

KENNY R. CUPERS

Curriculum Vitae

Professor of Architectural History and Urban Studies
Head of Urban Studies
Faculty of the Humanities and Social Sciences, University of Basel
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ORCID: <https://orcid.org/0000-0003-0042-1959>

EMPLOYMENT

- 2021– Full Professor, Architectural History and Urban Studies
University of Basel
- 2015– Associate Professor, History and Theory of Architecture and Urbanism
University of Basel
- 2012–15 Assistant Professor of Architectural History
School of Architecture, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign
Art History Program, School of Art and Design (zero-time appointment)
- 2011–12 Visiting Assistant Professor of Architecture
School of Architecture & Planning, State University of New York at Buffalo
- 2010–11 Reyner Banham Fellow / Visiting Assistant Professor of Architecture
School of Architecture & Planning, State University of New York at Buffalo

EDUCATION

- 2010 Ph.D., Harvard University
Interfaculty Program on Architecture, Landscape Architecture, and Urban Planning
Graduate School of Arts and Sciences / Graduate School of Design
Major Field Exam: Architectural and Urban History, 1750 to the present
Minor Field Exam: Urban Anthropology (with Prof. Ted Bestor, Department of Anthropology)
Dissertation: “Concerning the User: The Experiment of Modern Urbanism in Postwar France, 1955-1975”
Supervisors: Antoine Picon, Eve Blau, Margaret Crawford, Jean-Louis Cohen (reader)
- 2006 A.M., Harvard University
Interfaculty Program on Architecture, Landscape Architecture, and Urban Planning
Graduate School of Arts and Sciences / Graduate School of Design
- 2004 M.A., Goldsmiths College, University of London
Photography and Urban Cultures
Department of Sociology
- 2001 M.Sc., University of Leuven, *cum laude*
Architecture / Civil Engineering
Department of Architecture, Urbanism, and Planning
- 1998 B.Sc., University of Leuven, *cum laude*
Architecture / Civil Engineering
Department of Architecture, Urbanism, and Planning

PUBLICATIONS

AUTHORED BOOKS

- 2024 Cupers, Kenny. *The Earth That Modernism Built: Empire and the Rise of Planetary Design* (Austin: Texas University Press, forthcoming September 2024)
- 2018 Cupers, Kenny. *La banlieue, un projet social: Ambitions d'une politique urbaine, 1945-1975* (Marseille: Parenthèses)
French translation of *The Social Project: Housing Postwar France*
- 2014 Cupers, Kenny. *The Social Project: Housing Postwar France* (Minneapolis: University of Minnesota Press)
Substantive reworking of Ph.D. dissertation
Recipient of the following prizes and awards: Spiro Kostof Book Award by the Society of Architectural Historians; International Planning History Society Book Prize for European Planning History; Abbott Lowell Cummings Prize by the Vernacular Architecture Forum; Honorable Mention, Wylie Prize in French Studies
Reviewed in: *Planning Perspectives*; *The International Journal of Urban and Regional Research*; *French Culture, Politics & Society*; *The French Review*; *Buildings & Landscapes*; *The Town Planning Review*; *Contemporary French Civilization*; *Culture Machine*; *Journal of the Society of Architectural Historians*
- 2002 Cupers, Kenny & Markus Miessen. *Spaces of Uncertainty* (Wuppertal: Müller+Busmann)

EDITED VOLUMES & SPECIAL ISSUES

- 2024 Cupers, Kenny & Ernest Sewordor, eds. "How Urban Africa Challenges the Coloniality of Infrastructure" (Special Issue forthcoming in: *Environment and Planning D: Society and Space*)
- 2022 Cupers, Kenny, Sophie Oldfield, Manuel Herz, Laura Nkula, Emilio Distretti & Myriam Perret, eds. *What is Critical Urbanism? Urban Research as Pedagogy* (Zürich: Park Books)
- 2021 Cupers, Kenny, Nick Axel & Nikolaus Hirsch, eds. *Coloniality of Infrastructure*, E-Flux Architecture Series (online)
- 2020 Cupers, Kenny, Catharina Gabrielsson & Helena Mattsson, eds. *Neoliberalism on the Ground: Architecture and Transformation from the 1960s to the Present* (Pittsburgh: University of Pittsburgh Press)
Recipient of a Graham Foundation for Advanced Studies in the Fine Arts publication grant
- 2018 Cupers, Kenny & Markus Miessen, eds. *Spaces of Uncertainty: Berlin Revisited* (Basel: Birkhäuser)
- 2013 Cupers, Kenny, ed. *Use Matters: An Alternative History of Architecture* (London: Routledge)
Reviewed in: *Journal of Architectural Education*; *Journal of the Society of Architectural Historians*
- 2009 Cupers, Kenny & Isabelle Doucet, eds. "Agency in Architecture: Reframing Criticality in Theory and Practice," special issue, *Footprint Journal* 4

PEER-REVIEWED JOURNAL ARTICLES

- 2024 Larsen, Maren, Alke Jenss, Benjamin Schütze & Kenny Cupers. "Elsewheres of the Unbuilt: The Urban(izing) Effects of Transnational Energy Infrastructures" *International Journal for Urban and Regional Research* (forthcoming 2024)
- 2024 Cupers, Kenny. "[Anticipation by Redress: Transforming African Mega-Infrastructure Futures](#)," *Environment and Planning D: Society and Space* (2024): 0-00
- 2024 Ali, Nura, Margerita Garfias, Kenny Cupers, George Arabbu Ndege, Jack Campbell-Clause & Jhono Bennett. "[How can Africa's urban majority reframe sustainability agendas?](#)" *Environment & Urbanization* 36, 1 (2024): 13-32

