



POLITECNICO
MILANO 1863

DIPARTIMENTO DI ARCHITETTURA
E STUDI URBANI
DEPARTMENT OF ARCHITECTURE
AND URBAN STUDIES



Autostrada del Brennero SpA
Brennerautobahn AG

Wim Wenders, Paris, Texas (1984)

INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE

Convenors

DAStU - Dipartimento di Architettura
e Studi Urbani, Politecnico di Milano
Andrea Gritti
Elena Fontanella
Claudia Zanda

with

Autostrada del Brennero SpA
Diego Cattoni, Chief Executive Officer
Carlo Costa, General Technical Director

Organization

Elena Fontanella
Claudia Zanda
DAStU, Politecnico di Milano

Scientific committee

Eric Alonzo
Éav&t Paris-Est
Carmen Andriani
Università di Genova
Walter Angonese
Accademia di Architettura di Mendrisio
Renato Bocchi
Università IUAV di Venezia
Antonio De Rossi
Politecnico di Torino
Alberto Ferlenga
Università IUAV di Venezia
Andrea Gritti
Politecnico di Milano
Tullia Iori
Università degli Studi di Roma Tor Vergata
Mathieu Mercuriali
ENSA Strasbourg
Alessandra Oppio
Politecnico di Milano
Dominique Rouillard
ENSA Paris Malaquais
Ilaria Valente
Politecnico di Milano

Contacts

motorarchland@polimi.it

Motorway Architecture and Landscapes Retrospectives and Perspectives between Critique and Design

Politecnico di Milano

Piazza Leonardo da Vinci 32, Milan
Aula Magna, Sala Donatori, Salette 1-2 (Building 1)

March 1, 2024 h 9:00 - 19:00

Le Gallerie

Piedicastello, Trento
Sala Conferenze C1 (Galleria Bianca)

March 2, 2024 h 15:00 - 19:00

The **International Conference** is part of the activities organised in the “*Motorway Architecture Landscape. Descriptions, interpretations, and design experimentations in the territories crossed by the A22 motorway*” research framework, developed by the Department of Architecture and Urban Studies, Politecnico di Milano, in partnership with Autostrada del Brennero SpA.

A selection of the research outcomes was presented in the exhibition “*Brenner Motorway. Architecture and Landscapes*” on display at Le Gallerie, Piedicastello, Trento from September 29, 2023 to March 3, 2024 and in the book “*Brenner Motorway. Architecture and Landscapes - Iconographic Maps*”. Two books are currently under publication: “*Brenner Motorway. Architecture and Landscapes - Research and design for service areas*” and “*Brenner Motorway. Architecture and Landscapes - Documents*”.

The International Conference will cover two days. The first (March 1, 2024) at Politecnico di Milano (<https://www.polimi.it/>) and the second (March 2, 2024) at Le Gallerie di Piedicastello in Trento (<https://museostorico.it/location/le-gallerie/>). The International Conference will feature:

- lectures by keynote speakers and by invited chairs.
- interventions by the authors of theselected papers and visual essays.
- guided visit to the exhibition “*BrennerMotorway. Architecture and Landscapes*”.

The conference proceedings will be published in open access.

Since 1924, when the Milano-Laghi motorway was opened to traffic, to nowadays, the construction of motorway networks have gone through three non-linear phases: pioneering, expansive and consolidative. The latter, characterised by the need to ensure adequate safety and technological efficiency parameters for motorways on a global scale, has highlighted two competing phenomena. Firstly, the progressive weakening of the design impulses that characterised the pioneering and expansive phase. Secondly the accumulation of an increasingly large heritage of architectural and engineering works as well as motorway landscapes, deserving to be enhanced through preservation and not only maintenance. **The milestone of the first one hundred years of motorway history, therefore corresponds to a shift in the design paradigms of these complex territorial architectures.** Contemporary design cultures must, therefore, adopt a different posture from the one assumed during the XX century to face the numerous challenges engendered by energy and ecological transitions: from the decarbonisation of transport to the regulation of the imbalances induced by routes in the crossed territories.

The conference aims to explore motorways both in retrospective and perspective terms. Looking towards the past, motorways appear as **emblems of modernity**, able to characterize territories and landscapes and, with alternating fortunes, to face the shocks produced by recurring economic, political and social crises. At the same time, looking towards the future, motorways emerge as a **frontier place** where it is possible to test new design strategies, both to counter the effects of climate change and to seize the opportunities offered by the expansion of new digital technologies in integrated systems for the mobility of people and goods.

