Organization and curation Karin Raith and Lukas Allner, Institute of Architecture, University of Applied Arts Vienna

Moderation Doris Österreicher, University of Natural Resources and Life Sciences Vienna (BOKU), Vienna

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

Further information buildingconstruction.at circular-strategies@uni-ak.ac.at

MATERIAL

Yves Weinand IBOIS Lab, École Polytechnique Fédérale de Lausanne, Switzerland

Yves Weinand is a Professor of Timber Engineering and Director of the Laboratory for Timber Constructions (IBOIS) at the Ecole Polytechnique Fédérale de Lausanne (EPFL), Switzerland. He received a M.Sc. in Architecture from the University of Liège, Belgium, a M.Sc. in Civil Engineering from EPFL, and a Ph.D. in Structural Engineering from RWTH Aachen. He was a professor of Structural Design in Architecture at TU Graz before joining EPFL in 2005. As founder of the Bureau d'Etude Weinand, ingénierie et architecture in Liège, he has designed and realized numerous emblematic wooden buildings such as the Saint Loup Chapel, the new Vaud Parliament, and the Vidy wooden pavilion in Lausanne. Through innovative approaches, his research questions the technical and static possibilities of wooden materials and aims to develop a new generation of renewable and ecological wooden structures. He has won numerous architectural competitions and was awarded the Médaille technique by the French Académie d'Architecture in 2017.

Thomas Mennel architect and researcher, Schwarzenberg, Austria

After completing his studies in architecture at TU Wien and acquiring extensive knowledge in wood construction at Hermann Kaufmann in Vorarlberg, Thomas Mennel is now the managing director of gbd projects in Dornbirn and a specialist in façade planning. On the other hand, he and Reinhard Muxel work on smaller buildings, projects for cultural initiatives, and design objects – in close cooperation with experienced craftsmen. From profound research into traditional timber construction, material applications, processing methods, and the evolution of local house types in the Bregenzerwald and Montafon area, he has developed a distinctive practice of restoring and reusing historical buildings.

Petra Gruber Institute of Architecture, University of Applied Arts Vienna

Petra Gruber is a researcher and educator in architecture and biodesign. She holds a PhD in "Biomimetics in Architecture" from the TU Vienna and has been working on three continents in inter- and transdisciplinary design, research, and education, at the intersection of biology, architecture, and art. Her work on spatial and functional aspects of biological structures for biomimetic innovation in architecture and the built environment has been published widely. In October 2023 she joined the University of Applied Arts in Vienna as a professor and head of the Department of Building Construction.

Ken De Cooman BC architects & studies & materials, Brussels, Belgium

Ken De Cooman is a co-founder of BC Architects & Studies & Materials and a research associate at the *act of building* Junior Professorship in Civil Engineering at RWTH Aachen University. He holds a Master's degree in philosophy and architecture and is a diploma candidate in psychology. Starting a professional career as an architect, Ken De Cooman has been focusing on earth construction, with several projects on the European and African continents. Today, he is the delegated Director of BC Materials, Head of Development & Consultancy, and responsible for quality control of resources and products.

Christoph Kaltenbrunner Christoph Kaltenbrunner has been head of the departement of "Design, Architecture and Environment" (DAE) at the Institute of Art Sciences and Art Education at the University of Applied Arts Vienna since 2014. He studied mechanical engineering, architecture, and industrial design. He received several scholarships for study visits to Japan, England, and the USA and was a founding member of the architecture studio propeller z, Vienna. The studio's work has won numerous awards and has been widely published and exhibited.

ECOSYSTEMS

Frédéric Chartier ChartierDalix Architectes, Paris, France

Frédéric Chartier and Pascale Dalix founded ChartierDalix in 2008 and have since realised more than 25 buildings. Significant projects are under construction or in planning, such as the transformation of the Tour Montparnasse in Paris into a low-carbon tower (with the collective Nouvelle AOM). ChartierDalix has received numerous awards, and in 2019, was appointed Chevaliers des Arts et des Lettres by the French Ministry of Culture. Frédéric has taught and lectured at various universities and architecture centers. In 2019 the office's research on the integration of biodiversity in architecture was published in the book "Hosting Life: Architecture as an Ecosystem".

