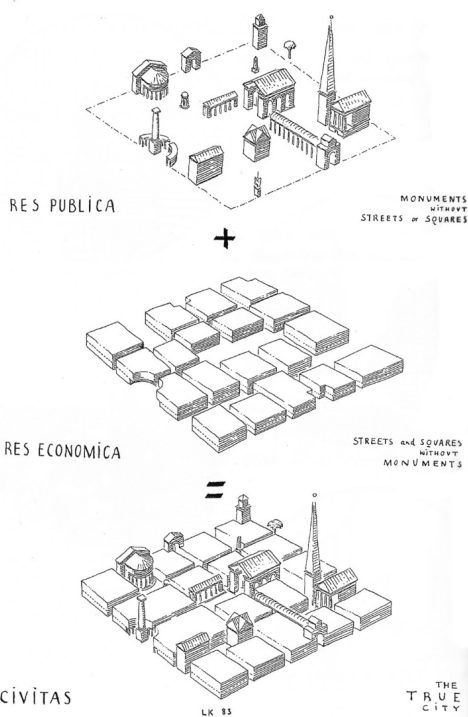


ACCADEMIA *VIVARIUM NOVUM*

# *Humanitas and the harmony of place*

In memory of Léon Krier

International conference



May 28-31 2026

Villa Falconieri, Frascati

Villa Mondragone, Monte Porzio Catone



Cities and landscapes are illustrations of our spiritual and material worth. They not only express our values but give them a tangible reality. They determine the way in which we use or squander our energy, time, and land resources.

**Léon Krier**, *The architecture of community*

You must start from the beginning, letting your new buildings grow from the daily lives of the people who will live in them, shaping the houses to the measure of people's songs, weaving the pattern of a village as if on the village looms, mindful of the trees and the crafts that grow there, respectful of the skylines and humble before the seasons.

**Hassan Fathi**

# **HUMANITAS AND THE HARMONY OF PLACE**

## **In memory of Léon Krier**

In continuation with the two architectural conferences “*Firmitas, utilitas, venustas* – for the rebirth of human architecture” (2024) and “*Hereditas urbium*: the inheritable city – concrete examples of a real urban regeneration” (2025), the *Accademia Vivarium novum* rekindles the discussion on the city of the future addressing the question of the ideal environment in which humans can thrive and which legacy they should leave behind.

The fact that we currently live in a time of crisis appears evident on multiple fronts (cultural, social, political, moral, spiritual) as values and ideals are substituted by trivial needs, human aspirations are banalized and commodified, and people are distracted by seductive futilities. The result (and goal) is that entire societies, and thus cities, are subjected to the dictates of artificial algorithms, market laws, and economic powers.

To counteract the ubiquitous loss of meaning and *humanitas*, the *Accademia Vivarium novum*, celebrating over fifty years of activity, advocates for a *renaissance* of the highest categories of the human spirit through the active study of literature, philosophy, music, art, and architecture. These disciplines are indeed instrumental in forming a better human kind and societies at large, and are taught at the various institutes and initiatives of the *World Campus for the Humanities*, founded and promoted by the *Accademia Vivarium novum*.

In this sense, the 2026 edition of the annual conference on architecture and urbanism will be dedicated to the extraordinary work of Léon Krier (1946-2025), and intends to explore the feasible intersections of architectural practices with notions of beauty, respect, suitability, environmental care, and human scale, in the effort to propose solutions for the future, build liveable cities, and offer valuable legacies for the next generations.

The conference is articulated in six sessions, including established personalities, young professionals, and experts in one of the disciplines closely connected to the world of urban planning and architecture (e.g. urban sociology, economics, environmental studies, neuroscience, finance and real estate markets). A debate involving the public is encouraged after every session and during a final round table.

## Programme

Thursday, May 28 2026

**Villa Falconieri**  
Frascati

### Conference opening

15:00 Institutional greetings

**Francesca Sbardella** (Mayor of Frascati)

15:15 **Luigi Miraglia** (*Accademia Vivarium novum*) *Introduction to the conference and the World Campus of the Humanities*

15:30 **Irene Krier** – *In remembrance of Léon Krier*

**Session I - The Legacy of Léon Krier – chair: Jonathan Weatherill**  
(Architect; Professor of the practice School of Architecture, University of Notre Dame in Rome)

*« A city can only be reconstructed in the form of urban quarters. A large or a small city can only be reorganized as a large or a small number of urban quarters; as a federation of autonomous quarters. Each quarter must have its own centre, periphery and limit. Each quarter must be a city within a city. »*

**Léon Krier**, *The City Within the City*

Léon Krier's passing in June 2025 is an inestimable loss for urban and architectural culture worldwide. Considered the father and spiritual guide of an entire architectural movement, Krier left a mark even on his detractors. In the many years of his activity, he worked against the tide of anonymous modernity and depersonalizing architecture, counter-proposing a respect for the roots and identity of places, and a rediscovery of common-sense traditions. Krier has above all defended urban planning on a human scale against the levelling standards of zoning, as theorized – in the interests of the automotive industry – at the Fourth International Congress of Modern Architecture held in

1933 aboard the ship “Patris II”, and better known as the “Athens Charter”.

Invited to the *Accademia Vivarium novum* as key-note speaker in 2025, Léon Krier will be remembered in this panel which aims to be a tribute to his immense achievements and enduring legacy.

