



The doctoral program in Architecture and Sciences of the City (EDAR) invites doctoral students to accomplish an interdisciplinary exploration of inhabited space in the international and dynamic environment of EPFL.

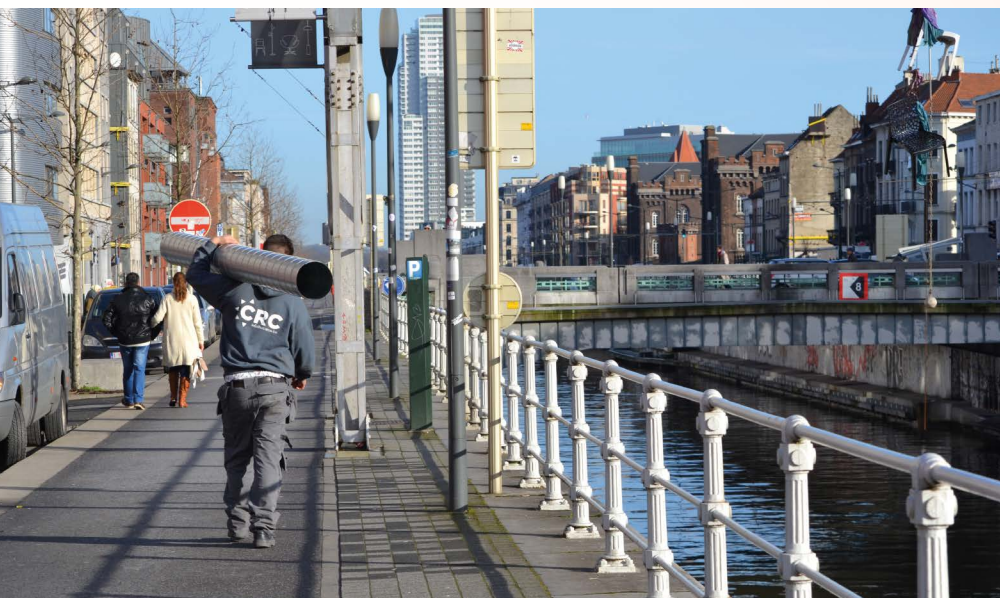
The program brings together the world of architecture (history, theory, projects) and the one of urban sciences (geography, urban sociology, environmental economics, housing and networking, urbanism and spatial planning). Whilst the EDAR program stays open to mathematics, the sciences of matter and life as well as the science of engineering, it maintains particularly close relations with the School of Architecture, Civil and Environmental Engineering (ENAC).

Marine Declève

As an art historian and urbanist, I conduct my PhD under the guidance of MER Elena Cogato-Lanza, in the frame of the Laboratory of Urbanism. My research focuses on the historical evolution of the relationship between the city and the arts and crafts, from the point of view of the production of space, taking as a case study the dense fabrics of Brussels. Starting from an investigation on the places dedicated to craft activities, my work bridges a cartographic and a social investigation on the difficult but also fertile relationship – for the identity and the urban social cohesion – between working and living inside the city. This research is in line with the European and regional perspectives regarding the possibilities and conditions for the support or return of production into the urban space.

The EDAR doctoral program brings the best conditions for understanding the challenges of an interdisciplinary research. From the early stage of the PhD, it provides an essential support to set the methodology and discuss the theoretical frame. I got the chance to benefit from joint research programs with European partners such as the Politecnico di Torino (Italy) and the UCLouvain (Belgium). These international exchanges are real opportunities for

feeding our reflections, testing our methods on other fields and establishing a critical dialogue with researchers working on similar issues.



Since graduating from EPFL in 2008 and after different experiences in architectural offices in the Lake Geneva region, my professional activity has been divided between an architectural practice (formerly kössler Sàrl) and the teaching of the architectural project. Benefiting from this crossed experience, which allowed me to consolidate and acquire essential knowledge, I intensify today my relation with the architectural discipline by the realization of a doctoral thesis under the supervision of Prof. Emmanuel Rey.

My doctoral approach is part of the dynamics of the research project Rhodanie urbaine, initiated by the Laboratory of

Architecture and Sustainable Technologies (LAST). It aims at defining integrative strategies for fluvial districts in transition along the river Rhône. In a context of urban densification and creation of new mixed neighborhoods close to public transports, multiple sectors along the urban shores represent a strategic potential for sustainable urban development and for the regeneration of concerned cities.

In terms of a concrete methodological contribution, the expected result consists in particular in a decision-making tool. Part of a specifically tailored multi-criteria assessment strategy, it is intended to enrich the perception of places affected by project scenarios.