Doan Thanh Ha HPA architects, Hanoi, Vietnam

Doan Thanh Ha founded H&P Architects, in 2009. The studio's works focus on poor and disadvantaged communities in Vietnam, designing structures built from natural, and recycled materials. These "Essential spaces" are intertwined with ecological systems to form nature-like environments that can adapt to changing conditions. H&P's projects have received international recognition and have won numerous awards including the UIA Vassilis Sgoutas Prize, and the International Architecture Award (IAA).

Louise Fiil Hansen SLA Architects, Copenhagen, Denmark

Louise Fiil Hansen is Partner and Design Director in SLA where she is responsible for some of the studio's largest and most complex landscape urban planning projects. Across her diverse set of projects from nature-based city planning to integrated security design and climate adaption, Louise has a dedicated focus on how to spatially transform the classical challenges of the city such as pollution, social segregation, biodiversity loss, and climate crisis and turn these challenges into possibilities for improved livability.

Marialuisa Borja Al Borde, Quito, Ecuador

Al Borde was founded in 2007 in Ecuador by David Barragán, Pascual Gangotena, Malu Borja-Lopez, and Esteban Benavides. Their work aims at an architecture that is conscious of the energy in the construction process, is open to active user participation, and combines situated reflections with the sustainability of life. Al Borde has won the Schelling Medal and the Global Sustainable Award and was invited to the Venice Architecture Biennale in 2016. In 2020, the publishing house Arquine released Al Borde's monograph *Less is Everything*.

Tulay Atak Tulay Atak is an architect, historian, and theorist whose current work focuses on the intersections between environmental history and architecture. She received her professional architecture degree at METU in Ankara and pursued her PhD at UCLA with the dissertation, "Byzantine Modern: Displacements of Modernism in Istanbul." Tulay's co-edited book, *Pedagogical Experiments in Architecture for a Changing Climate*, is forthcoming from Routledge. She has taught at SCI-Arc, Cornell, RISD, Cooper Union, RPI, and Pratt Institute.

TRANSFORMATION

Yuma Shinohara curator at S AM Swiss Architecture Museum, Basel, Switzerland

Yuma Shinohara is a curator at the S AM Swiss Architecture Museum, where he curated the exhibition Make Do With Now: New Directions in Japanese Architecture (2022), co-curated the exhibitions Swim City (2019) and Beton (2021), and oversaw the adaptation of Access of All (2021). Before joining the S AM, he held positions at Storefront for Art and Architecture, Ruby Press, the Academy of Arts Berlin, and the Canadian Centre for Architecture. He graduated in comparative literature and society from Columbia University in New York.

Oana Stancioiu nonconform, Vienna, Austria

Oana Stancioiu is an architect and consultant at nonconform, an architecture and participatory planning practice with offices in Austria and Germany. Following her interest in the social dimension of architecture and the interaction between people and places, she completed an MSc in Environmental Psychology at the University of Surrey, UK. As part of nonconform, Oana is integrating theory and practice in playful participatory processes, meant to find viable answers to the problems of today without compromising the world of tomorrow.

Rikke Juul Gram Schønherr landscape architecture, Copenhagen

Rikke Juul Gram is an experienced specialist in landscape architecture, partner, and creative director at the architecture practice Schønherr, where she is involved in a large part of the urban space, landscape, and coastal development projects. Her focus is on forming architectural responses to the social challenges of our time. When it comes to using (landscape-) architectural means to counter storm surges, rising sea levels, groundwater problems, and extreme rainfall, she seeks to work *with* the forces of nature rather than against them.

Susann Ahn & Thomas E. Hauck landscape architecture/animal aided design, Freising and Vienna, TU Wien, Austria

Susann Ahn is a landscape architect, urban planner, and licensed mediator. She studied at TU Munich and received her doctorate from ETH Zurich. She is the founder of the office Ahn Landscape Mediation which specializes in the nexus of landscape architecture and communication. Her work focuses on participative, conflict-resolving, and co-creative methods to foster integrated planning and design projects.
Thomas E. Hauck is a landscape architect. He studied at the University of Hannover and received his doctorate from TU Munich. With the urban planner Cordelia Polinna, he founded the planning office Polinna Hauck Landscape+Urbanism. Since 2013, he has been leading the Animal-Aided Design (AAD) research project together with Prof. Wolfgang Weisser, TUM, Chair of Terrestrial Ecology. The research project resulted in the spin-off Studio Animal-Aided Design GmbH (SAAD). Susann Ahn and Thomas E. Hauck jointly hold the professorship for Landscape Architecture and Landscape Planning at TU Wien.

