

## PROGRAM

### 09:30 Institutional Greetings

Stefano Capolongo, Director DABC, Politecnico di Milano

### Introduction

Tommaso Brighenti, DABC, Politecnico di Milano

### Morning Session

Moderator Elena Manferdini, SCI-Arc

### 10:00 Neil Leach, Florida International University

Areti Markopoulou, Institute for Advanced Architecture of Catalonia

### 11:00 Ingrid Paoletti, DABC, Politecnico di Milano

Philippe Morel, The Bartlett School of Architecture

### 12:00 Round table

### 13:00 LUNCH BREAK

### Afternoon Session

Moderator Jacopo Leveratto, DASTU, Politecnico di Milano

### 14:00 Theodore Spyropoulos, Architectural Association

Jason Vigneri-Beane, Pratt Institute

### 15:00 Adil Bokhari, ETH Zurich

Pierpaolo Ruttico, DABC, Politecnico di Milano

### 16:00 Alice Barale, Università degli Studi di Milano

Elena Manferdini, SCI-Arc

### 17:00 Round table

### Closing Remarks

### 18:00 Elvio Manganaro, DABC, Politecnico di Milano

*As artificial intelligence reshapes how architects work, how should architectural education and research adapt? What should a curriculum look like when the profession it prepares students for is being rewritten in real time?*

Organized by the Department of Architecture, Building Engineering, and the Built Environment at Politecnico di Milano and supported by DT2 research project, *The Intelligence Age* is a public symposium dedicated to examining the evolving role of Artificial Intelligence in architectural education and practice. Taking place on June 10th, 2025, the event brings together leading voices from renowned international institutions to foster dialogue, exchange ideas, and question the shifting landscape of design in the age of intelligence. The symposium serves as a platform for meaningful engagement among educators, researchers, and practitioners, offering a day of conversations structured around thematic duets—paired discussions that allow for contrasting and complementary perspectives. This unique format encourages critical reflection and dynamic interaction across institutional and disciplinary boundaries. Participating schools include SCI-Arc, University of Florida, IAAC, AA-DRL, ETH Zurich, PRATT Institute, The Bartlett School of Architecture, Università degli Studi di Milano, and Politecnico di Milano as the host institution. Their collective involvement highlights the global dimension of this discourse and underscores the shared urgency of redefining pedagogy, and practice in light of AI's increasing influence. By bringing together a diverse and international academic community, *The Intelligence Age* positions itself as a landmark event for Politecnico di Milano—a leading institution at the forefront of technology, creativity, and architectural education.

# The Intelligence Age

## SYMPOSIUM ORGANIZED BY

Elena Manferdini, Tommaso Brighenti, Elvio Manganaro

**JUNE 10TH 2025**

**9.30-18.30**

**AULA 16 B 0.1**

Politecnico di Milano

Via Bonardi 9, Milano



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DT2

POLITECNICO DI MILANO

DEPARTMENT OF ARCHITECTURE BUILT ENVIRONMENT  
AND CONSTRUCTION ENGINEERING

Via Giuseppe Ponzio 31, 20133 Milano



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E AMBIENTE COSTRUITO



**Alice Barale**

Università degli Studi di Milano

Alice Barale is a scholar of Aesthetics. She is a fixed-term researcher at the Department of Cultural and Environmental Heritage at the University of Milan, where she teaches “Aesthetics of New Media.” She has worked on Aby Warburg and Walter Benjamin, to whom she has dedicated several essays and two monographs (*The Melancholy of the Image*, FUP, 2009, and *The First Enterprise: Shakespeare in Warburg and Benjamin*, Jaca Book, 2021). She also edited and translated into Italian Walter Benjamin’s *The Origin of German Tragic Drama* (Carocci, 2018). Her more recent research interests include the philosophy of color (*Il giallo del colore*, Jaca Book, 2020) and the relationship between art and artificial intelligence. On this topic, she edited the volume *Art and Artificial Intelligence: Be my GAN* (Jaca Book, 2020) and published the monograph *The Art of Artificial Intelligence: Philosophical Keywords* (Cambridge Scholars, 2024; Italian version *L’arte dell’intelligenza artificiale: parole-chiave filosofiche*, Jaca Book, 2025).

Adil Bokhari is a PhD candidate at the Chair for Digital Architectonics at ETH Zürich, where he also leads architecture the design studio, Studio Meteora. He previously served as a guest professor at the Peter Behrens School of Arts in Düsseldorf and has taught visual studies and design studios at various institutions including the Städelschule Architecture Class, Dessau Institute of Architecture, and the National College of Arts. His professional experience spans several practices, including Najmi Bilgrami Collaborative in Karachi, Zvi Hecker Architect in Berlin, and Atelier Manferdini in Los Angeles.



