

# ARCHITECT AS CRITICAL MAKER

**GSAPP** COLUMBIA UNIVERSITY  
IN THE CITY OF NEW YORK

**PROSPECTUS 2014**

**ATELIER — P**

# ARCHITECT AS CRITICAL MAKER

The Paris Atelier is a five year research initiative co-founded by GSAPP & Asaf Gottesman that questions and challenges the boundaries that separate the work and standing of architects and artists. Over a period of 8 weeks, students will be introduced into the complex and opaque world of art and encouraged to develop critical faculties and their own artistic expression. The aim is to reintegrate and explore how architectural concepts and methodologies relate to both contemporary art and the creative process. Directed towards young professionals and students pursuing advanced degrees in architecture, the course begins with a series of lectures and debates that are offered by leading protagonists from within the art world and offer an intimate and profound insight into the world of contemporary art. Together with guest artist XXXX, Asaf Gottesman and Phillip Anzalone, who directs GSAPP's Laboratory for Applied Building Science, students will then be required to put aside such notions as "function," "briefs," and "client" and develop their own approach to creative processes, methods of realization and their public and cultural ramifications. The course will culminate in a public exhibition at the Palais de Tokyo in Paris which will be on view from the 10th of July until the beginning of September and will form one of several important exhibitions that are on show over the summer period.

The theme Architect as Critical Maker emerged out of a reevaluation of the relationship between architecture and art in light of globalization, continually advancing technologies and computational methodologies as well as, a need to challenge the often reductive assessment of architectural processes. Despite parallels in ambitions and methods of notation, art and architecture are differentiated in their markets and their role and value to society. As such, it is the goal of this program to challenge these perceived boundaries and introduce an alternative view of architecture as an artistic pursuit. The Paris Atelier engage in different conceptual topics each year, that are relevant to processes of making in art and architecture as well as, the particular pre-occupations of the chosen guest artist. For example, the relationship between digital and analog, or process versus object. Through a hands-on project, participants will develop skills in advanced digital and manual fabrication and production techniques, while simultaneously studying the agencies of exchange within the art world and their role in museums, galleries, web-based art, auction houses and other forums. Participants will be mentored by a visiting artist, selected for their innovative and provocative expertise in a given subject, and encouraged to develop an individual thesis. Supported by individual and group critiques, the workshop will be complemented with studies in contemporary architecture, art, design, and construction. Within this interdisciplinary approach, the study will also serve to bridge technical and business skills towards the same goal; to advance an understanding of how architectural techniques and creative processes can enable architects to navigate the art world. The workshop will culminate in a symposium and exhibition bringing participants together with guest lecturers and critics to engage in a discussion of work produced and its implications to the future of the profession. An annual publication will be created through Columbia University, contributing to a larger text at the conclusion of the five-year "Architect as Critical Maker" initiative.

# COORDINATING INSTITUTIONS

## Laboratory for Applied Building Science, Columbia University GSAPP

### Phillip Anzalone AIA, Director

Phillip Anzalone has developed and directed numerous workshops globally engaging the theories and practice of handcraft and computational production in object and spatialbased designs. His work can be seen at <http://www.arch.columbia.edu/labs/laboratoryapplied-building-science>

## Columbia University Global Center, Europe

### Paul LeCelrc, Director

Reid Hall, located in Paris, is part of a global network of centers established by Columbia University committed to research and teaching opportunities engaging across borders and disciplines. <http://globalcenters.columbia.edu/paris>

## Asaf Gottesman, co-founder

Asaf Gottesman has been a practicing architect for over 20 years and is the founding partner of the international practice Gottesman Szmelman Architecture. Constantly exploring the role of the architect within contemporary culture, Asaf recently published "The Architectural Condition" where among other topics, the notion of the architect-artist is explored. The work served as an impetus for the foundation of the Paris Atelier. Program and key features of the Atelier\_P's curriculum, particularly the lectures series and excursions are curated and coordinated by Asaf Gottesman. <http://www.gsarch.org>

## Saraceno Studio

### Ernesto Neto, Visiting Artist

Ernesto Neto began exhibiting in Scotland in 1988 and has had solo exhibitions abroad since 1995. He represented with Vik Muniz their country in 2001 Venice Biennale, his installations were featured in Brazil's national pavilion and in the international group exhibition at the Arsenale. One of his most acclaimed installation is at the Panthéon in Paris called Léviathan Thot. In 2009 Neto exhibited a new work at New York's Park Avenue Armory called anthropodino . Filling the 55,000-square-foot (5,100 m<sup>2</sup>) hall, the aim is to help the Armory reposition itself as a big-art destination like the Turbine Hall in London's Tate Modern. In 2010 he exhibited a popular display at London's Hayward Gallery called 'Edges of the World'. Neto has been awarded chevalier de L'Ordre des Arts et des Lettres.

