

PHD PROGRAM WILL ORGANIZE A SEMINAR SERIES AND CONFERENCE UNDER THE TITLE “WHATSOEVER HAPPENED TO THE TWENTIETH CENTURY: MODERNITY AND ITS DISCONTENTS.” THESE EVENTS WILL RECONSIDER THE LEGACY OF THE MODERN PROJECT ON THE CITY. THE INTENTION IS TO MOVE AWAY FROM BOTH THE Cliche OF ITS INTERPRETATION AS A TOTALITARIAN PROJECT AND FROM ITS NOSTALGIC RECEPTION AS UTOPIAN IMAGINARY. EACH SEMINAR WILL FOCUS ON A SPECIFIC THEME THAT RE THINKS ONE OF THE MOST RADICAL, CONTROVERSIAL—AND EVEN SOMETIMES POLITICALLY INCORRECT—PROJECTS OF MODERNITY IN LIGHT OF THE CURRENT IMPASSE OF POSTMODERN THEORIES ON THE CITY. A ONE-DAY CONFERENCE WILL ALSO BE HELD ON THE URBAN PROJECTS AND THEORIES OF LUDWIG HILBERSEIMER.

THURSDAY, 29 JANUARY 10:00 am—6:00 pm  
SEMINARS  
BERLAGE INSTITUTE

THURSDAY, 19 MARCH 10:00 am—6:00 pm  
PHD PROGRAM WILL ORGANIZE A SEMINAR SERIES AND CONFERENCE UNDER THE TITLE “WHATSOEVER HAPPENED TO THE TWENTIETH CENTURY: MODERNITY AND ITS DISCONTENTS.”

THURSDAY, 15 APRIL 10:00 am—6:00 pm  
MANFREDO TAFURI AND THE FORMALITIES OF URBANISM  
LUCIA ALIAS, LECTURER IN ARCHITECTURE AND IN THE HUMANITIES, PRINCETON UNIVERSITY

THURSDAY, 20 MAY 10:00 am—6:00 pm  
ON THE RUINS OF THE POST-FORDIST CITY  
MATTEO PASQUINELLI, WRITER AND CRITIC, AMSTERDAM

FRIDAY, 19 MARCH 10:00 am—6:00 pm  
CONFERENCE  
THE NON-FIGURATIVE CITY: RE THINKING THE LEGACY OF LUDWIG HILBERSEIMER  
PIER VITTORIO AURELI, ANDREA BRANZI, MARTINO TATTARA, PHILIPPE MOREL, GABRIELE MASTRIGLI, MARCUS KILIAN, CHARLES WALDHEIM, AND CHARLES MATHIEU

THE THREE-YEAR PROGRAM, HEADED BY PIER VITTORIO AURELI, IS ORGANIZED AND STRUCTURED AS A CRITICAL FORUM WHERE PARTICIPANTS ARE ASKED NOT ONLY TO PURSUE THEIR INDIVIDUAL STUDIES BUT ALSO TO SHARE THESE STUDIES AS PART OF A COLLECTIVE DEBATE. CANDIDATES ARE NOT FULL TIME, BUT REQUIRED TO TAKE PART IN ALL THESE EVENTS. PARTICIPATION CONSISTS OF INDIVIDUAL TUTORIALS WITH THE SUPERVISOR, MONTHLY SEMINARS WITH INVITED GUEST SCHOLARS, A YEARLY INTERNATIONAL COLLOQUIUM, AND SYMPOSIA. THESE ACTIVITIES ARE VENUES FOR DISCUSSION AND CONSTITUTE OCCASIONS FOR CANDIDATES TO DELIVER CONTENT RELATED TO HIS OR HER THESIS IN THE FORM OF PRESENTATIONS, PAPERS, AND PUBLISHABLE ESSAYS.

ABOUT “THE CITY AS A PROJECT” PHD PROGRAM

PRESENTATIONS BY:

PIER VITTORIO AURELI  
Head of “The City as a Project” Phd Program,  
Berlage Institute, Rotterdam

