# Interpretations: Destabilizing Ground(s)

Seminars on Critical, Curatorial, and Conceptual Practices in Architecture

## October 8<sup>th</sup> 2-7pm

e-flux 311 East Broadway New York, NY 10002

# Daniel Barber, Caitlin Blanchfield, ESTAR(SER), Nina Valerie Kolowratnik, Susan Schuppli, Felicity D. Scott, Kian Tajbakhsh, Mark Wasiuta, Lindsey Wikstrom, Sampson Wong

## M.S. in Critical, Curatorial, and Conceptual Practices in Architecture (CCCP)

Columbia University Graduate School of Architecture, Planning, and Preservation (GSAPP)

Free and open to the public RSVP: destabilizinggrounds@gmail.com arch.columbia.edu/events/333-interpretations-destabilizing-ground-s @destabilizinggrounds #destabilizinggrounds

M.S.CCCP CLASS OF 2017

Daniel Cooper, Chloe English, Ruishi Ge, Joachim Hackl, Robin Hartanto, Chi-Chia Hou, Sara McGillivray, Camila Paz Reyes, Iara Pimenta, Gizem Sivri. Architecture—as a discipline, a discourse, a practice, and a profession—is immersed in multiple, largely predefined systems that both govern its normative operations and harbor alternative capacities. Politics, finance, forms of production, institutions, knowledge, methodologies, theoretical concepts, and channels of dissemination: all inform both architecture's conditions of stability and its potentials to transform. Given architecture's imbrication within such a larger network of power, critical modes of operating within the field remain central to creative and intellectual work, even if they undermine architecture's very claims to stability. Practices of destabilization have historically proven catalysts for change: disrupting cultural, technological, political and epistemological paradigms, redefining disciplinary boundaries, and addressing new tropes of representation, design and thought.

This year's CCCP symposium addresses the tension between stability and instability, both within architecture and beyond it, inviting speakers from a broad range of disciplines to discuss destabilization as a way of performing change, whether in their own work, in their discipline, or in the world. The symposium asks: Is destabilization a practice we can consider critical to architecture and other fields? Has it been eclipsed by critical terms like speculation and disruption? What is the difference between a destabilizing practice and a disruptive one? How do architecture's multivalent connections to other fields open new possibilities? If displaced from their specific context, how can particular methodologies destabilize structures of thought or knowledge production? And finally, to what extent are all such destabilizations and disruptions progressive moves? What is the political valence of destabilization?

### PROGRAM

2:00 - INTRODUCTION

2:30 - PANEL 01

Daniel Barber Kian Tajbakhsh Lindsey Wikstrom Felicity D. Scott (moderator)

3:45 - BREAK

4:00 - PANEL 02

Caitlin Blanchfield and Nina Valerie Kolowratnik Susan Schuppli Sampson Wong Mark Wasiuta (moderator)

5:15 - BREAK

5:30 - PANEL 03

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6:45 - CLOSING

News and Mingpao (Sunday Life). writings often appear in the Stand Hong Kong's Umbrella Movement. His Hong Kong, urbanism and art, and now writing books about plagues in of epidemics and Hong Kong. He is research interests also include politics space, power, and freedom. His exploring issues about urbanism, and sees them as intellectual means teaching, research and writing, in art-making, curatorial practice, urbanist from Hong Kong. He engages independent curator, academic, and Sampson Wong is an artist,

2014 Istanbul Biennial. where her work was exhibited at the which form around building buildings, architecture and the global networks examining the links between labor, called Who Builds Your Architecture?, activists, and scholars in a coalition She has also partnered with architects, decisions at global and local scales. representing the impacts of design a practice of understanding and methods of making, growing into mass customization, and traditional tools typically used in architecture, began as an effort to synthesize digital design and fabrication company that 2012, she co-founded LeeLABS, a representation, and research. In impact of digital tools in design, focused on expanding the potential Avery 6 Award. Lindsey's work is use of immersive media, and the  $\label{eq:linearized} \mbox{\sc Visualization Award for innovative}$  Prize for Excellence in Design, a she was awarded the Charles McKim Columbia University GSAPP where Master of Architecture Degree from Lindsey Wikstrom received her

International House of Architecture.

in the design and research office the Architecture Territories. He is partner Contact High, and Collecting Environmental Communications: publications Documentary Remains, at the Istanbul Design Biennial and the ",A2U xoteU" , enoitibilitions, "Detox USA", New Jersey. Forthcoming projects editor and co-author of Dan Graham's Ross Architecture Gallery. He is co-Rehearsals 1967-1973" at the Arthur Game," and "Les Levine: Bio-Tech Fall-Out: Buckminster Fuller's World Biennale, as well as "Information Architectural Exhibition at the Venice "La Fine Del Mondo," at the 14th the Chicago Architecture Biennial Communications: Contact High," at Mieuwe Instituut, "Environmental include, "Control Syntax Rio" at Het produced with various collaborators, the postwar period. Recent exhibitions, focus on under-examined practices of research and archival exhibitions that GSAPP, he has developed a body of decade, as Director of Exhibitions at Practices in Architecture. Over the last Critical, Curatorial and Conceptual Director of the MS degree program Columbia University where he is Coand architect who teaches at GSAPP Wark Wasinta is a curator, writer,