- 16:00 **Lucien Steil** (Architect; Professor of the practice, School of Architecture, University of Notre Dame, U.S.A., Luxembourg) - *Léon Krier on my mind*
- 16:30 **Fahad Bin Mohammed Al-Attiyah** (Ambassador of Qatar; Chairman of INTBAU, Qatar) - *Presentation of a video-interview of Léon Krier produced by Caravane Earth Foundation*
- 17:00 Coffee Break
- 17:30 **Ettore Maria Mazzola** (Architect and Urbanist; Professor of the practice, School of Architecture, University of Notre Dame in Rome) - *The first Summer-school in landscape design organized by the Accademia Vivarium novum and the University of Notre Dame*
- 18:00 **Dhiru Thadani** (Architect and Urbanist; former collaborator and editor of Léon Krier, U.S.A.) - *The architecture of community*
- 18:30 Questions and discussion
- 19:00 Visit of Villa Falconieri and the *Poikile* School for the rebirth of the visual arts

Friday, May 29 2026

**Villa Falconieri**  
Frascati

- 9:30 Inauguration of the Exhibition of architectural projects of the Summer-school in landscape design organized by the Accademia *Vivarium novum* and the School of Architecture of the University of Notre Dame (held at Villa Lucidi, May 9-23, 2026)
- 10:00 Institutional greetings

**Session II - Architecture, *decorum*, and the necessity of beauty – chair: Ettore Maria Mazzola** (Architect and Urbanist; Professor of the practice, School of Architecture, University of Notre Dame in Rome)

«Est autem decorum quod aptum est et consentaneum naturae.»

*Decorum is that which is fitting and in harmony with nature.*

**Cicero**, *De Officiis*, I,27.94

Cicero defines *decorum* as what is fitting and consistent with nature, a concept akin to the “appropriateness” expressed by the ancient Greek *πρέπων* (*prépōn*) and the notion of giving to each his own (*unicuique suum*). Applied to architecture, *decorum* requires that the form, scale, ornamentation, and appearance of a building correspond to its function, social role, and setting, a principle also codified by Vitruvius and much debated today.

What do architects owe to places, institutions, and publics? Can beauty still function as a shared civic value, or has it become purely subjective? How does *decorum*—understood as suitability, propriety, and ethical restraint—shape architectural form today? Drawing from history, theory, and contemporary practice, this session intends to reconsider whether beauty and *decorum* are nostalgic ideals or necessary frameworks for a meaningful, humane architecture.

- 10:30 **Maria Fernanda Sánchez** (Architect, Estudio Urbano, Guatemala) - *The order of being and the order of making*
- 11:00 **Abdelwahed El-Wakil** (Architect, Egypt) - *Identity, tradition & architecture. A dialogue with Abdelwahed El-Wakil*
- 11:30 Coffee Break
- 12:00 **Miriam Samir Rincon** (Architect and Urbanist, Moule & Polyzoides, U.S.A.; Project Lead, INTBAU Mexico; First Prize for Urban design, AVN “Young Talents of Classical Architecture” contest, 2025). - *Xochimilco, restoring the lake. A regenerative urban model*
- 12:30 **Jonathan Weatherill** (Architect; Professor of the practice, School of Architecture, University of Notre Dame in Rome) - *The importance of belonging*
- 13:00 **Samanta Zhuang** (Landscape Designer at Hoerr Schaudt, U.S.A.; Project Lead for the 2025 INTBAU Qatar Architecture Winter School) - *Representing mountaintecture of Tuscan hill towns*

**Session III – Neuroscience, architecture, and the experience of beauty**  
– **chair: Alexandra Massini** (Professor of History of Art, Accademia Vivarium novum)

*«Authentic architecture is not the incarnation of the spirit of the age but of the spirit, full stop.»*

**Léon Krier**, *The architecture of community*

What impact does beauty have on the human being? What makes a space feel beautiful—and why does it matter to live in harmonious surroundings? This panel explores beauty not as a subjective preference, but as a human need that informs cognition, emotion, health, and social behaviour. Drawing from architecture, neuroscience, and aesthetics, panellists examine how built environments influence the brain, how sensory experience affects wellbeing, and how design choices can either nourish or deplete human potential. In this sense the discussion wishes to reframe beauty as an ethical responsibility—one that architects,

designers, scientists, and policymakers must share to safeguard the past and shape a better future.

- 16:30 **Stefano Serafini** (Founder and director of scientific research of the International Society of Biourbanism, Italy) - *Bio-urbanism of the self: psyche, life, and the city*
- 17:00 **Donatella Caramia** (Associate Professor of Neurology, University of Rome “Tor Vergata”, Italy) - *The neurobiology of beauty: intersecting nature, architecture, and human integrity*
- 17:30 Coffee Break
- 18:00 **Olga Sezneva** (Associate Professor of Cultural and Urban Sociology, University of Amsterdam, Netherlands) - *Making beauty together: a sociological reframing of urban aesthetics and design responsibility*
- 18:30 Questions and discussion
- 19:00 Concert of the *Tyrtarion* choir of the *Accademia Vivarium novum*



Saturday, May 30 2026

**Villa Falconieri**  
Frascati

9:30 Institutional greetings

**Session IV - Rooted in place: architecture, landscape, and living traditions – chair: Ignacio Armella Chávez** (Accademia Vivarium novum)

*« I look for myself where I find myself. Like a spider, my aspiration is to attach my thread to tradition and from this starting point weave my own web. »*

**Jože Plečnik**

This session examines the relationship between architecture and landscape through the lens of vernacular and traditional building practices. Across cultures, histories, and geographies, architecture has long emerged from close observation of climate, terrain, materials, craft, and even social customs, rituals, and collective memory. In a moment of ecological uncertainty and cultural homogenization, this session asks what contemporary practice can learn from place-based traditions that integrate buildings, landscapes, and ways of life that offer models for resilience, sustainability and cultural continuity.

