

Riviera 107

Giovanni Vaccarini

Architetti

PHOTO: Massimo Crivellari

PHOTOS BY

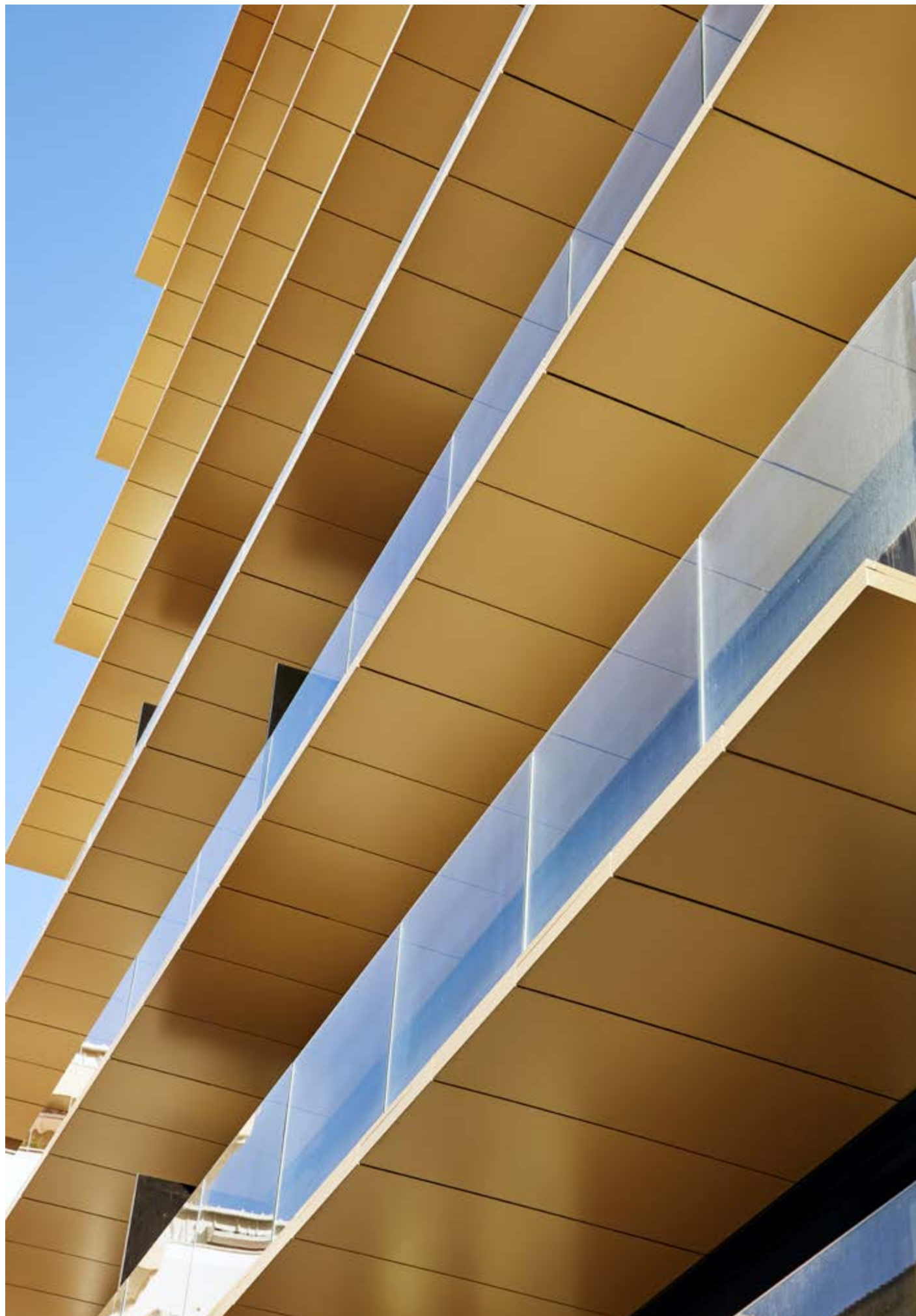
Massimo Crivellari
Michele Boccia

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Press release

20 July 2022

(update)

GIOVANNI VACCARINI ARCHITETTI. RIVIERA 107 BUILDING IN PESCARA, ITALY.

- **The new residential building designed by Giovanni Vaccarini on the Pescara seafront revisits the theme of the Adriatic *palazzina* (apartment building) with a refined and brilliant interpretation.**
- **Working out the depth of the surfaces, a theme that has long marked Vaccarini's research, leads to the transformation of the main elevation: a sort of open section puts the interiors in a direct and exclusive relationship with the view of the Adriatic coast.**
- **At street level, the building is set back, thus allowing the sidewalk to expand into the interior of the block and amplifying the relationship with the public space. Seen from below, the reflective metal soffits of the variably cantilevered floors provide an unexpected façade backdrop that helps define the urban scene.**

A residential project conceived as an urban regeneration effort. The building respects the limits of the lot, but reinterprets the relationships between the interior, the landscape, the public space. Giovanni Vaccarini has recently completed a building on the seafront of the city of Pescara that he describes as a piece of the widespread conurbation of the Adriatic coast. An elegant building, perfectly inserted in the urban fabric, which reinterprets the typology of the *palazzina* (apartment building), to which the architect, based in this city, has been dedicating his research and studies for some time.

“Pescara is an American city in Italy,” recalls Giovanni Vaccarini quoting Italian journalist and writer Guido Piovene who, in his “Viaggio in Italia” (“Journey through Italy”), defined the capital of Abruzzo as a linear city, without a real center, born from the confluence of people of the region who moved from the mountains to the coast in search of work and better living conditions. A dream that sounds a lot like the American dream. In fact, notes Vaccarini, the city has been able to attract investments, people

and activities, and in just a few years it has become the economic hub of the region and the mid-Adriatic area.

Pescara is a very young city, less than one hundred years old, but it has grown in the post-war period at such a rapid pace as to give rise to strong contrasts, recognizable along its streets. It is the city of the “*vitelloni*”, as described by Italian playwright and novelist Ennio Flaiano, who was born here: a bunch of lazy guys who spent their time in the clubs of the seaside town. But, at the same time, it is an industrious city, inhabited by a thriving and budding entrepreneurship that today has taken on national and international dimensions.

The project is located in a portion of the city that clearly speaks of this tumultuous growth: some surviving Art Nouveau or neoclassical villas are flanked by imposing buildings, often lacking in quality. Some villas, through the years, were quickly replaced by the rampant *palazzina* (apartment building) type. A single block typology, served by a central vertical distribution around which the apartments - two or more per

floor - are arranged. This is the context in which Vaccarini's project is located.

“The *palazzina* is a representation of the profound transformations that have taken place in the city: it is not a *palazzo*, since it does not have the size nor the urban role, and it is not even a *villino*, the small one- or two-family building. It is a hybrid, a deformation that has disrupted the established relationship between building type and urban morphology in the historic city.”

Giovanni Vaccarini.

Riviera 107 reinterprets this typology, arranging distribution in the building according to functional bands. The front band of the apartment, the one most open to the public domain, is thus opposite to the service band, which includes the vertical distribution, bathrooms, kitchens, laundries, and further back the more private quarters with bedrooms and studios. Following this logic, the building further develops its

dialogue with the surrounding environment. The front of the building is set back from the street edge, and thus defines a semi-public space of mediation between the public and the private spaces. A kind of sidewalk expansion that the building shares with the city. The hallway becomes the collective place par excellence, flanked by a communal space for meetings, parties all those common activities that may be necessary in a condominium.

More than anything else, this distribution layout allowed an original transformation of the seafront overlook. The east-facing facade, in fact, is conceived as a real open section of the building, along which the floors of the building cantilever. The compact volume is thus dissolved in a way and the floor plates “slip” outwards. The shifting of the planes and the cantilevers that jut out towards the sea define a portion of open-air dwelling, a sort of *trabocco urbano*, explains Giovanni Vaccarini, referring to the traditional *trabocchi* - wooden structures for fishing that characterize the local coastline. This choice allows the interiors to attain a direct and unconditional

relationship with the sea view. An intense relationship with the city and the landscape, with light and outdoor life, is at the heart of the project. The main rooms of the apartments enjoy direct views and all have outdoor terraces, designed as real open-air rooms, an integral part of domestic life.

The soffit of the cantilevered balconies is made of a perforated brass cladding. Seen from below, as one walks along the promenade, the series of

reflective overhangs gives rise to a sort of unprecedented fifth elevation of the building that helps to define the urban scene.

Featuring architect Giovanni Vaccarini the short film *The Living Section*, released in July 2022 by The Piranesi Experience and directed by Fabio Paolucci, offers an insightful experience of the Riviera 107 project.

Environmental sustainability and design strategies

Riviera 107, designed by Giovanni Vaccarini Architetti and engineered by Proger Spa, responds to principles of bio-architecture and eco-compatibility. The facades facing south and north, which are more exposed to the action of summer sunshine and the action of cold winter winds, have small openings. The east elevation is fully glazed and protected from direct sunlight by overhangs measuring between 2,5 and 3,5 meters. The west side has full-height apertures and is protected by an overhang of 1,5 meters, so that interior spaces can take advantage of the weak afternoon sunlight. A zero Co2 emission energy station is powered by a high efficiency heat pump system. FSC-certified timbers as well as materials and finishes that follow the LCA (Life Cycle Assessment) methodology were used to construct Riviera 107; also, wherever possible, the design team employed recyclable, renewable and materials sourced within the region. A plan for the management and collection of recyclable materials has been implemented. The terraces and roof garden are planted using local species that require little water so as to minimize the bio-economic impact. The building is designed and built to achieve an A+ Energy Class rating.



PHOTO: Massimo Crivellari

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The short film

A residential building that Giovanni Vaccarini conceived as a totally open architectural section and that surprises with its ability to enhance the relationship with the Adriatic Sea and the urban system of which it is an active part.