- 2023 Cupers, Kenny, Cole Roskam & Girma Hundessa. "Architecture as Technical Governance at the African Union," *Architectural Theory Review*, 27 (2023): 103-135
- 2021 Cupers, Kenny. "On the Coloniality of Architectural Modernism in Germany," *Kritische Berichte - Zeitschrift für Kunst- und Kulturwissenschaften* 49, 2 (2021): 39-46
- 2020 Cupers, Kenny. "Gardening as Geopolitics," *Journal of Landscape Architecture* 14, 3 (2020): 46-51
- 2020 Cupers, Kenny & Prita Meier. "Infrastructure Between Statehood and Selfhood: The Trans-Africa Highway," *Journal of the Society of Architectural Historians*, 79, 1 (2020): 61-81
- 2018 Hochhäusl, Sophie, Torsten Lange, Ross Exo Adams, Daniel Barber, Alex Bierig, Kenny Cupers, Isabelle Doucet, Jennifer Ferng, Sabine von Fischer, Kim Förster, Mars Krivy, Andres Kurg, Ayala Levin, Ginger Nolan, Alla Vronskaya. "Architecture and the Environment," *Architectural Histories* 6, 1 (2018): 1-13
- 2017 Cupers, Kenny. "Human Territoriality and the Downfall of Public Housing," *Public Culture* 29, 1 (2017): 169-190
- 2016 Cupers, Kenny. "Bodenständigkeit: The Environmental Epistemology of Modernism," *Journal of Architecture*, 21, 8 (2016): 1226-1252
- 2016 Cupers, Kenny. "Géographie volontaire and the Territorial Logic of Architecture," *Architectural Histories* 4, 1 (2016): 1-13 (winner of the EAHN Publication Award 2016-2017)
- 2016 Cupers, Kenny. "Mapping and Making Community in the Postwar European City," *Journal of Urban History* 42, 6 (2016): 1-20
- 2015 Cupers, Kenny. "The Cultural Center: Architecture as Cultural Policy in Postwar Europe," *Journal of the Society of Architectural Historians* 74, 4 (2015): 464-484
- 2011 Cupers, Kenny. "The Expertise of Participation: Mass Housing and Urban Planning in Postwar France," *Planning Perspectives* 26, 1 (2011): 29-53
- 2010 Cupers, Kenny. "Designing Social Life: The Urbanism of the Grands Ensembles," *Positions* 1 (2010): 94-121
- 2008 Cupers, Kenny. "Governing through Nature: Camps and Youth Movements in Interwar Germany and the United States," *Cultural Geographies* 15, 2 (2008): 173-205
- 2005 Cupers, Kenny. "Towards a Nomadic Geography: Rethinking Space and Identity for the Potentials of Progressive Politics in the Contemporary City," *International Journal of Urban and Regional Research* 29, 4 (2005): 729-739

BOOK CHAPTERS

- 20— Cupers, Kenny, Nidhi Mahajan & Prita Meier. "Port Against Archipelago: Corridor Ghosts in Lamu, Kenya" in: *Ports in the Middle East and East Africa*, edited by Jutta Bakonyi and May Darwich (forthcoming)
- 2025 Cupers, Kenny & Ernest Sewordor. "European Urbanism from Africa: Exploring Research Directions" *Cambridge Urban History of Europe, Volume 3: Modern Europe from c. 1850*, edited by Dorothee Brantz and Gábor Sonkoly (Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, forthcoming 2025)
- 2025 Cupers, Kenny & Makau Kitata. "Kamĩĩĩthũ: An Architecture for Decolonization" *Decolonization and the Built Environment*, edited by Karina Landman, Kundani Makakavhule, and Eric Nay (New York: Routledge, forthcoming 2025)
- 2024 Cupers, Kenny & Makau Kitata. "Situating Ngũgĩ wa Thiong'o's Theatre and its Afterlives" *Routledge Handbook of Architecture, Urban Space and Politics*, edited by Nikolina Bobic and Farzaneh Haghighi (London: Routledge, forthcoming 2024)
- 2020 Cupers, Kenny. "The Global Age of Housing," in *A Cultural History of the Home in the Modern Age*, edited by Despina Stratigakos (London: Bloomsbury, 2020): 63-89
- 2020 Cupers, Kenny. "The Invention of Indigenous Architecture," in *Race and Modern Architecture*, edited by Irene Cheng, Mabel Wilson, and Charles Davis (Pittsburgh: University of Pittsburgh Press): 187-202

- 2019 Cupers, Kenny. "Where is the Social Project?" in *Critical Approaches to Contemporary Architecture*, edited by Swati Chattopadhyay and Jeremy White (London: Routledge Companion, 2019): 387-392. [Based on: Cupers (2014), "Where Is the Social Project?" *Journal of Architectural Education* 68, 1]
- 2018 Cupers, Kenny. "The Power of Association: Le Corbusier and the *banlieues*," in *Terms of Appropriation: Modern Architecture and Global Exchange*, edited by Ana Miljacki and Amanda Reeser Lawrence (London: Routledge): 50-72
- 2018 Cupers, Kenny, with Laura Martínez de Guereñu. "Modernism as Accommodation," in *Big Breuer: Modern Architecture for Postwar Institutions*, edited by Barry Bergdoll and Jonathan Massey (Baden, Switzerland: Lars Müller): 272-291
- 2017 Cupers, Kenny & Igor Demchenko. "Projective Geographies Between East and West," in *East West Central: Re-Building Europe 1950–1990*, edited by Akos Moravanszky and Karl Kegler (Zurich: Gta Publications): 135-151
- 2017 Cupers, Kenny. "Shopping à l'américaine," in *Shopping Town Europe*, edited by Tom Avermaete and Janina Gosseye (London: Bloomsbury): 25-37
- 2016 Cupers, Kenny. "The Infrastructure of Participation: Cultural Centers in Postwar Europe," in *Participation in Art and Architecture: Spaces of Interaction and Occupation*, edited by Martino Stierli and Mechtild Widrich (London: I.B. Tauris): 13-39
- 2015 Cupers, Kenny. "The Urbanism of Los Angeles Street Vending," in *Street Vending in the Neoliberal City: A Global Perspective on the Practices and Policies of a Marginalized Economy*, edited by Kristina Graaff and Noa Ha (New York: Berghahn Books): 139-163
- 2012 Cupers, Kenny. "Making Camp: Landscape and Community in the Interwar German Youth Movements," in *Making a New World: Architecture and Communities in Interwar Europe*, edited by Tom Avermaete and Rajesh Heynicks (Leuven: Leuven University Press): 115-125
- 2012 Cupers, Kenny. "Promises of a Free Space," in *Vlaamse Bouwmeester Cahier 3* (Belgium): 92-111