10:00 **Taimoor Khan Mumtaz** (Architect, Professor of the practice, Hast-o-Neest Institute of Traditional Studies & Arts, Pakistan) - *Kamil Khan Mumtaz Architects - practicing tradition*

10:30 **Maxim Atayants** (Architect, Maxim Atayants Workshop, Russia) - *Using the traditional language of architecture in the construction practice of modern housing*

11:00 **Vitor Ilidio** (Architect and Urbanist, Brazil; First Prize for Architecture, AVN “Young Talents of Classical Architecture” contest, 2025) - *Corner building*

- 11:30 Coffee break
- 12:00 **Georgia Cristea** (Conservation Architect, London, U.K.; Chair of INTBAU Romania) - *Walking the landscape - learning from the past*
- 12:30 **Ulrich Gehmann** (Founder and director of Ideal Spaces Foundation, Germany) - *Place of the placeless*
- 13:00 Questions and discussion
- 14:30 **Transfer to Villa Mondragone (Monte Porzio Catone) and brief guided visit**

**Villa Mondragone**  
Monte Porzio Catone

- 15:15 Institutional greetings
- Massimo Pulcini** (Mayor of Monte Porzio Catone)
- Marcella Pisani** (President of the Conference and Representative Centre of the University of Rome “Tor Vergata”, Villa Mondragone)
- Margherita Eichberg** (Superintendent of archaeology, arts, and the environment of the province of Viterbo and Southern Etruria)

**Session V – What future for our cities? The cost of ugly buildings and the benefits of preserving beauty - chair: Ettore Maria Mazzola** (Architect and Urbanist; Professor of the practice, School of Architecture, University of Notre Dame in Rome)

*« The city is not a problem; it is the greatest hope of mankind. Properly conceived, it is humanity's most civilizing invention.»*

**Léon Krier**

Drawing on Léon Krier's advocacy for traditional, human-scaled cities, this session will ask whether lessons embedded in traditional urban forms can inform more humane, resilient, and

sustainable cities for future generations. While addressing issues of accelerating climate change, increasing population, housing shortages, cultural homogenization, and social fragmentation, panellists will critically reassess modern planning paradigms and explore alternative futures grounded in place, memory, and civic life.

- 16:00 **Eduardo De Barros** (Founder at Al-Insaniya City, Abu-Dhabi, United Arab Emirates; Entrepreneur, Brazil) - *New markets, new opportunities*
- 16:30 **Mariano Bizzarri** (Full professor of Clinical Pathology, Head of the Space Medicine Laboratory, University of Rome “La Sapienza”, Italy) - *Urban complexity and human health*
- 17:00 Coffee break
- 17:30 **Alireza Sagharchi** (Architect, Principal of Stanhope Gate Architecture, U.K.) - *From theory to practice: the legacy of Léon Krier in context*
- 18:00 **Jason Montgomery** (Associate Professor, School of Architecture, Catholic University of America, U.S.A.) - *From image to craft: Léon Krier and the critical resurgence of the design of the public realm*
- 18:30 Questions and discussion
- 19:00 End of the session and return to Villa Falconieri

### **Villa Falconieri**

Frascati

- 19:30 Concert of the *Ensemble Aqua felix*

Sunday, May 31 2026

**Villa Falconieri**

Frascati

**Session VI - Open discussion with the founders of Traditional Architecture schools in Europe - Moderator: Georgia Cristea** (Conservation Architect, CA, London, U.K.; Chair of INTBAU Romania)

9:30 **Nadia Naty Everard** (Architect; Founder of La Table Ronde d'Architecture, France; Chair of INTBAU Belgium)

9:50 **Ana Maria Goilav** (Architect; Founder of Bunești School of Architecture, Romania; Deputy Chair of INTBAU Romania)

10:10 **Matthew Hardy** (Senior lecturer in Architecture and Urbanism, The King's Foundation, London; Founder of INTBAU, U.K.)

10:30 **Frank Martinez** (Architect, Professor of the practice, School of Architecture, University of Miami, U.S.A. and Fundación Culturas Constructivas Tradicionales, Spain)

10:50 Questions and Discussion

12:00 Coffee Break

12:30 **Alexandra Massini** (Professor of Art History, Accademia Vivarium novum, Frascati, Italy), **Bertram Barthel “Bart Urban”** (Project manager of the web-channel *The Aesthetic City*; Deputy Chair of INTBAU Germany) - *The Poikile project for the rebirth of the visual arts and architecture*

13:00 Award ceremony of the AVN Competition for Young Talents of Architecture and Urbanism 2026

15:00 **Stefania Zappanico** (Journalist) - Presentation of the International Festival *Architectura Picta* 2026

15:15 Drawing and painting workshops with the artists of the *Poikile* school of art of the Accademia Vivarium novum

19:00 Harp Concert of M<sup>o</sup> Joost Willemze

« ... qui se architectum profiteatur... Itaque eum etiam ingeniosum oportet esse et ad disciplinam docilem; neque enim ingenium sine disciplina aut disciplina sine ingenio perfectum artificem potest efficere. Et ut litteratus sit, peritus graphidos, eruditus geometria, historias complures noverit, philosophos diligenter audierit, musicam scierit, medicinae non sit ignarus, responsa iuris consultorum noverit, astrologiam caelique rationes cognitatas habeat. »

... therefore, who professes to be an architect must also be ingenious and eager to learn, for neither genius without discipline nor discipline without genius can produce a perfect craftsman. And he should be a man of letters, skilled in the use of the pen, learned in geometry, acquainted with many histories, a diligent disciple of philosophers, versed in music, not ignorant of medicine, familiar with the opinions of jurists, and knowledgeable of astrology and the movements of the heavens.