Title: THE LIVING SECTION

A film by: The Piranesi Experience
Featuring: Giovanni Vaccarini

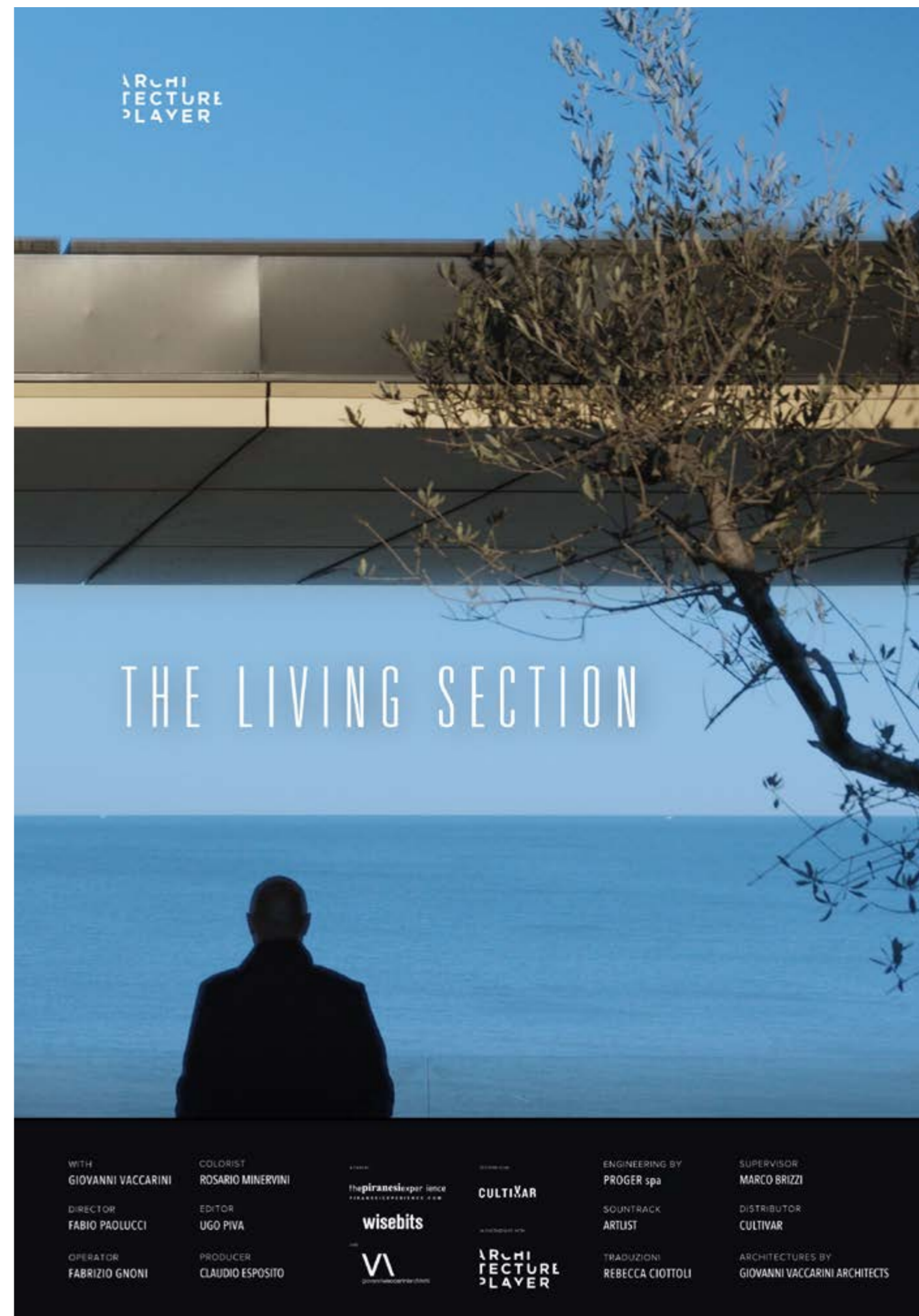
Directed by: Fabio Paolucci
Operator: Fabrizio Gnoni
Colorist: Rosario Minervini
Editor: Ugo Piva
Producer: Claudio Esposito
Soundtrack: Artlist
Translations: Rebecca Ciottoli

Distributed by: Cultivar

In partnership with: The Architecture Player

Watch the short film “THE LIVING SECTION” at this link: <https://vimeo.com/727172211>
The trailer can be downloaded here: <https://vimeo.com/731664577>

(Journalists who are interested in publishing the short film may contact:
press@cultivar.agency)



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Data and credits

of the project

Name of the project	Riviera 107
Location	Pescara, Italy Viale della Riviera 107
Project	Giovanni Vaccarini Architetti www.gioannivaccarini.it
Structural engineer	PROGER Spa www.proger.it
Data	Lot surface area: 750 square meters Surface area of each floor: 250 square meters Number of floors: 7 Number of apartments: 13 Building height: 25 meters
Schedule	Start of design: October 2018 Start of construction: August 2020 Completion: January 2022
Photographer	Massimo Crivellari www.massimocrivellari.com
Producer of the short film	The Piranesi Experience www.piranesiexperience.com
Press office	Cultivar www.cultivar.agency





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Giovanni Vaccarini Architetti

Giovanni Vaccarini graduated with honors in Architecture from the “Gabriele D’Annunzio” University of Pescara in 1993. In 1994 he took a post-graduate specialization course in landscape architecture at University of Waterloo School of Architecture in Ontario, Canada. He holds a PhD in architectural composition. Svolge attività didattica e di ricerca come Visiting Professor presso facoltà di architettura ed ingegneria italiane. He is visiting professor at several Italian faculties of architecture and engineering. He was adjunct professor in Architectural Composition at the School of Architecture and the “Gabriele D’Annunzio” University of Pescara.

He founded Giovanni Vaccarini Architetti in 1993.

Architecture is born from ideas, not from form; form is the outcome of the staging of these ideas. His office, a laboratory of research and experimentation with 25 years of experience, focuses its research on reaffirming the primacy of ideas over form. Research, design and construction are the components of the very same vision.

In 2021 he is awarded the INARCH Abruzzo award, the INARCH Emilia Romagna award and the special national Willis Towers Watson prize. In 2020 he is the recipient of The Plan Award, category: Production. In 2018 he is the recipient of The Plan Award, category: Sports and leisure. In 2017 he is among the winners of the Architizer Award. In 2016 the project for the new Headquarters of SPG Société Privée de Gérance was awarded the “Prix Bilan de l’Immobilier” in the “rénovation” category. He is recipient of the Iakov Chernikov prize at the 2015 Sofia Architecture Triennial in Bulgaria. In 2012 he received the Premio Ad’A, Architetture dell’Adriatico.

Giovanni Vaccarini Architetti was one of the Italian firms selected for *The Phaidon Atlas of Contemporary World Architecture* (2004). He was part of the “Best Practice” section in the Italian Pavilion at the 17th International Architecture Exhibition - la Biennale di Venezia in 2021.

www.giovannivaccarini.it

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Images for the press

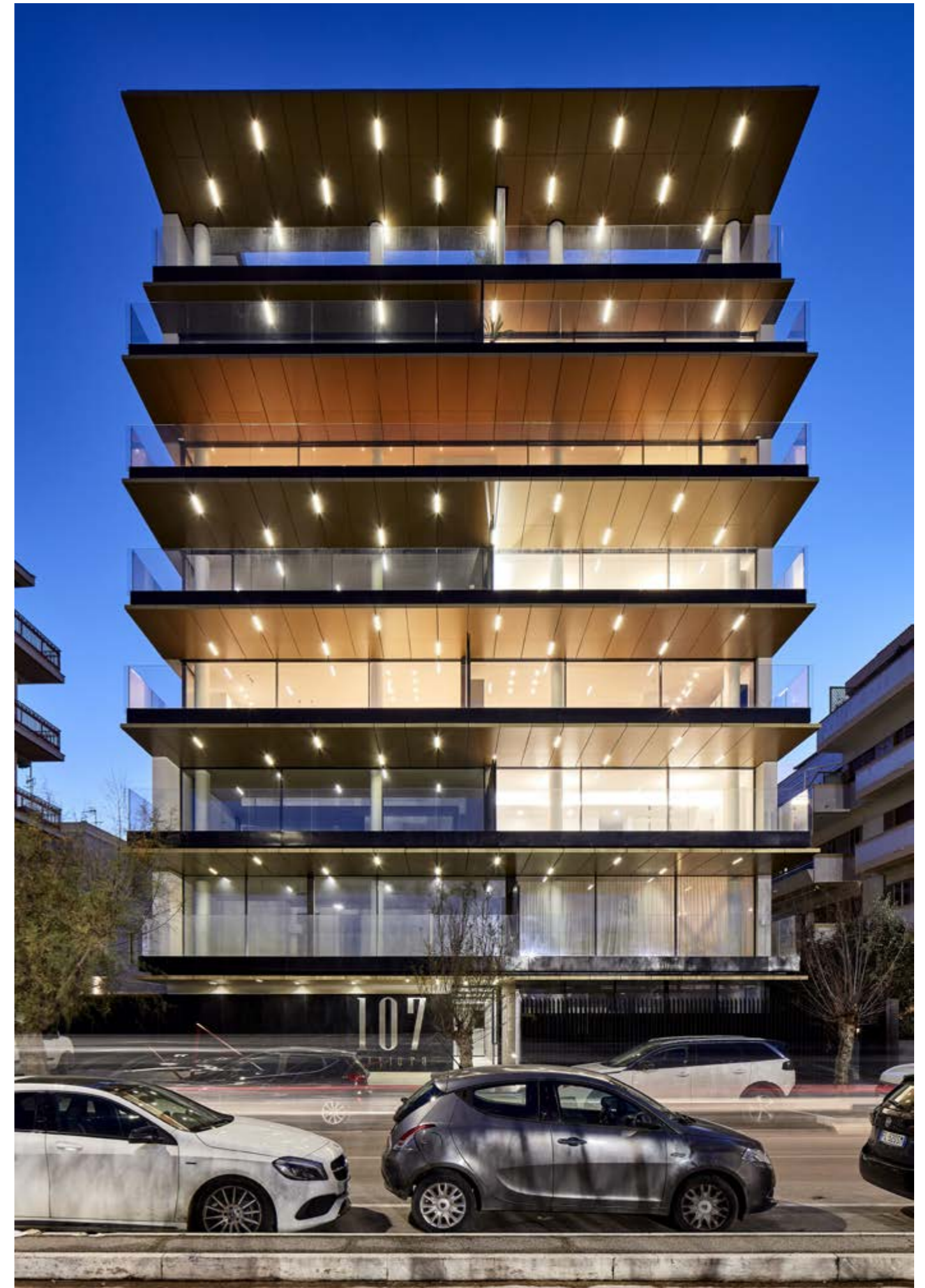
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Caption: Giovanni Vaccarini Architetti, Riviera 107, Pescara, Italy.
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File name: Riviera 107 - PH 100

Caption: Giovanni Vaccarini Architetti, Riviera 107, Pescara, Italy. Photo: © Massimo Crivellari.