WORKING PAPERS

- 2021 Bilgin Ayata, Kenny Cupers, Chiara Pagano, Artemis Fyssa & Alaa Dia. *The Implementation of the EU Hotspot Approach in Greece and Italy: A Comparative and Interdisciplinary Analysis*, Working Paper submitted to the Swiss Network for International Studies (Research Project C18079: "Infrastructure Space and the Future of Migration Management: The EU Hotspots in the Mediterranean Borderscape")

NON-PEER-REVIEWED ARTICLES AND ESSAYS

- 2024 Cupers, Kenny. "Infrastructural Inheritance" *New Geographies*, 13 "Corridors" (forthcoming 2024)
- 2023 Cupers, Kenny. "German Colonial Building Cultures within Europe? Ansiedlungsbauten in West Prussia (1904)" in: *Deutsch-koloniale Baukulturen: Eine globale Architekturgeschichte in 100 visuellen Primärquellen*, edited by Michael Falser (Munich: Dietmar Klinger Verlag, 2023): 170-173
- 2023 Cupers, Kenny & Makau Kitata. "Kamĩĩĩthũ Afterlives: A Progress Report" in: *JAHAZI: A Journal on Culture Arts and Performance* 2, 1 "Perspectives on Theatre Practice in Kenya" (2023): 78-85
- 2023 Sabelo Ndlovu-Gatsheni & Kenny Cupers. "Architectural Expertise and the Coloniality of Knowledge – Sabelo Ndlovu-Gatsheni in Conversation with Kenny Cupers" *ABE Architecture Beyond Europe Journal* 21 (2023): 1-20
- 2022 Cupers, Kenny. "Is there an Environmental Modernism?" In: Lili Carr, ed. *Vegetation under Power. Heat! Breath! Growth!* (Leipzig: Spector books, 2022): 82

- 2022 Cupers, Kenny. "On the Coloniality of Infrastructure" in: Kenny Cupers, Sophie Oldfield, Manuel Herz, Laura Nkula, Emilio Distretti, & Myriam Perret, eds. *What is Critical Urbanism? Urban Research as Pedagogy* (Zürich: Park Books, 2022): 118-124
- 2021 Cupers, Kenny. "Editorial," *Coloniality of Infrastructure* (E-Flux Architecture Series, online, September)
- 2020 Cupers, Kenny. "Die Gespenster Eurafrikas" *ARCH+* (July): 24-35
- 2020 Cupers, Kenny. "Contagion and Containment: Curtailing the Freedom of Movement in Times of Coronavirus" *Eurozine* (online publication on 13 April 2020)
- 2020 Cupers, Kenny, Sophie Oldfield, Manuel Herz, Laura Nkula-Wenz & Emilio Distretti. "Urban Studies at the University of Basel" *GeoAgenda*, 1 (2020): 15-17
- 2017 Cupers, Kenny & Charles Rice. "Éric Rohmer in Cergy-Pontoise," *AA Files*, 74 (2017): 112-122
- 2015 Cupers, Kenny. "Why We Like to Blame Buildings," *Oxford University Press Blog* (online)
- 2014 Cupers, Kenny. "The Complex Legacy of Public Housing in Postwar France," *Places: Design Observer* (online) (article extracted from *The Social Project: Housing Postwar France*)
- 2014 Cupers, Kenny. "The Studio and the City: Notes on Architectural Pedagogy," in *(IN)formal L.A.: The Space of Politics*, edited by Victor Jones (New York: Evolo, 2014): 80-84
- 2014 Cupers, Kenny. "Where Is the Social Project?" *Journal of Architectural Education* 68, 1 (2014): 6-8
- 2013 Cupers, Kenny. "Paris: Life Forms," *Places: Design Observer* (online)
- 2012 Cupers, Kenny & Markus Miessen. "Participation and/or Criticality," *Thresholds* 40 (2012): 105-112
- 2003 Cupers, Kenny. "Braakland," *A+* (Belgium), no. 182

REVIEWS

- 2022 Cupers, Kenny. "Review of: Anders Ese & Kristin Ese, The City Makers of Nairobi: An African Urban History" *Journal of the Society of Architectural Historians* 81, 1 (2022): 114-115
- 2005 Cupers, Kenny. "Conference Report: The Rise of Heterotopia," *European Association for Architectural Education News Sheet*

WEB-BASED PUBLICATIONS

- 2024 Cupers, Kenny & Makau Kitata. *Kamĩrĩthũ Afterlives* (kamiriithuafterlives.net), An online archive and heritage preservation project for the Kamĩrĩthũ community theatre in 1970s Kenya and its relevance for African decolonization
Recipient of a Graham Foundation for Advanced Studies in the Fine Arts publication grant, together with Chao Tayiana Maina.
- 2023 MA in Critical Urbanisms Students & Kenny Cupers. *Swiss Corporate Coloniality* (corporatecoloniality.net), An online archive of Critical Urbanisms students' research on Nestlé.
- 2023 MA in Critical Urbanisms Students & Kenny Cupers. *Lamu Futures* (lamufutures.net), a collaborative research project about ecologies of belonging, in partnership with the Lamu Youth Alliance (Kenya)

P R E S E N T A T I O N S

KEYNOTE LECTURES

- 2022 "Designing Mobility in the Postcolony," Keynote lecture at: Roads to Peace? Infrastructures, Peace, and Conflict, 2022 Annual Conference of the German Association for Historical Peace and Conflict Research, 14-15 June

