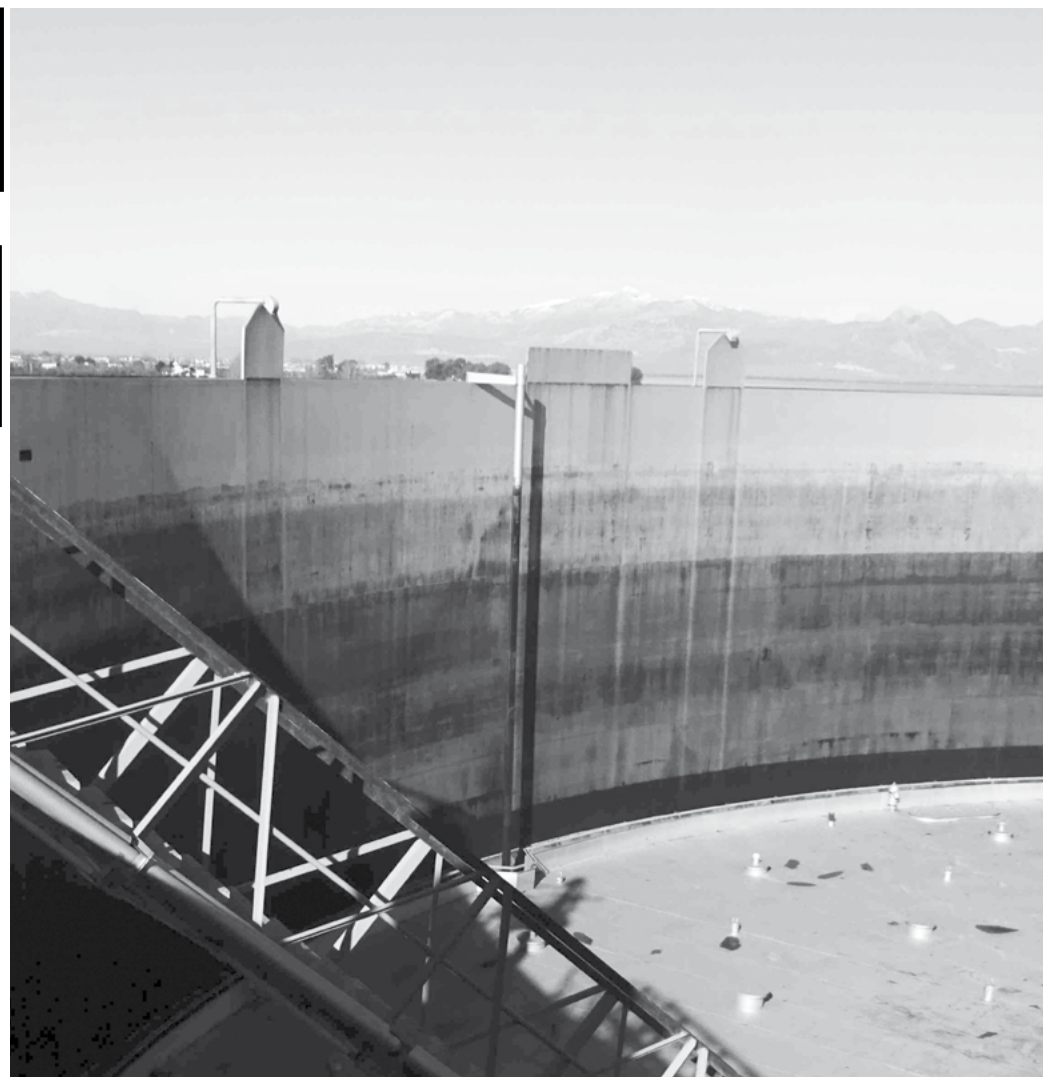




Webinar organized within the framework of the Territorial Fragilities Project of the Department of Architecture and Urban Studies (DASU) and the MSc Land Landscape Heritage, Politecnico di Milano

in collaboration with:

Rachel Carson Center for Environment and Society, Ludwig-Maximilians-Universität München



Empty oil tank, Italy, Chiara Geroldi, 2016

Oil Spaces

A multidisciplinary discussion on the global petroleumscape in times of transition

In the last years, energy transition has been part of international political debates with increasing frequency and preoccupation, especially in Europe. In these discussions, oil is often portrayed as an outdated fossil fuel, belonging to a past soon to be forgotten. On the contrary, recent multidisciplinary research on oil shows how this viscous liquid is still largely present in the everyday life of most people around the world. As the recent book *Oil Spaces. Exploring the Global Petroleumscape* (Routledge – Taylor&Francis, 2022) edited by Carola Hein (TU Delft) reveals, oil has been creating spaces for decades through its material flow and agency, in multiple forms and scales. Looking at the energy transition debate from this perspective, planners, landscape architects, and conservationists are urged to reconsider the global petroleumscape, how this materialises at the local level, and how this could be transformed. Thanks to a collaboration between the Department of Architecture and Urban Studies at Politecnico di Milano and the Rachel Carson Center for Environment and Society at the Ludwig-Maximilians-Universität in Munich, the seminar *Oil Spaces* draws scholars from different disciplinary backgrounds together, to shed light on spaces, as well as histories, geographies, representations, and conflicts around oil, in a time of transition.

The “Oil Spaces” book is also available as open access at this link: <https://www.taylorfrancis.com/books/oa-edit/10.4324/9780367816049/oil-spaces-carola-hein>

13th December 2021

Politecnico di Milano, Zoom [link](#)

program:

14⁰⁰

Welcome and greetings

Massimo Bricocoli / DASU
Department Head

Gabriele Pasqui / DASU TF Project
Scientific Director

Christof Mauch / Rachel Carson
Center Director

14¹⁵

Introduction

Gloria Pessina / DASU; Rachel
Carson Center Visiting Scholar,
Chiara Geroldi / DASU

14³⁰

Keynote lecture: “Oil
Spaces. Exploring the Global
Petroleumscape”

Carola Hein / TU Delft History of
Architecture and Urban Planning
Head

15¹⁵

Excerpts from the “Oil Spaces”
book

Giulia Scotto / University of Basel

Chiara Geroldi / DASU, **Gloria
Pessina** / DASU; Rachel Carson
Center Visiting Scholar

15⁵⁰

Break

16⁰⁰

Multidisciplinary perspectives
on the global petroleumscape

Michael-Franz Jakob / DASU
Visiting Professor; hepia Geneva

Oana Tiganea / DASU

Daniel Dumas / Rachel Carson
Center

Fausto Ignatov Vinueza / Rachel
Carson Center

Katie Ritson / Rachel Carson Center

Elisabetta Bini / Università degli
Studi di Napoli Federico II; Rachel
Carson Center Visiting Scholar

17³⁰

Open discussion



**POLITECNICO
MILANO 1863**

DIPARTIMENTO DI ARCHITETTURA
E STUDI URBANI



**DIPARTIMENTO
D'ECCELLENZA
FRAGILITÀ TERRITORIALI
2018–2022**



In collaboration with:

**Rachel
Carson
Center**
ENVIRONMENT AND SOCIETY

**Seminar organized by Gloria Pessina and
Chiara Geroldi**

contacts:
gloria.pessina@polimi.it
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KEYNOTE LECTURER



Carola Hein is professor and head of History of Architecture and Urban planning at Delft University of Technology. Her authored and (co-) edited books include "Oil Spaces, Exploring the Global Petroleumscape" (2021), "Adaptive Strategies for Water Heritage" (2019), "The Routledge Handbook of Planning History" (2018), "Port Cities" (2011), "Cities, Autonomy and Decentralisation in Japan" (2006), "The Capital of Europe" (2004), and "Rebuilding Urban Japan after 1945" (2003).