ANDREA BRANZI  
Professor of Industrial Design,  
Politecnico di Milano

MARCUS KILIAN  
Partner, V-architects, Cologne

GABRIELE MASTRIGLI  
Architecture critic, Rome

PHILIPPE MOREL  
Partner, EZCT Architecture & Design Research,  
Paris

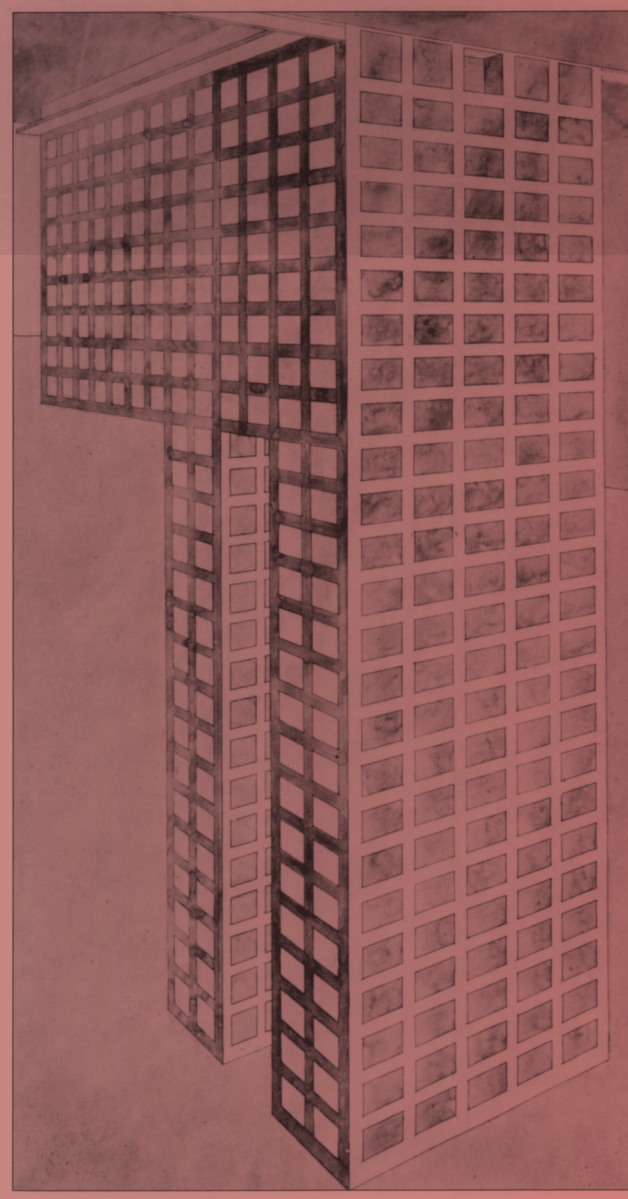
ALBERT POPE  
Cus Sessions Wortham Professor of Architecture,  
Rice University, Houston

MARTINO TATTARA  
Visiting first-year postgraduate tutor,  
Berlage Institute, Rotterdam

CHARLES WALDHEIM  
Professor and Chair of Landscape Architecture,  
Graduate School of Design, Harvard University



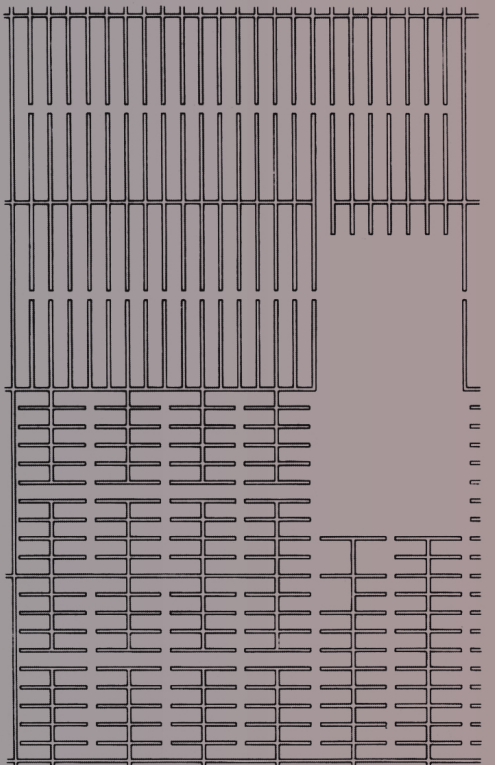
LUDWIG HILBERSEIMER, DESIGN FOR A HIGH-RISE CITY, 1924