- 2022 “Infrastructural Legacies, Borderland Transformations,” Keynote lecture at: The Architecture of Borderlands, SAHGB (Society of Architectural Historians of Great Britain) Conference, 16-20 May
- 2021 (with Prita Meier and Zandi Sherman) “Coloniality of Infrastructure,” Keynote lecture at: Material Assemblages: Toward a New History of Infrastructure, Herrenhausen Symposium, Hanover (online), 15-17 December
- 2021 “Infrastructural Modernism / Colonial Refractions,” Keynote lecture at: Challenging Infrastructure Modernism, Bauhaus Dessau, 17-18 June
- 2018 “Designs on Land: An Entangled History of German Empire-Building,” Keynote lecture at: Shifting Landscapes and the Politics of Place, Södertörn University, 15-16 November
- 2018 “The Earth that Modernism Built,” Keynote lecture at: From Building to Continent: How Architecture Makes Territories, University of Kent, 28-29 June
- 2018 “The Earth that Modernism Built,” Keynote lecture at: Beyond Change: Questioning the role of design in times of global transformation, Second SDN Design Research Winter Summit, FNHW Academy of Art and Design, Basel, 8-9 March
- 2016 “Human Territoriality and the Downfall of Public Housing,” Keynote lecture at: The Architecture of Deregulations: Postmodernism, Politics, and the Built Environment in Europe 1975–1995 conference, KTH, 10-12 March

OTHER LECTURES

- 2023 “Anticipation by Redress: Transforming African Mega-Infrastructure Futures” Zentrum für kulturwissenschaftliche Forschung (ZKF), Universität Konstanz, 31 May
- 2023 (with Makau Kitata) “Theatre as Decolonization: Ngugi’s *Kamĩrĩthũ* and its afterlives” at the Department of Literature, University of Nairobi, 24 March
- 2023 “Critical Urbanisms,” Owing up to the Urban, Lecture Series University of Michigan & University of Virginia, 22 February
- 2022 (with Ernest Sewordor) “The Coloniality of Infrastructure,” Global Urban History Project Theory Conversation, 15 December
- 2022 “Transforming Infrastructure’s Inherited Futures,” lecture at: The Design Turn: Rehearsing Futures, Berlin, 23-24 June
- 2022 “Architecture and the Afterlives of Environmental Determinism,” lecture at: Nouvelles Histoires, Cycle de conférences, École d’architecture de la ville et des territoires, Paris-Est, 5 April
- 2021 “Coloniality of Infrastructure: Methodological Questions,” lecture at: Postgraduate Program “Global Modernism Studies,” Bauhaus Dessau, 22 September
- 2020 “La banlieue comme projet,” lecture at École nationale supérieure d’architecture de Lyon, 10 December (online)
- 2020 “Infrastructural Inheritance in the Colonial Moment” Part of Seminar “The Global Architect,” Politecnico di Milano, 7 October (online)
- 2020 “Infrastructural Inheritance and Transnational Mobility in an East African Corridor,” Part of lecture series “Transitions politiques et sociales contemporaines en Afrique et en Asie,” University of Pavia, 23 September (online)
- 2020 “Infrastructural Inheritance and the Futurity of an East African Corridor” E-workshop: Contested Connections: Infrastructures, Capitalism and Geopolitics (European Workshops in International Studies EWIS), 7 July (online)
- 2019 “The Earth as Design,” Environmental Humanities Lecture Series, Free University of Amsterdam, 15 April
- 2019 “Architecture and Biopolitics, For Better or Worse,” Kunsthistorisches Seminar, University of Hamburg, 29 January
- 2018 “Die Erde des Modernismus,” Lange Nacht der Museen, Tieranatomisches Theater, Berlin, 25 August

- 2017 Inaugural Lecture at the University of Basel
- 2017 “The Earth that Modernism Built,” Lecture at ETH Zürich, Professur Wissenschaftsforschung (Michael Hagner)
- 2017 “The Rise and Fall of Mass Housing” at VI PER Gallery, Prague
- 2016 “Projective Geographies,” Politecnico di Milano
- 2016 “The Architecture of German Colonization in Namibia and Poland, 1886–1919,” Research Group “Global Processes,” Chair Prof. Jürgen Osterhammel, Konstanz University
- 2016 “Le Corbusier and the Banlieues,” University of Basel, eikones
- 2016 “Project Growth: Territory, Geopolitics, Architecture,” ETH Zürich, Architecture Department
- 2016 “Modernism, Environment, Epistemology,” Harvard University, GSD Ph.D. Talks
- 2015 “Architecture as *Kulturarbeit*: Colonization in Germany and Namibia,” University of Basel, Centre for African Studies
- 2014 “Human Territoriality and the Downfall of Public Housing,” Baden-Württemberg Seminar, Heidelberg Center for American Studies
- 2012 “The Social Project of Architecture,” Main Lecture Series, University of Michigan, Taubman College of Architecture and Urban Planning
- 2012 “The Social Project of Architecture,” Theoriesalon, Vienna
- 2011 “Architecture and Social Science in Postwar France,” Main Lecture Series, at State University of New York at Buffalo School of Architecture and Planning
- 2011 “Architecture and Social Science in Postwar France,” University of Toronto Faculty of Architecture, Landscape and Design
- 2010 “Architecture and Everyday Life,” IE School of Architecture & Design, Spain
- 2003 “Spaces of Uncertainty,” Transformers / Urban Drift Colloquium, Berlin
- 2003 “Spaces of Uncertainty,” University of Leuven

INVITED SYMPOSIUM PRESENTATIONS (PEER- AND NON-PEER-REVIEWED)

