



Università
della
Svizzera
italiana

Istituto
di
storia e teoria
dell'arte
e
dell'architettura



16–17
November
2022

Auditorium
Teatro
dell'architettura
Mendrisio

International conference **Revisiting Corboz**

in conjunction with exhibition
*Territory as Palimpsest: The legacy
of André Corboz*

Teatro dell'architettura Mendrisio
November 4, 2022–February 5, 2023

Concept
• André Bideau, Sonja Hildebrand

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^ A. Corboz: Santa Monica as seen from personal
desk during Getty Center residency, 1993
(Fondo A. Corboz, Biblioteca dell'Accademia
di architettura Mendrisio, USI)

The first comprehensive, large-scale exhibition on André Corboz (1928–2012) is both the backdrop and the reason for this conference. *Revisiting Corboz* will discuss research methods, questions and key themes in the work of the Swiss architecture and art historian, long-time professor of the history of urbanism at ETH Zurich. Organised around four thematic fields, the conference looks at various issues and contexts that were relevant for Corboz – in particular for his contributions to the discourse on cities, territories and urbanised landscapes. Undoubtedly, there is renewed interest in his legacy today. The continuous renegotiation of territory, an issue identified by Corboz in the early 1980s, remains critical in Switzerland and elsewhere. Which conceptual framework did he provide? Likewise, one must situate his reading of urban form and landscape in its time, while asking how and why he had such a unique grasp of spatial issues. Was this also caused by the historian's scepticism toward emerging Postmodernism? Corboz described himself as a 'disciplinary nomad' and invites a multitude of perspectives. Engaging with contemporary issues and with historiography, this conference brings together a range of historians and practitioners as well as former colleagues and students.

Wednesday November 16	14.00	Welcome remarks Tales of two cities
	14.15	Prendre un lieu pour un autre: Les essais genevois d'André Corboz, 1963–2007 Elena Cogato Lanza, EPFL
	15.00	Intervento di André Corboz in occasione della "Settimana di progettazione Alt und Neu" presso l'IDZ di Berlino François Burkhardt, Berlin
	15.45	Coffee break Configuring territories
	16.15	Rethinking Repair in Agriterritories Milica Topalovic, ETH Zurich
	17.00	Verso il Piano direttore comunale di Lugano Andrea Felicioni, Lugano
	18.00	An early investigation of Zurich's periphery Marco Graber, Regula Iseli, Franz Oswald and Thomas Pulver in conversation with Sonja Hildebrand

Thursday
November 17

9.30

A scenography for the palimpsest: Challenges and insights
André Bideau, Sonja Hildebrand

André Corboz, transversal historian?

10.00

Le petit livre rouge d'André Corboz
Sylvain Malfroy, Neuchatel

10.45

Montage as method of writing history
Stanislaus von Moos in conversation with André Bideau

11.30

Coffee break

11.45

Exhibition visit with curators or individual
Guided tour to library and Fondo Corboz

12.30

Lunch break

The urbanised landscape between myth and reality

14.00

L'utilité d'un avocat du diable reste donc entiere: Apprendre à comprendre la ville et le territoire nord-américain
Catherine Maumi, Paris La-Villette

14.45

Switzerland as a city: Exploring André Corboz's contribution to a persistent paradox Polycentric and antiurban Switzerland: interpretation and transformation over time
Angelus Eisinger, Regionalplanung Zürich und Umgebung RZU

15.30

Final discussion
Moderators: Elena Cogato Lanza, Frida Grahn

16.45

End of conference and closing reception

The conference will provide
English summaries of French and Italian presentations.

Guest speakers

François Burkhardt

Editor, curator and professor emeritus; director of Internationales Design Zentrum, Berlin, and Centre de Création industrielle, Centre Georges Pompidou, Paris

Elena Cogato Lanza

Adjunct Professor, Laboratory of Urbanism and director of doctoral programme Architecture and sciences of the city, EPFL

Angelus Eisinger

Historian of urbanism and director of Regionalplanung Zürich und Umgebung

Andrea Felicioni

Architect and head of urban planning, city of Lugano
Responsible for Lugano communal masterplan

Marco Graber

Co-founder Graber Pulver Architekten and former diploma student of André Corboz and Franz Oswald (together with Regula Iseli and Thomas Pulver)

Regula Iseli

Co-director Institut Urban Landscape, ZHAW Winterthur, and former diploma student of André Corboz and Franz Oswald (together with Marco Graber and Thomas Pulver)

Sylvain Malfroy

Architecture historian, former professor of architecture and urban history at ZHAW Winterthur and longtime teaching assistant of André Corboz at ETH Zurich

Catherine Maumi

Professor of architecture and urban history and theory, ENSA Paris La Villette / HESAM Université

Stanislaus von Moos

Professor emeritus of art history at University of Zurich, curator and critic, founding editor of Archithese