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File name: Riviera 107 - PH 09

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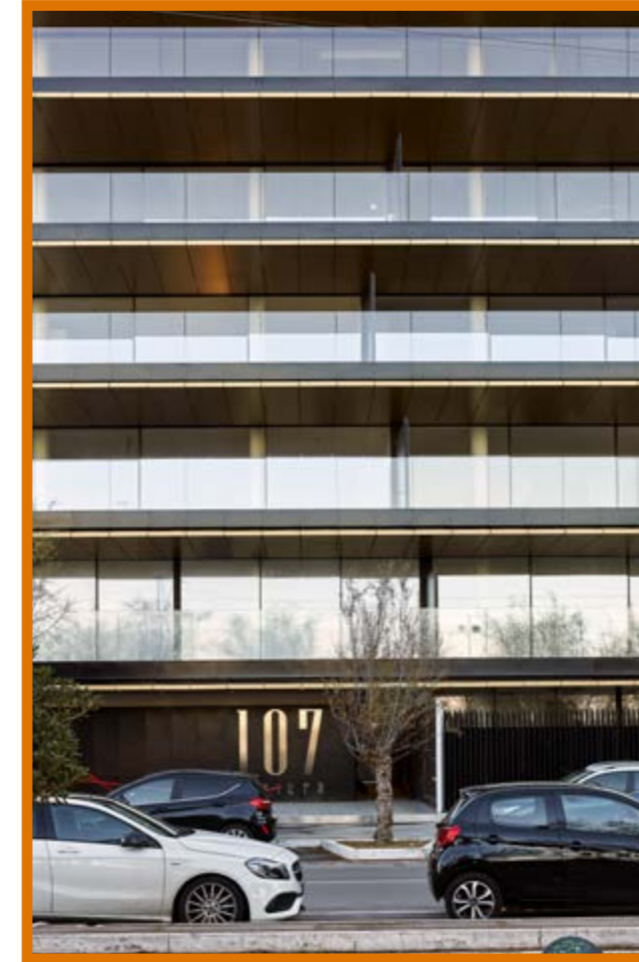
Caption: Giovanni Vaccarini Architetti, Riviera 107, Pescara, Italy. Photo: © Massimo Crivellari.

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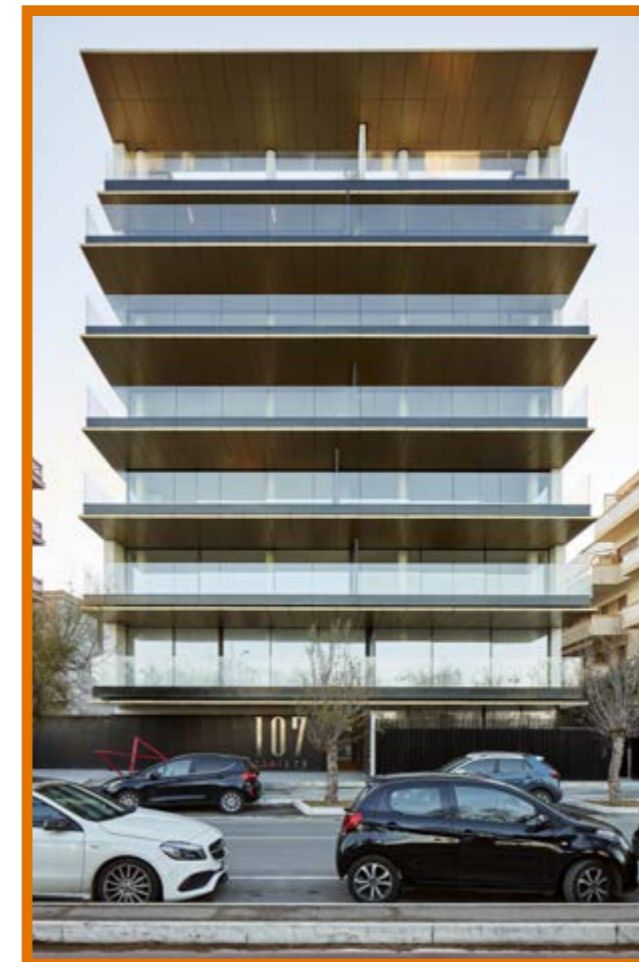
File name:
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Caption:
Giovanni
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Pescara,
Italy. Photo:
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Caption: Giovanni Vacarini Architetti,
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Caption: Giovanni Vacarini Architetti,
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File name: Riviera 107 - PH 71

Caption: Giovanni Vaccarini Architetti, Riviera 107, Pescara, Italy. Photo: © Massimo Crivellari.

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File name: Riviera 107 - PH 65

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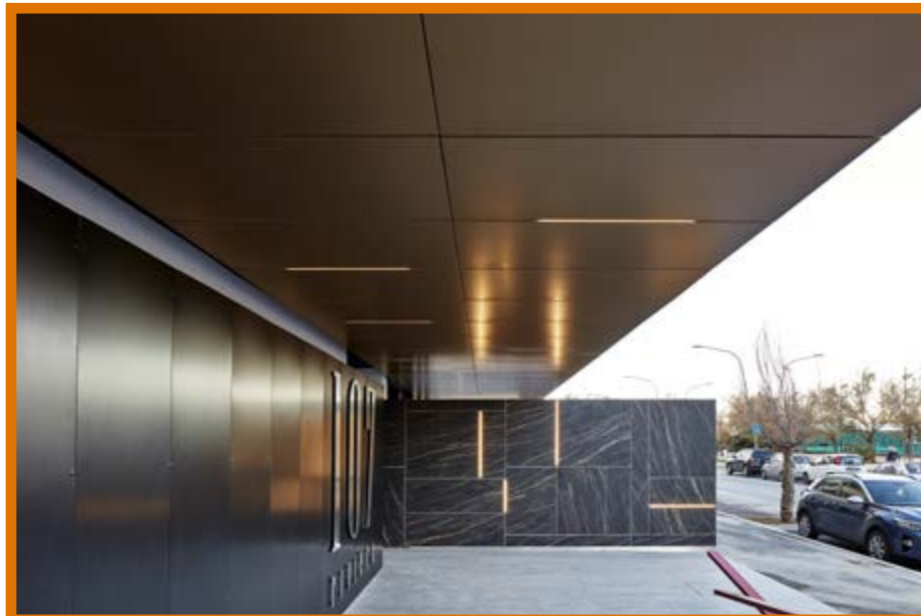
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Caption: Giovanni Vaccarini Architetti, Riviera 107, Pescara, Italy. Photo: © Massimo Crivellari.

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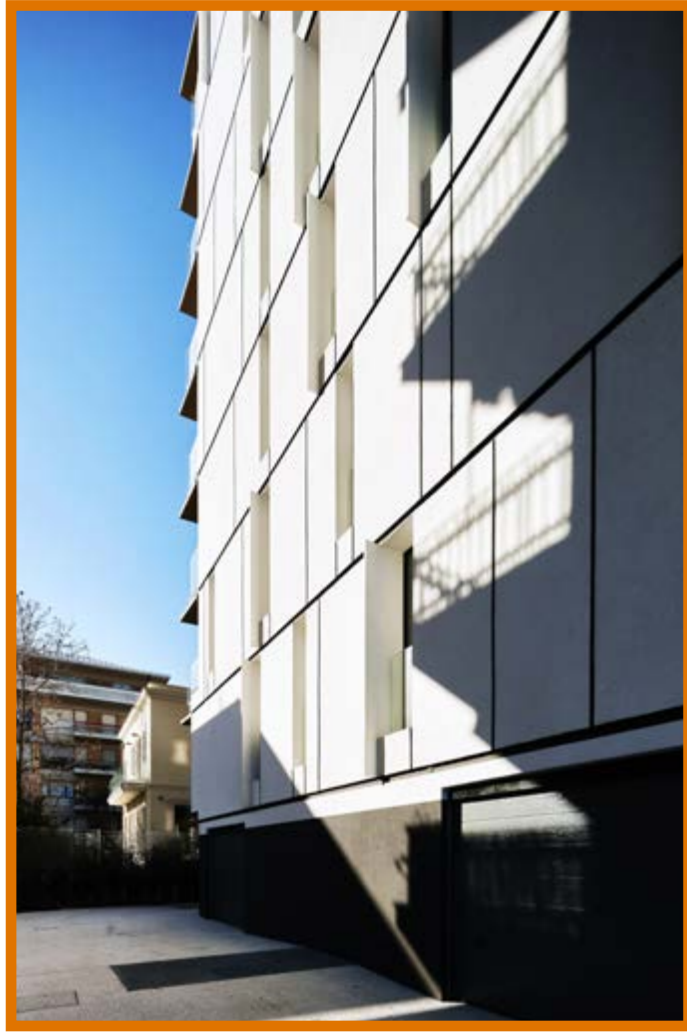
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Caption: Giovanni Vaccarini Architetti, Riviera 107, Pescara, Italy. Photo: © Massimo Crivellari.

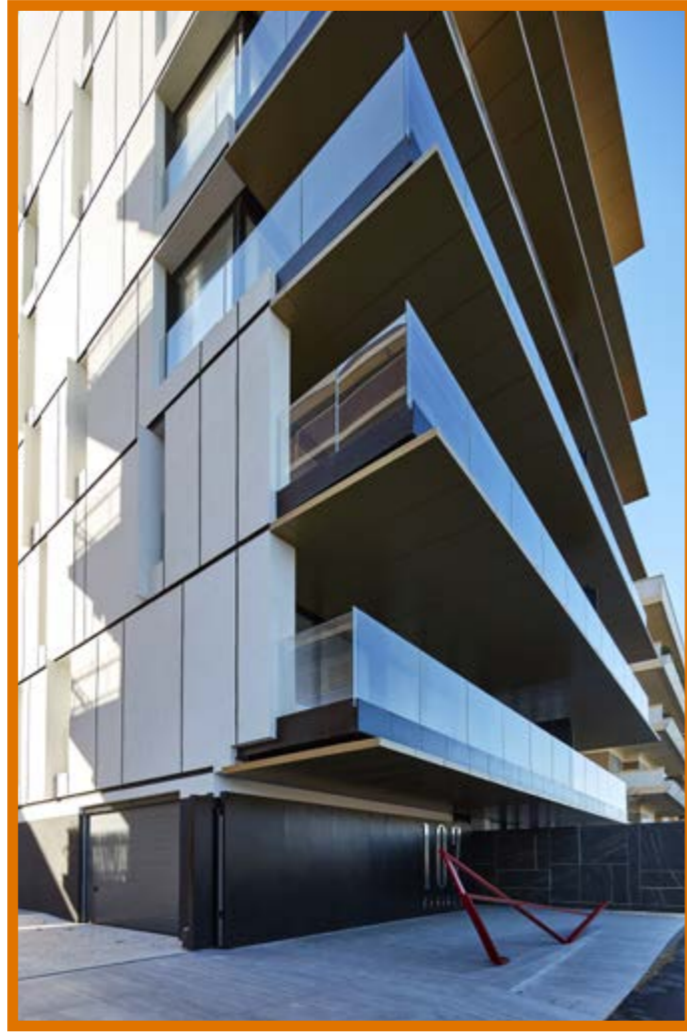
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Caption: Giovanni Vaccarini Architetti, Riviera 107, Pescara, Italy. Photo: © Massimo Crivellari.