- 2023 “Decolonizing Urban Studies by Pedagogical Experimentation” at the symposium: Decolonial Imaginaries in Literary and Urban Studies, University of Basel, Basel, 9-10 November
- 2022 “Kulturtechniken and the Colonial Difference” at the Ringvorlesung Kulturtechniken, University of Basel, Base, 30 November
- 2021 “Environmental Determinism / Environmental Determination,” at the symposium: Exploring the Effects of Architecture, LOEWE Research Cluster: Architectures of Order, Frankfurt am Main, 2 November
- 2021 “Gołeczewo/Golenhofen and the arts and technics of internal colonialism,” at the symposium: Architecture as an Exhibit: Museum Presentations in Transnational Entanglement, Leibniz Institute for the History and Culture of Eastern Europe, 28-29 October
- 2021 “Arts of Rooting Life in Land,” at the symposium: Art and Environment in the Third Reich, Department of Art History, Yale University, 23 April
- 2019 “Colonial Traditions at the EU Border,” at the symposium: Sicherheitspolitik anders denken: Interdisziplinarität und Wissenstransfer in der Sicherheitspolitik, Universität Zürich, 21 November
- 2018 “Entangled Ruralisms,” at the conference: Entangled Urbanisms, Northwestern University, 17-18 May
- 2018 “Making Homelands,” at the symposium: Conceptualizing the Entangled City: Spaces, Connections, and Materialities, Department of History, University of Basel, 4 April
- 2017 “Beyond Transfer: Questions for a Paradigm in Architectural History,” Export of Architecture in the Cold War Period: Projects, Actors, and Cultural Transfers, Leibniz Institute for Research on Society and Space, Erkner
- 2017 “Housing Postwar France,” A Right to the City, A Right to Housing, Het Nieuwe Instituut, Rotterdam
- 2016 “Projective Geographies,” History of Urban Design Colloquium, ETH Zurich

- 2016 “Housing Postwar France,” Tower, Slab, Superblock: Social Housing Legacies and Futures, Architectural League of New York
- 2016 “Heimatstil Architecture between Namibia and Eastern Prussia,” Picturesque Modernities: Architectural Regionalism as a Global Process, German Center for Art History, Paris
- 2016 “Planetary Ruralization,” Center for Excellence in Arts and Humanities International Symposium “What Is the Urban,” Iowa State University
- 2016 “Indigeneity as Architectural Invention,” Race and Modern Architecture Workshop, Columbia University
- 2015 “La géographie volontaire de Paris,” Inventer le Grand Paris: Cross-perspectives on Metropolitan Areas from the 1940s to the Late 1960s, Petit Palais, Paris
- 2015 “The Architecture of Cultural Policy in Postwar Europe,” Second World Urbanity: Between Capitalist and Communist Utopias, Conference 3: Living Cities of the Second World, European University at Saint-Petersburg
- 2015 “Human Territoriality and the Downfall of Public Housing,” The Housing Question, University of San Diego
- 2014 “*Géographie volontaire* and the Territorial Logic of Architecture,” East West Central 02, ETH Zurich
- 2014 “Colonial Territoriality and its Aftermath: From Windhoek to Weimar,” The First World War as Caesura? Continuities and Ruptures in German Architecture, University of Kassel (absent)
- 2013 “The Autonomy of Use: Users and Consumers of Architecture,” A Strange Utility: Architecture towards Other Ends, Portland State University School of Architecture
- 2013 “From the Past into the Future: The Neighborhood Unit in Europe, 1930s–1950s,” (Re)constructing Communities in Europe 1918–1968, Radboud University Nijmegen
- 2011 “The House of Participation: Modern Cultural Centers in Western Europe,” Whose Participation? Spaces of Interaction in Contemporary Art and Architecture, ETH Zurich
- 2010 “Cities in Search of the User,” Annual Conference of the International New Town Institute, Almere, The Netherlands
- 2010 “The Urbanism of Los Angeles Street Vending,” Contesting the Streets, University of California, Los Angeles
- 2009 “Grands Ensembles, Villes Nouvelles, and the Changing Welfare State in France, 1955–1975,” France Now and Then, University of Chicago Paris Center
- 2009 Co-author (with Isabelle Doucet), “Agency in Architecture,” Buildings: Technologies or Interactions? Exploring the Intersections between Architectural Theory and the Social Sciences, Bielefeld Center for Interdisciplinary Research
- 2006 “Governing through Nature: National Youth Movements on Camp, 1900–1940,” Making a New World? Re-forming/Designing Modern Communities in Interwar Europe, University of Leuven

CONFERENCE PAPERS (PEER-REVIEWED SUBMISSION UNLESS MENTIONED)

- 2023 Co-author (with Nidhi Mahajan and Prita Meier), “Port Against Archipelago: Corridor Ghosts in Lamu, Kenya” at Author Workshop: Ports in the Middle East and East Africa, organized by Jutta Bakonyi and May Darwich, University of Birmingham, Birmingham, 5-6 December (no peer reviewed submission)
- 2023 “Infrastructure as African Worldmaking” at the conference “Africa Multiple: Reconfiguring African Studies,” Bayreuth University, Bayreuth, 11-14 October
- 2022 (with Makau Kitata) “Theatre as Legacy of Villagization” at the II. International Congress Colonial and Postcolonial Landscapes: “Architecture, Colonialism, War,” Lisbon, 18-20 January
- 2022 (with Girma Hundessa and Cole Roskam) “Architecture as Governance at the African Union” at the European Architectural History Network Conference, Madrid, 15-18 June

- 2019 (with Prita Meier) “Infrastructure between Statehood and Selfhood: The Trans-African Highway” at the Society of Architectural Historians Annual Conference, Providence, 24-27 April
- 2018 “Infrastructure of Pan-Africanism: The Trans-African Highway” at the European Architectural History Network Conference, Tallinn, 14-16 June
- 2018 “*Lebensraum* from Geopolitics to Architecture” at the Society of Architectural Historians Annual Conference, Saint-Paul, 19-21 April
- 2018 Co-author (with Prita Meier) “The Nairobi-Mombasa Highway: Architectures of Mobility,” African Centre for Cities Urban Conference, Cape Town, 1-2 February [non peer reviewed]
- 2015 “Soil and Settlement: The Environmental Epistemology of Modernism,” Society of Architectural Historians 68th Annual Conference
- 2014 “Shopping à l’américaine in the French New Towns,” European Architectural History Network Conference, Third International Meeting
- 2014 “Prefab Modernities: Mass Housing in Cold War Film,” College Art Association 102nd Annual Conference
- 2014 “Géographie Volontaire: The Territorial Logic of French Modernization, 1940–75,” Society of French Historical Studies 60th Annual Meeting
- 2013 “Environment, Behavior, and the Downfall of Public Housing,” Society for American Regional and City Planning History 15th National Conference
- 2012 “The Social Science of Design: Ultimate Projects of the *trente glorieuses*,” Society for French Historical Studies 58th Annual Meeting
- 2010 “Remaking the City in the Suburbs, 1965–1975,” Urban History Association 5th Biennial Conference
- 2009 “French New Towns: Planning in between Citizenship and Consumerism,” Society for American Regional and City Planning History 13th National Conference
- 2009 “Grands Ensembles, Villes Nouvelles, and the Changing Welfare State in France, 1955–1975,” Society of Architectural Historians 62nd Annual Conference
- 2008 “Modern Urbanism, the State and the User in Postwar France,” Urban History Association 4th Biennial Conference
- 2008 “Participation and Expertise in Postwar French Urbanism,” 9th European Association for Urban History Conference
- 2007 “Tactics of Mobility: The Spatial Politics of Street Vending in Los Angeles,” Annual Meeting of the Association of American Geographers
- 2006 “The Urbanism of Los Angeles Street Vending,” Urbanism & Urbanization, Venice University

