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La Biennale di Venezia

18. Mostra
Internazionale
di Architettura
Partecipazioni Nazionali

FERTILE FUTURES
Seminário Internacional de Verão
International Summer Seminar

TUTORS
Corpo Atelier
Dulcineia Santos Studio
Ilhéu Atelier
Guida Marques
Pedrêz
Ponto Atelier
Space Transcribers

FERTILE FUTURES
Curadora
Head curator
Andreia Garcia
Curadores adjuntos
Deputy curators
Ana Neiva
Diogo Aguiar

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Organisation
and Commissioner



Partners
International Summer School



Fertile Futures
Pavilion of Portugal
At the 18th International
Architecture Exhibition
La Biennale di Venezia

The Official Portuguese Representation at the 18th International Architecture Exhibition – La Biennale di Venezia 2023 presents *Fertile Futures*, a project curated by Andreia Garcia and deputy curators Ana Neiva and Diogo Aguiar, which focuses on the problems of water resources in seven Portuguese hydrogeographies, to stimulate thought about a fertile, sustainable and equitable future. Commissioned by the Directorate-General for the Arts, the exhibition *Fertile Futures* will be presented between May 20 and November 26 2023, at Palazzo Franchetti, in Venice.

As a vital element for human and non-human species, but also metaphorical and emotional, freshwater is simultaneously political and economic, which is why public debate on the protection, management and future of this natural resource is urgent. These are global issues with dramatic manifestations in specific distinct areas within Portuguese territory. Focusing on seven hydrogeographies, *Fertile Futures* commissions young architects, in collaboration with experts from other areas of knowledge, to present models for a more sustainable future, in a non-hierarchical cooperation between disciplines, generations and species.

The seven cases under study exemplify the anthropocentric action on water, natural and finite resources with implications for the Tâmega Basin; the International Douro; the Middle Tagus; the Alqueva Dam; the Mira River; the Lagoa das Sete Cidades; and the Madeiran Rivers. The production of unpublished content, based on the strategic complementarity between practice, theory and teaching in architecture, defines the tripartite approach to experimentation and reflection that focuses on the reality of the Portuguese territory.

Fertile Futures involves new generations in the development of solutions for future reservoirs and defends, between Portugal and Venice, the relevance of the contribution of architecture in the redesigning of a decarbonized, decolonized and collaborative future, thus contributing to a discussion that is common and global, in direct response to the call of Lesley Lokko, curator of 18th International Architecture Exhibition – La Biennale di Venezia 2023, whose title and theme is “The Laboratory of the Future”.

Fertile Futures expresses the understanding of “The Laboratory of the Future”, the general theme proposed by Lesley Lokko for the 18th International Exhibition of Architecture – La Biennale di Venezia 2023, which calls for, in addition to a set of urgent issues, a set of how-to guidelines. “The Laboratory of the future” urges us to create, from a methodological perspective, an exploratory programme, simultaneously clear and complex, based on laboratory and collaborative dynamics.

The title of the proposal underlines the speculative character of the Representation of Portuguese Architecture, aiming to contribute to the design of fairer, more inclusive, more equitable and more diverse Futures, but also more Fertile ones, heralding a greener, more imaginative, generous, abundant, positive, productive, responsible, feminine, and plural future.

The programme proposed by *Fertile Futures* defends the laboratory dimension of architectural design in dialogue with other disciplinary areas, and the ability to move forward, seeking to imagine the future, requiring the contribution of multidisciplinary discourse in the design of solutions to emerging issues that tend to go beyond the singular domain of the work of architects. While discussing and proposing strategies for the management, protection and transformation of freshwater and contributing to a debate that is common and global, *Fertile Futures* focuses on the scarcity and management of this resource, in the Portuguese territory.

Investing in the strategic complementarity between practice, theory and teaching in architecture, a tripartite approach to experimentation and common reflection is defined: seven Design Teams, whose work is the body of the propositional exhibition in Venice; five Assemblies of Thought, moments of reciprocal (re)learning based on the coexistence of knowledge; and an International Summer Seminar where students collectively rehearse speculative installations.

Addressing common and intersecting issues, *Fertile Futures* defends that a laboratory cannot present known results at the outset and, therefore, collaborating with other disciplinary areas, it promotes the production of speculative investigations, presented in word and drawing form, for an exhibition that contemplates a fertile, sustainable and equitable future, to be presented at the 18th International Exhibition of Architecture – La Biennale di Venezia 2023.

Andreia Garcia, Head curator
Ana Neiva and Diogo Aguiar, Deputy curators

1. International Summer Seminar An open call to the international academic community.

The International Summer Seminar aims to raise awareness in future generations of alternative ways of doing architecture, favouring the cornerstones and the hopeful future of the project Fertile Futures, beyond the period of the exhibition.

