



FLOATING HABITAT SYMPOSIUM

28-29-30 MAY 2024 | 8:30-12.00 CET 28/30 May - 12:00-14.30 CET 29 May | ONLINE

Organised by Leonardo Zuccaro Marchi (Politecnico di Milano) and Raffaele Pernice (UNSW Sydney).

Virtual room: <https://politecnicomilano.webex.com/meet/leonardo.zuccaro>

The online symposium will be recorded via webex.



Cover image: Floating market in Banjarmasin, Indonesia. Author: Muhammad Haris via Wikimedia Commons:
https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Floating_market#/media/File:Jukung_Pasar_Terapung.jpg

Synopsis

This symposium aims to advance architectural and landscape knowledge on floating as ways of living, urging the study of natural and artificial (modern/vernacular) floating habitats in the broadest sense. The debate will be of interdisciplinary interest, offering a new critical ecological-cultural gaze at floating landscapes from different lenses: from historical examples to contemporary design-based proposals, from the Metabolists' theory of marine cities to contemporary socio-political urgency in the Anthropocene highlighted by the current threats of climate change and the constraints of a post-industrial and post-consumerist society. This symposium holds that floating islands (both as natural and artificial artifacts, but also as an abstract idea) are a concrete and powerful representative habitat of today's interrelatedness facing contemporary global radical changes and challenges. The participants are international scholars, academics and practitioners from different backgrounds and geographical areas, thus covering an incredible spectrum of perspectives and expertise on floating habitats. The various contributions intend to promote mutual exchange of critical knowledge and transdisciplinary reflections, whilst the discussion on selected and relevant case studies will make this event more significant, with global visibility expanding and deepening the scientific comprehension of this urgent and timely topic.

Event Info

Organizers

Politecnico di Milano, School of Architecture Urban Planning Construction Engineering
UNSW Sydney, School of Built Environment

Symposium Organizing and Scientific Committee

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E STUDI URBANI



Join the Virtual room

<https://politecnicomilano.webex.com/meet/leonardo.zuccaro>

Local Time of Webinar Sessions (Italy/Australia East Coast):

28 May_ 8:30-12:00 CET/16:30-20:00 AEDT
 29 May_ 12:00-15:00 CET/20:00-23:00 AEDT
 30 May_ 8:30-11:00 CET/16:30-19:00 AEDT

Session Timetable

| MILANO | SYDNEY | NEW YORK | MAY 28 |
|-------------|-------------|-------------|---|
| 08.30-09.00 | 16.30-17.00 | 02.30-03.00 | Massimo Bricocoli PoliMI / DASTU & Riza Yosia Sunindijo UNSW Sydney: <i>WELCOME</i> Leonardo Zuccaro Marchi PoliMi / DASTU & Raffaele Pernice UNSW Sydney: <i>INTRODUCTION</i> Paolo De Martino IUAV/ TU Delft / Jenny Tang ECOLAND Planning and Design Corperation Ltd. Andreas Kipar LAND/ PoliMI / DASTU lisa Eikaas University of Copenhagen Laura Cipriani TU Delft Nebojša Jeremić PoliMi / DASTU & Leonardo Zuccaro Marchi PoliMi / DASTU Francesco Musco IUAV <i>DISCUSSION</i> |
| 09.00-09.20 | 17.00-17.20 | 03.00-03.20 | |
| 09.20-09.40 | 17.20-17.40 | 03.20-03.40 | |
| 09.40-10.00 | 17.40-18.00 | 03.40-04.00 | |
| 10.00-10.20 | 18.00-18.20 | 04.00-04.20 | |
| 10.20-10.40 | 18.20-18.40 | 04.20-04.40 | |
| 10.40-11.00 | 18.40-19.00 | 04.40-05.00 | |
| 11.00-11.20 | 19.00-19.20 | 05.00-05.20 | |
| 11.20-11.40 | 19.20-19.40 | 05.20-05.40 | MAY 29 |
| 11.40-12.00 | 19.40-20.00 | 05.40-6.00 | |
| 12.00-12.20 | 20.00-20.20 | 06.00-06.20 | |
| 12.20-12.40 | 20.20-20.40 | 06.20-06.40 | |
| 12.40-13.00 | 20.40-21.00 | 06.40-07.00 | |
| 13.00-13.20 | 21.00-21.20 | 07.00-07.20 | |
| 13.20-13.40 | 21.20-21.40 | 07.20-07.40 | |
| 13.40-14.00 | 21.40-22.00 | 07.40-08.00 | |
| 14.00-14.20 | 22.00-22.20 | 08.00-08.20 | MAY 30 |
| 14.20-14.40 | 22.20-22.40 | 08.20-08.40 | |
| 08.30-09.00 | 16.30-17.00 | 02.30-03.00 | |
| 09.00-09.20 | 17.00-17.20 | 03.00-03.20 | |
| 09.20-09.40 | 17.20-17.40 | 03.20-03.40 | |
| 09.40-10.00 | 17.40-18.00 | 03.40-04.00 | |
| 10.00-10.20 | 18.00-18.20 | 04.00-04.20 | |
| 10.20-10.40 | 18.20-18.40 | 04.20-04.40 | |
| 10.40-11.00 | 18.40-19.00 | 04.40-05.00 | |



Figure 1: Visitors passing over the Lake Iseo. June 23, 2016. Author: Marcio De Assis. From Wikimedia Commons: https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:iseo_Floating_Piers_7.jpg

List of Speakers:

Alessandro De Magistris | PoliMI / DASTU
Alice Covatta | University of Montreal
Andreas Kipar | LAND/ PoliMi / DASTU
Brydon T Wang | Queensland University of Technology
Carola Hein | TU Delft
David Grahame Shane | GSAPP Columbia NY
Francesco Musco | IUAV
Ida Križaj Leko | DeltaLab, UniRi
lisa Aurora Eikaas | University of Copenhagen
Jenny Tang | ECOLAND Planning and Design Corporation Ltd.
Jin Taira | ULP GC Universidad de la Palma de Gran Canaria
John Hanna | TU Delft
Laura Cipriani | TU Delft
Leonardo Zuccaro Marchi | PoliMi / DASTU
Matteo Vianello | IUAV
Nathalie de Vries | MVRDV / TU Delft
Nebojša Jeremić | PoliMi / DASTU
Paolo De Martino | IUAV/ TU Delft
Raffaele Pernice | UNSW Sydney
Rutger de Graaf | Blue21 - INDYMO - Blue Revolution Foundation
Vedrana Ikalović | Lille Catholic University

Welcome by **Massimo Bricocoli** | PoliMI / DASTU & **Riza Yosia Sunindijo** | UNSW Sydney.
 Final discussion with **Pierre Alain Croset** | PoliMI / DASTU.

Opening Session

May 28th: 08.30am-12.00pm (Milano) / 16.30pm-20.00pm (Sydney)

Welcome

Massimo Bricocoli | PoliMI / DASTU & Riza Yosia Sunindijo | UNSW Sydney

08.30am-09.00am (Milano) / 16.30pm-17.00pm (Sydney)

Introduction

09.00am-09.20am (Milano) / 17.00pm-17.20pm (Sydney)

Leonardo Zuccaro Marchi | PoliMI / DASTU & Raffaele Pernice | UNSW Sydney

Floating narratives

09.20am-09.40am (Milano) / 17.20pm-17.40pm (Sydney)

Paolo De Martino | IUAV/ TU Delft

Urban areas face significant pressure from a multitude of social, economic, and environmental challenges, with cities situated on water, including coastal regions, river cities, and delta landscapes, being particularly susceptible to the impacts of climate extremes. This compels both public and private entities to develop adaptive strategies across various scales and temporalities. A recent UN report (2022) has projected a potential rise in sea levels of up to two meters by 2100, posing a profound threat to major coastal urban centers. Concerns have been raised by researchers regarding the efficacy of conventional seawalls and storm surge barriers, warning of potential exacerbation of flooding issues in the long term. It is argued that relying solely on rigid infrastructure is insufficient to address the challenges posed by rising waters; instead, a paradigm shift towards adaptable structural designs and cultural attitudes is imperative. This contribution advocates for the development of innovative (floating) narratives and planning tools that prioritize water-centric approaches to urban design, facilitating the necessary adaptation towards changing water dynamics.

