

The background is a complex collage of architectural and abstract elements. It includes a large yellow rectangle on the left, a black and white photograph of a modern building with a staircase, a yellow brushstroke shape at the top center, a black and white photograph of a building facade with a grid pattern, a yellow brushstroke shape at the bottom center, and a black and white photograph of a building with a staircase. The text 'Ceramic Narratives' is overlaid in a large, white, sans-serif font. The word 'Ceramic' is on the top line, and 'Narratives' is on the bottom line. The 'N' in 'Narratives' is partially obscured by the yellow brushstroke shape at the bottom center. The 'S' in 'Narratives' is partially obscured by the black and white photograph of the building with the staircase.

Ceramic Narratives

in Architectural

Practice,
Research and Education

ECALAB

Ceramic

SYMPOSIUM 12.12.19
BUILDING CENTRE
HOME OF THE
BUILT ENVIRONMENT
SINCE 1931

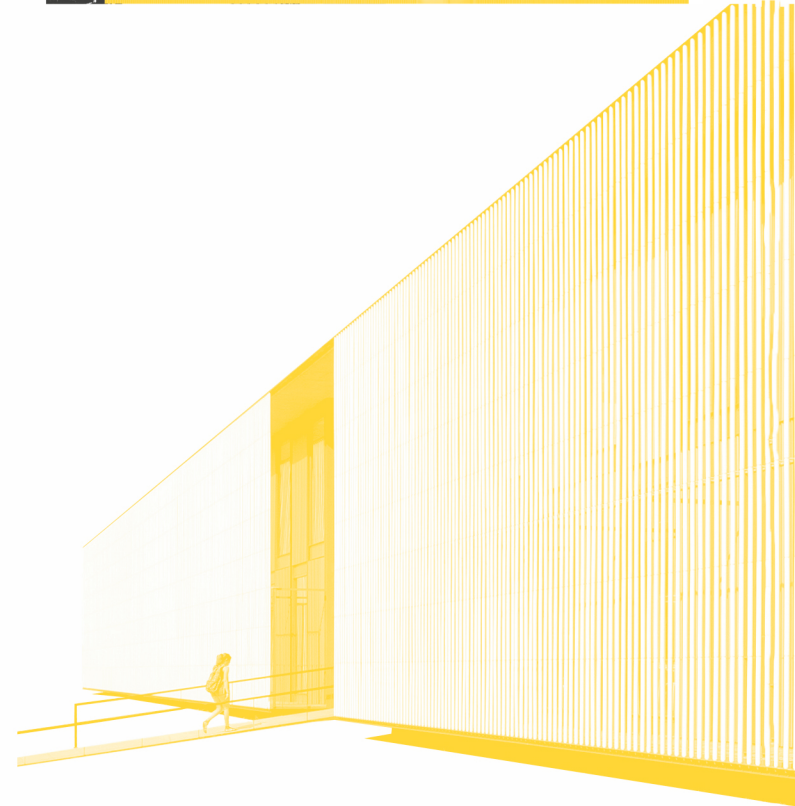
IVACE in collaboration with Rosa Urbano Gutiérrez, director of ECALAB, are pleased to present the Ceramic Narratives in Architectural Practice, Research and Education symposium, an evening event taking place at the Building Centre on Thursday 12th December 2019.

Major advances in ceramics engineering and craftsmanship have opened new routes for innovation, triggering the re-emergence of ceramics as a sensory and culturally inspiring material in architecture. This event will present innovative trends in contemporary architectural ceramics production, with a mayor focus on the Spanish ceramic tile sector which let us bring together some of the most prominent international minds connected to ceramics design and creation/production.

This is the third in a series of symposia that intend to spark a discussion around the multiple attributes of ceramics as a versatile and phenomenological architectural material.

Through speakers' presentations and a chaired discussion, we will explore a wide range of topics relating to the role of ceramics in the production of architecture, such as:

- Innovation, sustainability and technology
- Craft techniques and experimentation
- Ceramics, ornament and art in architecture
- Ceramic futures: challenges and opportunities



Speaker Borja Ferrater

OAB (Office of Architecture in Barcelona)
Barcelona, Spain



Borja Ferrater conducted studies in biology at Temple University (Philadelphia, USA) and at the University of Navarra (Spain) between 1994 – 1997, and graduated as an architect, with Thesis Cum Laude, from the International University of Catalonia (IUC) in 2005. He got his Master degree in Biodigital Architecture in 2010, and his PhD in Architecture in 2017, under the title "Use of complex Geometric Systems in Architectural Practice". Borja is currently teaching at ESARQ UIC, and co-leading a research on new Concrete materials (GRC), sponsored by Mexican Multinational Corporation, CEMEX, at the Polytechnical University of Barcelona. He has been Visiting Professor and given lectures, participated in round tables and jury of prizes in more than 20 countries around the world.