**Adil Bokhari**

ETH Zurich



**Neil Leach**

Florida International University

Neil Leach is a professor of architecture from the UK. He directs the Doctor of Design program at FIU, and has also taught at the AA, Harvard, Columbia, Cornell, IaaC and SCI-Arc. He is a co-founder of DigitalFUTURES, and a former researcher for NASA developing a 3D printer for the Moon and Mars. He has published over 50 books, including most recently, *Architecture in the Age of Artificial Intelligence: An Introduction to AI for Architects* (2nd edition, Bloomsbury, 2025). Forthcoming books include, *The AI Design Revolution* (Routledge), *The Death of the Architect: The Demise of the Profession in the Age of AI* (Bloomsbury) and *Architectural Education in the Age of AI* (Bloomsbury), co-authored with Areti Markopoulou.

Jacopo Leveratto, PhD Architect, is an Associate Professor in Interior Architecture and Exhibition Design at the Department of Architecture and Urban Studies of Politecnico di Milano, where he mainly focuses his research on critical spatial practices and posthuman architectures. Principal Investigator of the European project *en/count-er/points* and of the national research DT2, he is now a coordinating member of the Italian National Biodiversity Future Center. Besides having authored a monographic work on the theme titled *Posthuman Architectures* (2021), he is an associate editor of the peer-reviewed journals *Stoa*, *ARK*, and *ijournal*, and has written, among others, on *Architectural Design*, *Area*, *Int[AR]*, *Interni*, *Op.Cit.*, *PAD*, *Philosophy Study*, *Territorio*, and *Vesper*.



**Jacopo Leveratto**

Politecnico di Milano, DASTU



**Areti Markopoulou**

Institute for Advanced Architecture of Catalonia

Dr Areti Markopoulou is a Greek architect, researcher, and urban technologist working at the intersection of architecture and digital technologies. She is Academic Director at the Institute for Advanced Architecture of Catalonia (IAAC) in Barcelona, where she also leads the Advanced Architecture Group—a multidisciplinary lab exploring how design and science can positively impact the built environment. Her work focuses on redefining cities through an ecological and technological lens, merging design with biotechnologies, decarbonising materials, digital fabrication and big data. Areti is co-founder of StudioP52, a community-led art/tech gallery, and has served as co-editor of *Urban Next*. She has led projects on urban regeneration, circular construction, and pioneer education models integrating AI, architecture and entrepreneurship. She is Chair of the Responsive Cities Symposium, academic advisor for the UIA 2026 Open Call, and co-curated the 2022 Tallinn Architecture Biennale. Her publications include *Learning Cities*, *Edible*, *Black Ecologies*, and *Building Metabolism*—the latter supported by the Graham Foundation grant for individuals.



**Philippe Morel**

The Bartlett School of Architecture

Dr Philippe Morel is an architect, theorist and entrepreneur, co-founder of EZCT Architecture & Design Research (2000) and initiator and founding CEO of the large-scale 3D-printing corporation XtreeE (2015). He currently teaches as an Associate Professor at the Bartlett School of Architecture – University College London, where he is the director of the Master of Science in Architectural Computation programme. Before teaching at the Bartlett, he taught at the École nationale supérieure d’architecture Paris-Malaquais where he headed the Digital Knowledge department he co-founded with Pr. Girard. Prior to these roles, he was a seminar and studio Professor at the Berlage Institute in Rotterdam, and a History and Theory Seminar (diploma school) tutor and AADRL studio tutor at the Architectural Association School of Architecture in London. In 2017, he co-edited the book *Computational Politics and Architecture: From Digital Philosophy to the End of Work* (Editions ENSA Paris-Malaquais), and in 2023 *Disruptive Technologies: The Convergence of New Paradigms in Architecture* (Springer, with Dr Henriette Bier).

Ingrid Paoletti is a Full Professor in the Technology of Architecture at the Politecnico di Milano. She has a PhD in Building Technology from Milan’s Polytechnic University and was an associated researcher at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology. She is the founder of the research group in theoretical and design experimentation Material Balance, where she is involved in innovative technologies and materials to develop a new and responsible material culture. She was deputy rector for Expo Dubai 2020 and Vice President of the Fondazione Politecnico. She partners with various International Universities, including KTH, KDAK and Glosnos Center. She took part as a speaker at TEDxMilano in May 2022. Since 2023 she has been the Rector’s Delegate for Exhibitions and Events. Her books include: *L’innovazione consapevole* (Maggioli 2012), *Advanced Customization in Architectural Design and Construction* (con R. Naboni, Springer 2015), *Material Balance: A Design Equation* (Springer 2020) and *Siate Materialisti!* (Einaudi 2021).



**Ingrid Paoletti**

Politecnico di Milano, DABC



**Pierpaolo Ruttico**

Politecnico di Milano, DABC

Pierpaolo Ruttico is an architect-engineer and researcher at Politecnico di Milano, specializing in complex constructions and advanced production processes. He previously worked in New York City for Pelli Clarke & Partners, then earned a Ph.D. in Building Engineering, with a specialization in non-standard geometries. He is the founder and director of INDEXLAB, a multidisciplinary research group established in 2010. INDEXLAB focuses on contemporary architectural languages and pioneers innovative processes in digital fabrication, machine learning, and robotics.