CHAired CONFERENCE SESSIONS

- 2022 Panel chair, “State Planners and the Market,” at the Society for American Regional and City Planning History 19th National Conference, 20-22 October
- 2022 Convenor of Session, “How Africa’s marginalised urban majority reframes the sustainability agenda” at the African Infrastructural Futures Conference, African Center for Cities, University of Cape Town, 21 November
- 2018 Convenor of Session (with Prita Meier), “Road Signs: Towards a Cultural History of Africa’s Road Infrastructure,” African Centre for Cities Urban Conference, Cape Town, 1-2 February
- 2017 Convenor of Roundtable, “Architecture, Modernization, and the City in Africa,” 7th European Conference of African Studies, Basel
- 2016 Co-chair (with Helena Mattsson), “Architecture and the Neoliberal Turn,” European Architectural History Network Conference, 4th International Meeting
- 2015 Chair, “Can Architects Be Socially Responsible?” Society for American Regional and City Planning History 16th National Conference
- 2015 Chair, “Where Is the Theory in Planning History?” Society for American Regional and City Planning History 16th National Conference

- 2014 Co-chair (with Alison Fisher), “Beyond Slab and Subdivision: Housing Alternatives after 1945,” Society of Architectural Historians 67th Annual Conference
- 2013 Co-chair (with Curt Gambetta), “The Circulation of Architecture,” Society of Architectural Historians 66th Annual Conference
- 2013 Co-chair (with Matthew Lasner), “Pedagogy Roundtable: Teaching the Built Environment Outside the Professional Box,” at the Society for American Regional and City Planning History 15th National Conference

PANEL MODERATION, WORKSHOPS, AND OTHER

- 2023 Mentor and Lecturer for the Fellowship program “Monumental Affairs,” led by Germane Barnes, DieDAS Design Academy, Saaleck, 19-20 August 2023
- 2023 Presenter/panelist at: The GoDown Arts Centre's 7th URBAN Dialogue: “The Spirit of Kamĩrĩthũ.” At: UTA-Do African Cities Workshop, Nairobi, 21 April
- 2023 (co-organized with Carl Nightingale and Wangui Kimari) “GUHP Meets UTA-Do: A Roundtable on Global Urban History and Southern Urbanism,” 31 March
- 2022 “Kamĩrĩthũ,” Rough Cut Screening of Documentary (co-directed with Makau Kitata), as part of Uta-Do African Cities Workshop, Nairobi, 23-27 May
- 2022 “Kamĩrĩthũ,” Rough Cut Screening of Documentary (co-directed with Makau Kitata), Kamĩrĩthũ Village Polytechnic, Limuru (Kenya), 20 May
- 2022 Workshop Facilitator, Architectural Histories Editorial Workshop for Emerging Scholars, European Architectural History Network conference, Madrid, 15-18 June
- 2021 Panel Moderator, Histories of Urban Design: Global Trajectories and Local Realities, ETH Zurich, 15-17 November
- 2021 Respondent to keynote lecture by Sabelo J. Ndlovu-Gatsheni, at conference: Architectural Training and Research in the Foreign Aid-Funded Knowledge Economy 1950s-1980s, KTH Stockholm, 8-10 September
- 2021 “Experiments in Common Sense: Design, Social Science, and the Privatization of Public Housing,” contribution for “Housing Crisis: The Welfare State, Neoliberalism, and The City,” Center for German & European Studies, University of Wisconsin - Madison, 18 March
- 2021 “Architecture and Neoliberalism,” contribution for “Authoritarian Urban Practices,” Workshop organized by Alke Jenss, Arnold Bergstraesser Institute, Freiburg, 25 January
- 2019 “L'imaginaire de la banlieue, Espaces et identités” Conversation with Céline Sciamma, Un sentiment d'étrangeté, Pavillon de l'Arsenal, Paris, 10 May
- 2017 Discussant, “Secret Cities: Material Culture and the Representation of Knowledge” by Xenia Vytuleva, ETH Zürich, Chair of Philosophy
- 2017 Discussant, “Building the Yugoslav Capital,” Cities on the Move: Turkey and Yugoslavia in the Interwar Period (Third Balkan Visual Meeting)
- 2015 “Radikal Modern,” gallery conversation with Bernd Trasberger, 40 Jahre Berlinische Galerie
- 2015 Workshop Instructor, Wohnungsfrage Academy: The Housing System, Haus der Kulturen der Welt
- 2014 Presenter and Discussant, “Productive Critique: Architecture and State Capitalism in Postwar France,” Architecture and Left Critique, University of Texas at Austin School of Architecture
- 2011 Panel Moderator, Ineffably Urban, State University of New York at Buffalo
- 2011 Workshop Instructor, One-week Architectural Research Studio: (IN)formal L.A.: The Space of Politics, University of Southern California
- 2011 Workshop Instructor, Ten-day Architectural Research Studio: Spatial Agency: Situating the Political, Winter School Middle East, Kuwait