Carlos Ferrater Studio was founded in 1971, and in 2005 Carlos, together with his children Borja and Lucia Ferrater, plus his son-in-law Xavier Martí-Gali, decided to set up OAB (Office of Architecture in Barcelona), as a new collective platform that picks up on the trajectory of the earlier studio, whilst incorporating new ways of understanding architecture on the part of the members of the team in a richer, more varied and more flexible way of approaching project design. The renewal and creation of this new platform will attempt to confront the challenges that the architecture of this century has posed in the intellectual and social, technological and environmental fields. During the last years OAB has experienced a huge increase of international assignments, producing 281 projects in more than 15 countries.

Speaker Laura Andreini

Archea Associati
Florence, Italy



Founding partner of Archea Associati, Laura Andreini graduated with honours from the Architecture Faculty of Florence in 1990, completing her PhD at the same university in 1997. She is currently an Associate Professor in Architecture and Urban Planning at the School of Architecture in Florence. Archea was founded in 1988 together with Marco Casamonti and Giovanni Polazzi. It is an architectural and design office with more than 120 architects operating in the Florence, Rome and Milan branches. By partnering with design firms in Beijing, Dubai and San Paolo, Archea has produced architecture, design, interior design and graphic design works all over the world. The complementarity of the various activities focussed on the design process at different project scales open a constant critical reflection on the issues of architectural construction. Each partner, besides his or her design practice, are academics conducting research at the schools of architecture of Florence and Genoa, and direct the architectural journal Area.

Among the main works of Archea Associati are included: the Public Library in Nembro (Bergamo); the extension and renovation of the Perfetti Van Melle site in Lainate near Milan; the Antinori Winery in San Casciano Val di Pesa (Florence); the Yanqing Expo Grape near Beijing; the Li Ling World Ceramic Art City in China; the Colle Loretto residential complex in Lugano, Switzerland; the renovation and transformation of the former Magazzino Vini in Trieste where Eatly is hosted, and the renovation and refurbishment of La Valletta Central Market in Malta. Projects under construction among others, are: the Forevergreen Tower and the Albanian National Stadium both in Tirana; the redevelopment of the See Square in Durres, Albania; the Changri-La Winery in Penglai (China); and the residential complex in San Donato district and the renovation of the cinema Astra 2, both in Florence.

Speaker Benedetta Tagliabue

Miralles Tagliabue EMBT
Barcelona, Spain



Benedetta Tagliabue studied architecture at the Istituto di Architettura di Venezia (IUAV) and currently acts as director of the international architecture firm Miralles Tagliabue EMBT, founded in 1994 in collaboration with Enric Miralles, based in Barcelona, Shanghai and Paris.

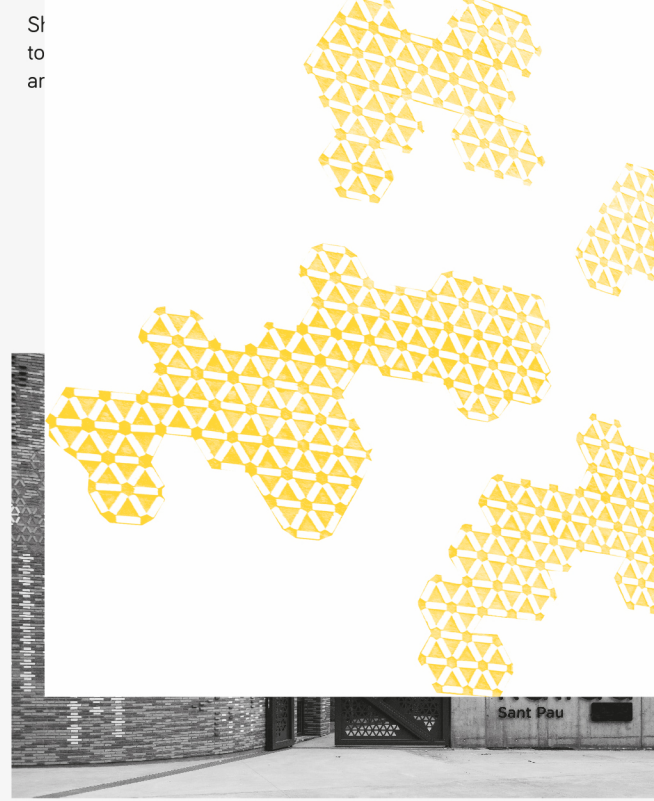
Among her most notable built projects are the Scottish Parliament in Edinburgh, Diagonal Mar Park, the Santa Caterina market in Barcelona, Campus Universitario de Vigo, and the Spanish Pavilion at the 2010 Shanghai World Expo, which was awarded the prestigious RIBA International "Best International Building of 2011" award.