post-conflict reconstruction (2008). conflict prevention, peace-building, The role of local governments in He co-edited the book City Diplomacy: Democracy and Development (2005). (2001), and Social Capital: Trust, Politics in Contemporary Social Thought Promise of the City: Space, Identity and He is the author of two books, The development in a number of countries. performance, and local economic of social capital in local government research on decentralization, the role regions. He has conducted empirical governance of cities and metropolitan to the culture of urbanism as well as the theoretical and policy projects related academic research spans both of Urban Planning at GSAPP. His Kian Tajbakhsh is Visiting Professor

(Zone Books, 2016). Architectures of Counter-Insurgency Territories: Environments of Insecurity/ (Sternberg Press, 2016), and Outlaw Rudofsky in the Empire of Signs 2008), Disorientation: Bernard Living Archive 7: Ant Farm (ACTAR, After Modernism (MIT Press, 2007), Architecture or Techno-Utopia: Politics edited anthologies, she has published articles in journals, magazines, and In addition to publishing numerous Preservation, Columbia University. of Architecture, Planning and (CCCP) at the Graduate School Conceptual Practices in Architecture program in Critical, Curatorial and and Theory), and co-director of the program in Architecture (History professor, director of the PhD Felicity D. Scott is an associate

Haag, and the Shanghai Biennale. With, Extra City Antwerp, Stroom Den of Art, Fundacion Proa, HKW, Witte de Acts Amsterdam, Columbus Museum include Bildmuseet Sweden, Sonic Forthcoming and recent exhibitions Canada, the US, Europe, and Asia. have been exhibited throughout material wrongs. Creative projects an "extreme image" archive of dark snow of the arctic are producing nuclear accidents and oil spills to the mays in which toxic ecologies from politics. Current work explores the limiting the possibility of transformative ways in which media are enabling or violence to ask questions about the of contemporary conflict and state artifacts that emerge out of sites research practice examines media researcher based in London. Her Susan Schuppli is an artist and

irregular return practices in Kosovo. in Austria and a residency project on establishments towards asylum seekers exhibition on hospitality of tourism Mexico, a publication and travelling Native American land claim in New within evidentiary production for a consultancy on notational systems Projects include a research study and within legal and human rights debates. spatial notational systems that operate to land and property, and develops migration and socio-cultural claims is situated in the context of forced New York. Kolowratnik's practice from Columbia University GSAPP, Conceptual Practices in Architecture degree in Critical, Curatorial and of Technology, Austria, and holds a architecture at the Graz University in Vienna and New York. She studied consultant on spatial notation based an architectural researcher and Nina Valerie Kolowratnik is

to the historicity of the Order of the and (where relevant) draw attention collectively to recover, scrutinize, independent scholars who work is an established body of private, the Society of Esthetic Realizers) Realization (now incorporating for Transcendental and Applied ESTAR(SER) The Esthetical Society

and the Planetary Imaginary. Jacob Moore Climates: Architecture Alissa Anderson, Jordan Carver and, and co-edited with James Graham, City: Architecture and Representation, Akawi and Amale Andraos The Arab Manhattanville, co-edited with Nora volumes, she edited Columbia in and the City where, among other Columbia Books on Architecture 2016 she was managing editor for Architecture Biennale. From 2014-Triennale and the 2016 Venice shown in the 2016 Oslo Architecture elsewhere, and her work has been Art Forum, New Geographies, and has appeared in the Avery Review, spanning highways. Caitlin's writing cultures of protest along nationgovernance, to explorations of national parks and transnational media-from investigations into free trade, and forms of architectural intrastructure, the spatial logics of investigates issues of territoriality, to the Avery Review. Her research University and a contributing editor candidate in architecture at Columbia Caitlin Blanchfield is a PhD

edited volumes, and lectured globally. published in numerous journals and University Press in 2018. He has Style, will be published by Princeton Globalization of the International Effects: Architecture, Media, and the Press. A second book Climatic been published by Oxford University Energy in the Cold War has just Sun: Modern Architecture and Solar Daniel's first book A House in the past to contemporary challenges. recent past, and the relevance of this to propose novel perspectives on the methods from a range of disciplines teaching integrate narratives and the 20th century. His research and of global environmental culture over the design fields and the emergence researching the relationship between Design. He is an architectural historian University of Pennsylvania School of Professor of Architecture at the Daniel A. Barber is an Assistant



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Columbia University GSAPP presents the sixth edition of

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ESTAR(SER)

6:45 - CLOSING

Columbia University GSAPP 400 Level Avery Hall 1172 Amsterdam Ave New York, NY 10027