Thematic awareness, collaborative experience, and an understanding of an expanded field of action are shared at the International Summer Seminar. The “temporary displacement” of architecture students from diverse contexts, to Fundão, aims at the horizontal sharing of knowledge, through “direct experience” and the opportunity to establish new dialogues.

Fundão is part of the list of eight Portuguese cities included in the European Union Mission for Adaptation to Climate Change. The municipality is a territory that is deeply affected by water scarcity and highly intensive agriculture, fires and desertification, and simultaneously, is representative of investments in social inclusion and expanding technological developments in the inland region.

With tutoring from the Design Teams and the participation of national and international students, selected by open call and reinforced by institutional partnerships, the intervention materialises in the self-construction of installations scattered throughout the territory, developing strategies for the capture, fixation, use and/or redistribution of water in the municipality of Fundão.

2. Tutors / Design Teams

SPACE TRANSCRIBERS

Space Transcribers is an organisation coordinated by the architects Daniel Duarte Pereira and Fernando P. Ferreira which explores ways to investigate, represent and imagine the built environment collaboratively. Their methodology is based on immersive investigations of the places and communities in which they operate, which through site-specific mediation and transcription actions, blur the boundaries between art and architecture. This non-profit organisation, based in Braga since 2015, develops research projects in collaboration with public entities related to different themes and contexts of Portuguese territory, such as transformation processes of the agricultural landscape, in its relationship between technological development and the management of hydrographic and soil resources, or in situations of socio-spatial conflict in urban regeneration processes.

DULCINEIA SANTOS STUDIO

Dulcineia Santos Studio is an architecture studio, founded in 2018 by Dulcineia Santos. She is an architect who graduated from the Faculty of Architecture of the University of Porto (2007). She was a trainee architect in Paris with Lacaton & Vassal (2005-2006) and worked with Herzog & De Meuron in Basel (2009-2017). She was a Guest Assistant at the Faculty of Architecture of the University of Porto, and co-author and co-editor of several independent projects and publications within Architectural and Photographic culture, mostly under the *Pierrot le Fou* seal, an entity she co-founded in 2012, after being awarded the SIM Award-Samsung.

GUIDA MARQUES

Guida Marques graduated from DARQ-UC with the master's dissertation *Por uma arquitetura dos sentidos*. While studying at the Faculty of Fine Arts of the University of Lisbon, she gave performances in peripheral places that made her reconsider how places with memory were built. Today she is a neo-rural, mixed media artist, politician and architect of the hinterlands who perceives architecture as a tangle of things and above all, treats it as a healing process, the healing of memory and the healing of the future. She makes performance art about these processes of architecture, about the reconstruction of a place, imbued with love for the ruins, and is an activist in defence of the rural environment, the forest, the springs, the rivers, animals, organic agriculture, and other traditions.

OFICINA PEDRÊZ

Oficina Pedrêz was founded in 2020 in Porto by Matilde Cabral and Francisco Fonseca from the merger of the fashion development studio *Fashion Office* and the experimental architecture workshop *Skrei*, with works presented in institutions such as Calouste Gulbenkian Foundation, Columbia University, Royal Academy of Arts, 16th International Architecture Exhibition of La Biennale di Venezia in 2018 and Istanbul Design Triennale

(2020), among others. Pedrêz emerges as a workshop for applied research in the areas of systemic ecology and housing subsistence, with ongoing projects: *Cápsulas*, designation for nomadic peri-urban off-grid units; *Studere Sativa*, a multidisciplinary studio for the study and development of constructions using cultivable materials; and *Air-Water-Land Unit* applied research on water self-sufficiency and territorial geoengineering.

CORPO ATELIER

Corpo is an architecture and art studio in the Algarve, founded in 2014 by Filipe Paixão. The studio bases its practice on the exploration and expansion of the elements of architectural anatomy through the practice of drawing and redesigning. The territorial condition of the Algarve geography strongly informs the studio's project response, both in its built aspect and in the geographical aspect and the realities it provides, making use of invention and irony to subvert vernacular logics into contemporary attitudes. In 2020, it was awarded by Archdaily as one of the 20 best young practices and published *Anatomias Possíveis* [Possible Anatomies], a book containing thoughts, images of drawings and models produced since the beginning of the studio.

ILHÉU ATELIER

Ilhéu is a young architecture studio, based on the island of São Miguel, founded by Rita Sampaio and Afonso Botelho Santos. The practice is based on a reflection of the place and overseas references, and translates into an architecture that celebrates colour, materials, and the narratives of its context. The ideas are explored and expressed with curiosity and enthusiasm, through a process of drawings, collages and models of different scales, that give rise to the investigation of the materials and spatial and formal possibilities of a contemporary architecture that intends to be the bearer of the memory and identity of the place.

