

# SCI-Arc

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## SCI-Arc ANNOUNCES SPRING 2019 PUBLIC LECTURES AND EXHIBITIONS



Clockwise from top left: Valerio Olgiati, Alexandra Leykauf, Martine Syms, Bob Sheil, Barbara Imhof, Peter Noever, Izaskun Chinchilla, Thom Mayne, Catherine Johnson and Rebecca Rudolph and Elena Manferdini

### ***Events at SCI-Arc are always free and open to the public***

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**Los Angeles, CA (December 19, 2018)** – SCI-Arc is pleased to continue its commitment to maintaining a robust platform for interdisciplinary thinkers with its [spring 2019 series of public events](#). The SCI-Arc public lectures coming this spring introduce speakers from a broad cross-section of cultural practices, including multimedia artist and publisher **Martine Syms**, SCI-Arc Graduate Programs Chair **Elena Manferdini**, and Madrid-based architect and theorist **Izaskun Chinchilla**, as well as one of SCI-Arc's original founders, **Thom Mayne**, who recently returned to SCI-Arc as full-time distinguished faculty, taking over the coordination of SCI-Arc EDGE's postgraduate Design of Cities program.

The public lecture series is complemented by several exhibitions, including ***Obsessions in Focus: Confrontations, Experiences, and Glowing Friendships***, curated by renowned Austrian curator and designer **Peter Noever** and featuring manifestos on Raimund Abraham, Vito Acconci, Zaha Hadid and James Turrell, among others, playing out a festival of revolving individual positions on contemporary art and architecture.

SCI-Arc's annual **Spring Show**, highlighting the most compelling student projects of the year, will open to the public on April 28, 2019. A special exhibition preview on April 27 will coincide with **Main Event 2019**, SCI-Arc's annual celebration which raises funds for the School's Scholarship Endowment.

Admission to SCI-Arc-hosted public events and exhibitions is always free and open to the public.

<u>January 30</u>	<b>Valerio Olgiati</b> Lecture
<u>February 4</u>	Book Launch & Exhibition Opening with <b>Kristy Balliet, Kelly Bair and Sylvia Lavin</b>
<u>6</u>	<b>Alexandra Leykauf</b> Lecture
<u>13</u>	<b>Barbara Imhof</b> Lecture
<u>20</u>	<b>Bob Sheil</b> Lecture
<u>March 6</u>	<b>Martine Syms</b> Lecture
<u>13</u>	<b>Elena Manferdini</b> Lecture
<u>15</u>	<b>Fear &amp; Wonder</b> Symposium
<u>20</u>	<b>Thom Mayne</b> Lecture
<u>27</u>	<b>Design, Bitches: Catherine Johnson &amp; Rebecca Rudolph</b> Lecture
<u>April 3</u>	<b>Izaskun Chinchilla</b> Lecture
<u>April 5</u>	<b>Obsessions in Focus</b> Exhibition Opening
<u>27</u>	<b>Spring Show</b> Exhibition Preview with <b>Main Event 2019</b>

Visit <https://sciarc.edu/events/> for more information about upcoming lectures. All events begin at 7pm unless otherwise noted. Lectures take place in the W. M. Keck Lecture Hall and are broadcast on SCI-Arc's [Facebook page](#). Gallery opening receptions are held in the SCI-Arc Gallery and Kappe Library Gallery spaces.

## LECTURES

January 30, 7pm in the W.M. Keck Lecture Hall

**Valerio Olgiati:** Lecture

Valerio Olgiati studied architecture until 1986 at ETH Zürich. Having lived and worked first in Zurich and later in Los Angeles for some years with Frank Escher, in 1996 he opened his own practice in Zurich and in 2008 in Flims. As a guest professor he taught at ETH Zürich, at Architectural Association School of Architecture London and at Cornell University in Ithaca, New York. Since 2002 he has been a full professor at the Accademia di architettura Mendrisio at the Università della Svizzera italiana. Since fall 2009 he has held the Kenzo Tange Chair at Harvard University, Cambridge, United States.

