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**SANDRA PARVU**

# **THE ARCHITECT AS PRESERVATIONIST**

**VALUES, PARADOXES, AND PRACTICES**

A cura di:  
**Sandra Parvu**

Responsabile scientifico:  
**Massimiliano Giberti**

giovedì  
**30 marzo**

h: 9:30

aula 5D

dAD, UniGe

Università degli Studi di Genova  
Scuola Politecnica  
Corso di Dottorato in Architettura e Design

Coordinatore/M. Gausa

Giunta/S. Pericu (Design), M. Giberti (Architettura)  
R. Morbiducci

Collegio Docenti/C. Andriani, A. Bertagna, E. Bistagnino,  
R. A. Bobbio, N. Braghieri, C. Candito, N. Casiddu, L.  
Chimenz, A. Del Borghi, R. Fagnoni, M. L. Falcidieno,  
G. Galli, M. Gausa, A. Ghersi, A. Giachetta, M. Giberti,  
C. Lepratti, G. Lombardini, A. Magliocco, F. Mazzino, R.  
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Pericu, K. Perini, V. Pizzigoni, P. Rosasco, M. Musio Sale,  
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Segreteria/M. Mazzucchelli

**MASTERCLASS**

marzo 2023

# THE ARCHITECT AS PRESERVATIONIST

## VALUES, PARADOXES, AND PRACTICES

At the end of the twentieth century, poor workmanship during construction and deferred maintenance called into question the future of millions of collective housing units built in France after the Second World War. I propose to examine in this lecture the debate that has waged for the past twenty years within the French administration and architectural profession over whether and how to preserve them. I will present more specifically the approach to modernism and the renovation to post-war housing by three architecture firms based in Paris, including the work of 2021 Pritzker Prize laureates Anne Lacaton and Jean-Philippe Vassal.

Sandra Parvu is Associate Professor of Architecture and Urban Planning in the Department of Architecture at the University of Paris and a research fellow at the Centre for Housing Research (LAVUE CNRS). Her book *Grands ensembles en situation: Journal de bord de quatre chantiers (Public Housing in Situ: A Study of Four Building Sites, 2011)* explores the difference in operating models and the epistemological gap still at work today between housing undertaken as an architectural project, and housing addressed as a social, political, and economic problem. More recently, she has published with the Italian urban historian Alice Sotgia a chapter in *Speaking of Buildings. Oral History in Architectural Research* (Princeton Architectural Press, 2019), on sound as a weapon to fight public housing demolition in Los Angeles, and another in *Architecture and the Housing Question* (London: Routledge, 2022) on the topic of the lecture she will give in Genova.

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