

At the turn of the experience.
Questioning what we build, sharing what we face.

CALL FOR PAPERS.

The international conference **AT THE TURN OF THE EXPERIENCE** is an initiative of the GERPHAU lab, research group for Philosophy, Architecture, Urban (Architecture School of Paris La Villette, UMR 7218 CNRS-Lavue), in partnership with Cité de l'Architecture et du Patrimoine and philAU (a scientific thematic network : Philosophy, Architecture, Urban). This conference is also supported by ARENA (Architectural Research in Europe Network Association), a shared platform that aims to promote, support, develop and disseminate high-quality research in all fields of architecture in the widest sense.

The proposal of the conference is to start with the hypothesis that the architecture could be conceive as a way of enquiring on this new experience of the world. Because it provides precisely access to the experience modalities of the building world, we argue that it could in return reveal such a processing paradigm shift in the making of human settlements. We invite to re-invest and re-question its representation apparatus that it used to deploy on territories in order to translate in fictions and projects what these ones could become. To discuss about these apparatus just as such these possible translations, the conference is addressed to all researchers and practitioners, architects and creators, the experienced ones and the experiencing ones as well, whose works attempt to question what we build and to share what we face.

The call for papers of *act II* is addressed to all researchers, teachers and practitioners whose work is – or has been – confronted to the question of what future for our architectural and philosophical disciplines, but also for urbanism, geography, sociology and others from ecological and environmental approaches. The objective of this first meeting is to co-construct an overview (“état des lieux”) of different challenges facing up to our practices.

The conference **AT THE TURN OF THE EXPERIENCE** that will take place on **11th and 12th March 2016** at the *Cité de l'Architecture et du Patrimoine*, Paris.

An abstract of your paper (3000 characters, including spaces) has to be sent before **4th January 2016** to colloqueGERPHAU@gmail.com

As far as we encourage innovative presentation frameworks, we highly recommend participants to add few lines to specify what kind of configuration their paper could imply. Selection of abstracts by the scientific committee will be announced in the end of January. In case your abstract has been selected, the coordination committee will keep you informed about the frame proposed for your paper.

The conference will be conducted in French and in English.



At the turn of the experience. *Questioning what we build, sharing what we face.*

Experience is not a straight line; always tormenting and trembling, already made of tosses and turns. But whence comes the intuition that this turning point deserves right now that we try to think about it? On which theoretical and practical elements may one understand architecture as taken in a new experience of the world? Is it because the term of experience appears today more troubled than ever, because it seems becoming shaky and slippery that has been built the urgent renewing of our speeches about it?

To acknowledge that *a new state of the world* is progressing, it is also important to arise the question of what is architecture, and what remains of it. It may look like in such a *state* the performance and all its superlatives lay down the law; it may seem that new experiences always appear more appealing and entertaining than what it has been given to everyone to live in terms of acts and facts. A “state” that forces to deal with a certain form of *metropolitan experience*. But how does the *mega* of metropolis discuss with the ordinary scales? From this rising awareness we attempt to initiate and refresh discourses on what could possibly be such an experience of a new being-in-world for the architecture. Our proposal is to investigate those changes – whether political, environmental or social –, forging a new world's state through the transformations and re-inventions of our practices. In the current urban condition, and at the so-called time “Anthropocene”, what are these new architectural and urban practices which simultaneously resist to and engage themselves with changes? From what experiences do they propose to re-found our practices? Through what kind of tricks can they lead the architecture to respond to its own power of being and acting?

To discuss these questions together, our proposition is to start with the hypothesis that the architecture could be conceived as a way of enquiring on this new experience of the world. Because it precisely provides access to the experience modalities of the building world, we argue that it could reveal such a processing paradigm shift in the making of human settlements. We invite to re-invest and re-question its representation *apparatus* that it used to deploy on territories in order to translate in fictions and projects what these ones could become. The conference presents an opportunity to reconsider these *apparatus* just as much as these possible translations. The call for papers is addressed to all researchers and practitioners, architects and creators, the experienced ones and the experiencing ones as well, whose works attempt to *question what we build* and to *share what we face*.

During the two days of the conference, we will get down to work with this double question that appears as urgent as unavoidable: considering architecture as a mode of enquiry and as a production of experiences, how can it then respond to the double task of representing and shaping to a new way of being in the world?

Architecture & Philosophy – conference II.

11th & 12th March 2016 – Cité de l'architecture et du Patrimoine – Paris.

