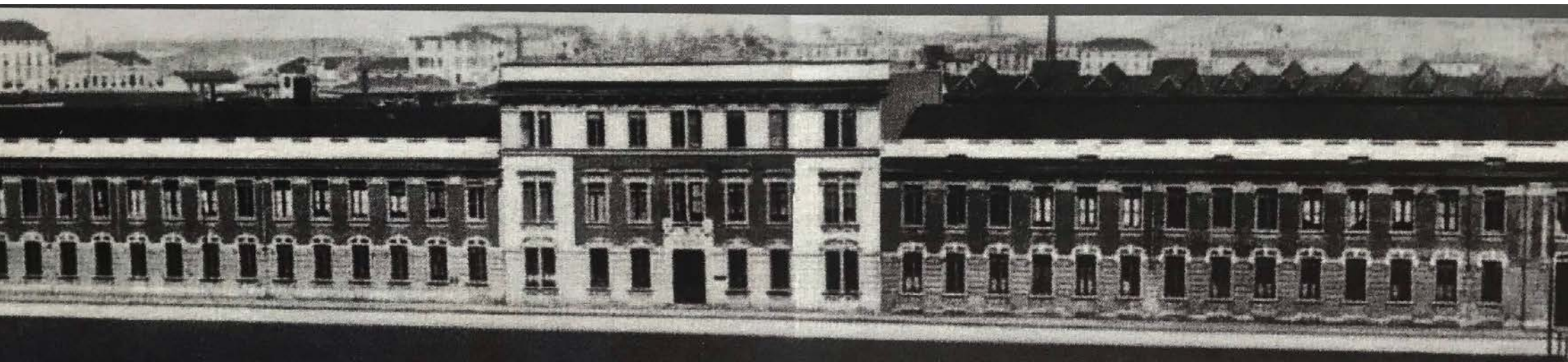
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SOZZANI

Fondazione Sozzani



Bovisa is now experiencing an upturn, thanks to the many activities which have relocated to the area. The Polytechnic University of Milano, the largest technical university in Italy, has its headquarters in a reconstructed factory building dating back to the early 20th century. The university has a campus at Bovisa with schools of Design, Architecture and Industrial Engineering and has revamped unused areas for offices, laboratories, start-up incubators, cultural spaces, and residences. Moreover, Bovisa is today frequented by numerous artists, photographers, designers and architects, who have started to build creative hubs there.

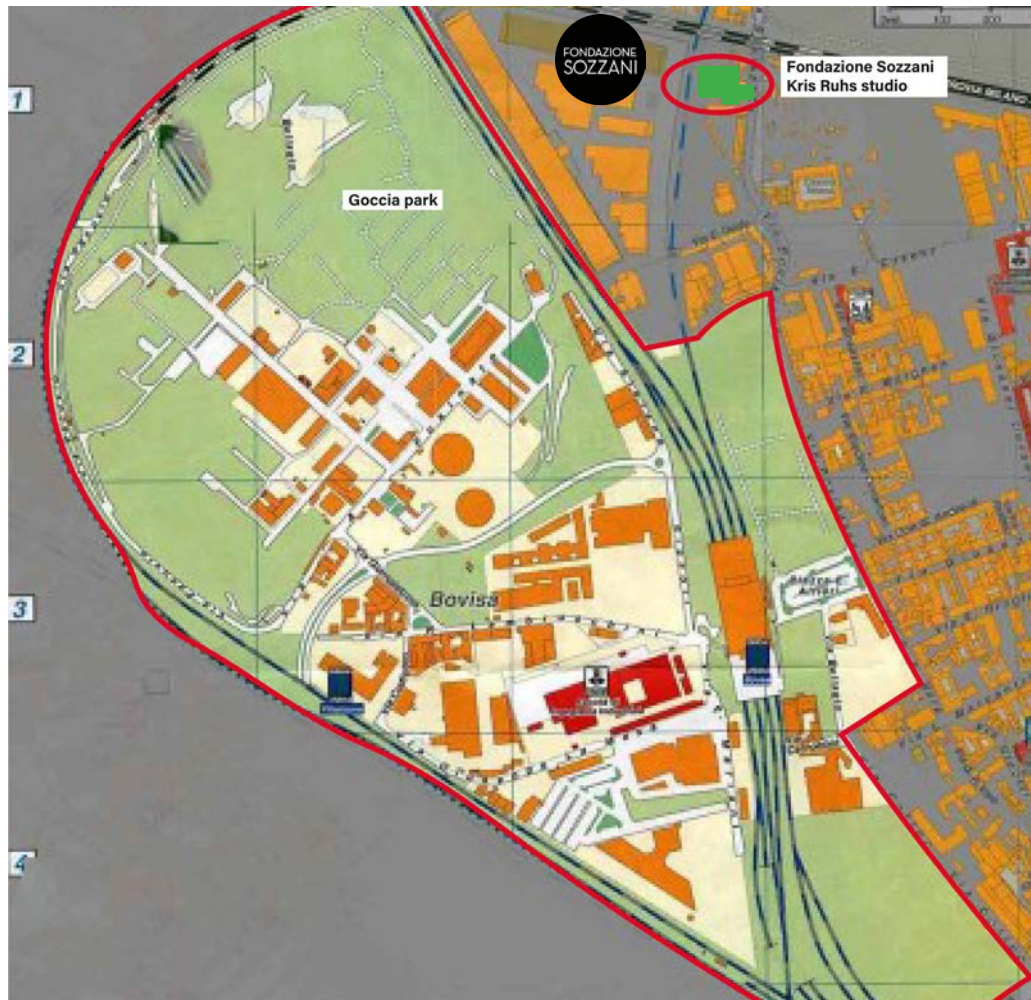
Ceretti and Tanfani establishment (today Polytechnic of Milano), via Durando, 1920