By assuming this twofold point of view, **the Conference is adressed to researchers that, since the beginning of the 21st century, have studied the relationship between motorways and their contexts, proposing a series of questions.**

What are the design experimentations that characterised the first century of motorway history from the points of view of architecture and engineering and their scales of intervention? Which of these projects, later realised, is worthy of preservation today, or which of them are object of maintenance cycles that changed their meaning or to removals that have erased their presence?

Where and how has the relationship between motorway infrastructure and the crossed territories changed among decades? Why do motorway landscapes emerge at different latitudes that are sometimes generic and sometimes specific?

How should the design of motorway infrastructure change to counteract nowadays the effects of climate change and strengthen processes of ecological and energy transition? When and how could designers collaborate with transport systems providers to reduce motorway ecological footprint?

Motorway Architecture and Landscapes conference is therefore an opportunity to reflect on history, places, theories and practices of architectural, urban and landscape design, by starting to study the interiors and surroundings of the motorway: the elements that make them resonate with their contexts, whether physical or cultural, real or virtual.

March 1, 2024

Politecnico di Milano

Building 1 Rettorato Aula Magna Sala Donatori Salette 1-2

9:00 - 9:15
Welcome and Registration
[Aula Magna]

9:15 - 10:00
Opening and Introduction
Massimo Bricocoli (Politecnico di Milano)
Andrea Gritti (Politecnico di Milano)
Carlo Costa (Autostrada del Brennero SpA)

10:00-10:45
Introduction to the two parallel sessions
Eric Alonzo (Éav&t Paris-Est)
Ilaria Valente (Politecnico di Milano)
Walter Angonese (Accademia di Architettura di Mendrisio)

10:45 - 11:00
Coffee Break

11:00 - 13:15
Parallel Sessions

PANEL 1 - IN RETROSPECTIVES: STORIES, LEGACIES AND HERITAGES
[Aula Magna]
Chair: Eric Alonzo

Richard Brook, *Machining the Moors: Motorway Landscapes and Policy*
Michele Bonino, Massimo Moraglio, *To the Sea! The A6 Motorway from Torino to Savona*
Guilherme Lassance, *The Motorway and the City: Design Precedents for a Much Needed Reconciliation*
Laurent Hodebert, *Henri Prost and the Design of Motorways. From Urban to Metropolitan, Evolution of Scale and Use*
Roberta Albiero, *The Cube. Costantino Dardi*
Verdiana Peron, *Past Forward: Preserving the Endangered Legacy of Italian Motorway Restaurants (1958-1975)*
Alessandro Benetti, *Autostrade, 1959-1975. The Italian Motorways of the Expansive Phase in the Words and Images of a Trade Magazine*
Anna Braghini, *When the Highway Looks to the Pacific: the Avenida del Mar Project of the School of Architecture of the Catholic University of Valparaíso*
Valeria Gruschetsky, *Speed and Suburban Landscape in Buenos Aires. A New 'Highway' on the Edge of the City (1930-1960)*

PANEL 2 - IN PERSPECTIVE: VISIONS AND SCENARIOS
[Sala Donatori]
Chair: Ilaria Valente

Athanasios Pagonis, Erion Cobani, *Reinventing Road Infrastructure as Public Space. The Territorial Architecture of Vlorë Riviera Coastal Road*
Federico Camerin, Alejandro Tamayo Palacios, Nerea Morán Alonso, *What Could be the Future of Madrid's Puente de Vallecas Scalextric? Insights between Preservation and Removal*
Michele Ugolini, *From the Motorway to the Territory: the Cadorago Ring Road Project. Measures, Large and Small, to Reconnect Landscape Textures and Contexts*
Giulio Ceppi, *AUTOFFICINA FUTURO@2086*
Anna Maria Bordas, Michel Peiro, *Urban Highways as an Urban Opportunity. The Particular Case of the A86 in the Territory of Saint Denis*
Rita Occhiuto, *From LAND OVERLAY to the in-LANDSCAPE DESIGN*
Jeremy Hawkins, Andreea Grigorovschi, *Post-Highway Imaginaries. Possible Futures for Infrastructure*

through Poetics Design
Fazhong Bai, Adriaan Geuze, Aksel Ersoy, *High-Speed Railway as Landscape Bonanza. TU Delft Alternative Lebyline: a Case Study from Zwolle to Groningen*
Massimo Crotti, Marie Pierre Forsans, *Landscaping of the Logistics Hub and Gates of the Frejus Motorway Tunnels A32 in Bardonecchia*
Vicente Arancibia Pena, *Nesting over a Tangled Mess of Flows. Infrastructural Hybridization*
Denis Delbaere, *Motorways as Linear Forests. An Interdisciplinary Survey through the Verges of the Likoto's Great Infrastructures Network*