LUDWIG HILBERSEIMER, PERSPECTIVE OF ENTRY FOR CHICAGO TRIBUNE COMPETITION, 1922



LUDWIG HILBERSEIMER STANDING BEFORE A TOWER COMPOSED FROM HIS WELFARE CITY MODEL, 1927



LUDWIG HILBERSEIMER, PROJECT FOR MARQUETTE PARK, CHICAGO, 1925

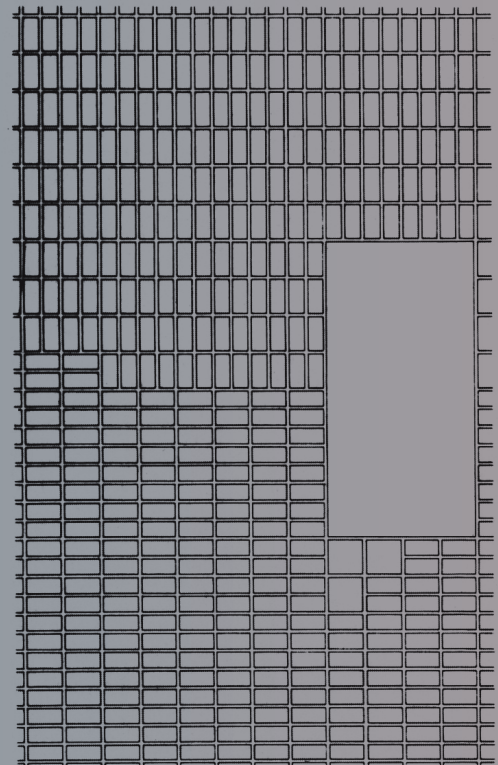


PHOTO: ULRICH HOFFMANN

THE BERLAGE INSTITUTE IN ROTTERDAM WILL PRESENT A ONE-DAY CONFERENCE, ENTITLED “THE NON-FIGURATIVE CITY: RE THINKING THE LEGACY OF LUDWIG HILBERSEIMER,” TO TAKE PLACE ON FRIDAY, 19 MARCH 2010 FROM 10:00 AM TO 6:00 PM. THE CONFERENCE AIMS TO RE THINK THE LEGACY OF THE ARCHITECT, THEORIST, AND URBAN PLANNER LUDWIG HILBERSEIMER. CONFERENCE PARTICIPANTS WILL RETRACE HIS PROJECTS AND THEORIES ON THE CITY THROUGH NEW AND INNOVATIVE INTERPRETATIONS THAT SITUATE HIS WORK IN LIGHT OF CONTEMPORARY URBAN PROBLEMS.

THE CONTRIBUTION OF HILBERSEIMER TO THE DEBATE ON THE MODERN METROPOLIS REMAINS ONE OF THE MOST EXTREME, IF NOT ONE OF THE MOST ORIGINAL. HIS WORK ADDRESSED THE CITY, WHOSE PROJECT HE REDUCED TO MINIMAL STRUCTURING PRINCIPLES OR WHAT COULD BE DESCRIBED AS A “NON-FIGURATIVE APPROACH.” THAT IS, AN ARCHITECTURE WITHOUT ATTRIBUTES, WHICH, FOR THIS REASON, IS ABLE TO OVERCOME ITS FORMAL CRISIS AND RECLAIM ITSELF AN INSTRUMENT OF URBAN AND POLITICAL INVENTION.

A RELUCTANT BUILDER AND PROLIFIC PLANNER, HILBERSEIMER WROTE SEVERAL SIGNIFICANT BOOKS, INCLUDING Grosstadtarchitektur [The Architecture of the Big City] published in 1927; and realized, together with his close friend Ludwig Mies van der Rohe, Lafayette Park in Detroit, one of the most impressive and highly praised housing developments of the postwar period. Yet his austere planning schemes have often been dismissed as reductive, the embodiment of modernist alienation. His rich corpus of theoretical writings has not yet attracted the degree of attention devoted to other prolific theorists of his time.

IN SPITE OF SUCH LIMITED CRITICAL ACCLAIM, HILBERSEIMER’S WORK HAS INSPIRED IMPORTANT AND RADICALLY DIFFERENT—if not at times opposing—interpretations of the city and its project, a few examples include: Manfredo Tafuri’s critique of architectural ideology, Archizoom’s zero degree urbanism, Rem Koolhaas’s notion of Nothingness, K. Michael Hays’s analysis of the post-humanist subject in architecture, Charles Waldheim’s research on landscape urbanism, Albert Pope’s studies on the ladder urbanism of North American cities, and Philippe Morell’s inquiries on architecture in the Age of Integral Capitalism.

# THE NON-FIGURATIVE CITY: Rethinking the Legacy of Ludwig Hilberseimer

Friday, 19 March 2010 10:00 am—6:00 pm  
Berlage Institute

Friday, 19 March 2010 10:00 am—6:00 pm  
Berlage Institute

# THE NON-FIGURATIVE CITY: Rethinking the Legacy of Ludwig Hilberseimer

SPRING 2010 PHD EVENTS  
ORGANIZED BY “THE CITY AS A PROJECT” PHD PROGRAM  
MODERNITY AND ITS DISCONTENTS  
WHATSOEVER HAPPENED TO THE TWENTIETH CENTURY:

Berlage Institute  
Berlaanweg 25  
3011 BE Rotterdam

The Netherlands  
T. +31-10-4030399  
www.berlage-institute.nl



A ONE-DAY CONFERENCE  
FRIDAY, 19 MARCH 2010  
10:00 AM-6:00 PM

THE NON-FIGURATIVE CITY:  
RETHINKING THE LEGACY OF  
LUDWIG HILBERSEIMER

Free and open to the public  
For more information, please see  
[www.heritage-institute.nl/events](http://www.heritage-institute.nl/events)