Theodore Spyropoulos is an architect and educator. He is the Director of the Architectural Association’s world-renowned Design Research Lab (AADRL) in London and a resident artist at Somerset House. He previously chaired the AA Graduate School and was a Professor of Architecture at the Städel Schule in Frankfurt and a visiting Research Fellow at MIT’s Center for Advanced Visual Studies. He co-founded the experimental art, architecture, and design practice Minimaforms with Stephen Spyropoulos. The work of Minimaforms has been acquired by international art and architecture collections, including the FRAC Centre, the Signum Foundation, and the M+ Archigram Archive. His work has been exhibited at MOMA (NYC), the Barbican Centre, the Onassis Cultural Centre, Somerset House, the Detroit Institute of Arts, the Leonardo da Vinci Museum of Science and Technology, and the ICA. He has been published internationally and is the author of *Adaptive Ecologies: Correlated Systems of Living* (2013), *Enabling* (2010), and the forthcoming publications *Quantum* (2025) and *Elemental: Phenomena as Technology* (2025).



**Theodore Spyropoulos**

Architectural Association  
School of Architecture /  
Minimaforms

Jason Vigneri-Beane is an architect, industrial designer and Professor of Architecture at Pratt Institute where he has taught courses on design, media, technology, cyborg ecologies and speculating on near-future scenarios. He is a coordinator in core design for Undergraduate Architecture and a founding member of Pratt’s Augmented Environmental Sensing Program (a-ESP) where he leads design research on architectural compositing of physical componentry and environmental data visualization. Prior to that he was faculty in the Graduate Architecture and Urban Design department where he coordinated the MS ARCH post-professional degree program and taught a variety of courses including the MSARCH thesis research and design sequence, MARCH design studios and digital media courses, and the Graduate Architecture and Urban Design in Rome program. He is the Principal of Split Studio, a Brooklyn-based practice interested in multi-disciplinary design across scales, modes and media that include graphics, video, AI/AR, ecology, and technology.



**Jason Vigneri-Beane**

Pratt Institute / Split Studio



**Elena Manferdini**

Southern California Institute of Architecture / Atelier Manferdini

Elena Manferdini is an Italian architect and designer known for blending artistic creativity with technical innovation. Based in Venice, California, her firm Atelier Manferdini explores architecture, industrial design, and public art with vibrant color and cutting-edge technology. With over 20 years of experience, she has become a respected voice in global design. Elena’s work fosters deep connections to community and place, earning her prestigious honors like the 2016 PAN Award and the 2019 ICON Award, celebrating her impact on Los Angeles culture. Beyond practice, Elena is a passionate educator, currently serving as Graduate Programs Chair at SCI-Arc, and has taught at top institutions like UC Berkeley, UPenn and Cornell. In 2023, she became an external advisor for the Shanghai Institute of Visual Arts. In 2025, she received a Fulbright Specialist Award to the UAE, joining a distinguished group of Fulbright alumni shaping the world through leadership, innovation, and creative excellence.

Elvio Manganaro (1976), Ph.D. in Architectural Composition, is Associate Professor in Architectural and Urban design at the ABC Department of the Politecnico di Milano. His main research fields concern composition, investigated both in its theoretical and procedural structures and in the educational traditions, with a particular focus on the Italian geography of the schools of architecture. Recent publications include: *Durand incontra Balestrini a Venezia*, 2022; *Il libro delle immagini/The book of images*, 2020; *L’altra faccia della luna. Origini del neoliberty a Torino*, 2018; with A. Ronzino, *Corpo a corpo con un capo d’opera dell’architettura d’autore piemontese a mezzo dell’architettura d’autore piemontese/Hand-to-hand with a masterpiece of Piedmontese auteur architecture by means of Piedmontese auteur architecture*, 2018; *Warum Florenz? O delle ragioni dell’espressionismo di Michelucci, Ricci, Savioli e Dezzi Bardeschi*, 2016.



**Elvio Manganaro**

Politecnico di Milano, DABC



**Tommaso Brighenti**

Politecnico di Milano, DABC

Tommaso Brighenti, Architect, PhD, Researcher in Architectural and Urban Design at the Department of Architecture, Built Environment and Construction Engineering of the Politecnico di Milano, where he teaches architectural design and coordinates several Architectural Design Studios at the School of Architecture Urban Planning Construction Engineering. He is Editor-in-Chief of *FAMagazine*. *Ricerche e progetti sull’architettura e la città* and a member of the Editorial Board of *Stoa*. *Strumenti per l’insegnamento della progettazione architettonica*. He is author, co-author, and editor of several scientific publications in books and journals, including: *Pedagogie architettoniche. Scuole, didattica, progetto*, Accademia University Press, 2018; *Terremoti e strategie di ricostruzione. Il sisma in Centro Italia del 2016*, (with E. Bordogna), LetteraVentidue, 2022; *Il laboratorio di progettazione. Note per un progetto didattico*, (with J. Leveratto), Mimesis, 2024.

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