- **Vitruvius**, *De Architectura*, I.3,5-15

## BIOGRAPHIES (in alphabetical order)

**Fahad Bin Mohammed AL-ATTIYAH** worked as a government legal counsel, food security planner, organizer of UNFCCC-COP18, and a diplomat with a strong military background. These areas of expertise have all shaped his outlook as a recognized supporter of global environmental issues and resource sustainability driven by a true passion for service.

Mr. Al-Attiyah has previously worked as the executive chairman of the Qatar National Food Security Programme and a legal counsellor in the Amiri Diwan (the office of HH the Heir Apparent of the State of Qatar).

Mr. Al-Attiyah is considered a leading expert on food security in dry lands and has shared his views at multiple events and forums around the globe – UN General Assembly, World Future Energy Summit, Global Green Growth Forum, and a TED talk titled “A Country with no water”. Mr. Al-Attiya sat on different boards, including the Legislative council in Qatar, the Permanent Water Resources Committee, the World Water Council, the FIFA 2022 Legacy Committee and the RAND-Qatar policy institute.

As a diplomat, Mr. Al Attiyah served as the ambassador of Qatar to the Russian federation from 2017 to 2020, as non-resident ambassador in the republic of Finland and the republic of Estonia, and, until recently, as ambassador to the United Kingdom and Northern Ireland. He also founded Caravane Earth Foundation to support local communities all over the world with the aim of promoting social, cultural, and ecological transformation in the space of architecture, agriculture, textiles, and creativity.

**Ignacio ARMELLA Chávez** earned a degree in classical philology from the Universidad nacional autónoma de México (UNAM) in 2009, with a thesis titled *The death of Socrates according to Plato*. He then obtained his M.A. degree in Classics at the *Pontificium institutum altioris Latinitatis* in Rome with the thesis written in Latin *Quid Nicolaus Cusanus et Marsilius Ficinus de concordia senserint*. Since 2010, he has taught History of ancient philosophy and Advanced Latin composition at the *Accademia Vivarium novum*, an institution internationally renowned for its innovative methods for teaching classical languages and its endeavour of renewal of classical education. As vice-president of the same institution, he contributes assiduously to its academic, cultural and publishing activities, and has participated in several international conferences and courses, both as an organizer and as a speaker, in countries like Belgium, Colombia, China, France, Georgia, Greece, India, Italy, Nepal, the Netherlands, Russia, Spain, Taiwan. He is an ordinary member

of the *Academia Latinitati fovendae*, and a founding member of the Centro studi sull'uomo, la natura e l'unità del pensiero, an organization founded to fill the gap that divides humanistic and scientific education. Among his publications, are a number of articles and contributions in different languages (including Latin), as well as the following books: *Coincidentia oppositorum* (2013), *Quod eritque fuitque: giochi di specchi fra l'accaduto e l'avvenire* (2022); *Memoriae sacrum: in memoriam Iohannis Pugliese Carratelli* (editor, 2023).

**Maxim ATAYANTS** lives and practices in St. Petersburg, Russia and has roots in the Armenian village of Karaglukh in Nagorno-Karabakh. In 1984, Atayants entered the architectural department of the Russian Academy of Fine Arts, from which he graduated in 1995. He furthered his studies in 1995 by attending the Prince of Wales's Foundation for Building Community. Since becoming licensed in 1996, Atayants has built numerous houses and office and other buildings. In 2000 he set up his personal studio, Maxim Atayants Architects (MAA), which is currently involved in the design and realization of a number of large urban developments.

Since 1995, Atayants has also engaged in the close study of the remains of ancient Greek and Roman architecture. Between 2004 and 2016, he travelled through the Middle East and north Africa, inspecting and documenting the remains of Roman cities. As a graphic artist, Atayants has created many architectural landscapes portraying aspects of Armenian, ancient Greek and Roman, and Neoclassical architecture. Some of his drawings represent reconstructions of destroyed monuments – such as the buildings of ancient Palmyra in Syria, which were ruined in the recent regional conflicts.

**Mariano BIZZARRI** Ph.D., M.D., is Full professor of Clinical Pathology and the Head of the Space Medicine Laboratory at the University of Rome “La Sapienza”, the *alma mater* where he had specialized in oncology and where he has been teaching since 1997. Alongside his academic commitments, Prof. Bizzarri has acted as advisor of the Life Science Board of the European Space Agency (ESA) and the Technological Unit of the Italian Space Agency, for which in the past he also served as President of the Scientific Committee (2011-2014).

**Donatella CARAMIA** is a Professor of Neurology at the University of Rome “Tor Vergata”, Italy. Throughout her career, she has integrated clinical research with the medical humanities, holding teaching appointments across the Faculty of Medicine and Surgery and the Faculty of Letters and Philosophy. With more than 12,500 citations on Google Scholar, she pioneered foundational research

on motor cortex excitability and brain plasticity following stroke, establishing early milestones in modern neurophysiology. Alongside her background as a classical composer and Jungian psychoanalyst, Prof. Caramia is the founder and leading initiator of Humanistic Neurology. This field expands standard neurological frameworks by exploring the brain-mind connection, neuro-aesthetics, and emotional resonance. Her interdisciplinary work is reflected in key publications, including the volume “La Musica e oltre” (*Music and Beyond*), co-authored with Maestro Ennio Morricone, which examines musical genius through a neuroscientific and psychoanalytic lens. Extending this approach to physical space, she also co-edited the essay “*Genius loci: la vita profonda dei luoghi*” with the architect Prof. Paolo Portoghesi, intersecting the value of space in both an architectural and neuroscientific sense. At Tor Vergata, she directs courses in Neuromusicology and Humanistic Neurology, bridging the study of the brain with the broader human experience.

