

ARCHITECTURE AND POSTHUMANISM: HOW TO RETHINK 'NATURE' FOR AND THROUGH ARCHITECTURE AND ART/DESIGN PRACTICES?

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Abstract:

In the last decade, ecological questions have gained attention in architecture, especially through discussions about the '(Post-)Anthropocene' (Turpin 2014; Jaque/Otero Verzier/ Pietroiusti 2021) and a 'more-than-human architecture' (Roudavski 2019), where 'the human' is losing the centrality given to it by modernity as means to make room for other forms of existence. Thereby, the modernist concept of nature, developed from romantic movements of the 19th century, and which has had very important consequences for architectural production, has also become increasingly questionable (Ingersoll 2012; Nieto/Mesa 2020). Accordingly, architects have started to address the question of which kind of architecture do we need for which (different) notions of nature?

Simultaneously, STS researchers have long produced accounts of 'nature' as a matter of design and making by paying attention to the agency of materials in architectural practices and building processes; 'animal infrastructures' in urban spaces; 'urban greening'; or the politics of landscape and material transformations through architecture and technology in urban, rural and remote areas.

Taking these developments into account, we invite presentations that, from the background of posthumanism explore how different concepts and versions of nature(s) are assembled and enacted in, with or through architecture and art/design practices?

This panel aims to provoke an interdisciplinary exchange. Hence, we are welcoming contributions from STS researchers, architects, artists, and designers whose work focuses on 'architecture as built environment' or 'architecture as practice and research'. We are interested in presentations that might reflect on conceptual discussions, empirical and ethnographic case studies, design and architectural projects, multimodal formats, or teaching experiments.

Literature:

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Key words:

posthumanism, architecture and design, ecology