

# aftermath

Reconstruction of Environments

10-11 October 2024

University of Applied Arts Vienna  
Auditorium  
Vordere Zollamtsstraße 7  
1030 Vienna



The Fifth Circular Strategies Symposium addresses the timely, critical theme of post-disaster contexts: Aftermath. Reconstruction of Environments.

Disasters, whether natural or man-made, leave a devastating trail of destruction in their wake, disrupting communities, livelihoods and ecosystems. In the aftermath of such events, the role of architects in addressing these challenges is essential not only in terms of restoring physical structures, but also in terms of fostering resilience and rebuilding communities. When a lack of economic and/or material resources is evident, a shift towards regenerative systems that minimize waste and maximize resource efficiency is required. The concept of circularity emerges as a respectful solution, offering a transformative approach to post-disaster architecture.

The symposium will deliver a multidisciplinary perspective on key themes, such as designing with immediate response in mind, from temporary to permanent rebuilding, large-scale territorial planning, materials and approaches, aiming at transforming the narrative from despair to resilience.

## Program

### Thursday, 10 October 2024

17:30

Admission

18:00

**Welcome Address** Petra Schaper Rinkel,  
Rector of the University of Applied Arts Vienna

**Introduction** Petra Gruber, Institute of  
Architecture, University of Applied Arts Vienna

#### KEYNOTE

Eric J. Cesal  
“Ruins and Regeneration: The Near  
and Far Future of Disaster Recovery”

### Friday, 11 October 2024

08:30

**Admission and Welcome**  
Moderation by Anja Jonkhans

9:00 - 10:30

#### ON THE GROUND

Patrick Coulombel  
“Reconstruction after disasters”

Cecilia Schmölder  
“From emergency sheltering to  
recovery after large scale disasters”

Cyrille Hanappe  
“Mayotte, a French place in East  
Africa: Housing & demolition policies  
in a country of slums”

10:45 - 12:15

#### FROM TEMPORARY TO PERMANENT

Hsieh Ying-Chun  
“Tectonic in Resident Participation:  
Post-disaster reconstruction and  
Sustaining solution”

Vitalina Hoshovsk  
“Preserving past, shaping future:  
Balbek Bureau’s perspective on  
Ukraine’s recovery”

Natalie Mossin & Ingeborg Christiane Hau  
“Rebuilding - how international  
collaboration and local agency  
generate mutual value”

12:30 - 13:15

**Panel Discussion** with the morning guest  
speakers moderated by Carmen Maria Egger

13:15-14:30

Lunch Break

14:30 - 16:00

#### PLANNING ON LONG TERM, LARGE SCALE RECONSTRUCTION

Robert Sakic Trogrlic & Michaela Bachmann  
“Risk and Resilience Thinking:  
Implications for Reconstruction  
Processes”

Kees Christiaanse  
“Fostering and regenerating tissue of  
built environment”

Lilet Breddels

“On post-conflict Architecture”

16:15 - 17:15

#### MATERIALS AND APPROACHES

Adam Przywara  
“Circular Reconstruction: Building  
from Rubble in Postwar Warsaw”

Mattia di Carlo  
“Circular by Design”

17:30 - 18:15

**Panel Discussion** with the afternoon guest  
speakers moderated by Thomas Romm

18:30

Closing words and small reception

## Speakers’ Biographies and Imprint

### KEYNOTE

#### **Eric J. Cesal**

Instructor Harvard Global Development Program, USA

Eric J. Cesal is a designer, educator, writer, and noted post-disaster expert, leading reconstruction programs after the Haiti earthquake, the Great East Japan Tsunami, and Superstorm Sandy. He is formally trained as an architect, with expertise in international development, economics, and design futurism. Cesal was called “Architecture’s First Responder” by The Daily Beast for leading Architecture for Humanity’s post-disaster programs from 2010 to 2014. He has been widely interviewed and lectures globally on disaster reconstruction, climate adaptation, and design futures. Cesal has taught on disaster reconstruction, resilience, and sustainable design at top design schools, including the Universitat Internacional de Catalunya, Universite Grenoble Alpes, and UC Berkeley, where he directed the Sustainable Environmental Design program. Cesal serves as a founding member of the Built Environment Futures Council, currently teaches in Harvard’s Global Development Practice program and works on projects at the intersection of design, climate change, and AI.

### ON THE GROUND

#### **Patrick Coulombel**

The Emergency Architects Foundation, France

Patrick Coulombel is driving force behind the creation of the Emergency Architects Foundation, which he has been directing since 2001. He has overseen reconstruction projects in about thirty countries, including Haiti, Peru, Pakistan, and Indonesia, following major natural disasters and conflicts. Coulombel has contributed to international publications and authored three books published by l’Harmattan: “Emergency Architects: A New Humanitarian Profession”, “Journey of a Rough-and-Ready Architect”, and “Let’s Stop Amateurism in the Name of Emergency”. Over two decades, his leadership has helped establish a new humanitarian profession, demonstrating the crucial role of architects in disaster response and reconstruction.