**Georgia CRISTEA:** Born in Transylvania, Romania, Georgia holds an M.A. degree in Architecture (with honours) from the “Ion Mincu” University of Architecture and Urbanism in Bucharest, followed by a M.Sc. degree in Sustainable Heritage from the Bartlett School of Architecture of the University College London. She is an accredited RIBA Conservation Architect (CA), a former Guardian of the Society for the Protection of Ancient Buildings, Chair of the INTBAU Romania Chapter, and serves as an advisor on INTBAU’s Communication and Education Committees.

Based in London, Georgia runs her own architectural practice, specializing in conservation architecture and interior design in Listed or in Conservation Area Buildings. She also acts as the Events Coordinator of the TAG, Traditional Architecture Group, and host to INTBAU U.K., where she organizes the TAG Talks, monthly online lectures promoting outstanding Traditional Architecture and New Urban Design projects, live conferences, hands-on workshops and other educational activities for the members. Passionate about traditional building techniques and craftsmanship and their continuous relevance in the present, she advocates for a better cross-collaboration between the fields of Conservation and New Traditional Building.

**Eduardo DE BARROS** is a strategic scout for the traditionalist movement, mapping new economic zones and future cities globally. His work focuses on bringing Léon Krier’s urban principles into the practical arena of these jurisdictions, bridging the gap between modern pioneers and classical traditions.



As the founder of Al-Insaniya City (translated from arabic: City for Humanity), Eduardo navigated the complexities of building a new town from scratch until the project was halted by geopolitical force majeure. This experience provided him with “on-the-ground” intelligence on the risks and realities of the frontier. He is now mobilizing a professional coalition to ensure these upcoming jurisdictions are built with the human-scale permanence Krier championed.

**Abdelwahed EL-WAKIL** is one of the most distinguished and original voices in contemporary Islamic architecture. He graduated from Ain-Shams University in 1965 and spent the next five years lecturing while preparing his research thesis through study and work with Professor Hassan Fathy in Cairo. Since 1971, Professor El-Wakil has been in private practice, with most of his designs constructed in the Middle East.

Throughout his career, Professor El-Wakil has served as an advisor to the Ministry of Tourism in Egypt, UNESCO, the Technical Board of Dar Al Islam Foundation in New Mexico, and the New University Centre Cultural Complex at King Abdulaziz University in Jeddah. He has also worked as Architectural Consultant to Jeddah Municipality and to the Ministry of Pilgrimage and Endowment in Saudi Arabia.

For his Agamy House, El-Wakil received in 1980 the Aga Khan Award for architecture, and in 1984, for his Island Mosque in Jeddah, he won the Architectural Design Magazine Award in the U.K. In 1985, his design for an exhibition hall complex in Jeddah won the first prize, and in the same year he was appointed as honorary fellow of the American Institute of Architects. In 1986 he became a member of the Board of trustees of the Heritage Trust, London, and in 1987 received an honorary Diploma in the International competition for solutions on new technologies for social housing.

Professor El-Wakil lectures internationally and has been invited to events in London, China, Chicago, Cairo, Spain, Brighton, and Prague. His work has also been exhibited internationally, including in London, Hamburg, Toronto, and Brighton. El-Wakil Associates maintains offices in the U.K., Jeddah, and Cairo.

**Ulrich GEHMANN**, *Diplomatus rerum naturalium et Licentiatuſ oeconomiae* at the University of St. Gallen (Switzerland) has worked in industry and international consultancy before completing his Ph.D. in history. He is the founder and director of Ideal Spaces, an international foundation based in Germany which deals with community and space/place, its dynamics and its relevant histories of ideas.

**Ana Maria GOILAV** is a practising architect and researcher, associate professor at the “Ion Mincu” University of Architecture and Urban Planning and cofounder of the Bunești School, a college of architecture and liberal arts ([www.bunesti.ro](http://www.bunesti.ro)) where she implements principles of ecological architecture and sustainable development correlated with the local values of rural cultural landscape. Additionally, she has served as vice-president of the Order of Romanian Architects - Bucharest (2014-2022), as director of the opinion magazine A&B – The Architects and Bucharest (2014-2018), as well as being a founding member of the Rural Artisans Network (2015) and co-founder of Arheia (2020), a project of classical education for pupils with ages between 6 and 18 years ([www.arheia.ro](http://www.arheia.ro)).

Ana Maria Goilav has authored scientific articles in national and international magazines and, together with Petre Guran has published the book *Acasă. Școala de la Bunești. Oameni, cărți, case* [Homeplace. The Bunești School. People, Books, Houses], 2017, UAUIM Publications. Ana Maria Goilav holds a Ph.D. in ecclesial architecture (2011, UAUIM) and is an alumna of the New Europe College and the Accademia di Romania in Rome.

**Matthew HARDY** is Senior Lecturer in Architecture and Urbanism at The King’s Foundation, London, and a Senior Associate Tutor in the Department for Continuing Education at Oxford. He works at the intersection of urbanism, urban morphology, architectural history, and climate change, and teaches on Oxford University’s Sustainable Urban Development programme.

From 2000 to 2010 Dr. Hardy worked to establish INTBAU (International Network for Traditional Building, Architecture & Urbanism) He has taught and published widely, editing the book *The Venice Charter Revisited* in 2011, and is co-founder and co-editor of the *Journal of Urbanism*, published by Routledge.

Matthew holds a Ph.D. in Architectural History from the University of Wales, and a Bachelor of Architecture from the University of Adelaide. He is a Fellow of the Royal Australian Institute of Architects, a Fellow of the Royal Society of Arts, and a Chartered Member of the Royal Institute of British Architects. In the 2022 Queen’s Birthday Honours he was appointed a Member of the Royal Victorian Order.

