

Maryia Rusak, PhD

CV

ETH Postdoctoral Fellow 2022-24

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Educational Affiliations:

- 12.2024-12.2026** Junior Research Fellow of the Young Investigator Group Preparation Program (YIG Prep Pro), Karlsruhe Institute of Technology (KIT), Architecture History, Institute for Architectural Design, Art and Theory. Starting budget of 100,000 EUR.
- 11.2022-11.2024** ETH Postdoctoral Research Fellow, Chair of the History and Theory of Urban Design Prof Dr Tom Avermaete, Institute for the History and Theory of Architecture (gta), ETH Zurich, Switzerland. Research project on Nordic architecture of foreign aid.
- 08.2018-08.2022** PhD Candidate at the Oslo School of Architecture and Design, Oslo, Norway. Supervisors: Mari Hvattum, Kenny Cupers (University of Basel). PhD awarded 22 August, 2022; examination committee Timothy Hyde (MIT), Katie Lloyd Thomas (Newcastle University), Bjørn Normann Sandaker (AHO).
- 08.2015-06.2017** M. Arch. in Sustainable Urban Planning and Design (with distinction), Royal Institute of Technology KTH, Stockholm, Sweden.
- 08.2010-06.2015** B.A. in Architecture, magna cum laude (with great distinction), Princeton University, Princeton, USA. Concentrations in Urban Studies and Italian Language and Culture. Main advisors: Christine M. Boyer and Mario Gandelsonas.
- 08.2008-08.2010** International Baccalaureate (IB) at Red Cross Nordic United World College (RCNUWC), Flekke, Norway.

Research Residences:

- 03.2023-04.2023** Resident at Architecture, Theory, Criticism, History Research Centre at the University of Queensland, Australia. Archival research on networks of timber architecture.
- 09.2020-12.2020** Resident at the 2020 Global Modernism Bauhaus Lab "A Concrete for the Other Half," Bauhaus-Dessau, Germany in collaboration with the Canadian Centre for Architecture (CCA) in Montreal, Canada. Research into material histories at the CCA archives.

Teaching:

- 02.2024-06.2024** ETH Fachsemester Research Seminar Course "Swiss Coloniality," with Dr. Sebastiaan Loosen, focused on knowledge networks and spaces of Swiss colonialism.
- 09.2023-12.2023** ETH Master's Research Seminar Course "The City Lived: Architects on a Mission" focused on group research of the 1960s global architectural and design projects.
- 09.2021-12.2021** AHO Master's Studio course "Timber Topping" on housing densification strategies and timber extensions on residential buildings with Ute Groba and Ona Flindall, <https://aho.no/en/courses/40-546/2021-host>.
- 08.2020-09.2022** PhD students representative of the AHO PhD Programme External Review Committee; discussion and evaluation of strategies to improve AHO PhD teaching and supervision.
- 07.2019-08.2019** Tutor at Minsk Urban Platform Summer Course, a summer course on large-scale urban infrastructure and participatory design practices, Minsk, Belarus.
- 06.2015-08.2015** Tutor at Hong-Kong University (HKU), Architecture Summer Course on global urban design history and practices of sustainable urban agriculture, HKU, Hong Kong.
- 09.2012-06.2015** Peer tutor at Princeton University (mathematics, Italian language), Princeton, USA.

Recent Conferences and Events:

- 30.04.2025** "Prototyping Development from the South: Manuals of HRDU, Nairobi," to be presented at the SAH 2025 Annual International Conference, Atalanta, Georgia, April 30-May 4.
- 10.12.2024** "Building the New Nation: Nordic University Projects in Southeast Africa," to be presented at the 18th International Docomomo Conference, Pontificia Universidad Católica de Chile, FADEU, Santiago, Chile, 2024, 10-14 December.
- 29.10.2024** "Contested Comforts: Nordic-Designed University Housing in East Africa," to be presented at "The Architecture of Need: Collective-Use Facilities and Community Service in the Twentieth Century" Conference, Lisbon and Évora, 29-31 October.
- 05.07.2024** "The Architect of the Party: Torbjørn Rodahl and "Good" Norwegian Architecture," presented at "The Challenge from Within: Progressive Architects in Capitalist Systems," ZHAW Zurich University of Applied Sciences, Switzerland, 5-6 July.
- 20.06.2024** "Nordic Agricultural Offensive in Tanzania," presented at the bi-annual EAHN 2024 International Architectural History Network Conference, Athens, Greece, 19-23 June.
- 14.06.2024** "The Invisible Hand: Female Bureaucrats and Architecture of Foreign Aid in Post-Independence Kenya," presented at the "Minding her Business: Women, Architecture, and Design" Conference, Dublin, Ireland, 13-15 June.
- 13.05.2024** "Regimes of Goodness or Good for Business? Pragmatic Lessons from Nordic Humanitarian Design Projects in East Africa," presented at The Future of Humanitarian Design Symposium, Geneva, Switzerland, 13-14 May.
- 17.04.2024** "Pragmatics of Care: Nordic Standardised Designs for Kenyan District Hospitals," presented at the SAH 2024 Annual International Conference, Albuquerque, New Mexico, 17-21 April.
- 11.04.2024** "Testing Achievements Abroad: Nordic School Project in Tanzania," presented at the International Conference on History of Modern Architecture, School Architecture, Universidad de Navarra, Spain, 11-12 April.
- 07.03.2024** Invited panellist of the "Design as Translation" section, Lahore Design Summit, "Simultaneity: Building Non-extractive Global Partnerships," RISD, MIT, Beaconhouse National University, Lahore, Pakistan, 7-9 March.
- 22.11.2023** "An Open Archive of Research," presented at the "Architecture Archives of the Future," Jaap Bakema Study Centre x Nieuwe Instituut, Netherlands, 22-23 November.
- 03.11.2023** "Prefabricated Town in the Tropics," presented at the Affordable Housing Solutions Symposium at the University of Melbourne, Australia, 3-4 November.
- 01.11.2023** "Imported Urbanisms: A [Not-So-] Model Town in the Tropics," presented at the Symposium of Urban Design History and Theory (SUDHT), Delft, Netherlands, 1-3 November.
- 27.11.2023** "Collective Memories of Creative Destruction," presented at the "Contentious Spaces: Uncovering the Hidden Narratives of Soviet Heritage" Conference, University of Groningen, Netherlands, 27-28 October.
- 26.10.2023** "Outsourcing Pedagogies of Care: Nordic School Project in Zambia," presented at the International Conference of the Architectural Humanities Research Association (AHRA), University of Portsmouth UK, 25-27 October.
- 11.10.2023** "Nordic Timbers: Not So Ecological After All?" presented at EAHN x MOMA Thematic Conference in Reykjavik 2023, 11-13 October.
- 29.10.2023** "Hot and Cold: Norwegian Architects in the Tropics," presented at the gta workshop Architecture's Acclimatization: Historicizing the Climate Questions, Zurich, 29 October.
- 22.09.2023** "Sites of Encounter: Nordic School-Building Project in Tanzania," presented at the International Conference "Building for the Nation Abroad," Academia Belgica and the Danish Academy in Rome, Italy, 21-22 September.
- 15.06.2023** "Modernisms, Mass Produced," presented at the "Whose Modernism?" conference, the 5th Alvar Aalto Researchers' Network Seminar, Jyväskylä, Finland, 14-15 June.
- 27.10.2022** "Marginalia: An Archive of Research," presented at the NORDIK 2022 Association for Art Historians Conference "Collections," University of Copenhagen, Denmark, 25-27 October.