Her projects include the Business School of Fudan University in Shanghai, towers in Xiamen and Taichung, public spaces of the Berlin Philharmonie in Berlin, the metro station Clichy-Montfermeil in Paris, the Naples Underground in Italy, among others.

She has been a visiting professor at Harvard University and Barcelona ETSAB, lecturing in architecture forums and universities, and is part of jurors of the Princesa de Asturias awards and since 2014 of the Pritzker Prize. In 2004 she received an award from the Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences, Edinburgh Napier University, Scotland.

Her work received the RIBA Stirling Prize in 2005, the National Spanish Prize in 2006, the Catalan National prize in 2002, City of Barcelona prize in 2005 and 2009, FAD prizes in 2000, 2003 and 2007. She received the 2013 RIBA Jencks Award, which is given annually to an individual or practice that has recently made a major contribution internationally to both the theory and practice of architecture. And in May 2019, she received the Cross of Sant Jordi granted by the Generalitat of Catalonia for the excellence of her professional practice in the field of architecture worldwide.

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Chair Rosa Urbano Gutiérrez

ECALab
Liverpool, UK



Rosa Urbano Gutiérrez is an architect, a Senior Lecturer at the University of Liverpool, School of Architecture (LSA) and a founding Director of the ECALab (Environmental Ceramics for Architecture Laboratory). ECALab investigates the possibilities of ceramics for sustainable architectural technologies while examining the role of advanced digital technologies alongside traditional ceramic craftsmanship skills. At ECALab we are concerned with exploring how the universal and optimised engineered architectural component developed in a scientific environment can be appropriated and further developed locally, benefiting from and supporting heritage and local identity, recognising the indispensable involvement of art and craftsmanship in these processes. We believe in innovation through the fusion of past and present production methodologies and the collaboration between different disciplines, with the aim to generate more meaningful buildings that foster both environmental and social sustainability.

Since 2011, ECALab has engaged 160 students, produced 85 innovative designs and 46 full-scale physical prototypes in collaboration with 25 professional artists. Through research on the use of ceramics as a sustainable material, ECALab has had an impact on the commercial development of new materials, inspired ceramic artists to work in new ways, influenced education and had an impact on the architectural profession and the general public through exhibitions, symposia, publications, films, research programmes and workshops developed in collaboration with influential institutions like RIBA (Royal Institute of British Architects), TATE, and the Building Centre.

www.ecalab.org

Schedule

Thursday 12th December 2019

17.30 Check in
17.50 Welcome, introduction and programme overview

Lectures

Innovation in Ceramic Narratives and Architectural Application

What value can ceramics bring to architecture? How are ceramics inspiring new ways of expression and pushing the limits of what a new experience of the built environment can be? How can we reignite the interest in a material whose advancement has enjoyed less exploration throughout the twentieth century? What is allowing designers and ceramic artists to explore with renewed vigour, complex relationships between materiality and the spatial qualities of architecture? How can ceramics engineering expand the imagination of visionary design professionals? How can we capitalise on the extensive knowledge of artists and craftsmen in these nascent technologies and construction processes?

This session will focus on the conceptual questions and practical challenges raised by the use of innovative earthen materials in our contemporary cultural and architectural context.

18.00 Borja Ferrater, OAB (Office of Architecture in Barcelona)

18.40 Laura Andreini, Archea Associati

19.20 Benedetta Tagliabue, Miralles Tagliabue EMBT

Critical Discussion

Architectural Practice, Research and Education: Future Prospects

How are the current dialogues between art, craftsmanship and architecture enabling the emergence of new design methodologies? Which are the best vehicles for these collaborations and what challenges do we still find in these processes? How can we reconcile personalised proposals with efficient manufacturing? How can manufacturers and the building industry be encouraged to take this risk and engage in new projects? This debate will focus on experimental ways of collaboration, production and prospective transformations of a primal material such as ceramics into complex hybrid systems, leading it to the forefront of innovation.

20.00 Critical Discussion chaired by Rosa Urbano Gutiérrez
20.30 Wine reception