Urban Renewal of Huangyan Waterfront - Fostering Connection

09.40am-10.00am (Milano) / 17.40pm-18.00pm (Sydney)

Jenny Tang | ECOLAND Planning and Design Corporation Ltd.

The presentation will be discussing in the 6 areas based on a real project, Riverwalk project, a sustainable vision achieves a greenway system that is coherent, circular waterfront connections for communities. An initiative to reclaim and revitalize, a degraded historic stagnant moat canal & waterfront to a new ecology of flowing water. Water quality & water edge improved by treatment, included green infrastructure elements to address perils of climate change. Canals, embankment walls & river's environment are transformed into healthy greenway system preserving heritage. The design intricately transforms blocked moat, riverwalks in the town of Huangyan into recreational & economical vibrant city destination, achieving profound promenades with historical glory, technically complex, creative public infrastructure.

The 3.48 miles of innovative corridors, new waterfront trails, a car-free environment links distinct community spaces at the river's edge. The old moat/canal that signifies the prosperity of 7th century, has been revived and blended into urban landscape. 18 revived bridges along with the historic Wudong Bridge, improves connectivity of city traffic. Disaster resilient moat/canal, enriched environment, aerial pedestrian blends into a verdant, dynamic and sustainable landscape. Ecological greenway system of project area 62.8 acres, creates an advanced experience between the confluence and downtown.

1. Clear Vision - A Community Engagement and Multi-Disciplinary Effort
2. A community outreach program
3. Regeneration Systems - Linking the Forgotten Historic Water System and Environment
4. Elevated Logistics and Infrastructure - Connecting Water and Communities
5. Symbiosis – A Riverside Life

6. Nature-Based Solutions

Conclusion

The transformative Huangyan project has achieved, a perfect balance of community harmony, environmental sustainability and stability, economic progress of the ring-shaped waterfront into the home for residents with profound cultural and historical value.

Topic: Climate Change, Resilience, Sustainability, Social Equity, Diversity and Inclusion.

Nature-Positive Landscapes: challenges and opportunities in bringing Nature to the water

10.00am-10.20am (Milano) / 18.00pm-18.20pm (Sydney)

Andreas Kipar | LAND/ PoliMi / DASTU

Coastal cities and small island developing states (SIDS) are at the forefront of climate-related hazards, rising sea levels, flooding, and widespread pollution due to urban development over the last century. Indeed, urban population growth is pushing people closer and closer to water, while the scarcity of coastal land is driving up the price of housing by making the right to the city a privilege for the few, widening the economic gap between the poorest families. According to Un-Habitat's Floating Cities report (Un-Habitat, 2022), these critical issues can be found and measured in developing countries, but also in Europe and America.

As a result, in reaction to the growing deterioration of the environmental conditions in which we live, radical views must be taken and decisive measures implemented to change the way we plan, shape, and transform our cities while protecting vulnerable communities.

Floating cities can provide unique benefits in terms of SDGs sustainability targets and ESG dimension criteria, as they are inventive and resilient systems capable of generating new resources and spaces despite the volatility of the environmental setting in which they are deeply embedded. Furthermore, as typological urban emergency structures, they can be thought of as green-blue infrastructures that provide nature-based measures using new technical and cultural approaches. Hence the importance of ecological networks in the project design of coastal cities and SIDS: green-blue infrastructures that penetrate in the city fabric giving shape to "in-between" public spaces through Nature-based solutions (EU, 2020).

Following Jeremy Rifkin's "wake up call", we need to stop war on Nature but embrace it and introduce an innovative approach putting landscape at the very core of regenerative process. Returning to the settlement principles of the past water cities is our practical vocation to design the future cities according to a nature-positive and nature-based approach. Nature exists and endures where and where there is water; therefore, we need to foster the transition from Nature-positive cities to Nature-positive landscapes by implementing operational strategies of landscapes which gather natural, historical, geographical, and human peculiarities in the design project phases. Specifically, our contribution will be set on the narrative of water as a driver of change in masterplan design of coastal cities.

Our contribution starts from analysing strategies, design and land operations that aim to bring water back into the city and with it the natural dimension, according to the European strategic framework 2030 (EU, 2022). The showcase of: "Bari Costa Sud, Trieste – Renaturing Porto Vecchio, Essen park, Genova Parco Gavoglio with EU funded project UnaLab, and Middle East water-based strategies", will aim to address the emergency of water scarcity with the design and construction of water-based landscape projects. Moreover, our contribution will demonstrate how green-blue Infrastructure, could be well designed as driver of life for human and non-humans beings, even in floating habitat. Moreover, thanks to the contribution of LAND Research Lab and its applied research, we will demonstrate how NBS in big scale coastal cities' masterplans, can be fast-tracking solutions to provide environmental education and capacity building on ecological practices, foster participatory planning and maintenance models, ensure social justice and inclusion, and improve citizen well-being.

Flood Cultures -

Traditional Ecological Knowledge for Livelihood Adaptation

10.20am-10.40am (Milano) / 18.20pm-18.40pm (Sydney)

lisa Aurora Eikaas | University of Copenhagen

Drawing inspiration from indigenous technologies that leverage the adaptive capacities of aquatic flora, this study explores the potential of floating gardens and other farming systems suited for food production in watery habitats. In response to global challenges posed by climate-induced flooding and ensuing livelihood insecurity, the paper emphasizes the importance of integrated adaptation planning to improve the resiliency of vulnerable communities. Water farming systems built on lakes, wetlands, and coastal floodplains can offer a sustainable alternative to land reclamation for agriculture. Moreover, the prioritization of aquatic farming can allow increased water retention in the landscape, mitigating flood risks in adjacent areas. The paper introduces a number of innovative aquaculture and agriculture systems, including Sawah Tambak brackishwater rice-fish farming, the quasi-floating Chinampa agriculture of Mexico, and the Gei Wai fish trappings in the coastal wetlands of Hong Kong. The main case study is the floating gardens of Bangladesh known as Baira. In this traditional form of hydroponic farming, water hyacinth is woven into fertile buoyant plant beds that allow the growing of vegetables during the flood season. Once floodwaters recede, the decomposing rafts are repurposed as fertilizer on land, exemplifying a circular approach to agricultural production. Unlike many other traditional livelihood practices endangered by environmental degradation or displaced by mechanized monocultures, Baira farming is gaining momentum with the accelerated waterlogging of the Ganges delta. When designed in harmony with nature, aquatic farming systems yield various environmental benefits: they can sequester carbon and nitrogen, and ecosystem management may be integrated into their upkeep, exemplified by Baira's utilization of invasive water hyacinth.