- 18.06.2022** “Wholesale Modularity of Moelven Brug,” presented at the 7th International Conference of European Architectural History Network (EAHN), Madrid, Spain, 15-18 June.
- 09.03.2022** “Fractured Archives of the Ordinary,” presented at the 8th Forum of Architectural Studies, “The Power of Sources in Architecture Research and Practice,” Berlin, Germany, 9-11 March.
- 29.08.2021** “Japanese Temporariness in Norwegian Systems Architecture,” 16th DOCOMOMO 2020(+1) International Conference “Inheritable Resilience: Sharing Values of Global Modernities” in Tokyo, Japan, 29 August-2 September.
- 27.08.2021** “From Workers to Operators: Labour of Moelven Brug” presented at the 2021 Construction History Annual Conference, panel “Professionalism and the Building Trades,” Cambridge, United Kingdom, 27-29 August.
- 12.07.2021** “Wooden churches, Managers and Fulbright Scholars: Glued Laminated Timber in 1950s Norway” presented at the panel “Modern Materials and Networks: The Agency and Entanglement of Things, People and Institutions”, the 7th International Congress on Construction History, Lisbon, Portugal, 12-16 July.
- 14.06.2021** “Norwegian Experiments in Timber: Mass Housing of Moelven Brug” presented at DOCOMOMO Israel-Germany Conference “From Conventional to Experimental—Mass Housing and Prefabrication,” EU COST-action “Middle Class Mass Housing,” Technion Institute of Technology, Israel, 14-15 June.
- 30.03.2021** “How Things Got Made: Moelven Brug in the 1960s” presented at the Doctoral Talks graduate session, ETH-gta, Zurich, Switzerland, 30 March.
- 30.04.2020** “Fabricating a New Tradition: Norwegian Timber in System-Building” presented at the American Society of Architecture Historians (SAH) 2020, panel “Building with Timber: Beyond Global Material and Regional Culture.” Seattle, USA, 30 April-1 May.
- 03.04.2020** “Norwegian Systems Architecture: Prefabrication of Moelven Brug” presented at the 2020 Annual Construction History Conference, “History of Building Construction,” Queen’s College, Cambridge, United Kingdom, 3-5 April.
- 25.10.2019** “Constructing the Construction History” presented at Constructing History colloquium, AHO, Oslo, Norway, 25 October.
- 23.10.2019** “Fabricating an Educated Consumer: Alternative Production Models of Moelven Brug” presented at the 2nd Urban History Conference, “Interpreting 20th Century European Urbanism,” Stockholm, Sweden, 23 October.
- 10.04.2019** “Flexible Subjectivities of Moelven Meccano” presented at Changing Welfare workshop as a part of the Architecture and Welfare Research Network, Oslo, Norway 1-2 October 2018, and Copenhagen, Denmark, 9-10 April 2019.

Panel Chair:

- 27.04.2022** “Large Construction Companies in a Global Context” with Davide Spina (ETH Zurich), The American Society of Architecture Historians (SAH) 75th Annual International Conference 2022, Pittsburgh, USA, 27 April-1 May.

Peer-Reviewed Publications:

- 01.07.2024** Chapter “When Flexibility Became Mainstream: Norwegian Housing in the Age of Change,” edited volume “Infinite Flex: Techniques and Technologies of Flexibility in Architectural Production,” special issue of the *Journal of Architecture* (finalised, forthcoming, 2024)
- 01.04.2024** Book chapter “Towards a Democratic Architecture: Norwegian Experiments in Timber,” in *Between Conventional and Experimental. Mass Housing and Prefabrication in Modernist Architecture*, KU Leuven Press (2024).
- 01.03.2024** “Celestial Resistance: Norwegian World Bank Educational Project in Zambia,” a contribution to *Footprint 35: Engaging Cosmotechnical Difference in Architecture and Urbanism: Cosmologies, Technologies, Worlds* (2024).

