

Dr. Ing. Marianna Charitonidou<https://charitonidou.com/>[ORCID # 0000-0003-1083-4861](#) | [Academia](#) | [Linkedin](#) | [Researchgate](#) | [Google Scholar](#)

Dr. Ing. Marianna Charitonidou [m.charitonidou@icloud.com] is Architect Engineer & Urban Planner, Historian & Theorist of Architecture and Urbanism, Expert in Sustainable Environmental Design, Curator & Urban Sociologist. Currently, she is Principal Investigator and Senior Lecturer and Senior Researcher in Architecture & Urban Planning at Athens School of Fine Arts, where she is leading the project *Constantinos A. Doxiadis and Adriano Olivetti's Post-war Reconstruction Agendas in Greece and in Italy: Centralising and Decentralising Political Apparatus*. She is a registered Architect Engineer at the Technical Chamber of Greece since October 2010 (no: 127002) and the Founder and CEO of Think Through Design Architectural, Urban and Landscape Design Studio. She is the author of three monographs: *Reinventing Modern Architecture in Greece: From Sentimental Topography to Topographical Sensitivity* (Routledge, 2024), *Architectural Drawings as Investigating Devices: Architecture's Changing Scope in the 20th Century* (Routledge, 2023) *Drawing and Experiencing Architecture: The Evolving Significance of City's Inhabitants in the 20th Century* (Transcript Publishing, 2022), and of more than 100 peer-reviewed scientific publications. She has presented her research at many international conferences (more than 111) and has published more than 107 publications focusing on architecture and urbanism.

On 11 February 2022, in the framework of the International Day of Women and Girls in Science 2022, she was selected by ETH Zurich among the women role models conducting research in Science. Among her highly cited articles is "Urban scale digital twins in data-driven society: Challenging digital universalism in urban planning decision-making" published in *International Journal of Architectural Computing*. She is Associate Editor of *Urban, Planning and Transportation Research*, member of the Editorial Board of *InScience* and *Urban and Regional Planning*, member of the Senior Advisory Board of *City Space Architecture*, which is partner of *UN-Habitat*, and member of the Review Board of the *Journal of Contemporary Urban Affairs*.

At the Faculty of Art Theory and History of Athens School of Fine Arts, she is currently the Principal Investigator of the research project entitled *Constantinos A. Doxiadis and Adriano Olivetti's Post-war Reconstruction Agendas in Greece and in Italy: Centralising and Decentralising Political Apparatus*. As Lecturer and Postdoctoral Research Fellow at the Chair of the History and Theory of Urban Design at the Institute for the History and Theory of Architecture (qta) at the Department of Architecture of ETH Zurich, she conducted a postdoctoral project entitled *The Travelling Architect's Eye: Photography and the Automobile Vision*, which she completed in August 2021. At ETH Zurich, she taught the courses "Fundamentals of the History and Theory of Architecture I", and "Fundamentals of the History and Theory of Architecture II", and the seminar "The City Represented: The View from the Car". She also curated the exhibition *The View from the Car: Autopia as a New Perceptual Regime* at the Department of Architecture of ETH Zurich.

She has extensive postdoctoral research experience and is/was the Principal Investigator of five postdoctoral research projects: *The Greek Travels of the Villa Medici pensionnaires in the 19th Century: Perceiving Ancient Monuments between Architecture and Archaeology* (Princeton University), *Constantinos A. Doxiadis and Adriano Olivetti's Post-war Reconstruction Agendas in Greece and in Italy: Centralising and Decentralising Political Apparatus*, which she is currently leading at Athens School of Fine Arts (Hellenic Institute for Research and Innovation), the postdoctoral research project *The Travelling Architect's Eye: Photography and the Automobile Vision*, which she conducted at the Department of Architecture of ETH Zurich (2019-2021) (ETH Zurich Postdoctoral Fellowship), *The View from the Car: Autopia as a New Perceptual Regime* (ETH Zurich Career Seed Award), and the postdoctoral research project entitled *The Fictional Addressee of Architecture as a Device for Exploring Post-colonial Culture: The Transformations of the Helleno-centric Approaches* (2018-2022) at the School of Architecture of the National Technical University of Athens

(State Scholarships Foundation). The completed research of this postdoctoral project was presented publicly on 6 July 2022.

In September 2018, she was awarded a Doctoral Degree all'unanimità from the National Technical University of Athens for her PhD dissertation *The Relationship between Interpretation and Elaboration of Architectural Form: Investigating the Mutations of Architecture's Scope* (jury: Jean-Louis Cohen, Bernard Tschumi, George Parmenidis, Pippo Ciorra, Constantinos Moraitis, Kostas Tsiambaos, Panayotis Tournikiotis). In her PhD dissertation, she examined the mutations of the modes of representation in contemporary architecture in relation to the transformation of the status of the addressee of architecture. Her PhD dissertation was based on extensive archival research in various archives at the Canadian Centre for Architecture in Montreal, Getty Research Institute in Los Angeles (Aldo Rossi papers, Reyner Banham Papers etc.), the Fondation Le Corbusier in Paris, the Library of Congress in Washington DC., and the Museum of Modern Art of New York (Ludwig Mies van der Rohe papers), Avery Library's Department of Drawings & Archives at Columbia University in New York, and the Museo nazionale delle arti del XXI secolo in Rome (Aldo Rossi papers) among other institutes. She was a Visiting Research Scholar at Columbia University's Graduate School of Architecture, Planning and Preservation (invited by Prof. Bernard Tschumi, 2016-2017 & 2017-2018), the Institute of Fine Arts of New York University (invited by Prof. Jean-Louis Cohen, 2014-2015 & 2016-2017), the École française de Rome (2016-2017 & 2017-2018), the Canadian Centre for Architecture (CCA) (Doctoral Students Grant Program 2018), and the Getty Research Institute (GRI). Her research projects have been supported by Columbia University, the Getty Research Institute, the Académie Française, the Cité Universitaire Internationale de Paris, the State Scholarships Foundation (IKY), the Université Paris Nanterre, Leventis Foundation, Stavros Niarchos Foundation and ETH Zürich Foundation.