Spatial planning and landscape architecture are instrumental disciplines for upscaling adaptive food and livelihood systems. By incorporating them into larger water management plans, designers and planners can promote sustainable practices and designate strategic flood buffer zones where foodscapes can merge with larger climate adaptation projects. Thus, communities can make better use of freshwater, nutrients, and waste, while mitigating flood risks and associated health hazards, such as contamination from sewage. Due to climatic conditions, population growth, and economic structures, a livelihood-centric approach to adaptation may be especially useful in vulnerable regions of the Global South. Holistic, community-driven adaptation planning can utilize traditional ecological knowledge to productively employ communities, positively impact their economic security and nutritional health, and maintain local cultural heritage.

Floating Soils: (Co)Designing for the Wadden Sea Landscapes

10.40am-11.00am (Milano) / 18.40pm-19.00pm (Sydney)

Laura Cipriani | TU Delft

Like many other littoral areas around the globe, such as lagoons, wetlands, islands, and their inland areas, the Wadden Sea territories struggle between two opposing forces: permanence and transformation. The war between man and nature is waged on various fronts (i.e. geomorphological, climatic, ecological-environmental, architectural, and landscape) and in urban settlements.

Discussing the Wadden Sea landscapes means talking about soil and water. Better yet, we could even try to mint the oxymoron 'floating soils' to describe this land and its formation: sediments had been floating in the water and their progressive deposits formed the land over time.

This soil-water fluidity is a geomorphological characteristic that has extended to urban settlements for centuries. To protect from the recurrent floods, the first settlements adapted to the water action by transforming into raised islands during the tidal period a sort of temporary 'floating villages,' called 'terps.' With the arrival of the first dams around the 13th century, the villages and their surrounding landscapes suddenly lost their relationships with the sea and the adaptive dynamism at the basis of the continuous exchange between soil and water was interrupted forever. Today, despite being a UNESCO World Heritage Site of extraordinary environmental value and beauty, the Wadden Sea, its territories, and its people now face an uncertain future while wrestling with latent climatic, economic-productive,

and social crises. Subsidence increased by gas extraction and peat oxidation, soil erosion, saltwater intrusion, eutrophication, and agricultural water pollution testify to a territory in the throes of long-term repossession by the sea. Lands reclaimed from the sea over the centuries now require the radical transformation of agricultural practices and an urgent response to climate change. Can we (co)design the Wadden Sea landscapes starting from soil and water? Will this land 'float' again? Based upon applied research work in regional scenario-making and local design projects, we attempted to imagine the present and future of the Wadden Sea and its hinterland. Peatlands, agriculture, energy, and heritage all intersect to encourage economies and social inclusion projects where the landscapes of soil and water become the driving force to overcome the crises and imagine an alternative future.

Floating Towards Sustainable Future - Learning from Vernacular Waterborne Communities

11.00am-11.20am (Milano) / 19.00pm-19.20pm (Sydney)

Nebojša Jeremić | PoliMI / DASTU & Leonardo Zuccaro Marchi | PoliMI / DASTU

Recently, the notion of floating habitats has reemerged in the arsenal of contemporary planning strategies and architectural practices. Despite the ambitious proposals, little progress has been made in actual construction. A prime example is "Oceanix City", designed in 2019 as the first prototype of a resilient and sustainable floating community. However, factors such as cost, technology, and politics have impeded its implementation. This delay, combined with a neglect of the architectural heritage and the anthropological capacity for a swift transition to new living environment, exacerbates the situation. This raises concerns about whether floating cities truly represent a sustainable solution for achieving coastal resilience and combating climate change in the coming years.

In contrast, traditional floating communities, often referred to as "primitive floating cities," offer a glimmer of hope. They teach how to balance human needs with the ecosystems that support them without causing harm. Our research delves into the principles behind the lastingness of these traditional communities. Its objective is to demonstrate how a vernacular approach can enhance the sustainable goals of contemporary floating visions.

Designing Maritime Space: Plans for the Sea in Italy

11.20am-11.40am (Milano) / 19.20pm-19.40pm (Sydney)

Francesco Musco | IUAV

Discussion

11.40am-12.00pm (Milano) / 19.40pm-20.00pm (Sydney)

Second Day Session

May 29th: 12.00am-15.00am (Milano) / 20.00pm-23.00pm (Sydney) / 07.00am-9.00am (New York)

DAY 2

By Sea, on the Land, and in the Air. 1960s Urban Megastructures in Japan and the West

12.00pm-12.20pm (Milano) / 20.00pm-20.20pm (Sydney)

Raffaele Pernice | UNSW Sydney

In the aftermath of WWII, a widespread and concomitant process of sustained economic recovery, social transformation and accelerated urban development stimulated frantic research and the experimentation of new architectural models able to represent and control the growing complexity and expansion of the contemporary metropolis. Planners, urban designers and architects had to face the consequent necessity of reconsidering the methods and tools of architectural design and town planning. While some looked at ways of revitalizing the historical city by emphasizing the human scale of familiar neighbourhoods' districts, others looked at the development of a more comprehensive urban image and form, conceived as an integrated and hybrid urban infrastructure with high technological systems at mega-scale, which resulted in the type of so-called Megastructures. Initially the megastructures were portrayed as huge multi-functional structural frames, organized as fixed and replaceable elements which could grow from an urban scale to a territorial scale. The seminal works by Justus Dehinden (1972) and Reynard Banham (1976) indicated that in the 1960s the megastructures were seriously studied as potential alternative to more conventional urban and architectural models.

This paper gives an account of the strong relation between the specific cultural and socioeconomic factors underpinning the development of these futuristic urban proposals in the 1960s by looking at the 'myth' of megastructures in the larger context of the Japanese, European and American debates about the future of the urban phenomena.

Floating Habitat as Heritage, History and Future

12.20pm-12.40pm (Milano) / 20.20pm-20.40pm (Sydney)

Carola Hein | TU Delft

Floating habitat, understood here as the (natural) environment for people and plants to live on and with water, requires awareness of water bodies, their depth, flows, and non-human actors. While generations of people lived on and with changing water systems, with floods and drought and adapted to it, the modern environment is built upon the notion of water management and control. This presentation explores floating architectures, gardens, infrastructures and urban practices of the pre-industrial past as potential inspirations for the design of the future. It questions visions for floating cities that were established in the 20th century. Such projects, often inspired by Tange Kenzo's Tokyo Bay Plan include proposals for a floating city on an artificial lake near Paris, by Paul Maymont, aimed to celebrate the power of technology and seemingly free energy. The presentation questions in conclusion, if and how the design of floating habitat from the past can meaningfully inspire the future.

Water on Paper: Waterfront and Amphibious Architecture in 'L'Architecture d'Aujourd'hui', 1950s-1970s

12.40pm-13.00pm (Milano) / 20.40pm-21.00pm (Sydney)

John Hanna | TU Delft

Building on and living with water has occupied architects and designers for decades. From designing waterfronts, to reimagining lighthouses and developing floating and underwater structures, architects have capitalized on the power of images to produce illustrations and studies of possible futures. These efforts disclose opportunities of different ways of perceiving life on land and water and the spaces between them. This presentation explores the projects featured in the French periodical L'architecture d'aujourd'hui between the 1950s and 1970s.

The set includes a wide variety of projects ranging from graduation theses and realized architectural projects to competition entries and conceptual studies. In doing so, the presentation aims to shed light on and identify historical trends and patterns that shaped water architecture and amphibious designs during the mid-20th century. This was a time period that witnessed significant advancements in architecture and construction technology, as well as progressive attempts to reshape architectural practice to respond to emerging societal and environmental needs.

Keywords: Modernism – L'architecture d'aujourd'hui – floating architecture – periodicals.

