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ISTITUTO  
NAZIONALE  
DI ARCHITETTURA

LECTURE SERIES

# Architecture and Sustainability: Matter, Quality, Form

## CIRCULARITY & REUSE

opening / Massimo Bricocoli [Director of DASTU, POLIMI]

Simona Giorgetta [Board Member, MAPEI]

introduction / Giulia Setti [DASTU, POLIMI]

# MICHAËL GHYOOT

[ROTOR, Brussels]

# DIETER LEYSSEN

[51N4E, Brussels]

with Mikaela Decio [Corporate Environmental Sustainability Manager, MAPEI]

discussants / Lorenzo Pagliano [DASTU, POLIMI]

Nicola Russi [DASTU, POLIMI]

chair / Francesca Zanotto [DASTU, POLIMI]

March 25, 2024 h 14.30 - 18.30

Aula Rogers, Building 11

Via Ampère, 2, MM Piola, Milano

Curated by Massimo Bricocoli, Giulia Setti, Francesca Zanotto

Coordination / Beatrice Balducci, Alessio Battistella, Mauro Marinelli, Kevin Santus

Registration available at <https://www.polimi.it/corsi/master-universitari-e-corsi-post-laurea/406>

The attendance to the conference will give to Architects 3 CFP. Info at [kevin.santus@polimi.it](mailto:kevin.santus@polimi.it)



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## LECTURE SERIES

# Architecture and Sustainability: Matter, Quality, Form

The seminar, promoted by the Department of Architecture and Urban Studies and sponsored by Mapei, explores the contemporary relevance of the relationship between architecture and sustainability, identifying strategies and projects for overcoming the current and upcoming environmental crisis. Through a series of lectures, sustainability is explored in its technological, urban, architectural, and social aspects, focusing on the innovative use of materials and experimental technological and typological solutions. The invited designers and firms are among the main protagonists of a new architectural season, oriented toward developing new solutions to limit resource consumption and meet the need for greater efficiency required by European and global standards. The seminar is structured in five thematic days, where talks by practitioners are followed by discussions with academic professors.

March 25, 2024

## 1 / CIRCULARITY & REUSE

The event will feature representatives from two architecture firms recognized as key players in a practice that engages in design and research for a critical investigation into the contemporary architectural use of material resources. Through a series of architectural projects that focus on the adaptive reuse of existing structures, material reclaiming and disassembly, the invited designers will illustrate the outcomes of a design approach that views the project not as a linear process but as a circular development, where the value of matter, places and social relationship is reassessed, affecting the overall sustainability of architecture, in a comprehensive sense. Whether by creating practical tools for the construction industry to optimize material resources, redefining the narrative surrounding architectural design, or pursuing transformative changes in the built environment across material, spatial, social, and cultural dimensions, the illustrated projects show the tangible possibility of a not necessarily “extractive” present and future for architectural design.

MICHAËL GHYOOT is an architect and researcher in the field of reuse, ecology, and architecture. He holds a PhD from the Faculty of Architecture of the Université libre de Bruxelles. He is a project manager at [ROTOR](#), where he has been involved since 2008 through research, lectures, organization of exhibitions, and assistance with the reuse of materials for building owners in Belgium. He was among the founding members of [ROTOR DC](#), a cooperative company active in salvaging and selling reusable building materials.

DIETER LEYSSEN is architect and urban sociologist. He holds a master in Architecture from KULeuven and one in City Design and Social Sciences from London School of Economics. Since 2019 he is partner at Brussels-based international practice [51N4E](#), where he co-founded the studio Acte and is responsible for projects in civic design and adaptive infrastructure. He teaches at KULeuven and UHasselt.

Over the past years, he conducted projects ranging from architecture, masterplanning, socio-economic analysis, and curatorial work. Both in practice and writings, he developed a specific interest in collaborative processes that enable and strengthen durable social and spatial transitions.

MIKAELA DECIO graduated in Chemistry and Pharmaceutical Technology from the University of Milan and has worked in [MAPEI](#) R&D since December 1999. She is currently in charge of the Environmental Product Sustainability function, dealing with life cycle assessment (LCA) and development of Environmental Product Declarations (EPDs) of the Group's products and low-emission materials. Convenor of WG7 in TC 189 “Sustainability issues for ceramic tiling systems” and Project leader for developing ISO 17899-2 “Ceramic tiling systems - Specifications for Sustainable Ceramic Tiles and Tile Installation Materials. - Adhesives and other tiling materials.” She has also authored numerous papers and publications in the field of sustainability in the building industry.

### REGISTRATION AND CREDITS

The registration procedure is exclusively available online at the following link: <https://www.polimi.it/corsi/master-universitari-e-corsi-post-laurea/406>.

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March 25, 2024	CIRCULARITY & REUSE	chair: Francesca Zanotto
April 22, 2024	APPROPRIATED TECHNOLOGY	chair: Alessio Battistella
May 6, 2024	MATERIALS, TECHNIQUES, LOCAL CARE	chair: Giulia Setti
May 2024	ALPINE WAYS	chair: Mauro Marinelli
May 2024	SUSTAINABLE SOCIAL HOUSING	chair: Massimo Bricocoli