In the 1960’s and since the beginning of the century, Bologna had become the laboratory of urban experiments in support for historical conservation. As a reaction to the violent urban interventions that took place in city to oust marginals from the historical center, Archizoom Associati answered with a statement taking the form of an artistic operation: the Sventramento, a void trying to de-sacralize the city center and denounce its urban segregation.

Almost 50 years later, the question of urban segregation, especially in historical centers of European cities, seems crucial. In a world in which more and more physical walls are built in order to separate, exclude and hierarchize a portion of a given population, isn’t the strongest wall immaterial? A wall sectioning the society in two, removing the access for the major part of society to the most important resources of them all, culture, language and history. This group is deprived of its memory and is therefore not able to feel part of the collective society. With time the two separate groups no longer share a common memory, and cease to share the same language. The impossibility of communication could lead to an escalation of violence and an intensification of conflicts.

Our intervention wishes to materialize this urban schism by confiscating part of the patrimony and cultural heritage of the city from its citizens. We wish to increase the awareness of the citizens regarding the high value of the historical landmarks in the forging of the common society of today and tomorrow.