- 01.03.2024** "Countercultural Ujamaa: Planning Lessons from a Tanzanian Village," a contribution to OASE 117 journal "Village Variations" (2024).
- 01.03.2024** "Creative Destructions," a contribution to the second issue of *JADH Journal of Architectural Design and History* (2024).
- 01.09.2022** "Factory-Made: Everyday Architecture of Moelven Brug, 1955-1973," CON-Text 117, The Oslo School of Architecture and Design, PhD Dissertation, ISBN: 9788254703564.
- 01.12.2021** "Narratives of Timber in 1960s Norwegian Prefabricated Architecture," *Architectural Theory Review* 25: 1-2: 81-98. DOI: 10.1080/13264826.2021.1963297.
- 01.08.2021** "Wooden churches, managers and Fulbright scholars: Glued laminated timber in 1950's Norway" in Mascarenhas-Mateus, J., Pires, A.P., Caiado, M.M., & Veiga, I. (Eds.). *History of Construction Cultures: Proceedings of the 7th International Congress on Construction History (7ICCH 2021)*, July 12-16, 2021, Lisbon, Portugal (1st ed.). CRC Press, 735-742. DOI: 10.1201/9781003173434.
- 01.06.2021** Book chapter "A Building Manual" in *Concrete for the Other Half?* Leipzig: Spector Books, 51-64.
- 15.09.2021** "Japanese Temporariness in Norwegian Systems Architecture" in Tostões, A. and Yamana, Y. (Eds.) *Inheritable Resilience: Sharing Values of Global Modernities. Proceedings of the The 16th International conference proceedings (DOCOMOMO 2020+1)*, August 29-September 2 2021, Tokyo, Japan (1st ed), vol.2: 168-173.
- 10.09.2021** "From 'Workers' to 'Operators': Labour of Moelven Brug" in Campbell et al. (Eds.) *The History of Building Trades and Professionalism: Proceedings of the Eights Conference of the Construction History Society*, Cambridge, August 27-29, 2021: 451-463.
- 15.04.2020** "Norwegian Systems Architecture: Timber Prefabrication of Moelven Brug" in Campbell et al. (Eds.) *Iron, Steel and Buildings: Studies in the History of Construction. Proceedings of the Seventh Conference of the Construction History Society*, Cambridge, April 4, 2020: 553-564.

Invited Lectures and Events:

- 20.08.2024** "Building Welfare: Moelven and the Everyday Architecture," a lecture for the AHO Master's urban planning course, Fall 2024.
- 19.06.2024** "Changing Imaginaries of Urban Solidarity," contribution to the workshop "Activism! The political dimension of heritage in post-communist world," Eastern Europe Interest Group, 8th International Conference of European Architectural History Network (EAHN), Athens, Greece, 19-23 June.
- 22.04.2024** Invited respondent to the midterm review for a Senior Project studio course led by Prof. Sarah Aziz, University of New Mexico, April 22.
- 09.04.2024** Invited respondent to PostDoc research presentation by James Fortuna, "Environmental Design and the Civilian Conservation Corps, 1933-42" at gta-ETH Zurich DocTalks session, Zurich, Switzerland, 9 April.
- 12.12.2023** Interview on timber constructions and qualities "Jeżeli coś wygląda na drewniane, to musi być dobre?" for *Autoportret* 83, no. 4, "Sieczki Materialow," Warsaw, Poland.
- 29.11.2023** Organiser of the *gta invites* lecture series, lecture by Prof. Dr. Ijlal Muzaffar (RISD), "Dust and Belonging," 29-30 November.
- 11.10.2023** Lecture on archival search methods and integrated systems of knowledge for AHO PhD methods-school, Oslo, Norway, 11 October.
- 10.12.2022** Invited internal respondent for the ETH PhD 2022 cohort, pre-final reviews of Fall 2022.
- 30.09.2022** Lecture on archival methods and note-taking systems for AHO PhD methods-school, Oslo, Norway, 30 September.
- 15.06.2022** "Don't Wait for Another War," contribution to the round table discussion for the Eastern Europe Interest Group, 7th International Conference of European Architectural History Network (EAHN), Madrid, Spain, 15-18 June.
- 14.12.2021** Invited respondent to PhD research presentation by Anna Livia Vørsel "Becoming Evident: Material Forms of Knowing" at gta-ETH Zurich DocTalks session, Zurich, Switzerland, 14 December.