Franz Oswald

Architect and professor emeritus of architecture at ETH Zurich, head jury expert for Lugano communal masterplan

Thomas Pulver

Co-founder Graber Pulver Architekten and former diploma student of André Corboz and Franz Oswald (together with Marco Graber and Regula Iseli)

Milica Topalovic

Professor of architecture and territorial planning at ETH Zurich, former scientific collaborator at ETH Studio Basel



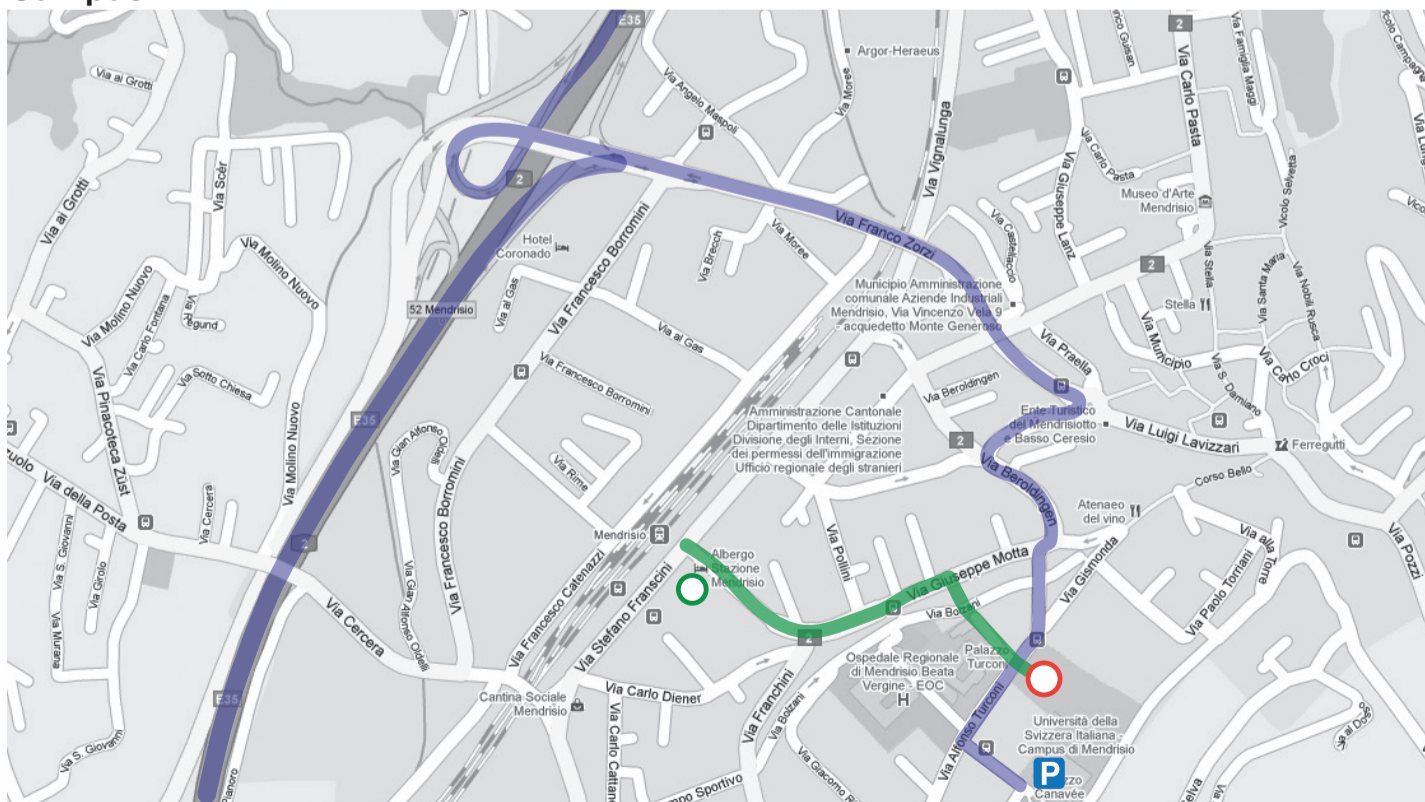
Location

**Auditorium
Teatro dell'architettura, Mendrisio**
Via Alfonso Turconi 25
6850 Mendrisio

- 1 Villa Argentina
- 2 Palazzo Turconi
- 3 Palazzo Canavée
- 4 **Teatro dell'architettura**
- 5 Osteria Vignetta
- 6 Dependence (ISUP / OST)
- 7 ISA Institute



How to reach the Academy of architecture Campus?



By car
from autoroute exit (3 minutes)

By walking
from train station (6 minutes)

By train
TILO every 30 minutes from
Como / Varese / Lugano

 Villa Argentina

 Parking

 Albergo Milano