GRANTS, FELLOWSHIPS, AND AWARDS

MAJOR RESEARCH GRANTS

- 2020-25 Principal Investigator (with Claudia Mareis, FHNW Basel, and Orit Halpern, Concordia University), “Governing through Design: An Interdisciplinary Phenomenon” SNSF - Swiss National Science Foundation, Sinergia Grant (CHF 2’391’825)
- 2018–22 Principal Investigator, “Territorial Design: How Infrastructure Shaped Territory in Africa,” SNSF - Swiss National Science Foundation (CHF 565’464)
- 2018–20 Co-Coordinator (Coordinator: Prof. Bilgin Ayata), “Infrastructure Space and the Future of Migration Management: The EU Hotspots in the Mediterranean Borderscape,” SNIS - Swiss Network for International Studies (CHF 264’000)

SEED GRANTS

- 2020-22 EUCOR (The European Campus) (with Benjamin Schuetze, University of Freiburg, and Alke Jenss, Arnold Bergstraesser Institute) “Making Infrastructure Global? Design and Governance of Infrastructural Expansion in the Global South” (35’000 Euro)

RESEARCH FELLOWSHIPS

- 2014–15 Humboldt Fellowship (yearlong residency in Germany)
- 2014–15 Illinois Program for Research in the Humanities Fellowship [declined]
- 2010–11 Reyner Banham Fellowship, State University of New York at Buffalo (yearlong residency)

OTHER GRANTS

- 2023 Co-principal Investigator (with Makau Kitata and Chao Tayiana Maina), Graham Foundation for Advanced Studies in the Fine Arts, Grant for the online media project Kamĩrũthũ: An Architecture for Decolonization
- 2018 Co-principal Investigator (with Helena Mattsson and Catharina Gabrielsson), Graham Foundation for Advanced Studies in the Fine Arts, Grant for the publication of “Neoliberalism on the Ground” (\$10,000)
- 2014 Co-principal Investigator (with Prita Meier), Global Architectural History and Theory Collaborative: Course Development Grant for “The Architecture of Global Modernity, 1000–2000 CE” (\$15,000)
- 2014 Principal Investigator, University of Illinois Campus Research Board: Six-week travel to Tanzania and Namibia for research project “Architectural Modernism and Environment Science in Imperial Germany” (\$11,230)
- 2013 Principal Investigator, University of Illinois College of Fine and Applied Arts Creative Research Award: The Architectural Globalization of Mass Housing (\$6,000)
- 2012 Principal Investigator, University of Illinois Campus Research Board Award: Environment, Behavior, and the Criminalization of Public Housing (\$9,250)
- 2012 Publication Grant, University of Illinois Campus Research Board: *The Social Project: Housing Postwar France* (\$8,832)
- 2012 Publication Grant, University of Illinois Campus Research Board: *Use Matters: An Alternative History of Architecture* (\$6,787)
- 2011 Principal Investigator, Clarence Stein Award, Cornell University: French New Towns in a Global Perspective (\$9,000)
- 2011 Publication Grant, Van Eesteren-Fluck & Van Lohuizen Foundation: *The Social Project: Housing Postwar France* (\$10,000)
- 2003 Co-principal Investigator (with Markus Miessen), Flemish Government, Ministry of Culture Grant: Research and exhibition project Spaces of Uncertainty (€10,000)

- 2003 Co-principal Investigator (with Markus Miessen), Goethe Institute Grant (London): Research and exhibition project Spaces of Uncertainty (€2,000)

AWARDS

- 2018 European Architectural History Network Publication Award for the best paper in the journal *Architectural Histories* in 2016 and 2017 for the article “*Géographie volontaire* and the Territorial Logic of Architecture”
- 2016 Spiro Kostof Book Award by the Society of Architectural Historians, for *The Social Project: Housing Postwar France*
- 2015 Abbott Lowell Cummings Prize by the Vernacular Architecture Forum, for *The Social Project: Housing Postwar France*
- 2014–15 International Planning History Society Book Prize, for *The Social Project: Housing Postwar France*
- 2009 Society of Architectural Historians Annual Meeting Fellowship
- 2007 Unsung Hero Award, teaching excellence award by the Harvard Graduate School of Design
- 2006 Graduate Student Paper Award, Society for Urban National and Transnational Anthropology
- 2004 Prize for the Best Essay (First Prize), Foundation for Urban and Regional Studies

PREDOCTORAL RESEARCH FELLOWSHIPS

- 2009–10 Graduate Society Dissertation Completion Grant, Harvard University
- 2008–09 Chateaubriand Fellowship, Embassy of France in the United States
- 2007–08 Center for European Studies Dissertation Research Fellowship, Harvard University
- 2007–08 Frederick Sheldon Fellowship, Harvard University
- 2004–07 Fulbright Fellowship

PROJECTS, EXHIBITIONS, AND EVENTS

- 20— *South Designs for Planetary Futures* (co-coordinated with Laura Nkula-Wenz) (ongoing)
- 2021 The Coloniality of Infrastructure: Eurafican Legacies. Four-day international conference, University of Basel (in collaboration with the African Centre for Cities, UCT, the Centre for African Studies, and the European Global Studies Institute) (12-15 January)
- 2019 Infrastructure and Territory. Workshop organized in collaboration with the Arnold Bergstraesser Institute (Freiburg), with public lecture by Prof. Dr. Laleh Khalili (25 March)
- 2019 Urban Studies Pedagogy. Workshop, University of Basel (24 May)
- 2019 Designing Geopolitics. One-day workshop, University of Basel (21 January)
- 2018 The EU Hotspots in the Mediterranean Borderscape, Kick-off workshop for SNIS-funded project (5 December)
- 2015 Territoriality. One-day workshop, University of Basel (21 December)
- 2011 Before and Beyond: Architecture and the User. Two-day conference, School of Architecture and Planning, State University of New York at Buffalo (April)
- 2011 In Search of the User. Video installation on the intersection of architecture and social science in postwar France, Gallery of the School of Architecture and Planning, State University of New York at Buffalo
- 2008 Street Vending in Los Angeles. Exhibition of urban research in group show *Post-it City: Occasional Urbanities*, Center for Contemporary Culture, Barcelona
- 2003–05 Spaces of Uncertainty. International exhibition (with Markus Miessen) at Aedes Gallery, Berlin (2005); 66 East Centre for Urban Culture, Amsterdam (2005); Recyclart, Brussels (2003); AA School, London (2003); Gallery Framework, Berlin (2003)