#### **Cecilia Schmölzer**

Emergency shelter and reconstruction expert, Austria

Cecilia is a shelter and reconstruction expert who started her humanitarian career with reconstruction after the Indian Ocean tsunami. She has since worked for UNOPS after the 2010 Haiti Earthquake, headed the IFRC-Shelter Research Unit and has been deployed in coordination roles for the Global Shelter Cluster in post-disaster contexts such as Haiti, Philippines, Madagascar, Nigeria, Indonesia, Nepal and Mozambique. She has also worked with CARE and the CENDEP of Oxford Brookes University. Initially trained as a carpenter, Cecilia also holds Master degrees in Architecture (Uni Kassel), Human Settlements (KU Leuven) and a Bsc in Sustainable Real Estate Management (FH-Kärnten).

#### **Cyrille Hanappe**

Director “Architecture & Major Risks” ENSAPB AIR Architecture, Actes&Cités, France

Cyrille Hanappe is a Franco-Belgian architect and engineer. He is an associate professor at the ENSAPB and the director of the “Architecture of Major Risks” post master program in that same school. Co-founder of the AIR Architecture agency and the association Actes & Cités, he primarily works on housing projects for vulnerable populations, particularly in slums and refugee camps. His approach emphasizes human dignity and participatory architecture, involving residents in the design and construction of their homes.

### FROM TEMPORARY TO PERMANENT

**Natalie Mossin** (Head of Institute) and **Ingeborg Christiane Hau** (Curator and editor) Royal Danish Academy - Institute of Architecture and Technology, Denmark

Natalie Mossin is a Danish architect and Head of the Institute of Architecture and Technology. She served as President of Congress for the UIA World Congress of Architects 2023, and has held leadership roles including President of the Danish

Association of Architects and Vice-President of the UIA. A leading voice in social and environmental sustainability, she has extensive experience in innovation, strategic leadership, and capacity building. She has authored and edited several works, including “An Architecture Guide to the UN 17 Sustainable Development Goals” and her recent book, “Innovation of Nothing – the capabilities needed to lead sustainable change in the built environment” (2023).

Ingeborg Hau is a Danish art and culture historian focused on sustainable architecture as a curator and editor at The Royal Danish Academy - Institute of Architecture and Technology. She was the appointed Chief advisor, Architecture and the UN17 SDGs, for the UIA World Congress of Architects 2023. With over 15 years of experience, Hau has contributed as a curator, author, and advisor on sustainability in architecture. She was deputy commissioner for the Danish Pavilion at the Venice Architecture Biennale (2012-18) and has authored and edited works, including “An Architecture Guide to the UN 17 Sustainable Development Goals” and “Innovation of Nothing – the capabilities needed to drive sustainable change in the built environment”. Her current projects explore social and environmental sustainability, such as “The Rebuilding Project”, which focuses on local agency and collaboration in communities needing rebuilding.

#### **Hsieh Ying Chun**

Atelier-3, Taiwan

For over 20 years, Hsieh and the Atelier-3 team have focused on the research and development of ecological houses, promoting community-based “cooperative construction” and “sustainable building.” They integrate scientific methods with local materials, low cost, and appropriate technology to popularize sustainable modern homes. Their work explores concepts like “Pattern Language”, “Object-oriented Design”, “Digital and Network Technology”, and “Housing Industry 4.0”. They have completed the reconstruction of over 300 Aboriginal homes in Taiwan, more than 500 rural houses in Sichuan and Yunnan, and over 1,000 homes after the Morakot Flood in Taiwan, as well as post-quake housing in Nepal. Hsieh received the UN-HABITAT’s Best Practice Award (2004) and the Curry Stone Design Prize (2011).

#### **Vitalina Hoshovska**

Balbek Bureau, Ukraine

Vitalina is a lead architect at Balbek Bureau and RE:Ukraine Villages, an interactive tool to preserve Ukraine’s vernacular architecture. She has a master’s degree in architecture and urban studies and has completed an internship in a Munich-based studio. Over her 8 years in the field, Vitalina has contributed to projects of all kinds, from restaurants and hotels to social initiatives. She works with historical architecture, its context, and the subject of rebuilding, analyses Ukrainian village houses, and helps implement the findings into an online tool. Vitalina is also a keen conceptual photographer and is passionate about urban studies.