## Palais de Tokyo, Paris

### President: Jean ???

Located at 13 avenue du Président-Wilson, in the 16th arrondissement of Paris, the eastern wing of the Palais de Tokyo belongs to the City of Paris and hosts the Museum of Modern Art of the City of Paris. Invited to install an exhibition in the sculptural space of the "Orbe New York" at Palais de Tokyo, students will work with a visiting artist to create a temporary installation that distorts and amplifies one's sense of self within the confines of the exhibition space. <http://www.palaisdetokyo.com/>



# CURRICULUM

A Certification of Professional Achievement in Applied Building Science from Columbia University will be awarded for the completion of twelve credits of graduate study over the intensive six-week summer program. The Certification emphasizes applied research and practice through a design project as well as professional workshops and interaction with experts in the field. In addition to mentorship under Visiting Artist Ernesto Neto and faculty, the Paris Atelier will be supported with a lecture series and workshops taught by international experts and industry partners in building and engineering, aerodynamics and memory allow materials, for example. Additionally, site visits with curators to the Centre Pompidou and established design brands and galleries relevant to this study will be made.

## Art and Architecture Lecture series

- The current overlap between Art and Architecture
- Modern to Contemporary Art and Architecture
- Installation design
- Art judging, branding, marketing, sales

## Skills Lab (computational, constructive and material)

- Computer Modeling
- Scripting, Simulation and Analysis
- Circuit design and assembly
- Sensors and Actuators
- Additive & Subtractive Fabrication Processes
- Methods on Design Process CAD/CAM/CAE
- High-performance Materials
- Fibers and Composites
- 3D Prototyping and Full-Scale Manufacturing
- Digital and Manual Fabrication Integration
- Installation and Exhibition Techniques
- Tension Weaving

## The Paris Atelier program will be structured with

- Regular one-on-one critiques
- Weekly group discussion
- Tutorials on digitally based design, production and analysis
- Lectures and discussions by recognized leaders in the fields of art and architecture
- Field trips to facilities, museums, projects, and other related sites in Paris and beyond
- A final exhibition, symposium, and publication of work.



# CURRICULUM

## INSTRUCTURE

### **Micha Laury**

**Independent Artist**

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### **Philippe Apeloig**

**Independent Graphic Designer and Artist**

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### **Olivier Antoine**

**Founder, Art: Concept**

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### **Remi Gerbeau**

**Galleriest, Jousse Enterprise**

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### **Ami Barak**

**Independent Curator**

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## CRITICS

### **Christine Macel**

**Curator in Chief, Musée National d'art Moderne,  
Centre Pompidou**

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### **Marc-Olivier Wahler**

**Director, Chalet Society**

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### **Daniel et Florence Guerlain**

**Independent Art Collector**

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### **Arik Levy**

**Tecno-poete, L Design**

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### **Marc Lenot**

**Bloggist, Lunettes Rouge**

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# CURRICULUM

## LECTURER

### Jocelyn Wolf

**Owner, Galerie Jocelyn Wolff**

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### Lionel Pissarro

**Art Dealer, Connery Pissarro Seydoux**

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### Donatien Grau

**Teaching Fellow, Université Paris-Sorbonne**

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### Alexander Bohrmann

**Director, Aeroix**

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### Philippe Regnier

**Editor, Le Quotidien de l'Art**

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### Milan Habovcik

**Aeroix**

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### Paul Chapman

**Independent Kite Expert**

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### Nathalie Cohen

**Independent Art Collector**

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### Tal Danai

**Founder & CEO, Art Link, Inc.**

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### Christophe Weisner

**Galleriest, Galerie Yvon Lambert**

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### Eva Albarran

**Eva Albarran & Co.**

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# CONTENT

## Applied Building Science Studio

- VISITING FACULTY: ERNESTO NETO

- 3 CREDITS

Central to the program, this studio will be a testing ground for prototypical design propositions through construction and developing design methodologies in which form is generated in response to building materials and urban conditions and phenomena present at a local site. Inspired by the potential to affect change in the way we experience reality and interaction, the work will investigate material and construction technologies in kites and light structures. Participants will develop unique propositions as a means to rethink its context within urban geography, biology, physical systems and the environment.

## Tools Sequence

- FACULTY: PHILLIP ANZALONE

- 3 CREDITS

This course will provide supporting resources for designing and fabricating smart systems through the use of advanced CAD, CAM and CAE technologies. Both material and tooling tolerances will be explored and challenged through a series of weekly rapid prototyping exercises focused on material properties, connections, performance and concepts of assembly. Precedent studies in construction and tectonic systems will be explored throughout the course to inform and inspire the development of each project.