**Vitor ILIDIO** is an architect and urban planner who graduated from PUCPR (Pontifical Catholic University of Paraná) nearly ten years ago and has been professionally active in several areas of architecture in Brazil. He has experience in projects of different scales and types, ranging from interior design to

restoration and conservation projects for historic buildings. About four years ago, he “discovered” the world of traditional and classical architecture and, since then, has dedicated himself to its study and professional practice.

**Frank MARTINEZ** is an Associate Professor at the School of Architecture of the University of Miami. At the same institute he earned his B.A. degree in 1987, followed by an M.A. degree in 1991 from Princeton University. His didactic activity focuses on design, architectural history and theory, as well as drawing, and includes teaching in Rome, heading the University of Miami “Grand Tour of Europe”, seminars on selected topics on Early American Architecture, and teaching in international summer programs on traditional architecture and urban design research.

He is a partner at the long-established firm Martinez Alvarez Urban Design, Architecture Interior Design, with work ranging in scale and complexity from small, hand crafted houses to campus design and institutional buildings. The larger body of work and on-going creative research includes residential projects in Coral Gables, Coconut Grove, Pinecrest, Bay Point and Palm Beach, Florida; campus buildings at the Carrollton School of the Sacred Heart in Coconut Grove and Florida Memorial University in Miami Gardens; single and multi-family dwellings in the New Urban Towns of Windsor, Alys Beach in Florida, and Tannin in Alabama; and historic preservation projects in the City of Miami, Coral Gables, Edgartown, Martha’s Vineyard and Boston. Recently selected as consulting firm for the preservation of the city of Coral Gables and the town of Medley, the firm provides services in preservation assessment and architectural design.

**Alexandra MASSINI** was raised in Italy and Germany before moving to the U.K. where she earned her B.A. and M.A. degrees from the Courtauld Institute of Art, and a Ph.D. in the History of Art from the University of Warwick. After two decades of teaching for north-American university programs in Italy, and ten years in the role of Director of Academic Affairs at the Rome office of CEA and CEACAPA, in 2023 Alexandra moved to the *Accademia Vivarium novum*, where she teaches art history and is responsible for international programs. She also continues to teach for U.S. programs, both at undergraduate and graduate level, in the Rome campuses of Duquesne University and the School of Architecture of the University of Notre Dame. Her research areas include the reception of classical antiquity, female patronage and self-fashioning in the Renaissance and Baroque periods, the intersection and use of art and architecture in public spaces.

Aside from her academic activity, Alexandra works as consultant for documentaries on art and history, collaborates with public and private art collections, and conducts specialized visits for governmental institutions and events (including the G20 held in Rome). In the past she has written for Blue Guides and has published a guide book to Rome, has worked for the Thyssen Museum in Madrid and Sotheby's Auctioneers, and has organized large scale events for international investor groups.

**Ettore Maria MAZZOLA** is an architect, urbanist, restorer, painter and author of several essays and books. Additionally, he is Professor of Architecture and Urbanism for the Rome Program of the School of Architecture of the University of Notre Dame, Vice President of A.U.T. (Architettura e Urbanistica Tradizionale), member of the Committee for Urbanism of Italia Nostra, member of INTBAU, and board-member of Making Cities Livable. In 2006 he has been member of the International Scientific Committee for The Venice Charter Revisited. Additionally, he acts as co-editor of the magazines *Il Covile* and *Dionysos*, serves in the Scientific Committee of the Symmetria Institute, and runs the blog *Virtutem Forma Decorat*. In addition to developing numerous restoration projects in Rome, Ettore Maria Mazzola has carried out several projects for residences, and primary and secondary schools in the Moscow Region, in collaboration with the architect Maxim Atayants.

His urban projects have been the recipients of several awards and/or mentions of honour. In 2016 he has been invited by UNESCO as one of the 500 international personalities called to provide suggestions and sketches for the reconstruction in Syria. He has been involved in the documentaries "Who's Jesus" (Fox News, 2004); "Great Continental Railway Journeys - Rome of 1913" (BBC2, 2013). "Rome's Invisible City" (BBC2 TV, NOVA TV, 2014) and an audio-documentary dedicated to the E.U.R. District in Rome for the program "Blueprint for Living" aired by Radio National of the Australian Broadcasting Corporation.

**Luigi MIRAGLIA** is a renowned Latinist and classical philologist, founder and President of the *Accademia Vivarium novum* which promotes studies in the Classics and the Humanities. Since 2011 he has been a member of the *Academia latinitati fovendae*, and, since 2012, an academician of the *Pontificia academia latinitatis*. Miraglia is responsible for the adaptation and dissemination in Italy of Hans Henning Ørberg's "natura method" for teaching ancient Greek and Latin, which is now offered in several classical high schools across Italy.

Together with Ørberg and Tommaso Francesco Bórri, he is the author of *Latine disco*, from the series *Lingua Latina per se illustrata*. With the same Bórri, he adapted for the Italian public the textbook *Athènaze* for teaching ancient Greek. Along with several other publications, these textbooks are edited by the publishing house Edizioni Vivarium novum.

Among his most recent endeavours is the formation of the World Campus of the Humanities, involving different study centres and research fields. In addition to teaching and directing the activities of such centres, Miraglia promotes cultural events and international conferences on classical languages, on literature, philosophy and their significance in today's contexts, and, more recently, on classical art and architecture.