February 6 7pm in the W.M. Keck Lecture Hall

**Alexandra Leykauf:** *Photography and Interior*

Alexandra Leykauf (born in 1976) studied at the Academy of Fine Arts in Nuremberg, Germany and at the Gerrit Rietveld Academy in Amsterdam, The Netherlands. She lives and works in Berlin. Recent solo exhibitions include *Caprona* (Focal Point Gallery Southend, UK, 2018) *Cliché Verre* (KM Gallery, Berlin, 2018), *Film – Alexandra Leykauf* (Cinema 2, Centre Pompidou, Paris, 2016). Selected group exhibitions include *Les Rencontres de la photographie* (Fotofestival Arles, France, 2016), *Dealing with Surfaces* (GAK, Bremen, 2015), *Bad Thoughts - Collection Martijn and Jeannette Sanders* (Stedelijk Museum Amsterdam, 2014), *Wiederholung* (Westfälischer Kunstverein, Münster, 2014), *Printed Matter* (Manifesta Parallel Program, Museum of Printing, St. Petersburg, RU, 2014), *Cimetière d'Ixelles* (Art in General, NY, 2013) *Entre Deux* (Musée régional d'art contemporain Languedoc-Roussillon, France, 2013), *Brute!* (Carpenter Center for the Visual Arts, Harvard University, Cambridge, USA, 2013), *based in Berlin* (KunstWerke, Berlin, 2011), *Geometrie variable* (Architectures de Film, Centre Pompidou, Paris, 2011), *Rehabilitation* (Wiels, Brussels, 2010), *Forum Expanded* (Berlinale, Berlin, 2010) She has been teaching at various art academies amongst which the Carpenter Center for the Visual Arts, Harvard University and the University of Arts, Berlin. Her latest publication was published by Roma Publishers, Amsterdam in 2016.

“The examination of image spaces and my own mental and physical relation to them has been a recurring theme in all my works. I observe the act of looking. Many of my works play with the transition from a three dimensional object to the surface of the image and back to a spatial experience. I examine the multiple implications of changing pictorial conventions and our contemporary mode of viewing, questions of origin, authorship, and our position towards the contradictory truths of images. Be it the carpet, the baroque garden, the movie theater, the museum, the tent, the vitrine, the cabinet or the book, it is the designed interior surrounded by an undefined

exterior and the interface between those different spheres that trigger my wish to orientate, to find a sense for vantage point and direction. The conflict between the initial fascination or enchantment I experience when looking at images - a certain inwardness - and a thriving for the sobriety of the overview, the wish to extract myself to a point of view from which I can clearly see artificiality and context motivates my work, but speaking of interiors and my own position within or outside of man-made spaces is also connected to who I am as a female artist. In the proposed lecture I will introduce my work, speak about the way I use photography and about the role photography plays within the wider context of contemporary artistic means.” – Alexandra Leykauf

February 13, 7pm in the W.M. Keck Lecture Hall

**Barbara Imhauf:** *The stars look very different today* (David Bowie)

This lecture will explore the implications of space as an environment for future habitation both materially and conceptually. Research and development projects of LIQUIFER - implemented as part of the European space exploration programme - highlight topics of living with limited resources, in limited spaces and living self-sufficiently. Concept studies for lunar and Martian bases as well as building prototypes set within future scenarios for living on earth and in space form the basis of LIQUIFER's work. Arts-based and basic research in the fields of biomimetics and integrating biological systems into architecture add to the circular systems perspective of future narratives for our extended world.

Dr. Barbara Imhof is a space architect, researcher and educator. She is also the co-founder and co-manager of LIQUIFER Systems Group that comprises experts from the fields of architecture, design, human factors, systems engineering and science. Their space related projects focus on feasibility and scenario studies as well as designing and building mock-ups and prototypes. LIQUIFER partners with renowned research institutions and well-known enterprises to conduct research and technology development through contracts with the European Space Agency, the space industry and with the EU-Framework Programmes and other funding bodies. As project lead Barbara currently works on the Gateway project, designing the habitat module for the next International Space Station in a lunar orbit. She also led projects such as SHEE, a Self-deployable Habitat for Extreme Environments, the first built European simulation habitat. The SHEE habitat became part of another LIQUIFER project named MOONWALK, developed to test human-robot collaborations in two space simulation missions in Rio Tinto and subsea. In addition, Barbara pursues projects in the field of biomimetics and closed-loop systems such as Living Architecture - in collaboration with Rachel Armstrong - and GrAB—Growing As Building which looks at growth principles in nature and their proto-architectural translations towards self-growing buildings.