Sara Formery

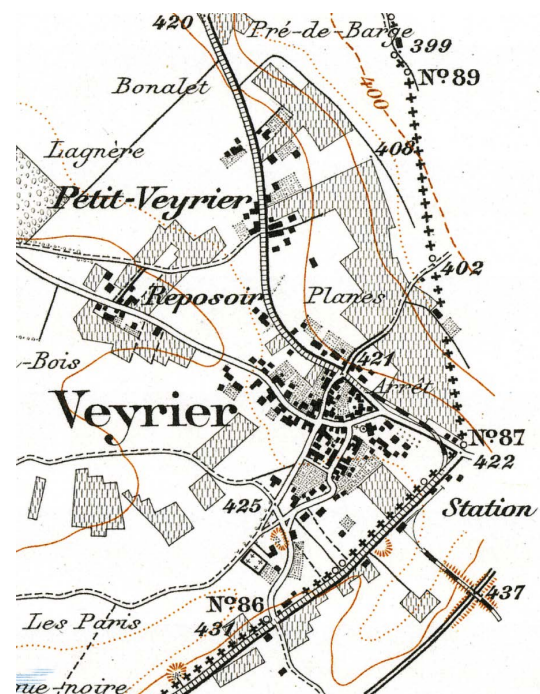
Alexis Gummy

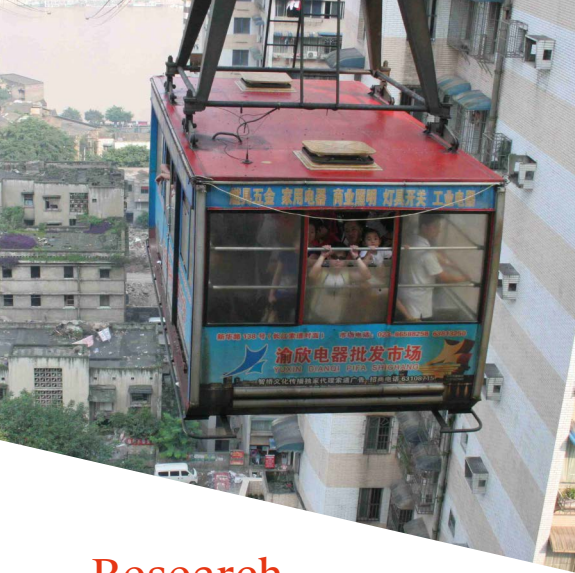
After graduating from EPFL in 2017 with a degree in Civil engineering, I decided to pursue a PhD in the doctoral program in Architecture and Sciences of the City (EDAR). I thought this program would be a great environment in which to develop a multidisciplinary approach to research. Today, I am part of the Urban Sociology Laboratory (LASUR) but I also benefit from a co-supervision from the Transport and Mobility Laboratory (TRANSP-OR). The synergy between these two labs enables me to develop innovative ways of conducting a deep analysis of the city and its inhabitants' everyday lives. In this context, my research is mainly aimed at understanding, explaining and predicting people's behaviors.

Supported by the Swiss National Science Foundation, I have developed my thesis by looking at cross-border metropolitan territories. Based on three case studies, the "Grand Genève" agglomeration, the Lille Eurometropolis and the Basque Country, the goal is to see how people make use of and constantly reshape a social object that can be described and experienced as both an opportunity or an obstacle: the border. By looking at the relationship between the practices - whether people chose or want to physically cross the border in their everyday lives - and the representations - how people construct their own identity based on administrative and cultural demarcation - this project seeks to identify the ingredients of a desirable social and spatial cohesion in such diverse territories.



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Research opportunities

Active within almost 30 labs, mainly from the School of Architecture, Civil and Environmental Engineering, the EDAR doctoral program hosts doctoral students interested in its scientific orientations which encompass the following main research areas:

- Sciences of the City
- History, Theory, Heritage
- Research by Design
- Integrated Design, Architecture, Sustainability

Application deadlines

The online application to the doctoral program in Architecture and Sciences of the City (EDAR) can be received three times a year according to the EPFL Doctoral School schedule. For any information and the detailed schedule, please visit the program's website.

Doctoral School - EDAR

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Deputy-head: Prof. Emmanuel Rey
Program administrator: Sandra Bottà

EDAR – Affiliated laboratories

Architecture, Criticism, History and Theory

ACHT – PATT Christophe van Gerrewey

Design Studio of the Conception of Space

ALICE – Prof. Dieter Dietz

Urban and Regional Planning Community

CEAT – MER Jérôme Chenal

Laboratory of Digital Culture for Architectural Projects

CNPA – Prof. Bernard Cache

Digital Humanities Laboratory

DHLAB – PATT Frédéric Kaplan

Laboratory of Elementary Architecture and Studies of Types

EAST – Prof. Martin Fröhlich

Laboratory of Construction and Architecture

FAR – Prof. Paolo Tombesi

Geometric Computing Laboratory

GCM – Prof. Mark Pauly

Laboratory on Human-Environment Relations in Urban Systems

HERUS – Prof. Claudia R. Binder

Institute for Area and Global Studies

IAGS – MER Florence Graezer Bideau

Laboratory for Timber Constructions

IBOIS – Prof. Yves Weinand

Laboratory of Urbanism

LAB-U – Prof. Paola Viganò

Arts of Sciences Laboratory

LAPIS – Prof. Nicola Braghieri

Laboratory of Architecture and Sustainable Technologies

LAST – Prof. Emmanuel Rey

Laboratory of Astrophysics

LASTRO – Prof. Jean-Paul Kneib

Urban Sociology Laboratory

LaSUR – Prof. Vincent Kaufmann

Construction and Conservation Laboratory

LCC 2 – Prof. Luca Ortelli

Media and Design Laboratory

LDM2 – Prof. Jeffrey Huang

Economics and Environmental Management Laboratory

LEURE – Prof. Philippe Thalmann

Laboratory for the History of Science and Technology

LHST – PATT Jérôme Baudry

Laboratoire d'Imagination et de Fabrication

LIF – Prof. Jo François Taillieu

Theory and History of Architecture Laboratories

LTH 2, 3 – Prof. Roberto Gargiani and Prof. Bruno Marchand

Laboratory for Experimental Museology

SODH – Prof. Sarah Irene Brutton Kenderdine

Structural Exploration Lab

SXL – PATT Corentin Fivet

Theory and Experience Architecture Studio

TEXAS – Prof. Eric Lapierre

Laboratory of Techniques and Preservation of Modern Architecture

TSAM – Prof. Franz Graf