FUTURE BOVISA

To the west of the railway, there is the Bovisa-Goccia area, a large park with more than 2000 monumental plants in an area of 420.000 square meters.

The Municipality and Polytechnic are committed to upgrading the area around the former gasometers, expanding the campus, establishing a science park and keeping a public park for the city of Milan.



RENZO PIANO

A sustainable urban regeneration and quality project in the "Bovisa-Goccia-Villapizzone" area of Milan.

The project, which involves Renzo Piano, covers an area of about 325,000m², owned by the Municipality of Milan (about 234,000m²) and the Politecnico (about 91,000m²), with the aim of redeveloping the Bovisa-Goccia area.

Various works are planned: New university campus, Civic schools and Bovisa and Villapizzone stations.

The new building
FONDAZIONE SOZZANI

BUILDING EXTERIORS

Built in 1967, the industrial independent building is located inside a large courtyard and used to host the "Cooperativa Selciatori e Posatori".



BUILDING EXTERIORS

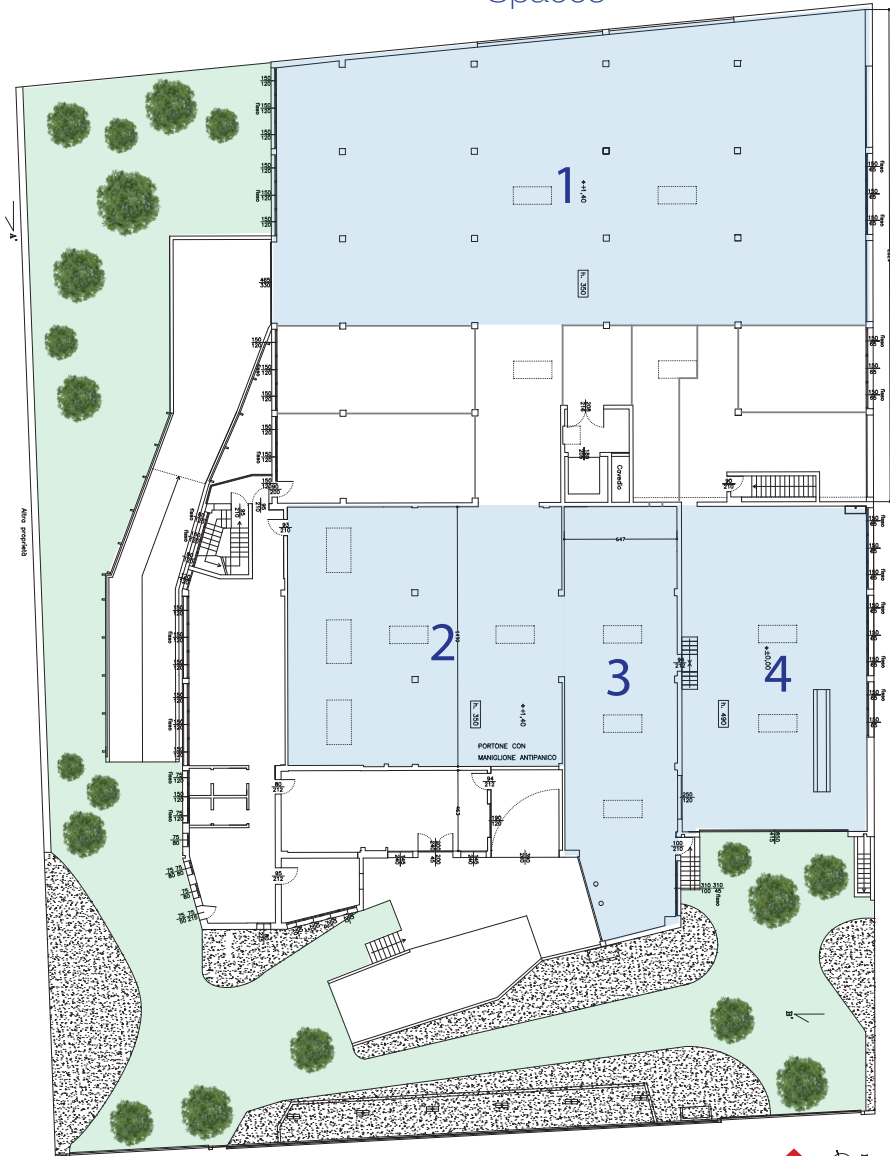
On a surface of 3300 square metres plus 700 square metres of courtyard.