- 05.11.2021** Lecture and workshop "Architecture, Factory-Made" for AHO Master's Studio Course Timber Toppings, Oslo, Norway, 5 November.
- 29.10.2021** Invited magazine contribution on Oslo's densification strategies and speculative housing projects, *+KOTE* architecture magazine, with Ute Groba and Ona Flindall.
- 25.10.2021** Invited reviewer for AHO PhD school mid-term colloquium, Oslo, Norway, 25 October.
- 13.10.2021** Lecture "File Not Found" on note-taking systems and digital archiving for AHO PhD methods-school, Oslo, Norway, 13 October.
- 20.09.2021** Lecture "Tips and Tricks" on research strategies and archival work for first year AHO PhD students, Oslo, Norway, 20 September.
- 22.06.2021** Invited respondent to the presentation by Dasha Kuletskaya at gta-ETH Zurich DocTalks session, Zurich, Switzerland, 22 June.
- 17.06.2021** Round-table presentation "Infrastructural Affections" at Bauhaus Study Rooms event "Challenging Infrastructure Modernism," panel "Nervous Systems: Infrastructures as Assemblages," Bauhaus, Dessau, Germany, 17-18 June.
- 09.06.2021** Interview by Marisa Cortright for a book on architectural workers and organizing in Europe, "Can this be?" VI PER Gallery, Prague, Czech Republic, 2021, 9 June.
- 25.05.2021** Book and chapter presentation "Concrete for the Other Half?," Bauhaus, Dessau, Germany, 25 May.
- 14.11.2020** Guest lecture "Moelven Brug and Everyday Spaces of the Norwegian Welfare State" at "Re-store Prefab" Masters Course, AHO, Oslo, Norway, 14 November.
- 12.02.2019** Guest lecture and seminar "Archaeologies of Production" for KTH Master Studio on industrial prefabrication systems with Erik Stenberg, Royal Institute of Technology (KTH), Stockholm, Sweden, 12 February.

Exhibitions:

- 08.2022-09.2022** Exhibition "Marginalia" that accompanied the completion of PhD research at the Oslo School of Architecture and Design, Oslo, Norway, 1-30 August.
- 12.2020-05.2021** Exhibition "Concrete for The Other Half?" as a result of Bauhaus Lab project research, televised discussion at Bauhaus Study Rooms 'Habitat' round table; recorded guided exhibition tours. Bauhaus, Dessau, Germany, 1 December-10 June.

Scholarships and Awards:

- 02.2023-03.2023** Visiting Research Fellowship at the Research Centre for Architecture Theory Criticism History, School of Architecture, University of Queensland, Brisbane, Australia (8,000 AUD).
- 09.2022-09.2024** ETH Postdoctoral Fellowship Award for a two-year research project entitled "The Business of Foreign Aid: Nordic Architecture in Postcolonial Africa" (240,000 CHF).
- 04.2021** Recipient of Japan Scholarship to present at the 16th International DOCOMOMO Conference in Tokyo, Japan, August (100,000 Y).
- 08.2021** Recipient of the Graduate Student Bursary to present at the 8th Annual Construction History Conference, Cambridge, United Kingdom, August (600 GBP).
- 07.2021** Recipient of a Graduate Student Bursary to present at the 7th International Congress on Construction History, Lisbon, Portugal, July (500 EUR).
- 04.2020** Recipient of George R. Collins Fellowship to present at SAH 2020 conference in Seattle, USA, April (1,500 USD).
- 04.2020** Recipient of the Graduate Student Bursary to present at the 7th Annual Construction History Conference, Cambridge, United Kingdom, April.
- 05.2018-08.2022** 4-years fully-funded PhD program, Department of Architecture, Oslo School of Architecture and Design, Oslo, Norway, May.
- 03.2017-08.2021** 4-years fully-funded European Joint Doctorate Program in 20th Century Urbanism, funding from Marie-Sklodowska Curie Horizon 2020 Action Framework (declined).
- 05.2015-06.2017** 2-years fully funded Swedish Institute Scholarship (SI) to pursue a Masters in Sweden and a monthly stipend, May.