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Caption: Giovanni Vaccarini Architetti, Riviera 107, Pescara, Italy. Photo: © Massimo Crivellari.

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Caption: Giovanni Vaccarini Architetti, Riviera 107, Pescara, Italy. Photo: © Massimo Crivellari.

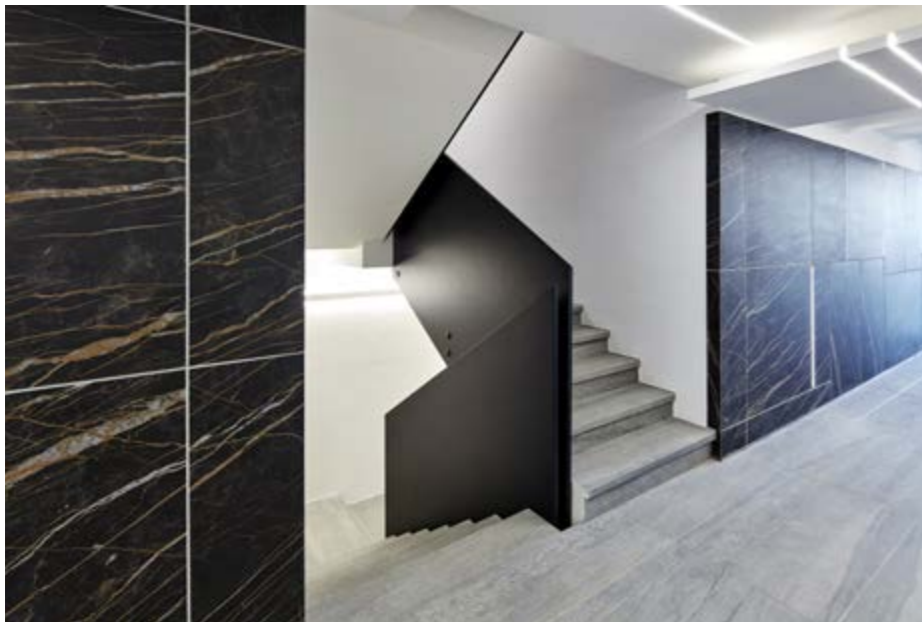
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Caption: Giovanni Vaccarini Architetti, Riviera 107, Pescara, Italy. Photo: © Massimo Crivellari.

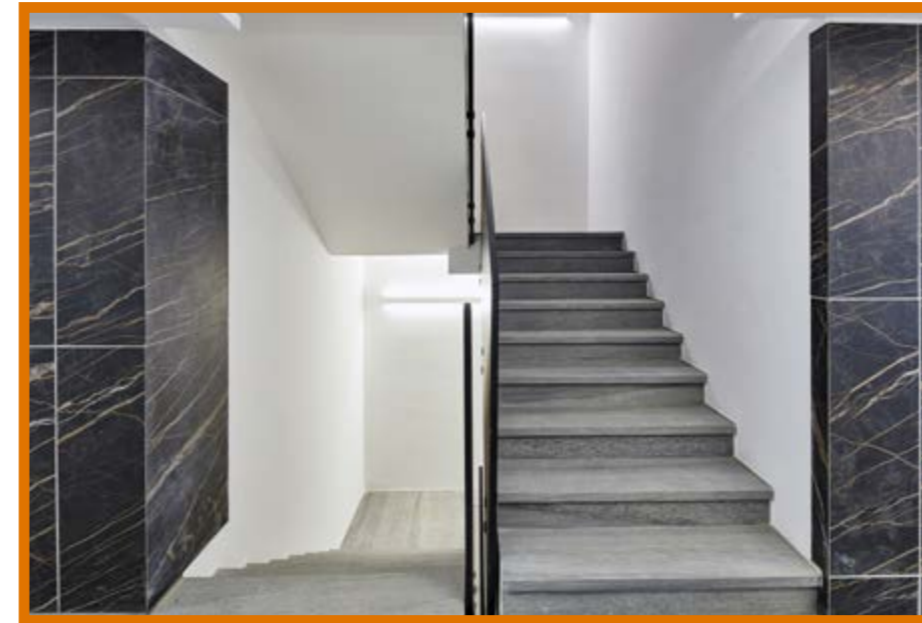
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Caption: Giovanni Vaccarini Architetti, Riviera 107, Pescara, Italy. Photo: © Massimo Crivellari.

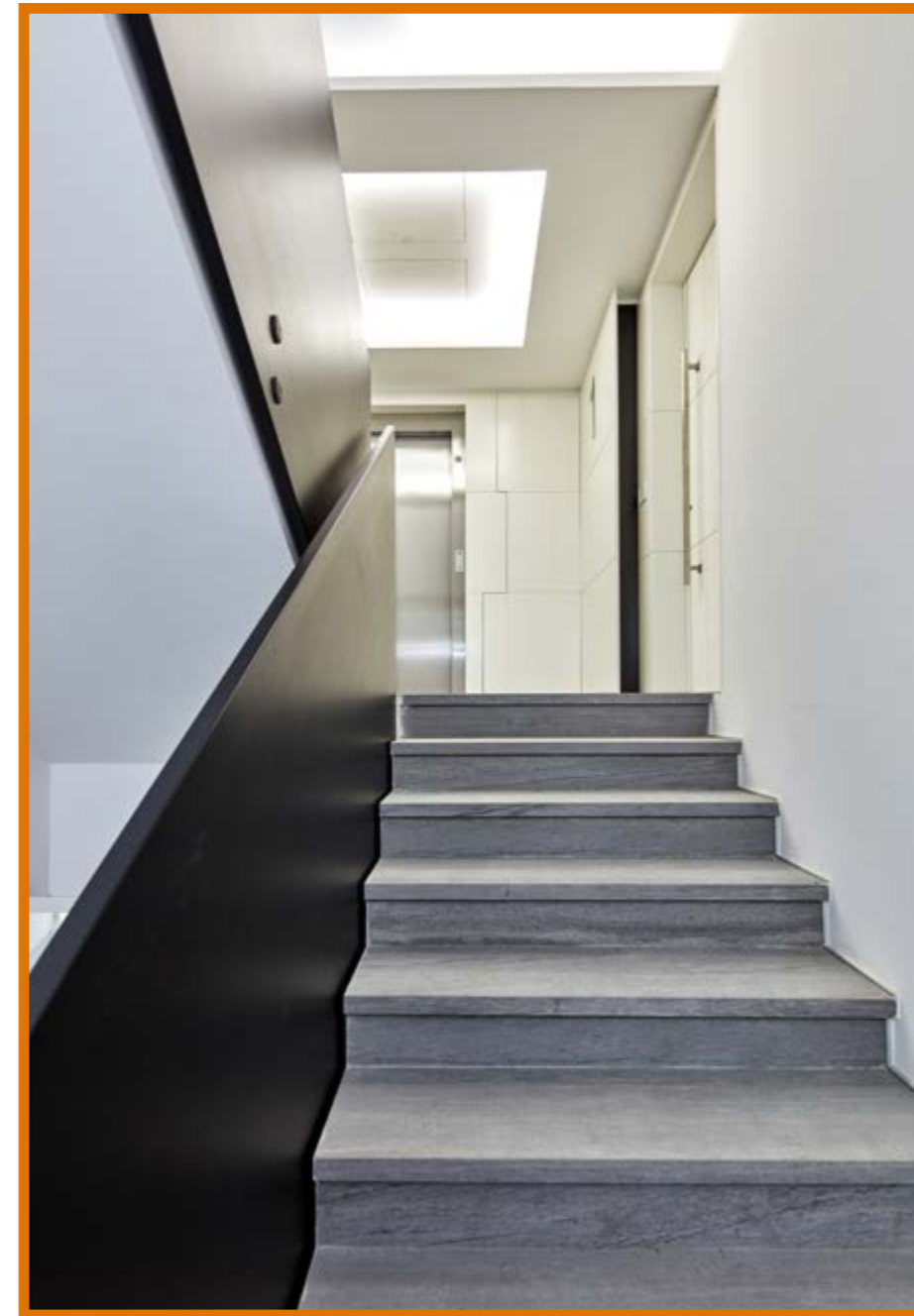
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File name: Riviera 107 - PH 35

Caption: Giovanni Vaccarini Architetti, Riviera 107, Pescara, Italy. Photo: © Massimo Crivellari.

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File name: Riviera 107 - PH 41

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Caption:
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Caption: Giovanni Vacarini Architetti, Riviera 107, Pescara, Italy. Photo: © Massimo Crivellari.