PLANS

1st Floor

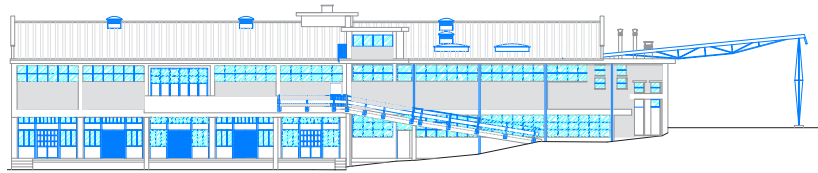
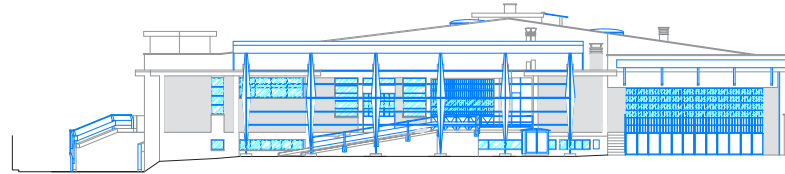
Exhibitions
Spaces



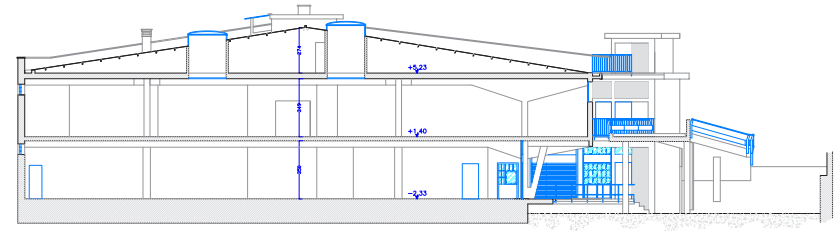
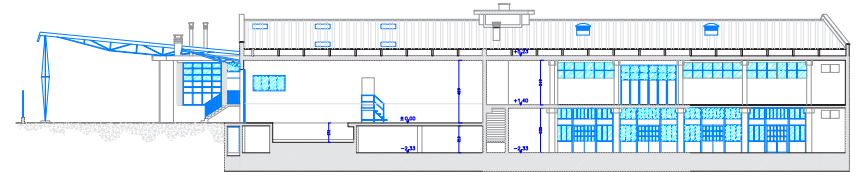
↑
ENTRANCE