INSTITUTIONAL WELCOMING



Massimo Bricocoli is the Director of the Department of Architecture and Urban Studies (DASU) and Full Professor of Urban Planning and Policies at Politecnico Milano.



Gabriele Pasqui is the Scientific Coordinator of the Department of Excellence on Territorial Fragilities (2018-2022) within the Department of Architecture and Urban Studies (DASU) and Full Professor of Urban Policies at Politecnico di Milano.



Christof Mauch is Director of the Rachel Carson Center for Environment and Society as well as the Chair in American Culture and Transatlantic Relations at LMU Munich. He is also an affiliated professor in the History Faculty of LMU Munich and is an Honorary Professor at Renmin University in China.

ORGANIZERS



Chiara Geroldi is a fixed-term Assistant Professor of Landscape Architecture at Politecnico di Milano. Her research interests include the uses of discarded fill in landscape architecture projects, land reclamation and landscapes of electricity. Her articles appeared on JoLA, The Extractive Industries and Society, Territorio and she co-authored a chapter on the book "Oil Spaces".



Gloria Pessina is a fixed-term Assistant Professor of Urban and Regional Planning at DASU, Politecnico di Milano and member of the Dpt. Of Excellence on Territorial Fragilities. Currently she is a Visiting Scholar at the Rachel Carson Center for Environment and Society (LMU Munich), working on her project on the materiality of energy transition in Sardinia. She co-authored a chapter in "Oil Spaces".

INVITED SPEAKERS



Elisabetta Bini is Assistant Professor of Contemporary History at the University of Naples Federico II, where she works on the history of international energy relations during the Cold War. She authored "La potente benzina italiana. Guerra fredda e consumi di massa tra Italia, Stati Uniti e Terzo mondo (1945-1973)" and co-edited "Working for Oil: Comparative Social Histories of Labor in the Global Oil Industry".



Daniel Dumas holds a MA in Geography (University of Ottawa) and is currently a Doctoral candidate in the Environment and Society program at the Rachel Carson Center (LMU). His dissertation explores past and present representations of Indigeneity and the environment within the Canadian context, including media coverage of the tar sands debate and the Trans Mountain Pipeline Expansion project.



Fausto Ignatov Vinueza studied Sociology, Gender Studies and Political Science (LMU Munich) before joining the Environment and Society doctoral program at the Rachel Carson Center (LMU) in 2017. His dissertation explores the construction and reproduction of discourses on development and progress in "internalizing societies" in relation to extractivist policies and practices.



Michael Jakob teaches History and Theory of Landscape at hepia Geneva, at Politecnico di Milano and the Accademia di Architettura in Mendrisio. He is Professor of Comparative Literature at Grenoble University and a visiting professor at Harvard Universities GSD. He is the founder of COMPAR(A) ISON, and the chief editor of "di monte in monte" (Edizioni Tarara').



Katie Ritson is a scholar of comparative literature with a particular interest in Northern Europe. She studied at the University of Cambridge and LMU Munich, completing her doctorate in Munich in 2016 whilst working as senior editor at the Rachel Carson Center. Her current project is entitled "OFFSHORE: Energy Cultures of the North Sea project" (2021-2024, Deutsche Forschungsgemeinschaft).



Giulia Scotto is an architect, urbanist, and Ph.D. candidate in Urban Studies at the University of Basel. Giulia's ongoing Ph.D. "Postcolonial Logistics: ENI's Disegno Africano" investigates the spatial and social consequences of ENI's (Ente Nazionale Idrocarburi) infrastructural operations in postcolonial Africa.



Oana Tiganea is Assistant Professor in Architectural Preservation at Politecnico di Milano - DASU. One of her main research interests is the industrial legacy dating 1945 - 89 in Central-Eastern Europe, directly linked with the fast centralized-state development specific for the socialist system.



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