March 6, 7pm in W.M. Keck Lecture Hall

**Martine Syms:** Lecture

Martine Syms (b. 1988, Los Angeles) uses video and performance to examine representations of blackness. Her artwork has been exhibited and screened extensively, including presentations at the Museum of Modern Art, Hammer Museum, ICA London, New Museum, Museum of Contemporary Art Los Angeles, and The Studio Museum in Harlem, among other institutions. She has lectured at Yale University, SXSW, California Institute of the Arts, University of Chicago, Johns Hopkins University, and MoMA PS1, among other venues. Syms' recently presented exhibitions include *Projects 106: Martine Syms*, Museum of Modern Art; *Borrowed Lady*, Simon Fraser University Galleries, Vancouver; *Fact and Trouble*, ICA London; *COM PORT MENT*, Karma International, Los Angeles; *Vertical Elevated Oblique*, Bridget Donahue Gallery, New York. From 2007-2011 she was the co-director of the Chicago artist run project space Golden Age, and she currently runs Dominica Publishing, an imprint dedicated to exploring blackness in visual culture. She is the author of *Implications and Distinctions: Format, Content and Context in Contemporary Race Film* (2011). Her first US solo museum exhibition *Projects 106: Martine Syms*, premiered at the Museum of Modern Art in New York in May of 2017. She is a faculty member in the School of Art at the California Institute of the Arts.

March 13, 7pm in the W.M. Keck Lecture Hall

**Elena Manferdini:** Lecture

**Elena Manferdini**, principal and owner of Atelier Manferdini, has over fifteen years of professional experience in architecture, art, design, and education. She is a licensed engineer in Italy, and a licensed architect in Switzerland. She received a Professional Engineering Degree from the University of Civil Engineering (Bologna, Italy) and a Master of Architecture and Urban Design from the University of California in Los Angeles (UCLA). Elena teaches at SCI-Arc and is the Graduate Programs Chair. In 2014 she held the Howard Friedman Visiting

Professor of Practice at the University of California Berkeley (UCB). She has also held Visiting Professor positions at Cornell University, University of Pennsylvania and Seika University. She frequently lectures, and her work has been exhibited internationally in both architecture and art museums.

In 2017 her facade for Alexander Montessori School in Miami, Florida received 2 AIA Miami design award: People's Choice award of excellence and Merit Award of excellence. In 2016 Elena Manferdini was awarded the PAN Award for best public art project in North America. Her artwork is part of the permanent collections of SFMoMA and LACMA. In 2013 she won the COLA Fellowship given by City of Los Angeles Department of Cultural Affairs to support the production of original artwork. In 2013 she received a Graham Award for architecture, the 2013 ACADIA Innovative Research Award of Excellence, and she was selected as recipient for the Educator of the Year presidential award given by the AIA Los Angeles. In 2011 she was one of the recipients of the prestigious annual grants from the United States Artists (USA) in the category of architecture and design.

March 15, 7pm in the W.M. Keck Lecture Hall

***Fear & Wonder II*: Symposium**

Directed by Liam Young / Fiction and Entertainment at SCI-Arc

Our perception of the world is largely shaped through the mediums of fiction. Our political positions are informed by fake news, we live out our lives in the pixelated territories of video games and we escape into the pages of a novel or the flicker of the movie screen. In film, games and literature we have always imagined alternative worlds as a means to understand our own world in new ways. In *Fear & Wonder II* we join a new ensemble of directors, concept artists, video game designers and storytellers for an expedition through an atlas of imaginary worlds, fictional cities and speculative geographies. The event will also feature a complimentary bar, reading room and pop up shop, gaming area and a live DJ.