## Methods Sequence

- FACULTY: PHILLIP ANZALONE

- 3 CREDITS

This course aims to cover a wide range of softwares and procedures current in the applied building sciences, to best understand the capacities of these technologies and ultimately, how they aid the design and making process.

The curriculum will start with an assumption of basic 3D CAD modeling and visualization knowledge, moving quickly to current progressive technologies for information gathering and management, fabrication tools and digital workflows.

The course will ultimately provide an understanding of how these software and building practices inform and shape their theoretical framework.

## Art & Architecture Lecture Series

- COORDINATED BY ASAFA GOTTESMAN

- 3 CREDITS

This course will offer an insight into the particular and opaque world of Art. The lecture series will include lectures and debates from the full spectrum of protagonists who produce, define, exhibit, market, sponsor, trade and collect contemporary art. Among the topics that will be addressed:

- What role do the public, academic, commercial and private sectors play in determining what is art?
- How do various artists come to terms or exploit the globalization and commercialization of art?
- What role is the fashion industry claiming within the contemporary art world and what are the possible consequences?
- How may architects view and present their particular skills and creativity within the world of art?

An additional aspect of the course will be the organized visits to important museums, monuments, foundations, galleries, collections and artists' studios. The aim is to further enhance students' understanding of how the art world functions and its consequences.

# RESOURCES

Studio space and supporting facilities at Reid Hall are centrally located near the Luxembourg Gardens in the heart of Paris. The building is open to students until 11pm daily and contains a 4,000 volume library, classrooms and lecture halls. Participants will have access to spaces and institutions through the Paris Atelier's extensive network and exposure to fabrication leaders and facilities throughout Europe. Other resources include laptops with required software, Buckylab mobile workshops. <http://buckylab.blogspot.com>

**Topics explored will be interwoven throughout the 6 week program to continuously inform and challenge studio work. A general structure of the curriculum is provided below.**

	Week	Studio with Tomas Saraceno	Seminar classes	Lecture series	Field
History/ Theory/ Concept	1	Introduction to concept and technologies/thesis development	Roundtables with experts in art and curation	Context and history to contemporary art	Centre Pompidou with curators  Galleries and Museums
Computation + Fabrication	2	Digital Design Production Micha Laury (Independent Artist)	Seminars and speakers in material/structural tech + workshops in computation and digital processes	Design implications of new technologies	Science museums and manufacturing workshops
	3	Digital Fabrication Production	Seminars and speakers in material/structural tech + workshops in computation and digital processes	Design implications of new technologies	Galleries Science museums and manufacturing workshops
Studio production	4	Development	Computational and Making Tutorials	Hands-on lectures	Production Trips
	5	Development	Computational and Making Tutorials	Hands-on lectures	Production Trips
	6	Production	Computational and Making Tutorials	Hands-on lectures	Production Trips



# FIELD TRIP

## Rue Ridder

A city sponsored artist studio community in the 14th arrondissement. The students will visit three artist studios.



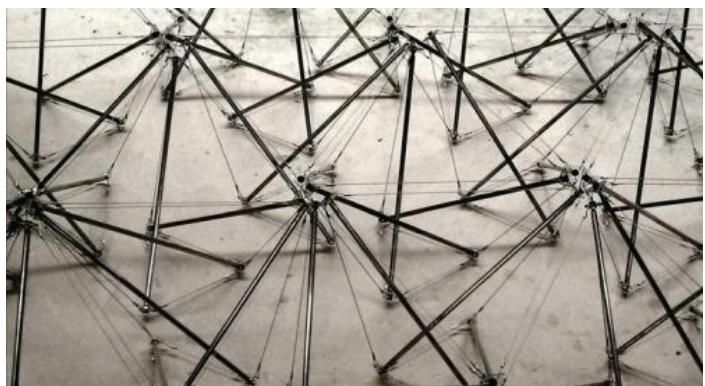
## Le Frigo

A squat community in the 13th. The students will visit three studios.



## Cite des art in the Marais

A city sponsored artist commune dedicated to visiting artists from abroad.



## Private collections:

TBD.



## **Application procedure**

<http://www.arch.columbia.edu/admissions>  
[admissionsrequirements/certificate-applied-buildingscience](http://www.arch.columbia.edu/admissionsrequirements/certificate-applied-buildingscience)

## **Contact information**

### **PHILLIP ANZALONE**

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Graduate School of Architecture, Planning  
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**Laboratory for Applied Building  
Science, Columbia University,  
Graduate School of Architecture,  
Planning and Preservation**

+

**Columbia Global Center Europe +  
Tomás Saraceno + Asaf Gottesman +  
Palais de Tokyo**