We submit you this brief presentation text of a meeting **at the turn of the experience** without any philosophical or architectural references, without any historical perspectives or any specific anchorages in the current context. A writing choice that may seem “floating”, but it is precisely because we expect from you paper proposals able to give it some supports. Thus to exchange ideas around these questions we invite researchers and practitioners to explicitate *from* where this turn is taken in their own work field. It would be the only rule imposed to our debates: all speakers would begin their papers by pointing out *from* where they talk, *from* where their turn has been initiated. “*From* where” is here emphasized because it recalls an origin, a starting point, and not just a “where” implying a sort of assigned place. It is in charge to remind the matter “where it all began” but it is also and necessarily an invitation to overstep some disciplinary boundaries: to test and transgress limits between philosophy and architecture in order to re-invent our ways of thinking and acting with the world.

The present call for papers is set up by four potential *supports* or starting points; that is to say through four thematics, built in two double keywords:

– **practical** supports

for a turn of the experience shaped by actions and interactions; performed in the real to transform it. How the renewal of architectural, urban or landscape practices has it been stated in a particular work field? Practitioners are invited to speak about an architecture that is currently inventing – or has already been invented – as a mode of inquiry on these changing environments.

and **theoretical** supports

for a turn of the experience taken within abstract matters of thinking; taken in the world of ideas and led from some theoretical reflections. Between phenomenology and pragmatism, what kind of philosophical resurgences of the experience are we talking about? The question is to know how to cross these references and how to transform them in a common project; a project issued from the urgent renewal of our ways of thinking and acting.

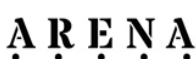
– **diachronic** reasoning

for a turn of the experience that may develop a certain continuity; a turn whose trajectory can be tracked through time and reshaped over the current of some historical events. We attempt here to underscore proposals considering that a turn can't be taken without stating at first questions of “where it comes from” and “where it comes to”.

and **synchronic** approaches

for a turn of the experience introduced from the contemporary aspect of some events or elements. It is about thinking and working about this turn but from what is happening with it, in the same time than it. To researchers and practitioners involved in the art of arrangement and settlement, we propose to discuss about the reinvention of their practices from facts (be they political, economic or scientific events) forcing a new understanding of the world.

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SCIENTIFIC COMMITTEE.

Guy AMSELLEM	head of the <i>Cité de l'Architecture et du Patrimoine</i> , Paris.
Manola ANTONIOLI	professor of philosophy, HDR, ENSA Paris La Villette, GERPHAU.
Nathalie BLANC	geographer, CNRS research director, UMR <i>Ladyss</i> 7533.
Xavier BONNAUD	architect, PhD in urbanism, professor of architecture at ENSAPL and at École Polytechnique of Paris, head of GERPHAU.
Stéphane BONZANI	architect, PhD in philosophy, professor at École Spéciale d'Architecture of Paris and Ecole d'Architecture de Clermont-Ferrand, researcher and co-head of GERPHAU.
Aglaée DEGROS	architect and co-founder of the office <i>Artgineering</i> , Rotterdam, professor of architecture at Academy of Fine Arts Vienna (Roland Rainer Chair).
Murray FRASER	professor of Architecture and Global Culture, The Bartlett School of Architecture, and head of ARENA, european architectural research network.
David MARCILLON	architect (MTA-architectes), assistant professor ENSA Clermont-Ferrand, head of network PhilAU.
Daniel PAYOT	philosopher, professor of philosophy at University of Marc Bloch, Strasbourg.
Thierry PAQUOT	philosopher, professor at the Urbanism Institute of Paris and at Paris-XII-Val-de-Marne, editor of "Esprit des villes".
David VANDERBURGH	architect, professor at the University of Leuven.
Pieter VERSTEEGH	architect, professor at Ecole d'ingénieurs et d'architectes of Fribourg.
Chris YOUNÈS	philosopher, ENSA Paris-La Villette and Ecole Spéciale d'Architecture of Paris, founder of GERPHAU and the International network philAU.

COORDINATION COMMITTEE.

Antoine BEGEL, Céline BODART, Xavier BONNAUD, Stéphane BONZANI, Emmanuelle ROBERTIES, Mathias ROLLOT, Chris YOUNÈS.

PARTNERS.

ARENA – *Architectural Research in Europe Network Association* –
Cité de l'Architecture et du Patrimoine
philAU – *scientific thematic network : Philosophy, Architecture, Urban* –
GERPHAU – *research group for Philosophy, Architecture, Urban* –

CONTACT.

colloqueGERPHAU@gmail.com

www.archiphilo.eu