ACADEMIC LEADERSHIP AND SERVICE

DOCTORAL AND POSTDOCTORAL SUPERVISION

- 2023– Dr. Patricia Noormahomed (Swiss Excellence Postdoctoral Fellow)
- 2023– Samuel Giraut (G3S Fellowship, University of Basel)
- 2023– Dr. Dany Franck Tiwa (co-advising with Dr. Jon Schubert)
- 2022– Natalie Schöbitz (co-advising with Dr. Jon Schubert)
- 2022– Ambre Elsa Alfredo (co-advising with Dr. Jon Schubert)
- 2022– Semhar Haile (co-advising with Dr. Jon Schubert)
- 2022– Fabrizio Furiassi (Swiss National Science Foundation Fellowship)
- 2021–22 Dr. Nikolay Erofeev (Swiss Excellence Postdoctoral Fellow)
- 2021– Andreea Midvighi (Ph.D. Urban Studies, University of Basel)
- 2021– Solveig Suess (Ph.D. Urban Studies, University of Basel)
- 2020–22 Dr. Michelle Weitzel (Sinergia Postdoctoral Fellow, University of Basel)
- 2020– Lea Nienhoff (Ph.D. Urban Studies, University of Basel)
- 2018–24 Dr. Emilio Distretti (Postdoc Urban Studies, University of Basel)
- 2018– Alaa Dia (Ph.D. Urban Studies, University of Basel)
- 2018–24 Thomas Betschart (Ph.D. Urban Studies, University of Basel)
- 2018–22 Ernest Sewordor (Ph.D. Urban Studies, University of Basel)
- 2018–23 Saad Amira (Ph.D. Urban Studies, University of Basel)
- 2017–22 Giulia Scotto (Ph.D. Urban Studies, University of Basel)
- 2015–18 Dr. Ginger Nolan (Postdoc Urban Studies, University of Basel)
- 2012–17 Tait Johnson (Ph.D. Architectural History, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign)

EXTERNAL DISSERTATION READER

- 2024 Marianne Dhenin, Leibniz-Institut für Europäische Geschichte (IEG), Mainz
- 2023 Aurore Reynaud, Université Paris-Nanterre
- 2017 Anne Portnoï, Ecole des Ponts, Paris Tech (Supervisor: Antoine Picon)

EXTERNAL REVIEWS

- 2019 Review Committee Member for the Canadian Centre for Architecture, Centring Africa Project, Addis Abeba, 20-22 May
- 2016– Reviewer for the Swiss National Science Foundation, the European Research Council, the Flanders Research Foundation (FWO), the Netherlands Organisation for Scientific Research (NWO), and the Deutsche Forschungsgemeinschaft (DFG)
- 2016–19 External Examiner for University College London, MA Program in Architectural History
- 2010– Manuscript Reviewer, Association of Collegiate Schools of Architecture conference
- 2008– Manuscript Reviewer, *Dialectic, Urban History, Planning Perspectives, Architectural Histories*.

BOARDS AND COMMITTEES

- 2023– Board Member, Global Urban History Project
- 2022 Scientific Committee Member for the African Infrastructural Futures Conference, African Center for Cities, University of Cape Town, 21 November
- 2021 Scientific Committee Member for the conference “Architectural Training and Research in the Foreign Aid-Funded Knowledge Economy 1950s-1980s,” KTH Stockholm, 8-10 September
- 2015–20 Advisory Board, *Dialectic*
- 2015–16 Program Committee, Society for American Regional and City Planning History 16th National Conference

SERVICE AT THE UNIVERSITY OF BASEL

- 2022–23 Deputy Head of Department, Department of Social Sciences
- 2022 Member of Search Committee for Professorship in Sustainability Studies
- 2021–22 Head of Department, Department of Social Sciences
- 2021 Member of Search Committee for Professorship in Anthropology
- 2020–21 Deputy Head of Department, Department of Social Sciences
- 2019– Member of the Steering Committee, Centre for African Studies
- 2019–21 Head of the Teaching Committee, Department of Social Sciences
- 2017–19 University Representative Member, Commission of the Historisches Museum Basel
- 2017– Director of urban studies Master’s program “Critical Urbanisms”
- 2015 Co-founder of urban studies Master’s program “Critical Urbanisms”
- 2017– Speaker for Urban Studies subject area
- 2017– Member, Teaching Committee
- 2015–16 Afrika Projektteam: review of Africa-related research at the University of Basel, Rectorate

SERVICE AT THE UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS

- 2013–14 Accreditation Committee, School of Architecture
- 2013–14 Bylaws Committee, School of Architecture
- 2013–14 Campus Research Board, review of proposals
- 2013–14 Chair, Faculty Search Committee, School of Architecture
- 2013–14 Chair, History and Preservation Program, School of Architecture
- 2013–14 Krannert Art Museum Acquisitions Committee
- 2013–14 Lectures and Exhibitions Committee, School of Architecture
- 2012–13 Scholarships and Awards Committee, School of Architecture
- 2012–14 Studio Critic for design studios, School of Architecture

STUDIO CRITIC

- 2002–12 Visiting Studio Critic for architecture and urban planning studios: UCLA (2012), Yale (2011), University of Toronto (2011), Harvard GSD (2004–2008), MIT (2006), AA School (2005), TU Delft (2003), The Bartlett School of Architecture and Planning (2003), University of Leuven (2002 and 2004)

PROFESSIONAL PRACTICE

- 2003–04 Architect, Block Architecture (London)
- 2002–03 Urban Planner, Alan Baxter & Associates (London)
- 2001–02 Architect, Studio Daniel Libeskind (Berlin)

LANGUAGE SKILLS

- English: Fluent
- German: Fluent
- French: Fluent
- Dutch: Native language
- Spanish: Limited working proficiency
- Swahili: Limited working proficiency