Floating Future: an interdisciplinary study to enable implementation of floating islands for societal, industrial and ecological win-wins

13.00pm-13.20pm (Milano) / 21.00pm-21.20pm (Sydney) / 07.00am-07.20am (New York)

Rutger de Graaf | Blue21 - INDYMO - Blue Revolution Foundation

Authors:

Rutger de Graaf, Olaf Waals, Margo van den Brink, Tjeerd Bouma, Floor Spaargaren, Joep van der Zanden and Christiaan Weiler

Climate change and sea-level rise are an increasing pressure on the liveability and safety of our densely populated delta. The Floating Future project aims to provide the next step in the transition from Fighting against Water to Living with Water in the Dutch approach to water management. Floating Future offers new climate-proof space for housing, energy and logistics by creating floating structures.

Both technical and societal breakthroughs are required to achieve upscaling of floating infrastructure. A technical breakthrough is needed to come up with an offshore engineering solution capable of withstanding environmental conditions and provide floating space with a minimal ecological impact. Societal breakthroughs are needed to create governance arrangements for floating islands in inland water and coastal areas, and for societal acceptance of living and working on water. Therefore, the main objective of the Floating Future project is: "Understanding how upscaling of floating structures could offer a viable and climate-proof solution for space limitations in the Dutch Delta: an interdisciplinary study to enable the upscaling of floating structures for societal, industrial and ecological win-wins."

Floating developments can be designed to be resilient to sea level rise and can be flexibly relocated. Unique is that we will achieve the project objective with interdisciplinary research linked to industry and societal partners. The work will be divided in three clusters addressing governance, technology, ecology, which relate to interdisciplinary questions. Researchers will collaborate with experienced societal partners to tackle the challenges. Next to scientific output, this will deliver an integrated vision, policy guidelines, design guidelines, project proposals and an inventory of the required resources and milestones to implement the Floating Future in the Dutch delta. Consequently, this project will deliver key insights in the required governance, financial and economic capabilities to realize climate proof floating islands with a positive ecological impact.

The floating space of sakariba. Designing neighborhood for social interaction

13.20pm-13.40pm (Milano) / 21.20pm-21.40pm (Sydney) / 07.20am-07.40am (New York)

Alice Covatta | University of Montreal & Vedrana Ikalović | Lille Catholic University

A culture which floated between the realms of life and death, and/ or a world of social interchange that escapes authority, can in Japan be traced to the Edo period. This floating world has been spatially circumscribed in the form of sakariba, a location that disregarded the established social hierarchies. These "amusement districts" emerged around major bridges and transitional zones, mostly associated with narrow shopping streets radiating from the station and including tea rooms, food stalls, izakayas, pachinkos, and nightclubs. The presentation aims to highlight and explore different temporal elements of entertainment districts ("the floating elements of sakariba") including the spatial analysis and movable/ephemeral objects that support transgression and marginality. The case study is Sangenjaya located at the intersection of two train lines, which makes it an infrastructural hub and multi-temporal zone.

The floating world, which within a specific structure and function, creates an “invisible territory” and “familiarity,” is a relevant multilayered setting that, in contemporary city and in the time of solitude and alienation, becomes a self-reproducing rhizome supporting social interaction and contributing to the re-creation of dynamic urban identities.

From Floating to Settle.

Pragmatical Metabolism in Tokyo Bay

13.40pm-14.00pm (Milano) / 21.40pm-22.00pm (Sydney) / 07.40am-08.00am (New York)

Jin Taira | UPLGC Universidad de la Palma de Gran Canaria

The vision facing territorial determinism breaks down in the pragmatism of possibilism. From the UKIYO or floating world (happiness, ephemeral) to an opposite UKIYO earthy world (sad, mundane), Japanese Metabolism constituted a moment of technical grandiloquent optimism, in the face of the threatening scenario of the Japanese post-war period.

The Metabolism conceived fabrication of urban visions characterized by the conception of proposals of territorial scale of open code, the confidence in the materialization on a high technological basis, the constitution of systems of holistic functionality, and the transgressive positioning of floating proposals whatever the medium.

Edo-Tokyo is a territory imagined and manufactured by political will to bend an ecosystem of marshy plains through a geomantic system of canals that expands from its castle, at the beginning of the 17th century, colonizing in increasing annular sequence the orbital expansion of Tokyo Bay. A territory in constant transformation, in persistent dual territorial tension between land and water. The bay is the expository stage of metabolism, a mutant framework of visionary responses subject to the socioeconomic conditioning factors of post-war Japan.

Kenzo Tange's megalomaniac urban proposal for Tokyo Plan 1960 reaches the paroxysm of metabolism with an axial project of open growth; technologically detailed in its budgeted constructive proposal; planning a new urban polarity for ten million inhabitants navigating a new floating world. The oil crisis of the seventies stripped the metabolist dream, and led to a pragmatic acceptance of the urban responses that were finally materialized. However, the imaginary sketched on the waters of the bay has followed a pragmatic materialization, even through the efforts of its same visionary authors, as was the pragmatic reinterpretation revisited by Kenzo Tange in his new plan of the eighties in Tokyo Bay.

Tokyo megapolis is shifting towards its bay. New plans of Tokyo Metropolitan Government reactivation policy towards spatial obsolescence. The bay remains a territory of speculative experimentation. The international workshop IS_LAB/TKO, Islands as Anthropocene laboratories in Tokyo Bay, between students from the

University of Tokyo and the University of Las Palmas de Gran Canaria, confabulate new visionary hypotheses towards a post-metabolism shaped by the contemporary environmental narrative. The bay remains a territory of speculative experimentation. The international workshop IS_LAB/TKO, Islands as Anthropocene laboratories in Tokyo Bay, between students from the University of Tokyo and the University of Las Palmas de Gran Canaria, confabulate new visionary hypotheses towards a post-metabolism shaped by the contemporary environmental narrative.

A pedagogy in the Tokyo Bay, shifting from Metabolism to a territory of contemporary speculative experimentations with students, based in decoding transformation process, decoding a floating world. A methodology for reinterpreting Metabolism for a pedagogy of floating in Tokyo?

Floating Cities; Foucault's Ocean Liner and the early work of Archigram

14.00pm-14.20pm (Milano) / 22.00pm-22.20pm (Sydney) / 08.00am-08.20am (New York)

David Grahame Shane | GSAPP Columbia NY

This paper reads Archigram's early floating, inflatable and collage projects against the matrix of Foucault's radical heterotopic urban systems. Foucault (1967) designated ocean liners going “from port to port, brothel to brothel,” as perfect “heterotopias”, miniature, mobile cities reflecting the norms of the industrial and colonial age, tightly controlled “heterotopias of deviance” but also transgressing those norms, mixing and matching cultures. Foucault distinguished these heterotopias, “spaces of the other” from stationary refuges on land, “heterotopias of crisis”, like medieval charitable organizations or protected enclaves inside African encampments where people could come and go, seeking help. He also distinguished these voluntary self-organizing systems of “crisis” from the disciplinary apparatus of the state, symbolized by his portrayal of Bentham's Panopticon Prison, with its systems of surveillance,

discipline and punishment.

The floating heterotopia of the ocean liner represented a third system, mixing the previous two around a floating pleasure principle, a new hybrid that was constantly changing. This system of heterotopias "of illusion" was based on early readings of informational systems, fleeting images and their shifting popularity, anticipating the internet. The ocean liner imagined by Foucault was a modern liner, like those adored by Le Corbusier in *Towards a New Architecture*, but in comparison with those earlier machines, this machine tended towards transgression and excess, the Surreal and Baroque.