*This symposium is generously supported by the Alfred P. Sloan foundation.*

March 20, 7pm in the W.M. Keck Lecture Hall

**Thom Mayne: Lecture**

Thom Mayne is founding principal of Morphosis, a global design firm engaged in architecture, urban planning, and research since 1972. Based in Los Angeles, New York, and Shanghai with projects world-wide, Morphosis' work represents a wide variety of scales and typologies, from civic projects, schools, and museums to commercial towers and city planning. Mayne's distinguished honors include the Pritzker Prize (2005) and the American Institute of Architects Gold Medal (2013). He served on the President's Committee on the Arts and Humanities from 2009-2016. Mayne is a distinguished Professor at UCLA, where he has taught since 1993.

March 27, 7pm in the W.M. Keck Lecture Hall

**Design, Bitches: Lecture**

**Principals: Catherine Johnson, AIA and Rebecca Rudolph, AIA**

Catherine Johnson and Rebecca Rudolph founded their Los Angeles-based practice Design, Bitches in 2010. Design, Bitches has been recognized with multiple awards from the AIA/LA, Surface, Architect's Newspaper, shortlisted for the Moira Gemmill Prize for Emerging Architecture, and selected as the 2017 recipient of AIA/LA's Emerging Practice Award. Catherine and Rebecca co-taught at the University of Oregon in 2016 and lectured at Columbia University, Yale University, CalArts, UCLA and George Washington University, and were the keynote speakers at the New Zealand Institute of Architects Inaugural Festival of Architecture. They have served as jurors of AIA Awards throughout the US and participated in numerous workshops and symposiums including the 7<sup>th</sup> Annual Women in Design Conference, See Me, I am Here Symposium at UNLV, and Readings from the LA Forum Reader. This year they collaborated with Dezeen and Adidas to create Stomping Grounds, a park concept with programmatic adjacencies based on the original Adidas P.O.D. system shoe. Catherine & Rebecca are native Californians. Catherine received her MARCH from SCI-Arc and her BIARC from the University of Oregon; Rebecca received her MARCH from SCI-Arc and a Master of Philosophy from the University of Paris VIII.

Johnson and Rebecca founded Design, Bitches with a bold and irreverent vision to make architecture significant in daily life. Their multidisciplinary firm draws inspiration from the duos' eclectic expertise in the areas of design, art, and pop culture. Each design transforms a collage of influences into architecture that is beautiful and layered

with meaning, but also welcoming—spaces and landscapes where people want to hang out. Their work encompasses and integrates architecture, interiors, branding and graphics to expand the influence of design in a range of environments from the micro to the macro. The lecture will explore questions surrounding inspiration, collaboration, connecting with community and clients, and how material and spatial experimentation contribute to the meaning a place has for us and our emotional connection to it.

April 3, 7pm in the W.M. Keck Lecture Hall

**Izaskun Chinchilla: Lecture**

Izaskun Chinchilla graduated as an architect in 2001 from Universidad Politécnica de Madrid. She has led her own practice since 2011 and is Senior Teaching Fellow and Researcher at the Barlett School of Architecture. She has also taught at the Ecole Special in Paris and at the HEAD University in Geneva. She was Studio Professor in the University of Alicante (Escuela de Arquitectura Universidad de Alicante) from 2002 to 2007 and she is currently teaching at the University Escuela Técnica Superior de Arquitectura Universidad Politécnica de Madrid as well as at the Instituto de Empresa, also in Madrid. Her professional practice is accompanied by a research project called “Social and aesthetic repercussions of technical topics and solutions which take ecology into account” and that brought her Columbia University as a visiting scholar (2002), Ecole de Mines de Paris (2003) and Princeton University in New Jersey (2004) and also to the Institut d’Arquitectura Avancada de Catalunya (Barcelona), in a Postgraduate Masters program (2003-2007).

As speaker she has participated in forums, lectures and debates in more than 80 international locations and more than 90 magazines and publications have published proposals from her office. Her work has been exhibited in 8<sup>a</sup> Biennale di Venezia, 10<sup>a</sup> Biennale di Venezia, V Bienal de Arquitectura y Diseño de Sao Paulo as well as in traveling exhibitions at New Trends Europe-Asia, Panorama Emergente Iberoamericano or European 7 and in museums such as LIGA (México DF), galleries including “mad is mad” (Madrid), Arquerias de Nuevos Ministerios del Ministerio de la Vivienda (Madrid), la Casa Encendida (Madrid) and the Museo de Teruel (Teruel).