[WWW.BERLAGE-INSTITUTE.NL](http://www.berlage-institute.nl)

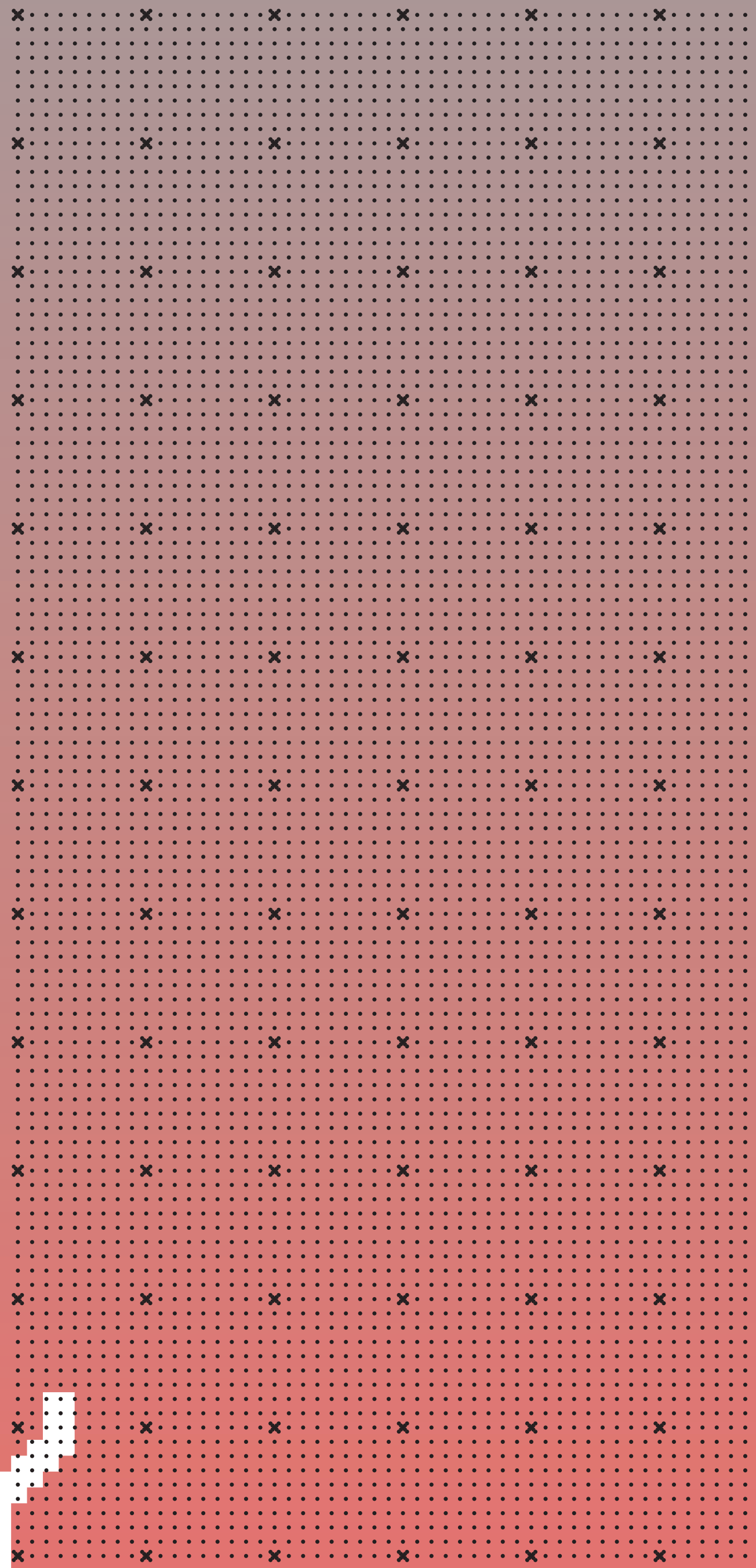
BERLAGE INSTITUTE  
BOTERSLOOT 25  
ROTTERDAM, THE NETHERLANDS

# THE

FRIDAY, 19 MARCH 2010

# non- figurative

# CITY



ARCHIZOOM ASSOCIATI, PROPOSAL FOR A HOMOGENEOUS RESIDENTIAL PLOT SYSTEM FROM NO STOP CITY, 1969

PRESENTATIONS BY:  
PIER VITTORIO AURELI  
ANDREA BRANZI  
MARKUS KILIAN  
GABRIELE MASTRIGLI  
PHILIPPE MOREL  
ALBERT POPE  
MARTINO TATTARA  
CHARLES WALDHEIM

## RETHINKING THE LEGACY OF LUDWIG HILBERSEIMER

ORGANIZED BY  
"THE CITY AS A PROJECT" PHD PROGRAM