Archigram, like Foucault, emerged in the mid-1960's as functionalism and modernism took a spatial and visual turn toward play, leisure and pleasure. The group experimented with collages of inflatables, dreamt of balloons supporting fun fairs floating down seaside cliffs and into small towns. Their "Dream City", "Plug-in City" and the focus of this study, the "Walking City in the East River, New York", by Ron Herron (1967) anticipated contemporary casinos and ocean liners containing the image of Venice as a floating/ sinking city.

Discussion

14.20pm-14.40pm (Milano) / 22.20pm-22.40pm (Sydney) / 08.20am-08.40am (New York)

Figure 2: Astronaut Bruce McCandless Performs the First Untethered Spacewalk. Image credit: NASA, via: <https://www.nasa.gov/image-article/astronaut-bruce-mccandless-performs-the-first-untethered-spacewalk/>



Final Day Session

May 30th: 08.30am-10.40am (Milano) / 16.30pm-18.40pm (Sydney)

DAY 3

Beyond the Floating Laputa

08.30am-09.00am (Milano) / 16.30pm-17.00pm (Sydney)

Leonardo Zuccaro Marchi | PoliMI / DASTU

"Laputa" is the utopian floating island in Swift's "Gulliver's Travels" (1726), which levitates above the world's surface thanks to its adamantine magnetic soil. In the XVIII Century, Laputa is an allegoric critique of the general degeneration of scientific knowledge, detached from concrete social issues. In the final scene of Kusturica's film "Underground" (1995), a wedding takes place on solid ground, which starts floating away from the mainland, as a metaphor for the impossible national space of the socio-political instability and compromise of Yugoslavia in the mid of the 1990s. From Swift to Kusturica, many imaginary, fictional floating islands have been described in literature and cinema as symbols of ultimate freedom, the purpose of which is to foster a critical-floating translatability of culture. All these utopian-fictional representations exhibit the Project of the (floating) Soil as a living thickness with multiple socio-spatial, cultural and interpretative layers of stratification.

Shifting from tectonic to floating to utopian culture, the main aim of this paper is to offer a study of abstract, utopian, buoyant projects between literature, architecture and urban design as references for contemporary transcultural habitat.

This paper holds that floating islands most concretely exhibit the critical equipoise between conflicting environmental and cultural phenomena. They are concrete and powerful representative transcultural habitat of today's global inter-relatedness facing contemporary global changes. Islands that travel are a paradox and heterotopia embodying the identity and function of both harbour and ship. They are an apparent impossibility (Van Duzer, 2004), and paradigmatic cross-cultural "contact zones" (Marie Louise Pratt, 1991).

Tellingly, floating islands are becoming real urban proposals facing the contemporary urgency of the sea level rise. During the first "Round Table on Sustainable Floating Cities in 2019 - the UN has considered floating cities as "part of our new arsenal of tools" to tackle climate change and its consequent violent mass migration.

Out of this perspective, this paper will rely on the fictional floating islands to also discuss and further trace visions for concrete future urbanisation of the sea and beyond.

Learning from Rijeka: Ships, Vessels and Floating Objects

09.00am-09.20am (Milano) / 17.00pm-17.20am (Sydney)

Ida Križaj Leko | DeltaLab, UniRi

This design-based research project recognizes the maritime territory of the port of Rijeka as a site of the future port city by reusing existing ships, vessels, and floating objects which are basic infrastructural elements of the port and the shipyards. Selected examples are phenomena of Rijeka, and will be used as case studies for interpreting the artistic, engineering, space planning, political, economic, social, and many other layers. The aim of the project is the creation of an atlas of multidisciplinary knowledge as a contribution to the future repository of sea-based methodologies for resilient port revival and development in the times of multiple crises.

After the pandemic, Rijeka has been declared a cargo port of great economic and strategic importance in shaping the dynamics and logistics of the global world, and its improvements are currently the biggest investments in Croatia. Reading the history of Rijeka, this scenario leads us to think that history repeats itself because the initial idea of creating Rijeka as a port of geopolitical significance also originated outside Rijeka – it was the idea of the then-ruling Hungarian government in the 19th century.

The narrative that urban development of the city is inseparable from port development is only partially correct because their development is detached from each other. The narrative remained at the level of slogans. To upgrade the narrative for the future urban development, it must become a shared vision of those outside of Rijeka and those inside. Various experts with

multidisciplinary knowledge are needed for this shared vision to respond to the challenges of climate change and its consequences. Only a combination of these entities can translate shared vision into future development policy. For now, the port of Rijeka is expanding its territory by land-based extraction solutions, which have many limitations and problems, as shown in the expert analysis of coastal line threats due to rising sea levels in Primorsko-Goranska County. Turning to the maritime territory derives from the analysis of real examples in the local context which were an inspiration for the change of focus on new methodological approaches for the future port city of Rijeka. Selected examples include 1) the Croatian Floating Pavilion for the 12th International Architecture Exhibition – La Biennale di Venezia, which was moored for several days in the port of Rijeka, 2) the reconstruction and conversion of the ship *Galeb*, the famous Tito's yacht, into a museum ship which is just about to be completed and which will have its mooring in the port on the inner side of Molo Longo and 3) "Opera Industriale", the opening event of Rijeka 2020 – ECOC program. The project in the making will continue as part of the interdisciplinary postmaster study program Urban Studies at the University of Rijeka.

Bridging Land and Sea: How Market Forces, Social Norms, and Technological Advancements Drive the Legal Construction of Floating Cities

09.20am-09.40am (Milano) / 17.20pm-17.40pm (Sydney)

Brydon T Wang | Queensland University of Technology

One of the most formidable obstacles hindering the offshore development of floating cities lies in the intricate web of overlapping legal frameworks governing ocean space and the very legality of such developments. This paper delves into the intricate interplay between market forces and social norms, meticulously tracing their influence on the emergence of floating structure technology and its subsequent impact on legal structures. Six broad and overlapping waves of development are examined, each iteration building on its predecessors. This historical analysis reveals how early floating settlements became subsumed within the overarching terrestrial legal frameworks, which predominantly prioritise land-based conceptions of property. Then, the burgeoning tide of marine utopian proposals that crested in the 1950s to 1970s, driven by concerns over population density and land scarcity, spurred developments in intellectual property law. However, these changes to the law proved insufficient to sustain a viable market for floating developments. The subsequent shift away from those ambitious attempts at 'future-proofing' cities paved the way for the third wave: floating cities as leisure colonies. This wave resonates with modern-day initiatives such as seasteading, floating Olympic projects, and the opulent cruise liners that dot the oceans. Yet, the legal seascape surrounding these floating assets remains murky and fraught with uncertainties, with the courts grappling with judicial interpretation of the structural characteristics inherent to these projects and their legal classification. The fifth wave has witnessed a paradigm shift, with engineers harnessing the potential of floating structures to accommodate critical infrastructure on the water's surface. This wave of offshore projects spurred the development of dedicated legislation, such as Japan's 2018 Act on Promoting the Utilization of Sea Areas for the Development of Marine Renewable Energy Power Generation Facilities and Australia's 2021 Offshore Electricity Infrastructure Act. The final wave ushers in the exploration of buoyant urbanism and the use of floating structures to bolster the resilience of coastal cities against the encroaching threat of rising sea levels and increasingly torrential rainfall patterns associated with a warming and wetter climate. This paper concludes with a brief exploration of the emerging legal questions around how new planning and development laws will interact with the emerging public consciousness around environmental human rights.