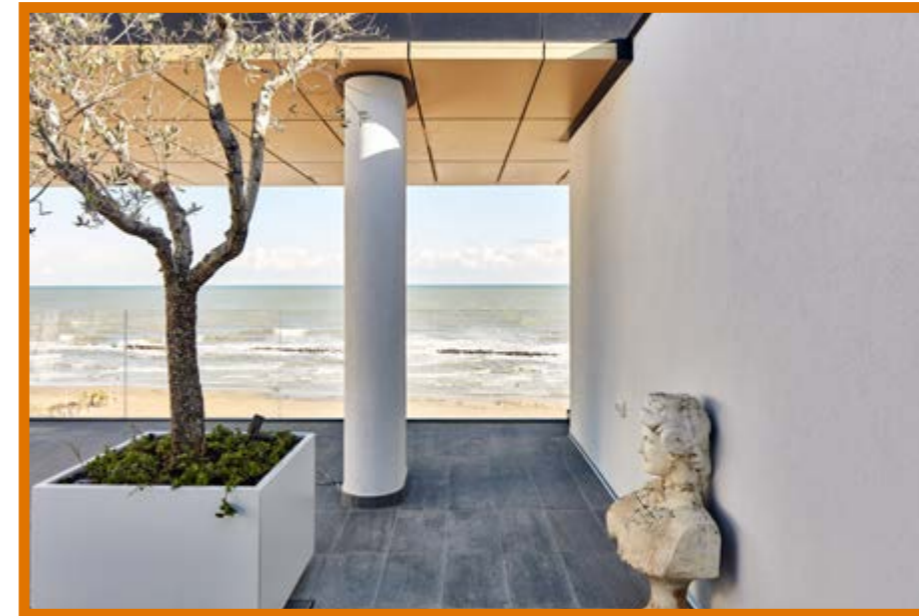
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Caption: Giovanni Vaccarini Architetti, Riviera 107, Pescara, Italy. Photo: © Massimo Crivellari.

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File name: Riviera 107 - PH 3442_1

Caption: Giovanni Vaccarini Architetti, Riviera 107, Pescara, Italy. Photo: © Michele Boccia.

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File name: Riviera 107 - PH 3452_1

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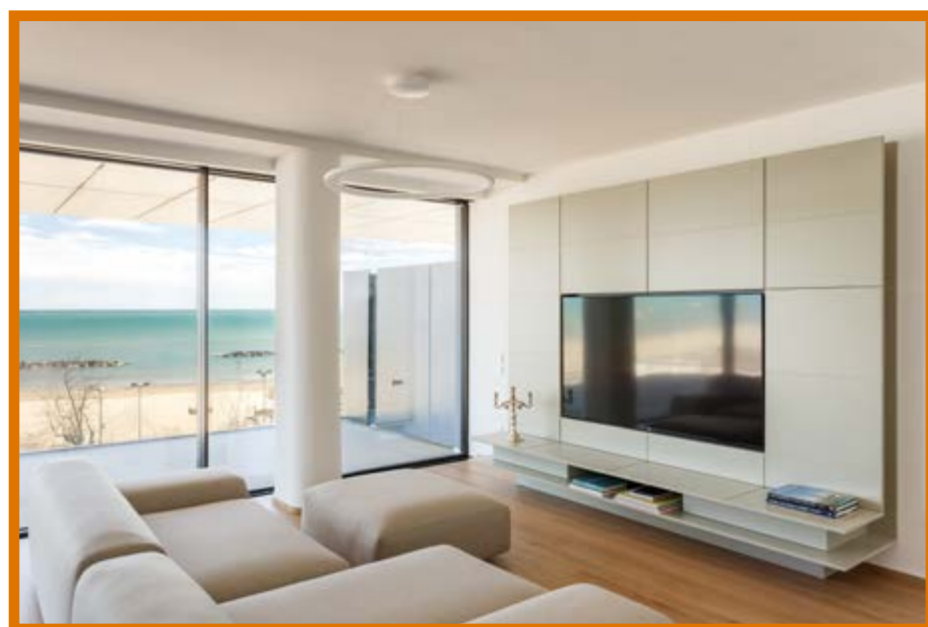
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Caption:
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(above) **File name: Riviera 107 - PH 3349**
Caption: Giovanni Vaccarini Architeti, Riviera 107, Pescara, Italy. Photo: © Michele Boccia.

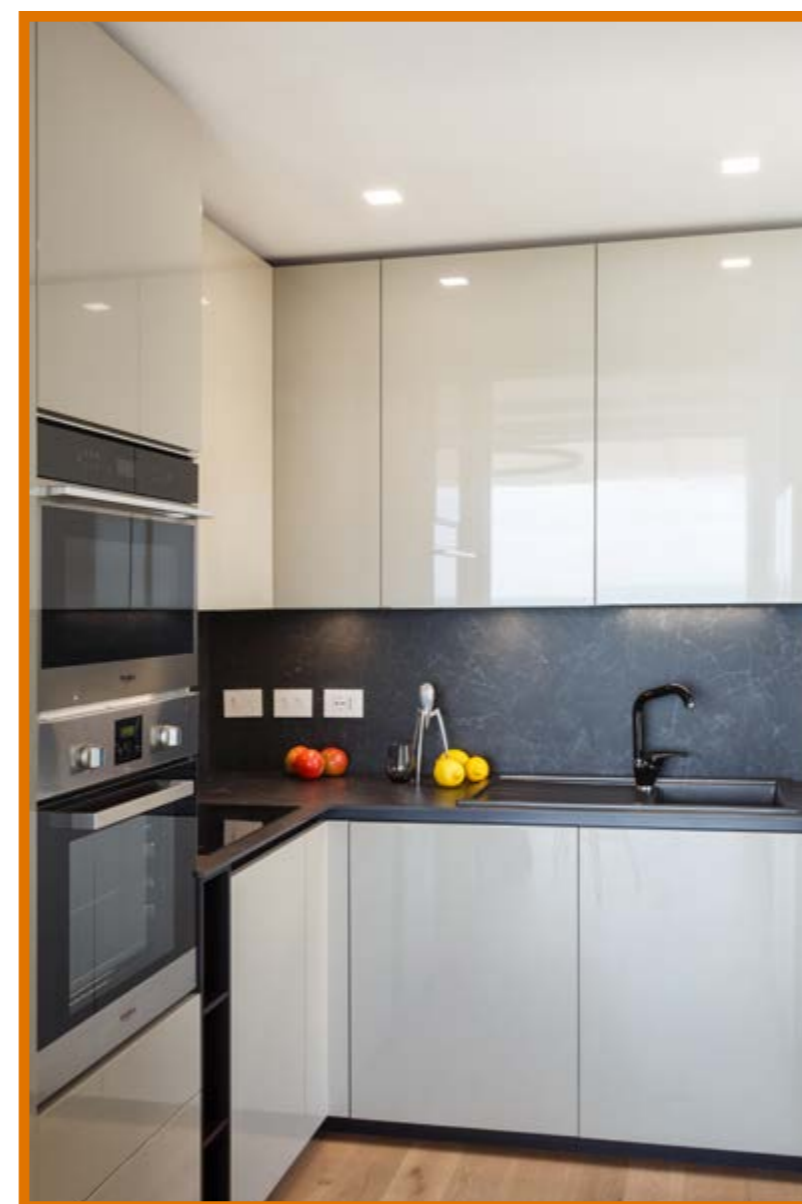
(left) **File name: Riviera 107 - PH 3341**
Caption: Giovanni Vaccarini Architeti, Riviera 107, Pescara, Italy. Photo: © Michele Boccia.

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File name: Riviera 107 - GEN 02

Caption: Giovanni Vaccarini Architetti, Riviera 107, Pescara, Italy. Location (urban scale).

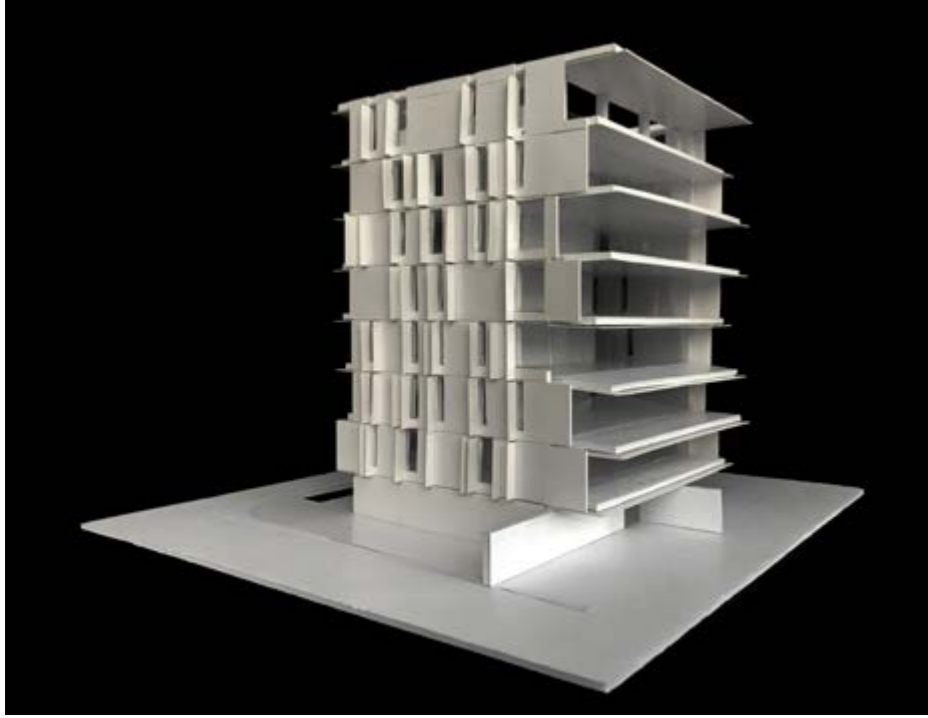
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File name: Riviera 107 - GEN 01

Caption: Giovanni Vaccarini Architetti, Riviera 107, Pescara, Italy. Location.

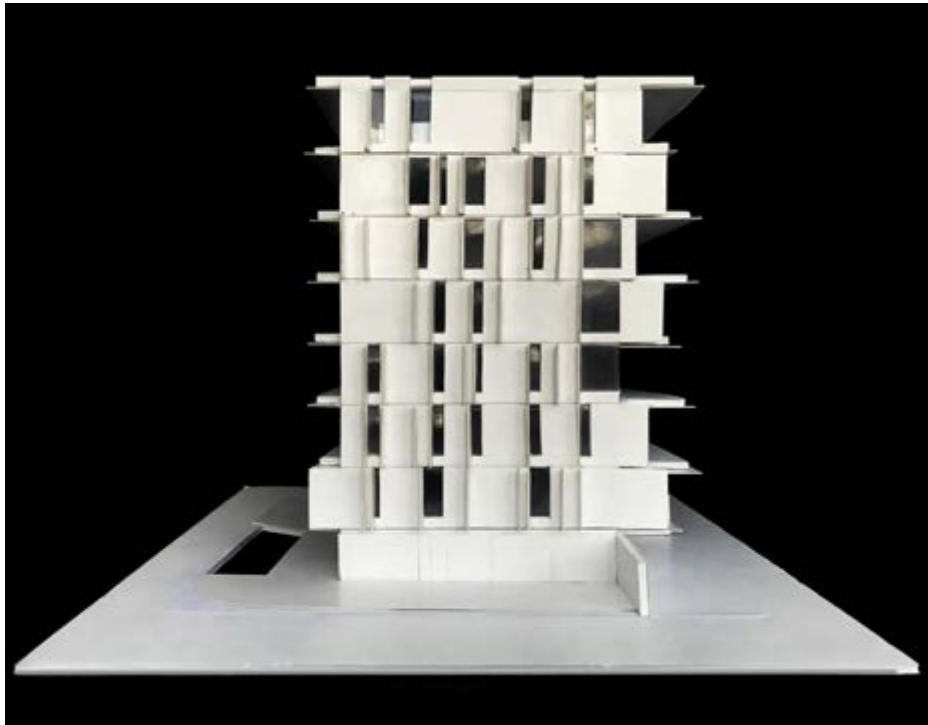
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Caption: Giovanni Vaccarini Architetti, Riviera 107, Pescara, Italy. Model.