**EXHIBITIONS**

February 4 – March 24 in the Kappe Library

***Possible Mediums***

Monday, February, 7pm: Opening Reception, Book Launch & Discussion

*Possible Mediums* presents a collection of sixteen speculative design mediums by emerging architects. Each chapter defines an active medium in contemporary architecture through descriptions, drawings, and objects. *Possible Mediums* arranges projects according to shared technical and aesthetic traits, creating a vibrant taxonomy of design. Descriptive texts explain the working principles behind each medium and introduce design concepts intended to inspire students and professionals alike. Through its many contributors, *Possible Mediums* establishes design as a collective endeavor propelled by the open exchange of ideas and techniques. *Possible Mediums* is not a systematic theory, a manifesto, or a banal survey; it is a projection of architecture and knowledge to come.

The book launch is a celebration and discussion surrounding this project. The editors, SCI-Arc’s design faculty Kristy Balliet and collaborators Kelly Bair (University of Illinois Chicago), Adam Fure (University of Michigan) and Kyle Miller (Syracuse University) will exhibit and present the *Possible Mediums* book, and be joined in discussion by critical theorist, Sylvia Lavin.

Books will be available for purchase by Hennessey and Ingalls.

April 5 – August 18 in the SCI-Arc Gallery

***Obsessions in Focus: Confrontations, Experiences and Glowing Friendships***

Curated and Designed by Peter Noever

Friday, April 5 at 7pm: Opening Reception

With manifestos on Raimund Abraham, Vito Acconci, Günther Domenig, Zaha Hadid, Magdalena Jetelova, Eric Owen Moss, Walter Pichler, Wolf D. Prix, Bernard Rudofsky, James Turrell, Franz West and Lebbeus Woods.

*"The contemporary must be fought for!"* is not only a statement of belief, but also an expression of a present that was fought for and experienced. It is a manifesto for a critical attitude toward contemporaneity in times of growing non-commitments. *Obsessions in Focus* is also an attempt to clarify the essence of contemporary art and architecture through a festival of contrasting positions in which each week one visionary artist or architect will be in focus.

Peter Noever is an Austrian designer and curator—at-large of art, architecture and media. From 1986 to 2011 he was the artistic director and CEO of MAK—Austrian Museum of Applied Arts and Contemporary Art in Vienna.

April 28 – May 12 throughout the School

### **Spring Show 2019**

Saturday, April 27 at 7pm: *Spring Show* ticketed preview reception with *Main Event 2019*

SCI-Arc's thirteenth annual Spring Show features work from all school programs. Undergraduate, Graduate and Postgraduate design studio projects as well as coursework from the Applied and Visual Studies seminars, will be exhibited school-wide and will remain on view for the public through May 12, 2019.

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### **Public Programs**

Parking and admission are free. No reservations are required. Events are broadcast live online on SCI-Arc's [Facebook page](#).

SCI-Arc Public Programs are subject to change beyond our control. For the most current information, please visit [www.sciarc.edu/](http://www.sciarc.edu/) or call 213-613-2200.

### **Parking and Hours**

The entrance to SCI-Arc's parking lot is at 350 Merrick Street, Los Angeles, CA 90013, between Traction Avenue and 4th Street in Los Angeles. The SCI-Arc Gallery is open daily from 10am–6pm; the Library Gallery is open daily from 12pm-6pm.

### **About SCI-Arc**

Southern California Institute of Architecture (SCI-Arc) is dedicated to educating architects who will imagine and shape the future. It is an independent, accredited degree-granting institution offering undergraduate and graduate programs in architecture. Located in a quarter-mile-long former freight depot in the Arts District in Downtown Los Angeles, the school is distinguished by its vibrant studio culture and emphasis on process. SCI-Arc's approximately 500 students and 80 faculty members, most of whom are practicing architects, work together to re-examine assumptions, create, explore and test the limits of architecture. SCI-Arc faculty and leadership have garnered more than 500 national and international design awards and recognitions, including Progressive Architecture awards, American Institute of Architects (AIA) awards, and the prestigious Jencks and Pritzker architecture prizes. SCI-Arc is located at 960 E. 3rd Street, Los Angeles, CA 90013. [www.sciarc.edu/](http://www.sciarc.edu/)