Ground Beyond Land

A critical reading of aesthetics and politics of the Ocean as a Human Settlement

09.40am-10.00am (Milano) / 17.40pm-18.00pm (Sydney)

Matteo Vianello | IUAV

The lecture investigates the relationships between the marine environment—understood as sea in its entirety and continuity, without specific localizations; and the conceptions, projects and processes of land urbanisation. As a synthesis of how urban and architectural discourse conceived and transformed the marine environment, the thesis decided to refer to the sea and the oceans with the term seaspace. Through the tools and theories of architecture, the research tries to define what is urban and architectural in the marine environment; how architects have imagined settling architecture on the water, compared to how the existing infrastructure is currently configured; how marine ecology reacts with current human occupations on the sea. The research aims to expand the field of architecture and urban studies by understanding the sea and its urbanisation, as well as draw conclusions for terrestrial environments. In particular, the state of architecture in the context of the fluidity and impermanence of sea space raises a number of concerns and topics of discussion. The coexistence of both scientific and mythical narratives about seaspace suggests a broader examination of the idea of habitation and habitat. As a result, a number of questions that could re-define architectural theory and practice are addressed, not only for the marine but also for the terrestrial environment.

The Cosmicward Trend of Soviet Architecture

10.00am-10.20am (Milano) / 18.00pm-18.20pm (Sydney)

Alessandro De Magistris | PoliMI / DASTU

In his seminal contribution, Vladimir Paperny identifies a profound key to the Russian architectural history, particularly evident in the Twentieth century, in the oscillation, a sort of pendulum, between the antithetical horizons of Culture One (Avant-garde) and Culture Two (eclecticism). This approach incisively captures the manifestations and summarizes the development of architecture in Soviet Russia. However, beyond the radical differences that distinguish the architecture of Soviet cultural and political “periods”, from the early revolutionary phase and the pioneering 1920s of the NEP, to the years of Stalinism and finally to the de-Stalinization, a subtle and deep thread emerges that leads - in radically different architectural projects and works - to a constant and original vision of space, and in a sort of “cosmic” inspiration that tends to transcend the tectonic dimension.

This perspective deserves attention in particular in light of a growing awareness and knowledge of the deep and various intellectual pre-revolutionary roots which, through the revolutionary experience and its different historical passages, seem to define an essential aspect, of the Soviet design culture of the Twentieth century. Moving from a brief focus on the complex religious, philosophical and scientific phenomenon of “cosmism” and its ramifications, the contribution proposes to identify some possible reverberations of its influence in the Soviet architectural culture, from the transitional period of the 1920s to the 1960s.

Sea2City Vancouver

10.20am-10.40am (Milano) / 18.20pm-18.40pm (Sydney)

Nathalie de Vries | MVRDV / TU Delft

Vancouver recognizes the need to plan for future sea level rise and help flood-vulnerable shoreline, communities and businesses to become more resilient. The city organised the Sea2City Design Challenge (Sea2City) to inform a framework and vision to guide urban development and ecological revitalization in the False Creek floodplain, a highly valued and constrained urban waterway in the heart of the city.

Sea2City invited two teams to investigate the urban future of False Creek. The design team – which included PWL Partnership Landscape Architects, Deltares, Modern Formline Design and an interdisciplinary resource team – worked on long-term proposals for the Between Bridges and Coopers' Park areas. They created a re-wilding vision for the larger system of the False Creek waterfront and these concrete sites' futures in 2100 and beyond, as well as a series

of transition stages to get there, including proposals for pilot projects to take the first steps. The 2100 Re-wilding False Creek vision incorporates the cultural knowledge of the Local Coast Community (Musqueam Indian Band, Squamish Nation and Tsleil-Waututh Nation), learning from these communities' reciprocal lifestyle with nature.

Fundamental to the team's proposals is the recognition that traditional approaches to urban waterfronts, which revolve around resisting the water with hard infrastructure, are no longer effective in an era of rising sea levels and more frequent extreme weather events. The proposals thus centre on allowing the city to coexist with the water.

Final discussion

10.40am-11.00am (Milano) / 18.40pm-19.00pm (Sydney)

Pierre-Alain Croset | PoliMI / DASTU

Closing remarks with Leonardo Zuccaro Marchi | PoliMI and Raffaele Pernice | UNSW Sydney.

Figure 3: Buckminster Fuller and Shoji Sadao, Project for Floating Cloud Structures (Cloud Nine), ca. 1960. Department of Special Collections, Stanford University Libraries. Image courtesy the Estate of R. Buckminster Fuller.
Source: <https://www.buckminsterfuller.net/>



List of authors and profiles

Alessandro De Magistris | PoliMi / DASTU

Alessandro De Magistris Ph.D. architect, teaches as a Full professor of the History of Architecture and History of Urbanism at the Politecnico di Milano (Department of Architecture and Urban Studies - DASTU). He is a member of the Scientific Board at the Ph.D. School of Architecture and History at the Politecnico di Torino.

He has lectured at various international universities and scientific institutions. His research focuses on 20th-21st century architecture and design culture, particularly on Soviet and Eastern European avant-garde and post-war architectural, urban design and planning history.

He is the author of various essays and articles published in Italy and abroad in volumes and specialized magazines. Between these: *L'Architecture d'Aujourd'hui*, "Casabella", "Abitare", "Area", "Urbanistica", "JSAH", "Bauwelt", "Cahiers du Monde russe et soviétique", "Projet international". Among his books: *La città di transizione*. (The city of transition:1988), *La costruzione della città totalitaria*. (The construction of the totalitarian city: 1995), *Paesaggi dell'utopia staliniana* (Landscapes of the Stalinist utopia: 1997), *High-rise. Percorsi nella storia dell'architettura e dell'urbanistica del XIX e XX secolo attraverso la dimensione verticale* (High-Rise. Itineraries in the history of architecture and town planning of the 19th and 20th centuries: 2004). He collaborated with M. Kostjuk to the book *Boris Iofan. the Architect behind the Palace of Soviet* (2019) . Among the authors of the volume *Basilico. Vertiginous Moscow* (2008). He co-edited the monographic volume on the works *Jakov Chernikhov* (with Italian, French and German editions, 1995) , with Irina Korob'ina, the book *Ivan Leonidov. 1902-1959* (2009), and (in collaboration with Aurora Scotti) *Utopiae Finis? Percorsi tra utopismi e progetto* (2018).

Alice Covatta | University of Montreal

Alice Covatta moves on the border between architecture, visual anthropology and cities. She is professor of architecture and urban studies at the School of Architecture of the University of Montreal and director of the master of urban design program. Her academic and professional background spans Europe and Japan, and her research has provided valuable insights into new urban landscapes oriented toward promoting social values and the notion of public space.

Andreas Kipar | LAND/ PoliMi / DASTU

Andreas Kipar, landscape architect, urban planner and architect, is founder and CEO of LAND, an international landscape architecture and

consultancy firm with offices in Germany, Italy, Switzerland, Austria, Canada and Middle East.

He holds a degree in Landscape Architecture (GHS University Essen, Dipl. Ing) and a degree in Architecture and Urban Planning (Politecnico di Milano, Dott. Arch.). Since 2009 he is Visiting Professor at the Politecnico Milano, where he teaches landscape architecture and public space design. Since November 2023, he is member of the global task force of experts for the Nature-positive cities initiative within World Economic Forum.

He is a full member of the German Academy for Urban and Regional Planning (DASL), the Association of German Landscape Architects (BDLA), the Italian Association of Landscape Architects (AIAPP) and the Italian Institute for Urban Planning (INU). In 2007, he was awarded the Federal Cross of Merit on Ribbon for his voluntary work in German-Italian exchange.

Andreas Kipar is the originator of Milan's "Raggi Verdi" (green rays) model, which links different city areas to promote a new slow mobility from the centre to the periphery. This model, internationally recognised as pioneering green urban planning, has also been applied in Essen, the 2017 European Green Capital.