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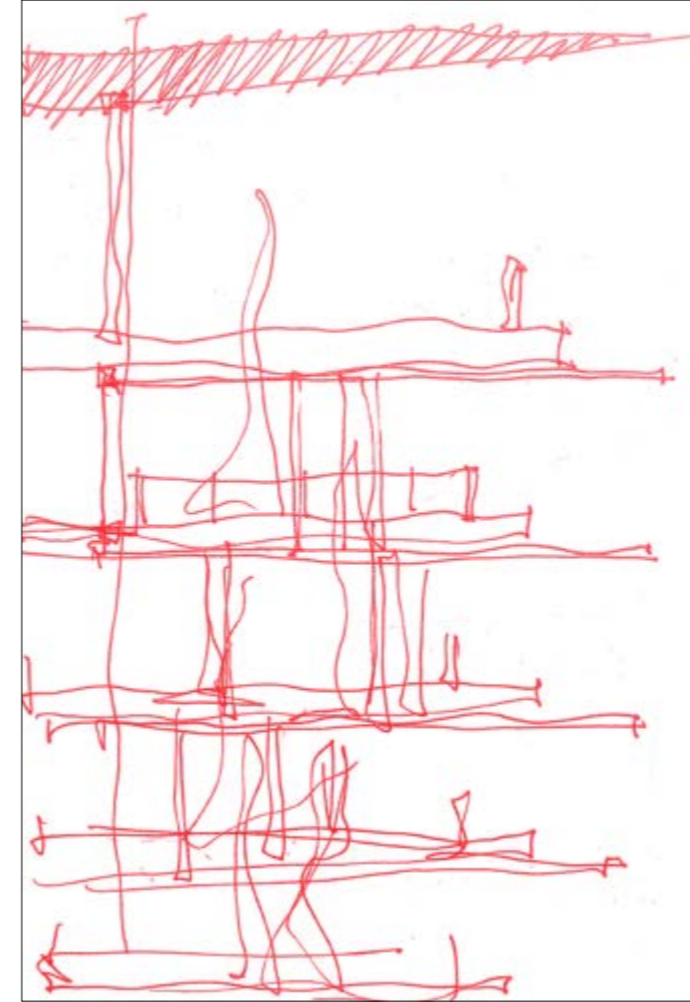
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Caption: Giovanni Vaccarini Architetti, Riviera 107, Pescara, Italy. Model.

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File name: Riviera 107 - SK 02
Caption: Giovanni Vaccarini Architetti, Riviera 107, Pescara, Italy. Schizzo.

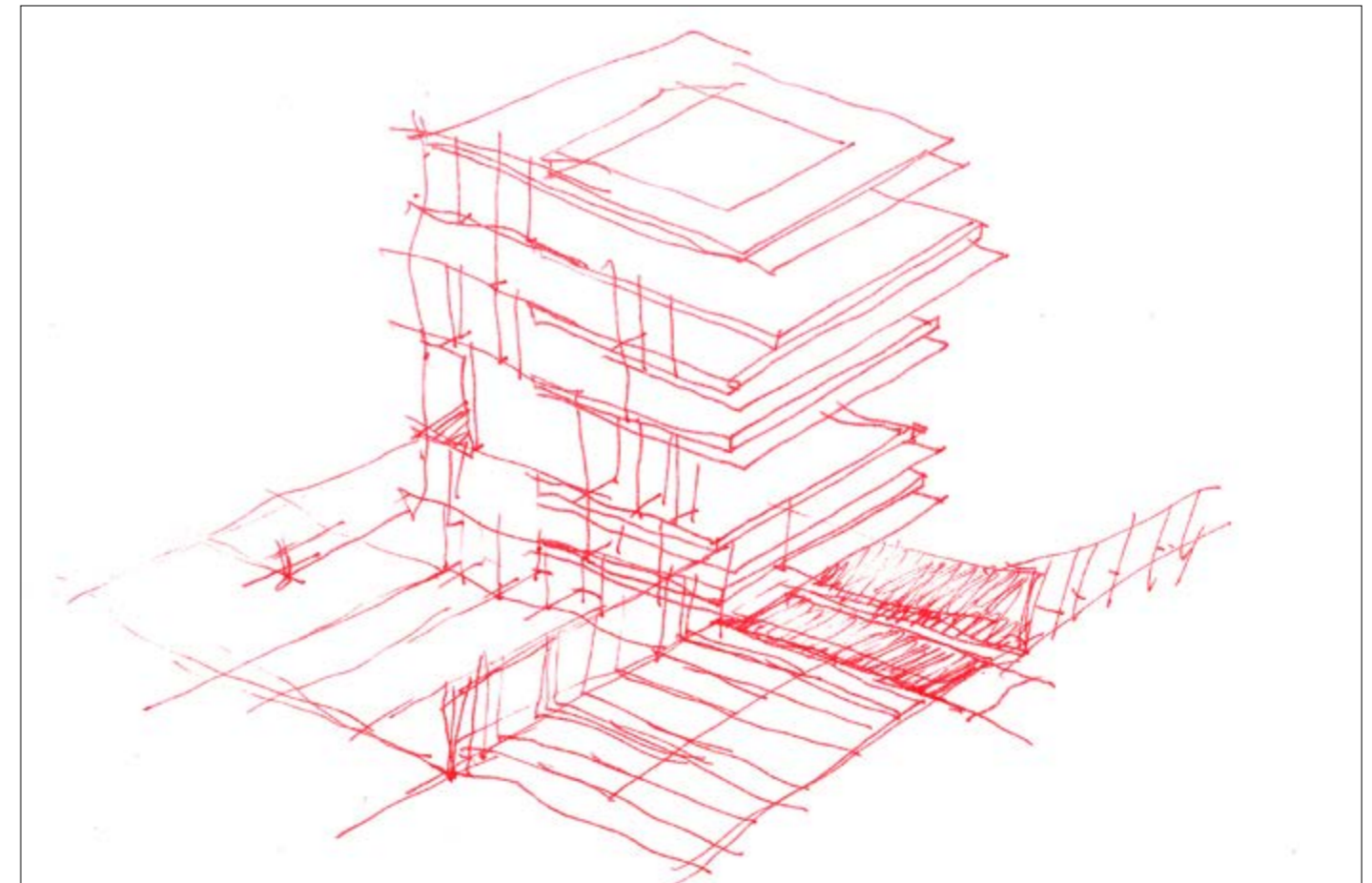
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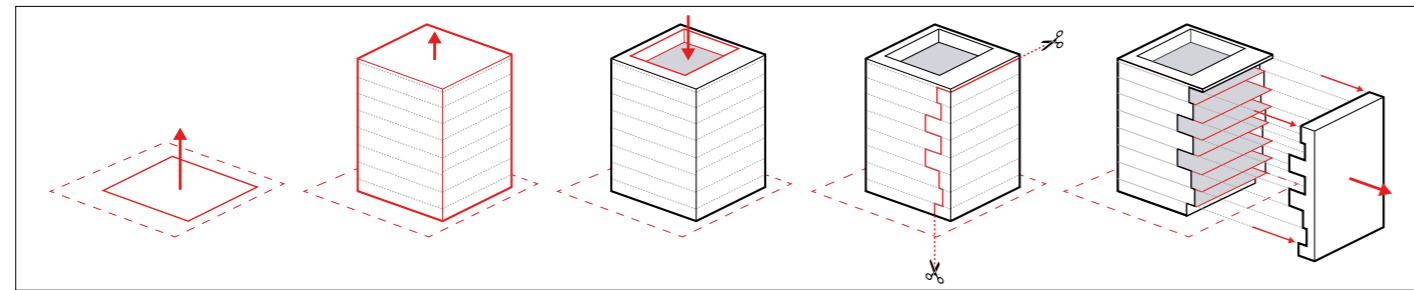


File name: Riviera 107 - SK 03

Caption: Giovanni Vaccarini Architetti, Riviera 107, Pescara, Italy. Sketch.

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File name: Riviera 107 - DIA 01

Caption: Giovanni Vaccarini Architetti, Riviera 107, Pescara, Italy. Typological layout.