- 04.2015-06.2017** 2-years fully-funded Joint European Masters European Scholarship Award (Erasmus Mundus) Planet Europe and Mundus Urbano Scholarships for International Master in Urban Development and Cooperation, April (declined).
- 06.2015** Magna cum laude (great distinction) graduation award, Princeton University, USA.
- 06.2015** Best Undergraduate Thesis Award in Urban Studies, Princeton University School of Architecture, Princeton, USA, June (1,500 USD).
- 05.2014-06.2014** Travel Award from the Class of 1972 for Senior Thesis Summer Research, Princeton University, Princeton, USA, May (2,500 USD).
- 05.2014-08.2014** International Internship Award, Princeton University, Princeton, USA, April (4500 USD).
- 05.2012-08.2014** Award for Summer Study Abroad, Italian Department, Princeton University, Princeton, USA, May (2.500 USD).
- 04.2010-06.2015** 4-years fully-funded Shelby Davis Scholarship from Princeton University to pursue an Undergraduate Study program with a monthly stipend, April.
- 03.2008-06.2010** 2-years fully-funded Belarusian National Committee Scholarship to pursue International Baccalaureate (IB) at the Red Cross Nordic United World College (RCNUWC) in Norway with a monthly stipend, March.

Professional Experience:

- 01.2017-08.2018** Architect and urban planner, SWECO Architects, Stockholm, Sweden. Designed infrastructural and urban development projects in China and Sweden.
- 09.2016-03.2017** Research assistant at the Department of Urban Planning and Environment, Royal Institute of Technology, Stockholm, Sweden. Worked on GIS mapping and statistical models of environmental variables.
- 05.2016-08.2016** Architecture and design intern, Bureau 35, Minsk, Belarus.
- 05.2015-08.2016** Architecture and design intern, CAMPO Architecture office, Rio-de-Janeiro, Brazil.
- 09.2013-09.2015** Editor and contributor, Urban Tactics Journal, Minsk, Belarus.

Professional Memberships and Associations:

- 05.2021-current** Associate of the European COST Middle Class Mass Housing Group.
- 07.2021-current** Member of the European Architectural History Network.
- 09.2019-current** Member of the American Society of Architectural Historians.
- 09.2020-current** Member of the Cambridge Construction History Society.
- 10.2018-current** Associate of the Architecture and the Welfare State Network.

Relevant International Experience:

- 02.2017-08.2018** SWECO Jinan urban development project for 10 million people, collaboration with Jinan city authorities and the planning department at Beijing University.
- 02.2016-05.2016** The Compact City Urban Form project, KTH and the University of Rabat, Morocco.
- 06.2015-08.2015** Summer Teaching Exchange program, Harvard and Beijing University, Hong-Kong University (HKU).
- 02.2015-05.2015** Princeton Senior Architecture Studio "Fluvial Metropolis" in collaboration with the Faculty of Architecture and Urbanism (FAU) University of São Paulo, Brazil.
- 07.2014-08.2014** Shanghai Urban History Project, Princeton University research group, Shanghai, China.

Activism and Service:

- 03.20214-current** Reviewer for *gta papers*, ETH Zurich.
- 02.2023-04.2023** Evaluator of the ETH Zurich Career Seed Panel Award, cycle of Spring 2023.
- 02.2017-current** Princeton alumni interviewer and annual admissions selection process volunteer.
- 09.2015-current** Member of UWC Belarus national committee, admissions process volunteer.
- 08.2012-09.2018** Strategist and contributor at Belarusian political policy think-tank newbelarus.vision.

05.2015-02.2017 Contributor and author at belarusdigest.com, journalby.com, artaktivist.by.

Language Skills:

Fluent: Belarusian, English, Russian, Swedish, Norwegian, Italian.

Intermediate: Spanish, Polish, Ukrainian.

Beginner: German.