Robert Korab Robert Korab is a physicist, spatial planner and property developer. He was early member and CEO of the Austrian Institute for Ecology (1986-2000) before founding and managing raum & kommunikation, an urban and spatial planning office specializing in ecologically oriented project development, strategic urban renewal, and cooperative housing projects. He is founder and partner of MO.Point, which develops and operates shared mobility services, and co-founder and member of the management board of Die WoGen Wohnprojekte-Genossenschaft. 2007–2015 he was a member of the advisory board of Austrian Climate and Energy Fund, and is currently member of the Advisory Council for Urban Development of the City of Eisenstadt, Austria.

circular strategies symposium 4

Architecture and the Biosphere

13–14 October 2023
University of Applied Arts Vienna
Auditorium Vordere Zollamtsstraße 7, 1030 Vienna,
buildingconstruction.at

PROGRAMME, FRIDAY 13 OCTOBER 2023

15:00
Admission

15:30
Welcome Address
Petra Schaper Rinkel, Rector of the University of Applied Arts Vienna

Introduction
Lukas Allner, Institute of Architecture, University of Applied Arts Vienna

MATERIAL

What opportunities do nature-based building materials offer in terms of recarbonization, resource conservation, and the creation of healthy living spaces? What is their design potential? What are their limits?

15:45–16:45
Wood
Yves Weinand, "Design quality in function of available resources"
Thomas Mennel, "Approaches to reuse and renewal – the gap between expectations and inspiration"

15:45–16:45
Break

17:00–18:00
Natural and Nature-Based Material, Material Experimentation
Petra Gruber, "A living architecture"
Ken de Cooman, "The act of building with natural and reclaimed resources: BC materials"

18:00–19:00
Panel discussion with the 4 speakers of the session block "Material" moderated by Christoph Kaltenbrunner, Institute of Art Sciences and Art Education, University of Applied Arts Vienna

MY TOUGHTS

PROGRAMME, SATURDAY 14 OCTOBER 2023

ECOSYSTEMS

How can we integrate living organisms into buildings and cities? What do they do to mitigate climate change on the one hand and for adapting to its effects on the other? What do they mean for human recreation and biodiversity?

10:00–10:50
Buildings as Biotops
Frédéric Chartier, "Architecture as an ecosystem"
Doan Thanh Ha, "Void — Vegetation — Water"

11:00–11:50
Design With Nature
Louise Fiil Hansen, "Nature as a Launch Pad"
Marialuisa Borja, "Matters of agency"

12:00–13:00
Panel discussion with the 4 speakers of the session block "Ecosystems" moderated by Tulay Atak, Institute of Architecture, University of Applied Arts Vienna

13:00–14:00
Lunch break

TRANSFORMATION

Buildings and cities are ecosystems that change over time. Following nature's example – What processes do we need to initiate and foster to keep the environment adaptable and vibrant?

14:00–15:00
Neighbourhood Regeneration, Small Interventions
Yuma Shinohara, "Make Do With Now: New Directions in Japanese Architecture"
Oana Stancioiu, "*Miteinander weiter denken* – co-creating with nonconform"

15:00–16:00
City Remediation, New Ecologies
Rikke Juul Gram, "Copenhagen Islands: nature and topography as a framework for climate adaption and urban development"
Susann Ahn & Thomas Hauck, "Urban cohabitation strategies. Visions and approaches"

16:00–17:00
Panel discussion with the 4 speakers of the session block "Transformation" moderated by Robert Korab, Raum & Kommunikation GmbH and TU Wien, Austria

17:00
Closing words

MY TOUGHTS

In search of possible circular futures, one can probably find the most compelling models in nature, for example, for the flow of resources, synergetic lifestyles, and infinite renewal. Furthermore, the biosphere can provide the very substance with which to build but also play an active role through living actors within architectural ecosystems.

How can such integration of the biosphere and cooperation with natural systems contribute to overcoming the climate crisis and creating an environment worth living in?

The symposium focuses on three aspects, material, ecosystems, and transformation, each addressed in a lecture block with a subsequent panel discussion.