Apart from her PhD Degree in Architecture, Dr. Ing. Marianna Charitonidou also holds an MPhil Degree in Architecture and Urbanism (Inter-Departmental Postgraduate Program "Design, Space, Culture") from the School of Architectural Engineering of the National Technical University of Athens (2013) (MPhil Dissertation Project: *From Semiology to Deconstruction: Metaphysics and Subject*), an MSc Degree in Sustainable Environmental Design from the Architectural Association in London (2011) (MSc Dissertation Project: *Sustainable Housing Design in Mykonos: Vernacular vs. Contemporary*), and a MArchEng Degree in Architectural Engineering from the Department of Architectural Engineering of the Aristotle University of Thessaloniki (2010) (Final Design Project: *Design Routes: Crossing the Section*). She was also awarded an Erasmus Scholarship that gave her the opportunity to attend the MArch programme at the École Nationale Supérieure d'Architecture Paris-Malaquais (2007-2008). She has taught at various Schools of Architecture in Europe, Switzerland, and the UK – especially in Zurich, the UK, Paris and Greece – including the Department of Architecture of ETH Zurich, the School of Architectural Engineering of the National Technical University of Athens, the École Nationale Supérieure d'Architecture Paris-Malaquais, the École Nationale Supérieure d'Architecture Paris-la-Villette and the École Nationale Supérieure d'Architecture de Versailles, and the Department of Architectural Engineering of the University of Ioannina.

She is an active member of Society of Architectural Historians, Architectural Humanities Research Association (AHRA), Association d'histoire de l'architecture (AHA), Associazione Italiana di Storia Urbana (AISU), DOCOMOMO International, European Architectural History Network (EAHN), Design History Society (DHS), European Association for Architectural Education (EAAE), Society of Architectural Historians of Australia and New Zealand (SAHANZ), Society of Architectural Historians (SAH), Global Architectural History Teaching Collective (GAHTC), American Association of Geographers (AAG), and European Association of Urban History (EAUH) among other associations, networks and societies. Moreover, she is qualified as Senior Lecturer/Associate Professor (Maître de conférences) by section 18 of the National Council of Universities (C.N.U.) in France concerning research and teaching in architecture (its theories and practices), applied arts, visual arts, performing arts, epistemology of artistic teaching, aesthetics, musicology, music, and art science, and as Senior Lecturer/Associate Professor (Maître de conférences) by section 22 of the National Council of

Universities (C.N.U.) in France concerning research and teaching in history and civilizations, history of modern worlds, history of the contemporary, world art history and music history.

Below you can have a look at an overview of three core thematic clusters of the research, design and teaching practices of Dr. Ing. Marianna Charitonidou:

1. The first thematic cluster explores how the concept of the user in architecture is transformed throughout time and how this is related to the mutations of the modes of representation. As modes of representation, she explores, through her teaching and research, three means of representation: architectural drawing and visual argumentation via diagrams and sketches, as she does in her two monographs and her PhD Dissertation, completed in 2018, photography, as she did in her postdoctoral project, her courses and seminars and the exhibition she curated on the view from the car in architecture at ETH Zürich, and cinema, as she does in her publications, teaching and research that focus on the role of women, migrants, and diasporic identities in Italian Neorealist films. Within this framework of problematizing the role of visual argumentation in my teaching and research, she places particular emphasis on the combination of ethnographic tools and visual mapping to address how diverse groups inhabit and transform space via their spatial and social practices. This problematic is related to her research on how counterculture groups, student groups, advocacy planning groups, and activist groups have pushed architecture schools to reshape their curricula and to incorporate diversity issues in the briefs of the design studios. Diversity practices are at the core of her work on active socioplastics in the case of Denise Scott Brown and on her analyses of the critiques of urban renewal and nuova dimensione in the US and Italy and of how these critiques reshaped architectural pedagogies. These reflections are related to her endeavour to decolonize and decarbonize architectural pedagogies today, bringing to the teaching of design studio and history and theory courses a transnational perspective of techniques and social practices.
2. The second thematic cluster concerns her research on the tension between external modernizing agents in the Global South and the spatial and social practices of local communities. Within this context, she has published articles and presented papers at international conferences that focus on the tension between the realization of pro-poor housing programs in areas such as Addis Ababa as the so-called “Integrated Housing Development Program” (IHDP) and the spatial and social practices of citizens. I explore, in my teaching and research, the potentialities of “negotiated planning” approach, which implies a close analysis of the interconnections between planning, infrastructure, and land, for bringing diversity to architectural education and practice. Another project that is related to how external modernizing agents interacted with the local communities within the Global South is her project on Doxiadis Associates’ FESTAC town masterplan in Lagos, Nigeria and its relation to the concept of Ecumenopolis.
3. The third thematic cluster concerns her research and teaching aiming to shed light on the risks of digital universalism in the case of the use of urban scale digital twins within the process of taking decisions related to sustainability. Urban scale digital twins are real-time simulations of specific parameters concerning cities and neighbourhoods. They are used extensively to simulate parameters related to sustainability and, despite the fact that they are very efficient for visualizing quantitative parameters, they often neglect issues related to social equity and other qualitative parameters related to urban planning. In her research and teaching, she explores how visualization techniques and applications can enhance participatory design methods. She argues that urban scale digital twins applications should be based on the intention to incorporate in the decision-making processes the feedback of citizens and I examine how this could be possible.