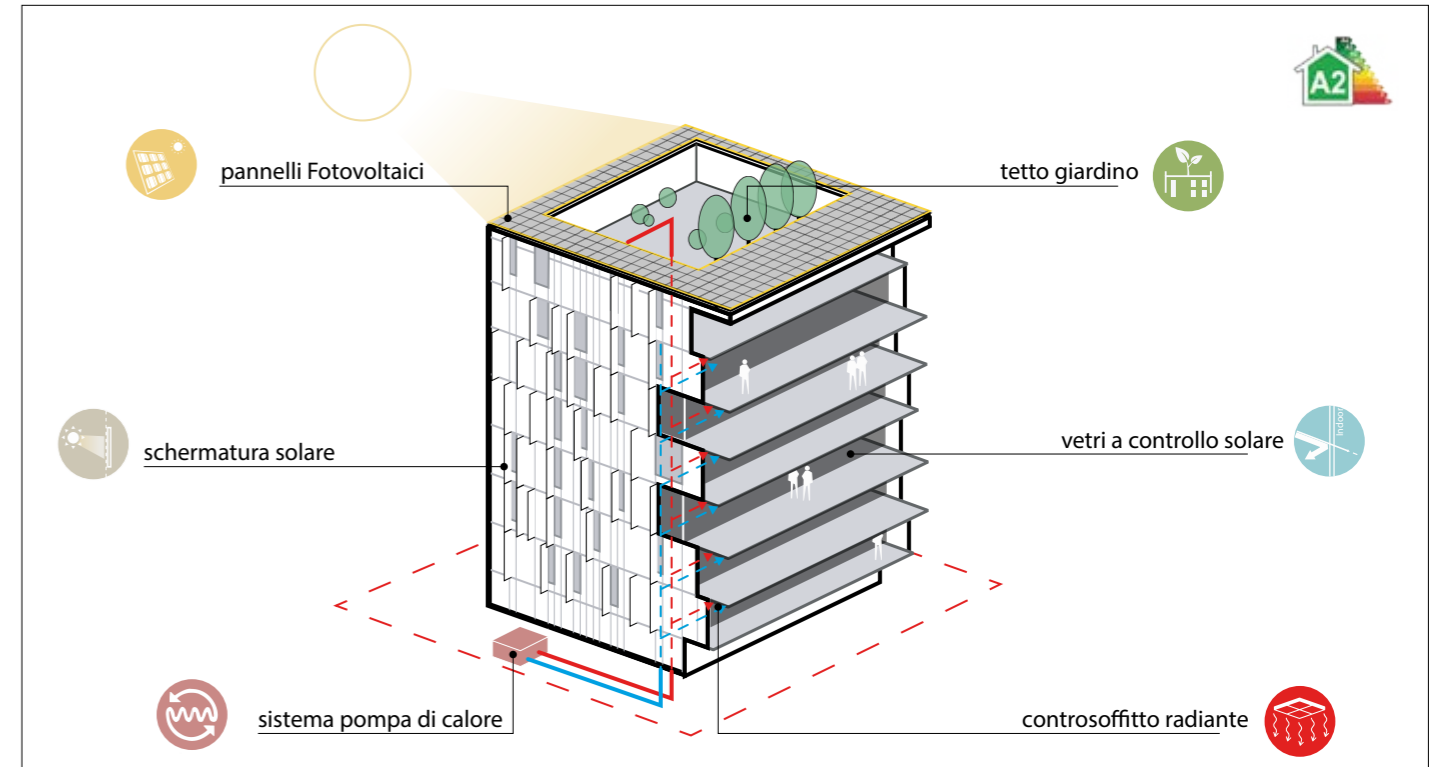
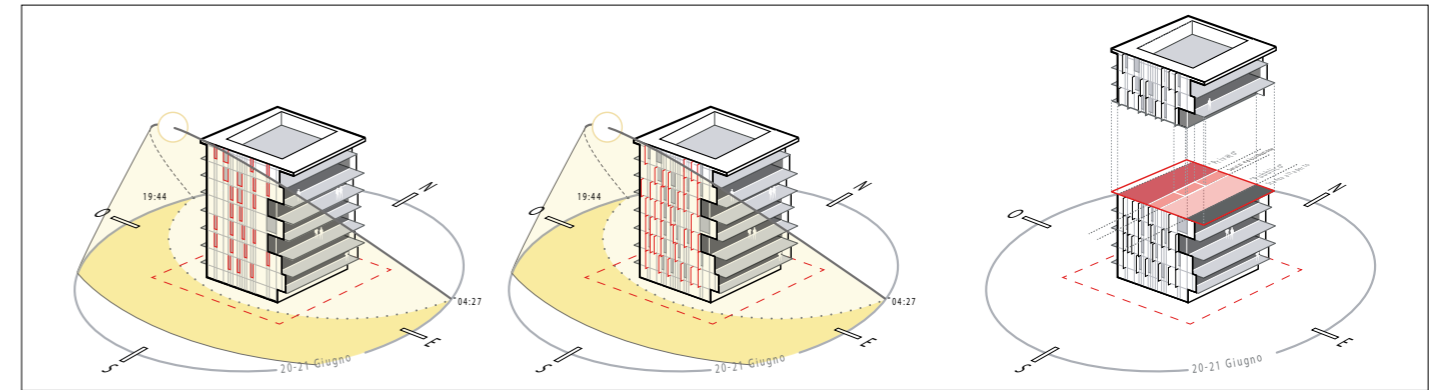
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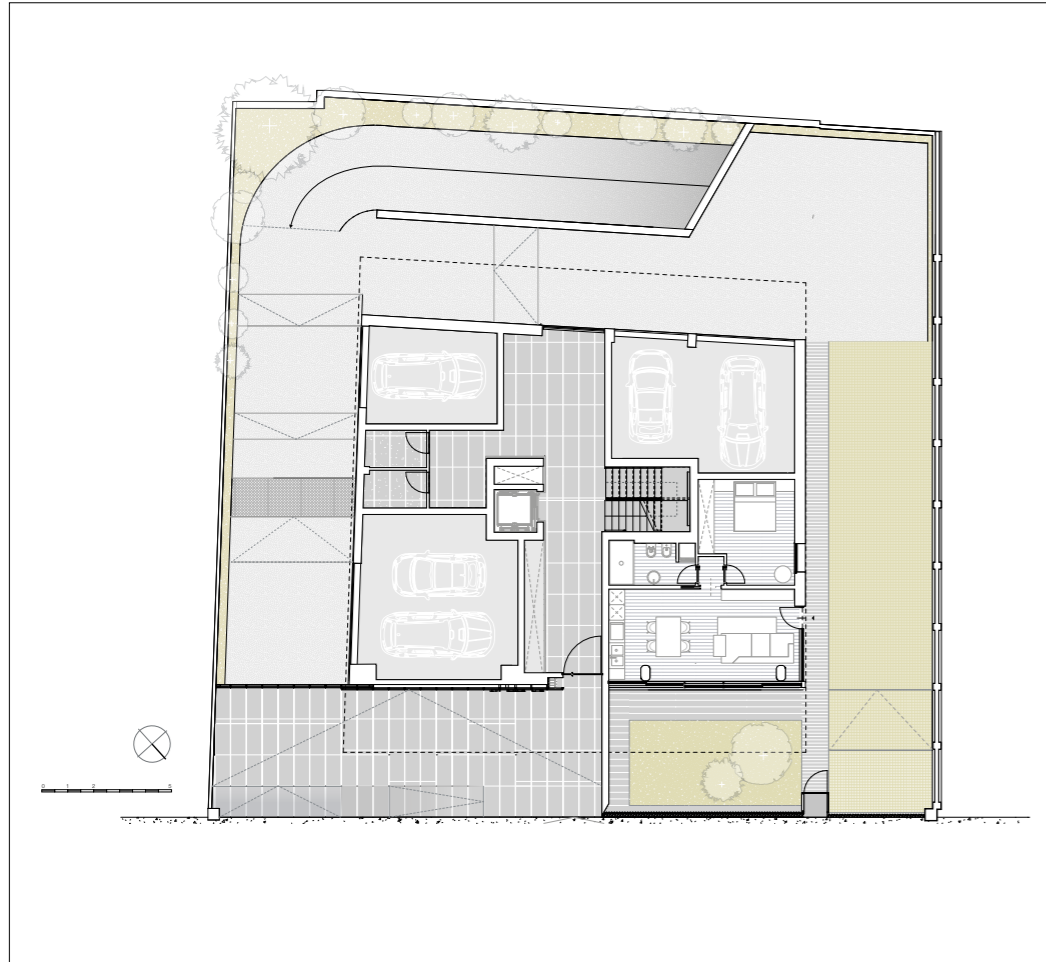
Caption: Giovanni Vaccarini Architetti, Riviera 107, Pescara, Italy. Sun exposure and distribution.

File name: Riviera 107 - DIA 01

Caption: Giovanni Vaccarini Architetti, Riviera 107, Pescara, Italy. Environmental sustainability.

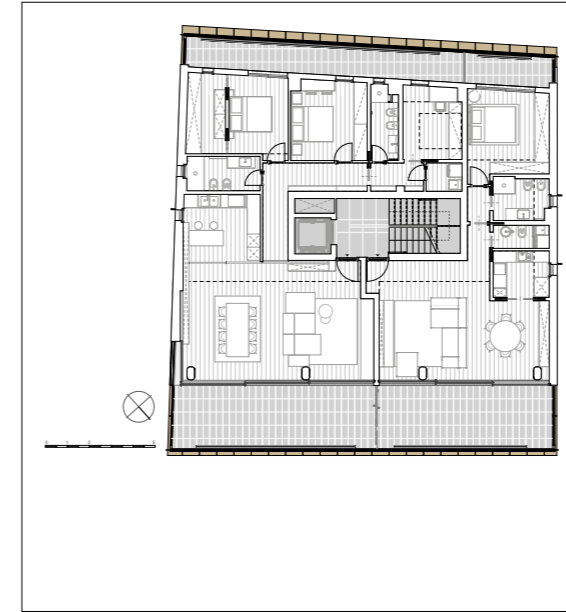
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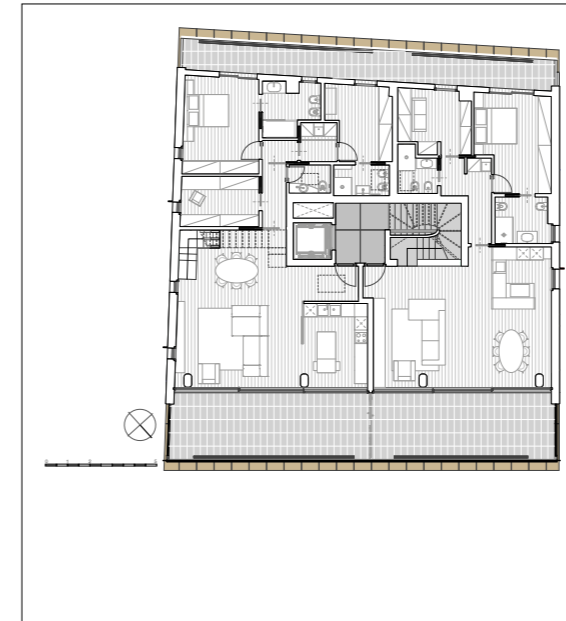
File name:
Riviera 107 -
DW 01
Caption:
Giovanni
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Architetti,
Riviera 107,
Pescara, Italy.
Ground level
plan.