1 - 520mq
2 - 210mq
3 - 140mq
4 - 180mq

↑
ENTRANCE



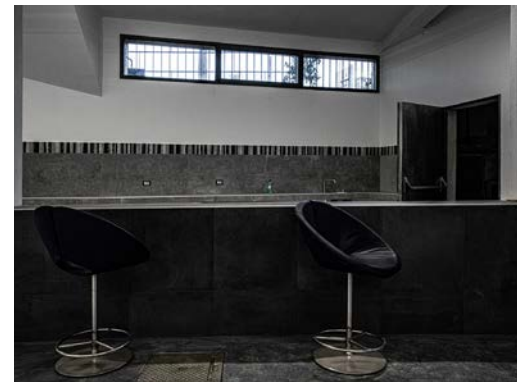
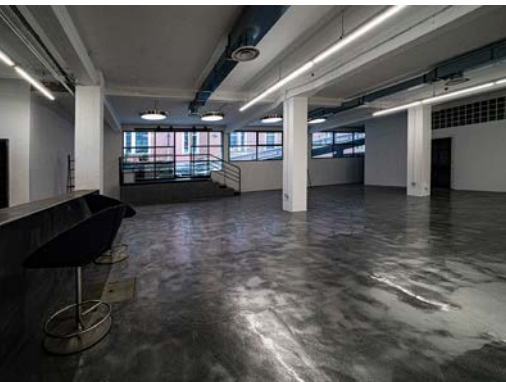
Kris Ruhs
Studio



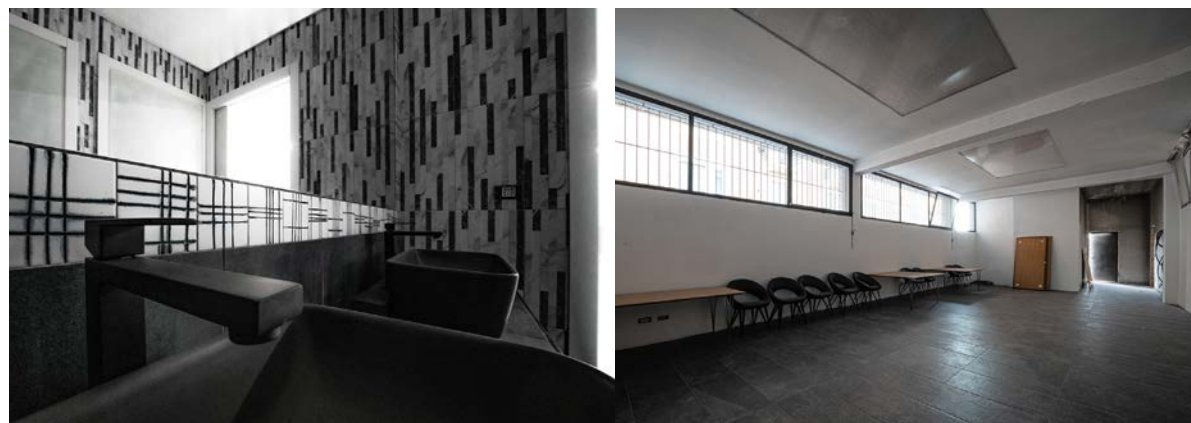
Renovation Works



Renovation Works



Renovation Works





BOVISA IN CULTURE



Mario Sironi, 1942-1943
paesaggio urbano



The industrial and popular aesthetic of Bovisa has always inspired many artists of all kinds. Painters, such as Mario Sironi and Jonathan Guitamacchi, were fascinated by its urban landscapes. In the '50s Giovanni Testori wrote 5 books, talking about characters who lived in the suburbs of Bovisa. The Olmi novel 'Ragazzo della Bovisa' inspired and moved the public with its sentimental portrayal of post-war life in the neighborhood. Bovisa's library 'Dergano-Bovisa' has entered a partnership with the Shanghai Library and dedicates an entire section to Chinese books.

EAT AT BOVISA

Osteria del Biliardo, via Enrico Calcadini 107



Bucatino del Giardino, via Degli Imbriani 54



Spirit de Milan, via Bovisasca 57

VILLAS AND PARKS CLOSE TO BOVISA



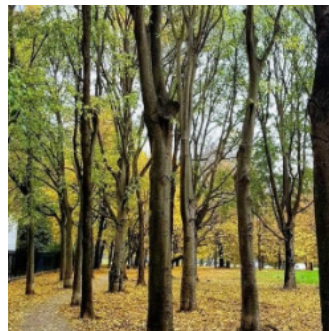
Villa Litta, via Giovanni Terruggia 14

 16 min



Villa Lonati, via Zubiani 1

 34 min



Villa Clerici, via Giovanni Terruggia 14

 36 min

from Porta Nuova to Bovisasca 87



26 min



21 min



18 min



from Duomo to via Bovisasca 87



37 min



25 min



22 min



from Cadorna to via Bovisasca 87



21 min



25 min



18 min