PONTO ATELIER

Founded in 2016 by Ana Pedro Ferreira and Pedro Maria Ribeiro, Ponto Atelier's work consists of a dynamic field of experimentation with projects and ideas based on the memory of the past and contemporary design. After winning the 1st prize in the *Duas casas nas Ilhas Selvagens* [Two Houses on the Savage Islands] competition, they moved to Funchal and joined the City Office team. In 2021 they won the FAD award in the category of ephemeral installations with the INBETWEEN pavilion, Azores. Between 2014 and 2021 they were guest professors at the University of Évora, DAue and ISCTE, and tutors in the workshops W.A.V.E, IUAV Venice and Summer School Moytirra (Azores). In 2022 they integrated the exhibition *The Young New* curated by André Tavares, in Garagem Sul. Recently, in collaboration with CLAB Architettura and Angelo Renna, they won the international public competition *Corso Libertà - Freiheitsstrasse* (Merano, Italy).

3. Programme

July 5, 15h00 – 18h00	Day 0 (Wednesday) Design Teams presentation (online session)
July 10, 10h00 – 13h00 July 10, 14h30 – 18h00	Day 1 (Monday) Welcome Session + Group Distribution Site visits with all the groups
July 11–13, 9h00 – 13h00 July 11–13, 14h30 – 18h00	Day 2 to 4 (Tuesday to Thursday) Design Workshop: dedicated group intervention sites Design Workshop: dedicated group intervention sites
July 14, 09h00 – 13h00 July 14, 14h30 – 18h00	Day 5 (Friday) Design Workshop: groups gathering an discussion Midterm Presentation and Critic (hybrid session)
July 15, 9h00 – 18h00	Day 6 (Saturday) Social Programme: Regional Tour
	Day 7 (Sunday) Day Off – Free day
July 17, 9h00 – 13h00 July 17, 14h30 – 18h00	Day 8 (Monday) Transport of construction materials for intervention sites Installation pre-assemlage
July 18–20, 9h00 – 18h00	Day 9 to 11 (Tuesday to Thursday) Installation Construction
July 21, 9h00 – 13h00 July 21, 14h30 – 18h00 July 21, 20h00	Day 12 (Friday) Installation Construction: final details Workshop Presentation (hybrid session) Farewell Dinner
July 22, 15h00 – 20h00	Day 13 (Saturday) Public Openings

4. Call for Participants

Days: 13
Studios: 7
Studio Work: 81 hours
ECTS: 3
Accommodation: 14 nights

Application

Applications to *Fertile Futures* – International Summer Seminar should be made through the form available at <https://fertilefutures.pt/en/international-summer-seminar/>
A confirmation of your registration will be sent after receiving your application.
Any inquiry should be addressed until May 26 to the email seminar@fertilefutures.pt

Eligibility

The workshop is open to architecture students of masters and bachelor levels, selected through a motivation letter (max. 300 words) and ensuring representation of diverse backgrounds among participants.
Complementarily, students from the 1st cycle of studies (bachelor) are accepted, although greater experience and autonomy are prioritized. English language skills (B1).

Hosting Conditions

Fundão municipality, the main partner of this event and Erasmus BIP Project provides for the accommodation (14 nights: from July 9–23) and the social programme of the summer school, including lunches, farewell dinner, and transportation within Fundão municipality, to the intervention sites.

Fellowships

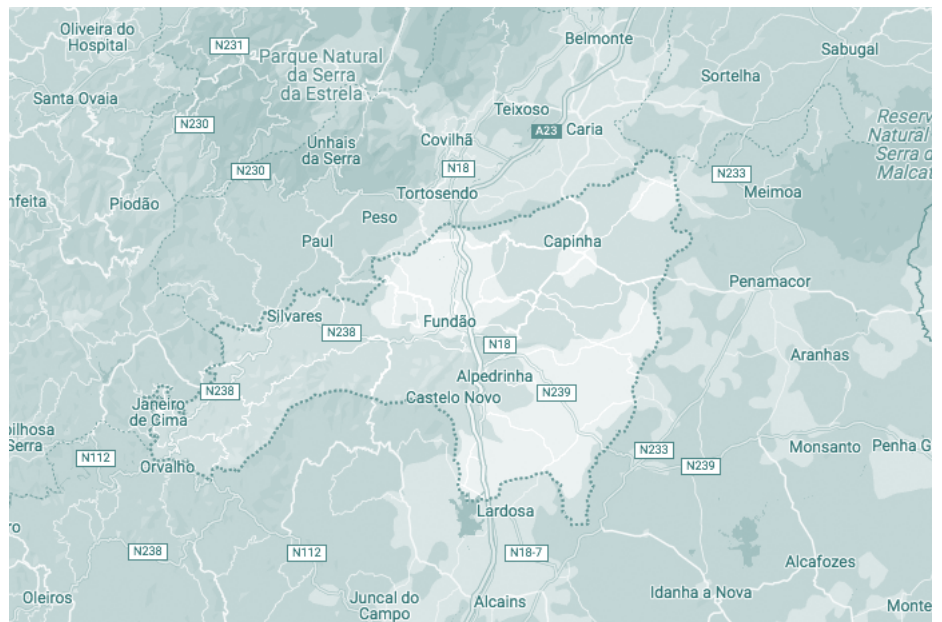
There are 2 fellowships available to be attributed according to the best motivation letter. The applications will run from April for receipt of applications runs until Jun 2. Applicants will be notified of the results by email within 15 days of the application deadline.

