ACTS OF AMBIGUITY
MILANESE MODERNS

THEME
The vocabulary of Classical architecture provides a common place, as it contains a vast amount of elements that have gradually become familiar throughout society. Its visual connotations have created a collective understanding of many buildings surrounding us. An intriguing complexity arises when reinterpretations are required because of deviant and demanding programs: Moments when this vocabulary is subject of challenge.

Throughout Europe, architects have been inspired by the bright source of Italian Renaissance. Yet, being confronted with local conditions, editing and reinterpretation of this classical vocabulary was required. Vernacular motives were introduced and mashed-up, causing intriguing bastards as a result. Another perspective is considering these phenomena as experiments, as indicators of the strength of local architectural discourse, causing most beautiful results.

This studio will focus on vocabulary, gesture and style. During this trajectory elements and motives of both classical architectural language and contemporary interpretations will be part of study, revaluated and be brought into the current era by developing architectural proposals which are charged with these.

MILANESE MODERNS
Out of many local examples throughout Europe, Milan provides a rich catalogue of experiments, all of which prove the digestion of Modernism into local traditions. A specific group of Milanese architects, the so-called Novecento Movement pivoting around figures such as Giovanni Muzio, Piero Portaluppi and Luigi Figini, was reinterpreting classical motives into modern times.

CURRENT URBANISATION
As many European cities currently seem to be under pressure by densification, tourism and rising real-estate prices, the consistence of our domestic environment might require reconsideration. Simultaneously this pressure might only be temporary; therefore it is worth engaging with the longer perspective by providing possibilities of reconversion. For this, a residential building will be developed on a site in Milano.

PROGRAM:
A residential building containing 30 units, in the inner city of Milano, all participants will be requested to find their own location within a prescribed field.