Brydon T Wang |

Queensland University of Technology

Dr. Brydon T Wang is a technology and construction law scholar who navigates the confluence of law, technology, and design governance to build resilient, equitable cities, particularly via floating structures. Passionate about trustworthy urban tech, Brydon delves into benevolent data structures and climate-resilient solutions. His dual expertise in law and architecture, honed through a twenty-year construction industry career and practice at global legal powerhouse Allens Linklaters, informs his research on Large Floating Structures (Springer 2015) and Automating Cities (Springer 2021). Publicly engaged, he has discussed marine urban sprawl on ABC Radio National and the future of ocean living on Seeker. Whether teaching privacy law, data ethics, or online regulation, Dr. Wang empowers future generations to navigate the legal complexities of our evolving urban landscapes. He stands as a vital bridge between legal, technological, and design aspects of shaping liveable, sustainable cities for all in the face of climate impacts and datafication of our urban environments.

Carola Hein | TU Delft

Carola Hein is Professor History of Architecture and Urban Planning at Delft University of Technology and Professor at Leiden and Erasmus University. and director of the Leiden-Delft-Erasmus PortCityFutures Centre. She holds the UNESCO Chair of Water, Ports and Historic Cities and leads the LDE

PortCityFutures Centre. She has published widely in the field of architectural, urban and planning history, tying historical analysis to contemporary development. Her recent (co-)edited books include: Port City Atlas (2023), Oil Spaces (2021), Urbanisation of the Sea (2020), Adaptive Strategies for Water Heritage (2020), The Routledge Planning History Handbook (2018).

David Grahame Shane | GSAPP Columbia NY

David Grahame Shane studied at the Architectural Association, London (AA Dipl 1969), and at Cornell, M.Arch (Urban Design 1972) and an Architectural and Urban History PhD (1978) with Professors Colin Rowe and Chris Otto. He taught at the AA in the 1970's for Alvin Boyarsky and at Bennington College, before starting at Columbia in the 1980's, in UD since 1991. He has lectured widely and published in Europe, USA and Asia. He is the author of Recombinant Urbanism: Conceptual Modeling in Architecture, Urban Design and City Theory (2005) and Urban Design Since 1945; a Global Perspective (2011).

Francesco Musco | IUAV

Francesco Musco is a distinguished professor of Urban Planning at Università IUAV di Venezia with a background in architecture. He earned his PhD in Analysis and Governance for Sustainable Development in 2007. Notably, he's been the Director of the Erasmus Mundus Master Course on Maritime Spatial Planning and the graduate degree in Planning and Policies for Cities. Between 2018-2021, he served as Deputy Rector for Research and is part of the board at CORILA Consortium. With teaching stints in universities from Louisville to Seville, Francesco champions a multidisciplinary approach to city and environmental planning, emphasizing sustainable urban regeneration. In 2011, he founded the Planning & Climate Change Lab, securing over 7 million euros in research grants. An author of 130+ publications, he also oversees the editorial series "Planning for Climate Proof Cities" by Springer Verlag and holds a UNESCO chair on heritage and urban regeneration.

Ida Križaj Leko | DeltaLab, UniRi

Ida Križaj Leko (1983) is an architect who has, after 15 years of practice, extended her architectural activity to education. Her work has been recognized nationally and internationally. She won the Croatian national award for best interior design in 2018 for coworking place "RiHub" in co-authorship with Ana Boljar. The project "My Place Under the Sun" in which she was the co-author, mentor, and project leader - reconstruction of an existing building in Rijeka for children and their families

who live on the edge of poverty - was nominated for the Mies van der Rohe Award 2024. From 2022, she is the Head of the interdisciplinary postmaster study program Urban Studies at the University in Rijeka.

lisa Aurora Eikaas | University of Copenhagen

lisa Eikaas is a Finnish-Norwegian architect and researcher based in Copenhagen. Her work focuses on nature-based water management and climate adaptation. Driven by a fascination for vernacular design and traditional livelihood systems, she is currently exploring resilient infrastructures for farming and aquaculture in flood-prone environments. Eikaas collaborates extensively with anthropologists, engineers, and natural scientists in reimagining sustainable spatial systems on a strained planet. She has written about the ecological engineering of traditional communities in the newly published anthology Critical Coast, and exhibited her work at the Danish Pavilion at Venice Architecture Biennale 2023. Eikaas is currently employed as a Ph.D. fellow at the University of Copenhagen and the Danish research group Mitigating Sea Level Rise, and at Åbo Akademi, Finland, as part of the multidisciplinary research network The Sea. Previously, she held a position as a visiting scholar at The Cooper Union, New York.

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Previously Vice President / Asia Representative of EDSA, Ft. Lauderdale
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Jin Taira | ULP GC Universidad de la Palma de Gran Canaria

Vice-rector for Internationalization, Mobility and International Projection of the University of Las Palmas de Gran Canaria. University Professor in Urban Planning and Territorial Planning of the Urban Planning Section of the Department of Art, City and Territory of the School of Architecture of the ULP GC. Coordinator of the Tourism Territorial Strategy Division and the Recognized Research Group (GIR) URSCAPES, belonging to the University

Institute of Tourism and Sustainable Economic Development of the ULPGC.

Graduated from ETSAUN (1995, Spain), Researcher, Master and Doctorate (scholarship from the Japanese Ministry of Education), and Post-doctoral Researcher (scholarship from the Japan Society for the Promotion of Science), from The University of Tokyo (1996-04).

He has taught at Japanese, Spanish and American universities, including Columbia University (NY, USA) and Tongji University (Shanghai, China). He has worked for Japanese architects such as Hiroshi Hara, Arata Isozaki (Pritzker, 2019) and Toyo Ito (Pritzker, 2013). He currently carries out his professional work as an associate architect with architects Vicente Mirallave and Flora Pescador. He is the author of publications and articles in national and international magazines, highlighting TOKYO, awarded by the Japan Foundation (2011) and the Suntory Foundation (2017).

His work has been recognized in national and international competitions and exhibitions such as SDreview (Japan), the 10th Venice Architecture Biennial (Italy), the 9th Ibero-American Biennial of Architecture and Urbanism or the 13th Spanish Biennial of Architecture and Urbanism.

John Hanna | TU Delft

Lecturer and Researcher, History of Architecture and Urban Planning
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Laura Cipriani | TU Delft

Laura Cipriani is an assistant professor of landscape architecture at Delft University of Technology. Her current research addresses climate change issues, starting from the materiality of 'water and soil' and adopting (co)design approaches. Over the last decade, she has taught at Venice University IUAV, Politecnico di Milano, National University Singapore, Venice International University, and the University of Padua. She holds bachelor's and master's degrees in Architecture (Hons) from IUAV, a Master's in Design Studies (Hons) from Harvard Design School (2004), and a Ph.D. in Landscape Urbanism from IUAV. In 2008, Laura founded Superlandscape, a landscape and urban design firm.

Leonardo Zuccaro Marchi | PoliMi

Leonardo Zuccaro Marchi is Assistant Professor (ricercatore RTDA) at Politecnico di Milano. He is an Italian PhD architect who encompasses and tackles the ambiguous complexity and different ambassadorial roles and practices of architecture, both relying on fundamental historical-theoretical references and inspiring the improvement of innovative approaches.

He graduated at PoliMi, PoliTO, A.S.P. Alta Scuola Politecnica. He received his PhD at IUAV and TU Delft Universities as a Joint Doctorate with research on "The Heart of the City" (published by Routledge in 2018).