### PLANNING ON LONG TERM, LARGE SCALE RECONSTRUCTION

**Robert Sakic Trogrlic** and **Michaela Bachmann**, IIASA, Austria

Robert Sakic Trogrlic is a research scholar in the Systemic Risk and Resilience (SYRR) Research Group at IIASA. His research focuses on multi-hazard, multi-sector, and systemic risk management, with an emphasis on people-centered disaster risk reduction and integrating physical and social sciences in disaster and climate research. Before IIASA, he was a postdoctoral research associate at King’s College London’s Department of Geography and a climate and resilience officer at Practical Action. Trained as a civil engineer, he also holds an interdisciplinary degree in Flood Risk Management and received his PhD from Heriot-Watt University, focusing on local knowledge in community-based disaster risk reduction in Malawi.

Michaela Bachmann is a researcher in the Systemic Risk and Resilience Group at IIASA. Her interdisciplinary background lies in Ecology and Political Science which steered her focus toward climate adaptation with a particular interest in the implementation of initiatives that have a direct impact on the ground to prepare society for climate change. She is currently working on two EU Horizon projects, where she co-develops a Climate Risk Assessment Framework and contributes to climate resilient pathways.

#### **Kees Christiaanse**

President Swiss Network with Ukraine, KCAP, Netherlands

Kees Christiaanse studied architecture and urban planning at TU Delft and from 1980 until 1989 worked at the Office of Metropolitan Architecture (OMA) in Rotterdam, becoming a partner in 1983. He founded KCAP Architects & Planners in 1989 and has taught architecture and urban planning at TU Berlin. Since 2003 he is a professor at the ETH in Zurich (CH). Kees is a program leader and focuses his research on Urban Breeding Grounds and Airport Cities at the Future Cities Laboratory in Singapore. He is a frequent lecturer, jury member in international design competitions, and has co-authored numerous books and articles.

#### **Lilet Breddels**

Director of Archis Amsterdam and project manager at Ro3kvit, Urban Coalition for Ukraine, Netherlands

Lilet Breddels is an art historian living and working in Amsterdam. She is director of the Archis Foundation, a cultural think tank promoting debate on spatial and urban urgencies and publisher of Volume Magazine. Archis initiates projects, exhibitions and debates all over the world. Breddels is co-founder of the Architecture of Peace project in 2010 and curated (with Arjen Oosterman) several exhibitions that investigate the possible role of architecture and urbanism in post-conflict situations. In March 2022 she became part of Ro3kvit, Urban Coalition for Ukraine. Breddels is guest teacher, curator and lecturer mainly on issues dealing with the crossroad of art and architecture and its role in society.

### MATERIALS AND STRATEGIES

#### **Adam Przywara**

Postdoctoral Researcher Social Anthropology Unit University of Fribourg, Switzerland

Adam Przywara is an architectural historian and curator whose work explores ruined environments, focusing on material reuse, recycling, and waste in historical and contemporary architecture. He studied at the Bartlett, UCL, and completed his doctorate at the University of Manchester. He is a postdoctoral researcher in the SNFS-funded

project “Urban Bricolage: Mining, Designing, and Constructing with Reused Building Materials” at the University of Fribourg. Adam was a fellow at the Bauhaus Foundation (2018) and the German Historical Institute (2020), and won the Theodor Fischer Award (2024). He has curated numerous exhibitions, including “Rising from Rubble: Warsaw 1945-1949” at the Museum of Warsaw (2023), and is currently completing a monograph examining the transformative encounter between the architecture industry and ruins during the postwar reconstruction of Warsaw.

#### **Mattia di Carlo**

Circular Expert, GXN/3XN, Denmark

Mattia is a Circular Design Specialist at GXN Innovation. Originally from Italy, before joining GXN, he worked as an architect, set designer, and project lead in various international architecture practices across Italy, Chile, and Denmark. With a robust background in architecture and architectural design processes, Mattia now integrates these foundational skills with sustainability and circularity insights. He possesses an understanding of spatial dynamics, innovative materials, and user-centric design principles, enabling him to integrate these elements into projects that prioritize environmental stewardship, resource efficiency, and innovation. With a focus on consultancy in sustainability, Mattia blends architectural creativity with innovative sustainable practices, aiming to advancing architecture practice towards a future where design excellence aligns seamlessly with ecological responsibility.

#### **ORGANIZATION AND CURATION**

Petra Gruber and Camille Breuil, Department of Building Construction, I oA, University of Applied Arts Vienna

#### **MODERATION**

Anja Jonkhans, Thomas Romm and Carmen Maria Egger

#### **EVENT VENUE**

Auditorium, University of Applied Arts Vienna, Vordere Zollamtsstraße 7, 1030 Vienna

#### **FURTHER INFORMATION**

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