Important Dates

Q&A period	until May 26
Fellowship Application	until Jun 2
Final Call for Participants	Jun 2
Selection announcement	June 15

5. Useful Information

How to get here



Meeting Point

Câmara Municipal do Fundão

Sunday 09.07, 17h00 – 19h00

Reception and Check-in

How to get there?

a) From Lisbon

Bus (Rede Expressos):

Lisboa (Sete Rios) → Fundão

Aprox. 3h

Train (CP – Comboios de Portugal)

IC to Guarda: Lisboa (Oriente) → Fundão

Aprox. 3h20

b) From Porto

Train + Bus: Porto (Campanhã) → Aveiro

(by train CP – Comboios de Portugal)

+ Aveiro → Fundão (by bus Rede Expressos)

Aprox. 4h15

6. Institutional Partners

Angola

››› Universidade Privada de Angola: Faculdade de Ciências Exactas – Departamento de Arquitectura e Urbanismo, Luanda

Belgium

››› KU Leuven – Faculty of Architecture, Leuven

Brazil

››› Escola da Cidade, São Paulo

Cape Verde

››› M_EIA: Instituto Universitário de Arte, Tecnologia e Cultura, Mindelo

››› Universidade Jean Piaget, Mindelo

Chile

››› Universidad Católica Pontificia de Chile: Facultad de Arquitectura Diseño y Estudios Urbanos, Santiago

China

››› The University of Hong Kong: Faculty of Architecture, Hong Kong

Germany

››› Technische Universität München, Munich

Italy

››› Università Roma Tre, Roma

››› Polimi – Architecture and Urban Design, Milan

Japan

››› Kyoto University: Department of Architecture and Architectural Engineering, Kyoto.

Lithuania

››› Vilnius Academy of Arts, Vilnius

Moçambique

››› Universidade Eduardo Mondlane, Maputo

Netherlands

››› Delft University of Technology: Faculty of Architecture and the Built Environment, Delft

››› Design Academy Eindhoven (DAE): Department of Social Design, Rotterdam

6. Institutional Partners

Portugal

- ››› Instituto Universitário de Lisboa: Departamento de Arquitectura e Urbanismo da Escola de Tecnologias e Arquitectura (ISCTE-IUL), Lisbon.
- ››› Instituto Superior Técnico de Lisboa – Área Científica de Arquitectura (IST), Lisbon.
- ››› Universidade da Beira Interior: Faculdade de Engenharia – Departamento de Engenharia Civil e Arquitectura (UBI), Covilhã.
- ››› Universidade de Évora: Escola de Artes – Departamento de Arquitectura, Évora.
- ››› Universidade do Minho: Escola de Arquitectura, Arte e Design, Guimarães
- ››› Universidade Lusófona: Escola de Comunicação, Arquitectura, Artes e Tecnologias da Informação (UL-ECAATI), Lisbon
- ››› Universidade Lusófona: Faculdade de Comunicação, Arquitectura, Artes e Tecnologias da Informação (UL-FCAATI), Porto
- ››› Universidade Lusíada: Faculdade de Arquitectura e Artes, Lisbon.
- ››› Universidade de Lisboa: Faculdade de Arquitectura (FAUL), Lisbon.
- ››› Universidade do Porto: Faculdade de Arquitectura (FAUP), Porto

Spain

- ››› Escuela Técnica Superior de Arquitectura de Madrid (ETSAM), Madrid
- ››› laSalle: Universitat Ramon Llull – Escola Tècnica Superior d'Arquitectura, Barcelona

Switzerland

- ››› École Polytechnique Fédéral de Lausanne (EPFL) – Faculté de l'Environnement Naturel Architectural et Construit – Section d'Architecture, Lausanne

United Kingdom

- ››› University of the Arts London, Central Saint Martins, London.

Organisation and Commissioner



Partners International Summer School



National Institutions



International Institutions