After completing the PhD, he developed his research in the contents of various international post-doc research projects and fellowships in collaboration with renowned academic institutions (CCA-Montreal, TU Delft, KTH Stockholm, IIT-Chicago, ETH-Zurich). He has taught at TU Delft, PoliMi, UDEM, and IUAV Universities. He has collaborated in urban design/landscape projects and theoretical research with international firms such as CZA-Cino Zucchi Architetti, MECANOO architecten, and LAND until a senior level.

He was awarded the "Europe 40 Under 40 Award," and was runner-up at European 11 in Leeuwarden. He is co-founder of {Co-P-E} - Collective of Projects in Equipose - which won European 14 in Neu Ulm and was selected for the development of the European 16 project in Wernigerode.

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Matteo Vianello | IUAV

Matteo Vianello (1992), PhD, is a researcher in architecture and landscape at Università IUAV di Venezia. He approached the study of landscape theories by writing and editing academic and non-academic publications, in parallel with teaching collaboration at the IUAV University of Venice. His research activity is focused on the relationships between ecologies and design in modern history. He is currently contract teacher of architecture design at Università di Genova, and research fellow at IUAV University of Venice, as part of iNEST research cluster.

Nathalie de Vries | MVRDV / TU Delft

Nathalie de Vries (Appingedam, NL - 1965) is founding partner of MVRDV, an architect and urban planner and the "DV" in MVRDV. She is an Honorary Fellow of the AIA and International Fellow of the RIBA. De Vries is also City Architect for the municipality of Groningen and a professor at TU Delft. The work of De Vries focuses on the invention of new building typologies and the creation of changeable, open systems, an approach which she brings to both buildings and urban plans. Her projects are spatially varied and ground breaking, always giving particular attention to the project's interaction with the public domain. With MVRDV, De Vries develops sustainable and innovative concepts and working methods, and showcases them through exhibitions, publications, interviews, and lectures. As an architect, she appreciates intensive collaboration with clients and interdisciplinary design teams, but also with residents and other stakeholders. Whatever the project, there is always

a lot of attention given to the design's interaction with its surroundings, by designing inviting collective spaces and outdoor areas, among other approaches. In her urban designs, De Vries explores the combination of high-quality public spaces with functionally mixed buildings that act as catalysts for the development of an area.

Nebojša Jeremić | PoliMi / DASTU

Nebojša Jeremić, MSc in Architecture and Urban Design, studied at Politecnico di Milano in Italy. He currently works as an architect at Tectoo Architecture Studio in Milan under Susanna Scarabicchi, a former partner of Renzo Piano Building Workshop (RPBW). Additionally, he is a Research Assistant at Politecnico di Milano, Department of Architecture and Urban Studies, participating in professional collaborations and activities related to the research project "Habiter Transcultural Floating Habitat" within the "HAB. FLOAT.HAB" - MSCA SoEda Project.

In his master's thesis titled "Amphibious Waterfronts - Coastal Adaptation of Copenhagen to Rising Sea Levels," supervised by Pierre-Alain Croset and Leonardo Zuccaro Marchi, he explored alternative, eco-friendly, and sustainable design solutions for coastal cities confronting global sea level rise. His research focused on amphibious and floating architecture and urban landscapes.

Paolo De Martino | IUAV/ TU Delft

Paolo De Martino graduated in Architecture from the Department of Architecture of the University of Naples Federico II (DiARC). After graduating he worked as an architect in Naples, focusing mainly on the reuse of the existing architectural heritage and on urban regeneration. In 2014 he moved to Delft, the Netherlands, where he completed a PhD in a dual research program between Delft University of Technology (TU Delft) and University of Naples Federico II. His PhD research, entitled "Land in Limbo", investigates port cities from a spatial and governance perspective, analyzing the impact that actors have in shaping spatial development. The city of Naples is an emblematic case to question how to rethink the areas of land-sea interaction, at different scales, as opportunities for territorial regeneration. Since 2017 he has been teaching at the Department of Architecture of TU Delft where he is tutoring students in Design Studios such as "Architecture and Urbanism beyond oil", "Adaptive Strategies" and "Designing Public Spaces for Maritime Mindsets", coordinated by Carola Hein. Since 2021, in collaboration with TU Delft, he has been involved in teaching two MOOCs entitled: (Re) Imagining Port Cities: (Re)Imagining Port Cities: Understanding Space, Society and Culture and Water Works: Activating Heritage for Sustainable Development. Paolo De Martino is a member of the PortCityFutures research group. Since 2022 he

is a researcher at the University IUAV of Venice, working with Prof. Francesco Musco and a larger team on the topic of Maritime Spatial Planning.

Raffaele Pernice | UNSW Sydney

Raffaele Pernice is an EU Licensed Architect and Senior Lecturer in Architecture and Urbanism at the University of New South Wales (UNSW Sydney) in Australia. He holds a PhD in Architecture from Waseda University in Tokyo, and a Master of Architecture degree from IUAV University of Venice, in Italy. From 2007 to 2009 he was a JSPS Post-doc Research Fellow at Graduate School of Engineering and Design of Hosei University in Tokyo, where he further expanded his studies on modern and contemporary Japanese architecture. Dr. Pernice's research interests devote particular attention to modern and post-modern architectural and urban design theories, the relationship between architecture and the city, and the transformation and development of the cities of Japan and the urbanism in the Asia Pacific region.

Rutger de Graaf | Blue21 - INDYMO - Blue Revolution Foundation

Rutger de Graaf is a seasoned entrepreneur, researcher and visionary leader, with over 15 years of expertise in climate-resilient floating urban development. His mission is to deploy floating city technology to alleviate the impact of climate change and sea-level rise for hundreds of millions of people within this century, all while fostering positive ecological and social outcomes. Through his leadership roles in DeltaSync and Blue21, already significant milestones in this mission were achieved, with groundbreaking projects such as the Floating Pavilion Rotterdam and Floating Ecohomes in Harnaschpolder, Delft, the Netherlands. Recent additions to the portfolio, such as the innovative INNOZOWA floating solar project and the pioneering Bluelands floating prototype, showcase patented technologies and further advance Blue21's vision.

To amplify global awareness and foster interdisciplinary research on floating solutions, Rutger co-founded the Blue Revolution Foundation in 2013. The foundation played a pivotal role in organizing the 2nd World Conference on Floating Solutions in 2020 and co-initiated the Floating Future research project, the most extensive research program on floating solutions in the Netherlands.

A prolific (co)author, Rutger has contributed to multiple international books, book chapters, and peer-reviewed journal articles. Notable among his works is the collaboration with Henk Ovink, the Special Envoy for Water of the Netherlands, on the "5 Capacities of Climate Resilient Urban Areas." This framework formed the basis of the book "Climate

Resilient Urban Areas," published by Palgrave MacMillan in 2021. Rutger's insights have also been featured in prominent international media outlets such as the New York Times, Financial Times, BBC World Radio, and Discovery Channel.

Vedrana Ikalović |
Lille Catholic University

Vedrana Ikalovic is an urbanist and architect interested in multiscale and interdisciplinary studies of cities. She holds a Ph.D. degree in Engineering from Keio University, Yokohama, Japan (2019). She is an Associate Professor and Researcher at the Smart and Resilient Cities program at Lille Catholic University, Junia - HEI Graduate school of Engineering in France, and a researcher at the NGO Center for Spatial Research in Banjaluka, Bosnia-Herzegovina. In her current research on the production of space, hybrid architectural typologies, and co-spaces, she integrates social, spatial, and experiential approaches.

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Sydney NSW 2052, Australia.