13:15 - 14:15
Lunch break

Poster Display
Fazhong Bai, *High Speed Railway as Landscape Bonanza*

Ayca Yilmaz, *DYNAMIC D100: Navigating Urban Challenges and Shaping Istanbul's Future*
Apoorva John, *NH44: Bridging Highways and Habitat*
Yi Xing Chow, *A Passage Drawn from Memory - Recalling the KL - Karak Expressway*

14:15 - 15:00
Introduction to the three parallel sessions
Mathieu Mercuriali (ENSA Strasbourg)
Carmen Andriani (Università di Genova)
Dominique Rouillard (ENSA Paris Malaquais)

[Aula Magna]

15:00 - 17:30
Parallel Sessions

PANEL 3 - ARCHITECTURE AND LANDSCAPE: TOWARDS A CASE STUDIES ATLAS
[Saletta 1]

Chair: Mathieu Mercuriali

Fabio Guarrera, *A19 Palermo-Catania Motorway. The "Existential Anchor" of Sicilian Landscape*
Gabriele Salvia, *The Motorway Republic. Inhabiting the Aix-Marseille-Provence Motorways*
Manon Espinasse, *Urban Imaginaries and Landscapes Motorway. Evolution of an Infrastructure in Bordeaux, France*
Marion Emery, *Under the Great Old Cities, the Urban Freeway. Burying the Infrastructure of the Parisian Contested Freeway Plan (1959-1976)*
Giacomo Dallatorre, *Through Liège's Motorways. Revealing River Slope Landscapes on the Edge of High-speed Lines*
Gery Leloutre, *The Brussels' Roadscape. About the "Obviousness" of an Urban Transformation Grounded on Car Mobility*
Angela D'Agostino, Giovangiuseppe Vannelli, Gennaro Vitolo, *A16 Motorway. South to South*
Ludovico Romagni, Emilio Corsaro, *Between Viaducts and Tunnels. The Bottleneck of A14 in Piceno Region*
Shin Koseki, *We the North. Desanthropic Urbanization of the Trans-Canada Highway along the Great Lakes of Northern Ontario*

Inés Aquilué Junyent, Santiago Botero Cadavid, *Splitting the City as a Mirror: Medellín, its River and its Regional Motorway*
Alessandro Panzeri, *Motorway Ring Roads: the Rise of a New Significance in the European Landscape. The Cases of Berlin, Moscow, Paris and Rome*

PANEL 4 - RESEARCH BY DESIGN METHODS: ECOLOGIES, ENERGIES AND TRANSITIONS
[Saletta 2]

Chair: Carmen Andriani

Catherine Dezio, Anna Lei, Mario Paris, *SEW Line. Socio-Ecological Way for a Holistic Mobility Infrastructure Planning in Periurban and Rural Landscape*
Luigi Siviero, Michelangelo Savino, *Green Mobility Landscape. Rest Areas as Landscape Elements along the Autobrennero*
Jacopo Galli, *Motorways of Reconstruction. Reimagining Infrastructural Systems within New Urban Models*

Andrea Rolando, Alessandro Scandiffio, *The River and the Tree: a Nature Based Interpretation of the Impact of Infrastructure. The Case of the A22 and the UNESCO Landscapes*
Nicolò Chierichetti, *The Challenge of Highways' Urban Voids. Reliquati as Spatial Opportunities for Urban Regeneration*
Massimo Crotti, Adelina Picone, *Trans-modality and Infrastructural Design of Inner Landscapes*
Lorenzo Guzzini, Francesco Tosetto, *The Pace of Myth. The Valley and the Sleepless Snake, an Ancient Myth in the Contemporary World*

Eugènia Vidal, *Motorway Landscapes, the Sequence as a Landscape Reading. The C-32 Motorway in the Metropolitan Area of Barcelonaz*
Andrea Oldani, *Italian Motorways. From Lacking Contextual Integration to Plural, Open and Inventive Maintenance*
Cassandra Cozza, *Rest Stop Architectures. Spaces for Safety and Well-being between Infrastructures and Landscapes*