**Jason MONTGOMERY**, Associate Professor and Associate Dean of Graduate Studies at the School of Architecture of the Catholic University of America, is an architect and urban designer and a principal at Truong Montgomery Architect. His research reflects his interests in public space and urban morphology. He co-organized a number of international conferences addressing the liveability of cities. He is the editor of a recently published volume *Place-based sustainability: research and design extending pathways for ecological stewardship*, and a guest editor of two special issues of *AMPS Journal: Re-imagining the city* and *Housing and society*. Previous to his current appointment Jason was a tenured professor at the City University of New York.

**Hassan Taimoor K. MUMTAZ**, is senior architect at Kamil Khan Mumtaz Architects. He holds an MA in South Asian Design & Architecture from De Montfort University, Leicester, UK (1999) and a Bachelor of Architecture from National College of Arts, Lahore (1994).

He is also the founding director of Hast-o-Neest – Institute of Traditional Studies & Arts in Lahore, which promotes research in traditional culture and aims to provide a greater understanding of traditional thought, including Sufi doctrine and method, traditional philosophy, metaphysics and cosmology, and the arts such as calligraphy, miniature painting, classical music and Islamic architecture. Mumtaz's own research interests include architectural design methods used in Mughal architecture.

**Miriam Samir RINCON** is an architect and urbanist at the firm Moule & Polyzoides (U.S.A.). She is also Project Lead for INTBAU Mexico and has been awarded the First Prize for urban design in the contest “Young Talents of Classical Architecture” organized by the *Accademia Vivarium novum* in 2025.

**Alireza SAGHARCHI** (RIBA FRSA) is an architect and the principal of Stanhope Gate Architecture, London. He is an internationally renowned and a leading practitioner and an exponent of contemporary classical and traditional architecture and urban design.

During his professional career, he has been responsible for major master planning and building projects in the U.K., Europe, North America and the Middle East. His projects have received awards and have been widely published and exhibited. His work has been published in a recent monograph titled *Classicism at Home: Architecture of Alireza Sagharchi* published by Rizzoli New York, with a foreword by His Majesty King Charles III and Léon Krier. He has also co-authored, with Lucien Steil, books titled *New Palladians* and *Traditional Architecture, Timeless Building for the Twenty-First Century*.

Alireza is a Fellow of The Royal Society of Arts, a Liveryman of the Worshipful Company of Chartered Architects and a Freeman of the City of London. He is the current Chair of the Board of Trustee of the International Network for Traditional Building Architecture and Urbanism (INTBAU) and was formerly the Chair of the Traditional Architecture Group at the Royal Institute of British Architects.

**María Fernández SÁNCHEZ** is a Guatemalan architect and urbanist, co-founder and director of Estudio Urbano, an internationally recognized practice dedicated to traditional architecture, urbanism, and the creation of humane cities. A graduate of the University of Notre Dame with a Master’s degree in Classical Architecture, her work explores the relationship between beauty, civic order, cultural continuity, and human flourishing in the built environment.

She has played a leading role in the conception and realization of Ciudad Cayalá, widely regarded as one of the most significant contemporary demonstrations of traditional urbanism and walkable city-making in the XXI century. Developed in close collaboration with Léon Krier, the project has received major international recognition, including the Charter Award from the Congress for the New Urbanism and the Arthur Ross Award.

Sánchez serves on the Advisory Council of the University of Notre Dame School of Architecture, the Roger Scruton Legacy Foundation Board, and the Citymakers Collective Board. She is also a member of the INTBAU College

of Traditional Practitioners, under the patronage of King Charles III, where she serves on its selection committee. As a lecturer, juror, and consultant, she contributes internationally to the discourse on architecture, urbanism, and the philosophical foundations of the human city.

**Stefano SERAFINI** was born in Rome and lives in an ancient village inaccessible to cars. A philosopher and psychologist, he is co-founder and research director of the International Society of Biourbanism. He is editor-in-chief of the *Journal of Biourbanism* and managing editor of *Organisms. Journal of Biological Sciences* (Sapienza University). He has published numerous studies and taught in Italy and abroad on environmental psychology, neuro-ergonomics, and biourbanism, at the intersection of philosophy, mind sciences, theory of form, biology, and urban studies.

**Olga SEZNEVA** is a cultural and urban sociologist who connects sociology with architecture, design, and artistic practice. She earned a Ph.D. in Sociology from New York University and held a postdoctoral fellowship at the University of Chicago, as well as visiting positions at the European University at St. Petersburg and Boğaziçi University before joining the University of Amsterdam in 2010.

Her research explores how material culture, including urban design, intersects with histories and memories of conflict and forced migration. She focuses in particular on the former German territories ceded in 1945 to Russia and Poland, looking at the politics of memory and practices such as vernacular collecting and architectural revival, considering how aesthetic categories, such as “beauty” or “ugliness,” are attributed to urban space.

Alongside her academic research, she is a member of the “Moving Matters Traveling Workshop”, a mobile collective of artists and scholars researching migration. Together they have collaborated with the Allard Pierson Museum and the Hermitage Amsterdam, as well as contributing to the project *Kapelle der Versöhnung* on Berlin’s former border strip.

Together with architects, she has helped launch “Building the City Now!” (BCNow!), a transdisciplinary postgraduate program in urban and social design accredited by the Universitat Politècnica de Catalunya - Barcelona Tech. which brings together architects, sociologists, activists and city administrators to rethink how they shape the city. Her goal is to reveal how memory, place, and cultural meaning are rebuilt after rupture, and to show how scholarship, art, architecture, and education can together open new ways of engaging with the past, present, and future of cities.