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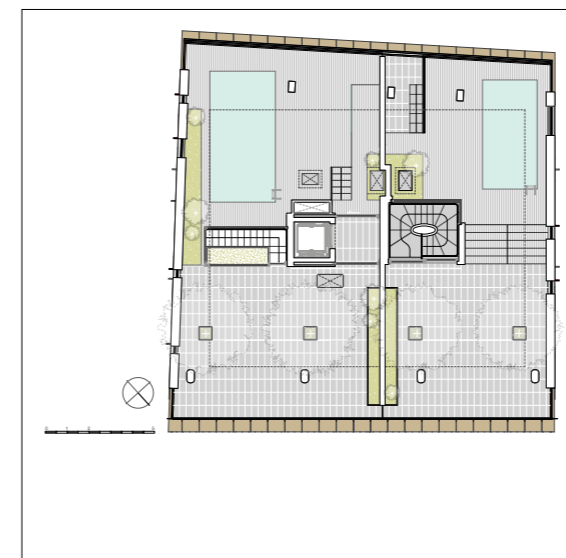
File name: Riviera 107 - DW 02
Caption: Giovanni Vacarini Architetti, Riviera 107,
Pescara, Italy. 4th floor plan (typical floor plan).

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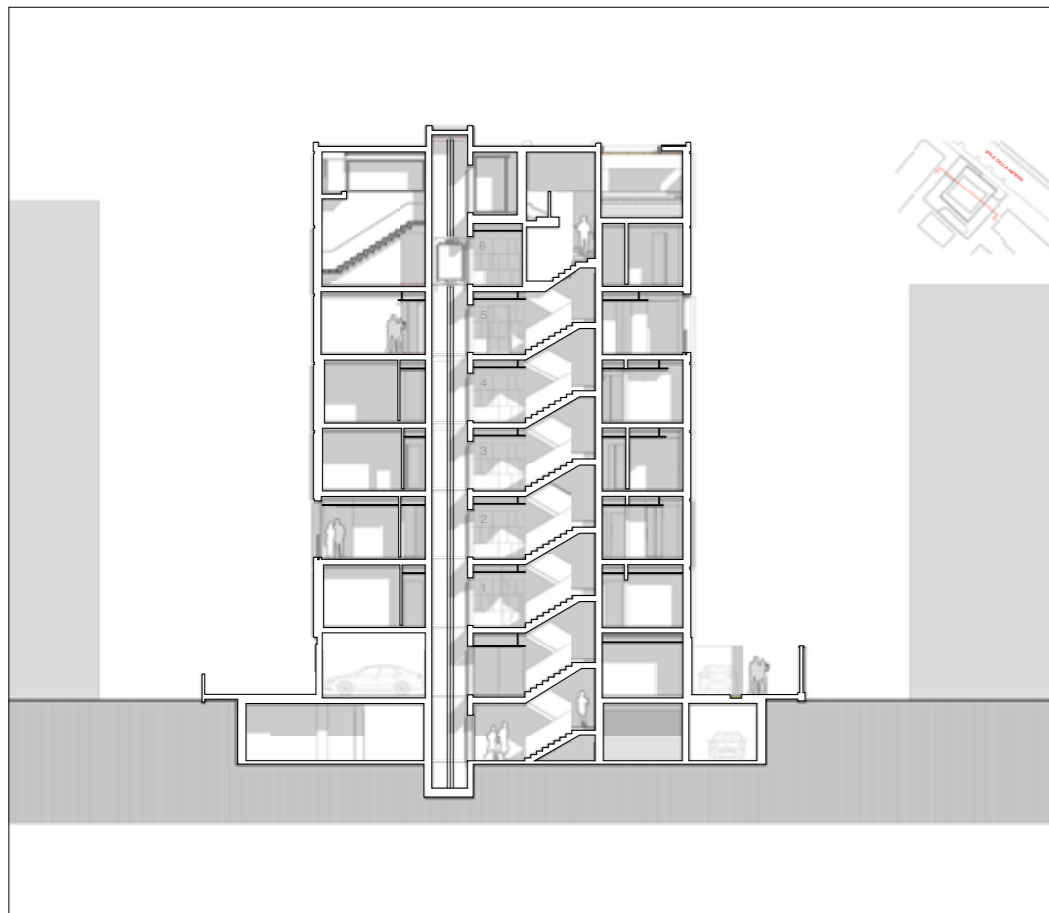
File name: Riviera 107 - DW 03
Caption: Giovanni Vacarini Architetti, Riviera 107,
Pescara, Italy. 6th floor plan.

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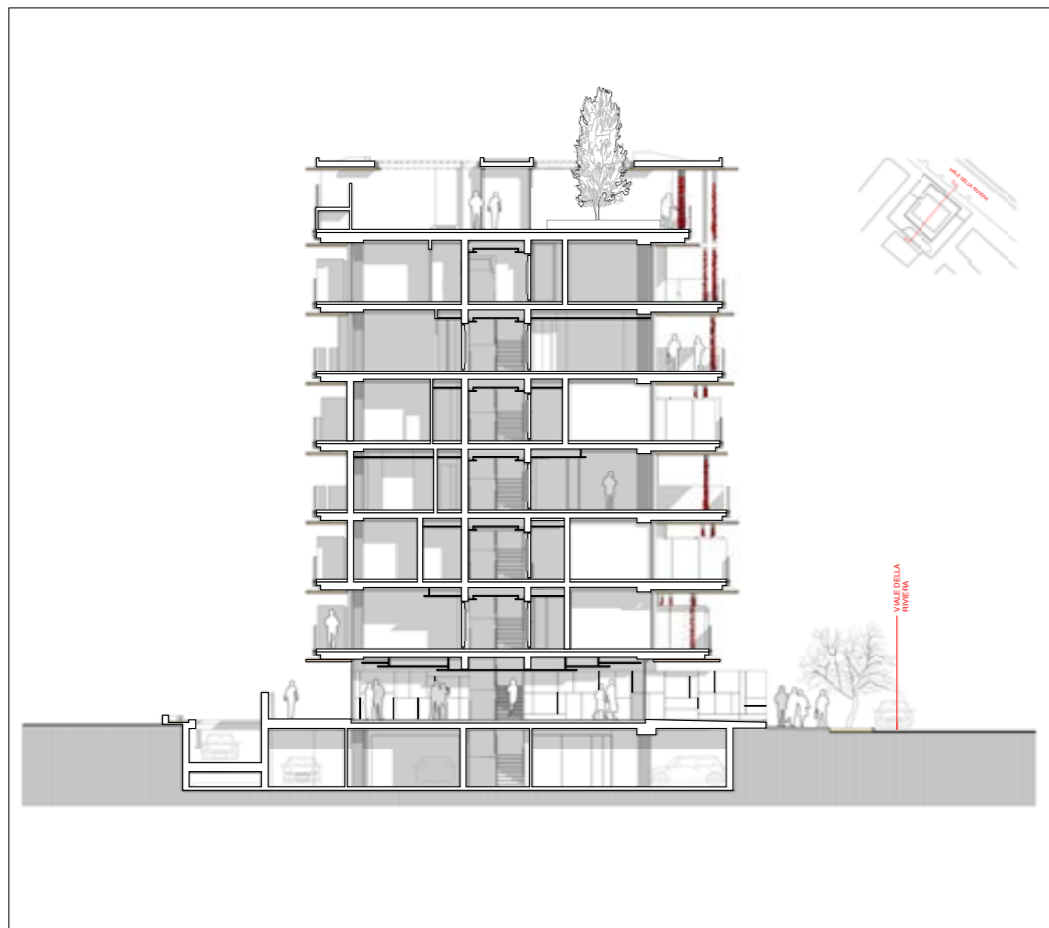
File name: Riviera 107 - DW 03
Caption: Giovanni Vacarini Architetti, Riviera 107,
Pescara, Italy. 7th floor plan (terrace).

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Riviera 107 -
DW 09
Caption:
Giovanni
Vacarini
Architetti,
Riviera 107,
Pescara, Italy.
Section A-A'.

Please note:
This image is
available, for
free, for both
print and online
publications.



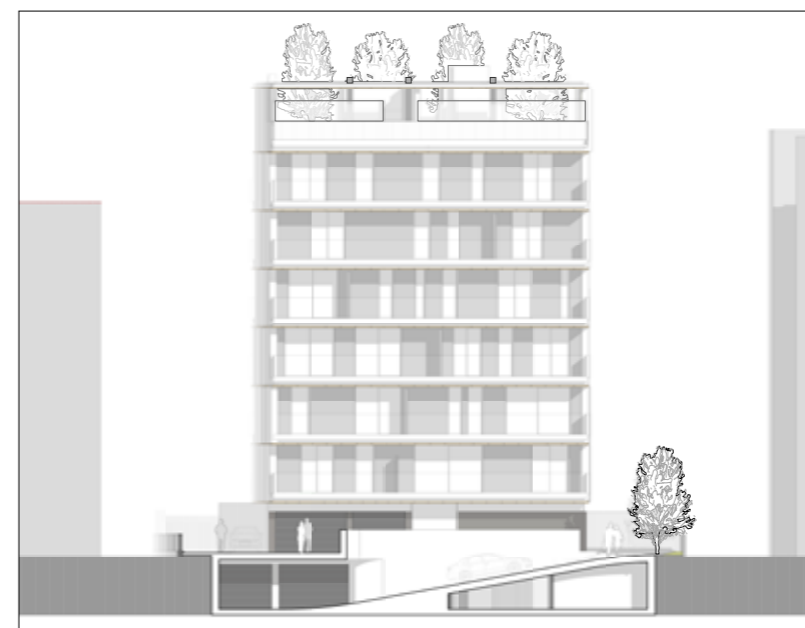
File name:
Riviera 107 -
DW 10
Caption:
Giovanni
Vacarini
Architetti,
Riviera 107,
Pescara, Italy.
Section B-B'.

Please note:
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available, for
free, for both
print and online
publications.



File name: Riviera 107 - DW 05
Caption: Giovanni Vacarini
Architetti, Riviera 107, Pescara, Italy.
East elevation.

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File name: Riviera 107 - DW 06
Caption: Giovanni Vacarini
Architetti, Riviera 107, Pescara, Italy.
West elevation.

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publications.



File name: Riviera 107 - DW 07
Caption: Giovanni Vacarini
Architetti, Riviera 107, Pescara, Italy.
South elevation.

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publications.



File name: Riviera 107 - DW 08

Caption: Giovanni Vaccarini Architetti, Riviera 107, Pescara, Italy. North elevation (perspective).

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File name: PO
5300 bn
Caption:
Giovanni
Vaccarini,
Giovanni
Vaccarini
Architetti. Photo:
© Stefano Pollio.

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Press office

For additional information, to receive high resolution images and to set up an interview with the architect you may contact:

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