PANEL 5 - BEYOND CRITIQUE: REALITIES VS IMAGINARIES
[Aula Magna]

Chair: Dominique Rouillard

Richard Randell, Robert Braun, *The Magic Motorways of Futurama*
Angelo Salento, Stefano Susani, *Public Engineering and the Future of Infrastructures. Lessons from the Italian Motorway System*
Mehan Asma, *Motorways as Catalysts of Post- Fordist Urban Transition: Turin and Detroit*
Timo Daum, *Viktor Gruen's Pastiche of European Medieval Towns and Its Influence on the American Way of Life*
Henry Rueda, *El Helicoide, a Gasoline Driven Building. From the Machine toward an Architecture*
Christina Vasilopoulou, *Modern Motorways. Welcome to the "Talking" Landscapes!*
Beatrice Azzola, Valentina Noce, *Roadside Uncanny*
Kevin Crooks, *The Altering Landscape of the M6 Motorway*
Damir Gamulin, Antun Sevšek, *Exploring Novel Ways of Reading and Annotating the Adriatic Coast. Spatial Montage through the Method of Linear Mapping*
Matteo Aimini, *Motorways and Syntagms. Or How AI Represents the Landscapes of the Future*
Alex Ulko, *Across the Great Silk Road. The Story of the m-39 Motorway*

17:45 - 19:00
Debate and closure
[Aula Magna]

Chair: Elena Fontanella, Claudia Zanda (Politecnico di Milano), Members of the Scientific Committee and Authors

March 2, 2024

Le Gallerie Piedicastello, Trento

Galleria Bianca Sala Conferenze C1

***Brenner Motorway Architecture and Landscapes**
29/09/23 – 03/03/2024,
Le Gallerie, Piedicastello, Trento
Spazio Espositivo B2

An exhibition promoted by
Autostrada del Brennero SpA;
DAStU - Dipartimento di Architettura e Studi Urbani, Politecnico di Milano

In collaboration with
Alta Scuola Politecnica;
Fondazione ing. Lino Gentilini;

Curated by
Andrea Gritti, Elena Fontanella,
Claudia Zanda

Photographs by
Giovanni Hänninen;

With the collaboration of
Beatrice Azzola, Lucio Azzola,
Filippo Balma, Chiara Caravello,
Eleonora Dussin, Cosimo Gritti,
Gregorio Melchiorri, Gianluca Munari,
Marco Voltini

15:00 - 15:10
Welcome and introduction
Giuseppe Ferrandi
(Fondazione Museo storico del Trentino)

Moderator:
Michele Roda (Giornale dell'Architettura)

15:10 - 15:30
Opening
Diego Cattoni
(Autostrada del Brennero SpA)
Andrea Gritti
(Politecnico di Milano)

15:30 - 16:45
THE BRENNER MOTORWAY: PRESERVING, MAINTAINING AND TRANSFORMING AN EUROPEAN MAJOR ROAD ROUND TABLE

Carlo Costa
(Autostrada del Brennero SpA)

Renato Bocchi
(Università IUAV di Venezia)

Antonio De Rossi
(Politecnico di Torino)

Tullia Iori
(Università degli Studi di Roma Tor Vergata)

Silvia Di Rosa
(Ordine degli Ingegneri di Trento)

16:45 - 17:00
Coffee Break

17:00 - 18:00
LANDSCAPES IN SECTION: IMAGES AND REALITIES ALONG MOTORWAYS ROUND TABLE

Carmen Andriani
(Università di Genova)

Giovanna Calvenzi
(Archivio Basilico)

Giovanni Hänninen
(Giovanni Hänninen fotografia)

18:00 - 19:00
BRENNER MOTORWAY ARCHITECTURE AND LANDSCAPES BOOK PRESENTATION: "RESEARCH AND DESIGN FOR SERVICE AREAS"
Massimo Crotti (Politecnico di Torino)
Andrea Gritti, Alessandra Oppio
(Politecnico di Milano)

CLOSING AND VISIT OF THE EXHIBITION *
"Brenner Motorway. Architecture and Landscapes"
[Galleria Bianca - Exhibition Space B2]
Elena Fontanella, Claudia Zanda (Politecnico di Milano)

19:00
CLOSING APERITIF
[Galleria Bianca - Foyer]