**Lucien STEIL** studied architecture in Paris, graduating in 1980. He is the principal of Katarxis Urban Workshops A.s.b.l. in Luxembourg and a partner at Heure Bleue Architects, London. He is currently Associate Professor at the University of Notre Dame (South Bend, Indiana). He has practiced in Luxembourg, producing a wide range of traditional designs in collaboration with Colum Mulhern. He has taught and lectured in Europe, the Americas, and Asia, and collaborated with the Prince of Wales's Urban Design Task Force in Potsdam and Berlin, the University of Miami, the Polytechnic University of Puerto Rico, the University of Bologna, and the Portuguese Catholic University in Viseu, as well as the University of Notre Dame (Rome Studies Program and U.S. campus), the University of Buckingham, and the University of Luxembourg. He is the author, editor, or co-editor of many publications, including *New Palladians; Traditional architecture, timeless building for the twenty-first century; The architectural capriccio; In the mood for architecture* and *Travel sketches from elsewhere nowhere*.

**Dhiru THADANI** is an architect, author, educator, and urbanist who has been in practice since 1980. He has worked to disseminate principles and techniques of traditional town planning on five continents and has been the principal designer of new towns and cities, urban regeneration, neighbourhood revitalization, academic campuses, and infill densification projects. Born in Bombay, India, Dhiru moved to Washington, D.C., in 1972 to study architecture and stayed on to teach, practice and place the principles of traditional architecture and urbanism in the public eye.

Since its formation in 1993, Dhiru has been a charter member of the Congress for New Urbanism (CNU) and served as its Task Force Chair and Board member from 1997 to 2013. Dhiru's professional work has been recognized and awarded by the American Institute of Architects (AIA), the International Society of City and Regional Planners (ISOCARP), and eight CNU Charter Awards.

He is the author of *The language of towns and cities: a visual dictionary* (2010) and was co-editor of Léon Krier's *The architecture of community* (2009). Thadani has also documented the history and influence of Seaside, Florida, the first new urbanism project, on which he authored the volumes *Visions of Seaside: foundations / evolution / imagination / built & unbuilt architecture* (2013) and *Reflections on Seaside: muses, ideas, influences, and new & future projects* (2021). In 2022, Dhiru published *Washington drawings abe to zoo*, a book of his drawings on the city.

Dhiru is currently researching and documenting 100+ north-American towns across all 50 states, typologically classifying them and tracing their reason for establishment, historical growth, street pattern, topography,



density, transportation network, accessibility, and economic drivers. He has also been working since 2013 on regeneration efforts for the neglected and disinvested neighbourhoods within Atlanta's Westside. Enlisting funds from Atlanta's commercial and philanthropic groups, the scope expanded to cover 1,700 acres of blighted historic urban fabric less than one mile from downtown.

In 2021 Thadani's team was selected to update the master plan for Spelman College, founded in 1881 as the first private institution to educate women of colour, and now part of the academic consortium of the Atlanta University Center as well as a global leader in educating women of African descent. Other significant projects include a new city in China for a million inhabitants and several new high-density urban neighbourhoods in India.

**Bart URBAN (Bertram Barthel)** grew up north of Berlin, where he realized early on the stark contrast between the surrounding communist blocks and the historic beauty of old towns. This formative experience ignited his lifelong passion for humane architecture and built heritage. He later co-founded various online platforms and initiatives dedicated to promoting new classical architecture and historic reconstructions. Expanding his international reach, he joined forces with Ruben Hanssen to support the popular digital media platform and YouTube channel *The Aesthetic City*. He also chairs the German chapter of INTBAU alongside architect Sebastian Horwitz. Currently, he drives multiple initiatives to revive traditional education in classical architecture, urbanism, and historic crafts, including a collaboration with the ongoing educational efforts in Frascati at the *Accademia Vivarium novum*.

**Jonathan WEATHERILL** is an Associate professor of the Rome Program of the School of Architecture of the University of Notre Dame. He runs his own practice in Italy and has also collaborated with 2014 *DrieHaus* laureate Pier Carlo Bontempi since they met in Milan thirty years ago. His professional experience has spanned the genres of Modernism and Classicism, in a wide range of fields from industrial design to restoration and urban planning. He is inspired by the timelessness of the rural vernacular and the elegant equilibrium of architectural language of the past. His work is the result of an eclectic education informed by his varied experience and the comprehension of local reality via thorough on-site and archival investigation.

**Samanta ZHUANG** is a landscape designer at Hoerr Schaudt and a graduate of the Harvard Graduate School of Design. She received her undergraduate education at the University of Notre Dame, where she studied architecture and Italian studies, with a focus on traditional architecture and New Urbanism.

Her work examines the relationship between topography, architecture, and representation, with a particular interest in how architecture and landscape can work in harmony with the given conditions of place. She is the author of *Representing mountaintecture of Tuscan hill towns*, a design research project exploring the interaction between terrain, built form, and modes of drawing. She is also the co-founder of *STOA Magazine*, a platform for architectural discourse at Notre Dame School of Architecture, and her work spans projects in the United States, Europe, and the Middle East.



## Practical information

### How to reach Villa Falconieri:

Frascati is easy to reach from Rome, from Termini station by train or from Anagnina station by bus: we recommend checking the Trenitalia and Cotral websites for precise timetables. From the ring road, take exit 22 and continue along Via Tuscolana to Frascati; then follow the signs for Villa Falconieri.



**Villa Falconieri** Viale Borromini 5, 00044 – Frascati (Roma)  
[www.vivariumnovum.net](http://www.vivariumnovum.net)



Free entrance; reservation required by writing to [convegni@vivariumnovum.net](mailto:convegni@vivariumnovum.net)

The conference will be broadcast through the Zoom platform.  
[www.vivariumnovum.net](http://www.vivariumnovum.net)

Simultaneous translation into Italian and English will be available for the entire duration of the conference, both in person and remotely.

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