



# POST DUCTILITY

Metals in Architecture and Engineering

The Third Columbia Conference on Architecture, Engineering and Materials

September 30—October 2, 2009

# POST DUCTILITY

## Metals In Architecture and Engineering

The Third Columbia Conference On Architecture, Engineering and Materials  
September 30—October 2, 2009

The Graduate School of Architecture, Planning and Preservation  
Columbia University in the City of New York

Metals, as surface or structure—as generators of space—play a role in nearly every strand of modernization in architecture. They define complex geographies of work, production and political life. Not only architectural metals delivered in automobiles and hard goods in the United States and worldwide have all been forged as the engines of the sprawling late twentieth century city in all of its forms. But in the received aspects of architectural history, metals, and in particular steel, have been less diluted; they are presented as intrinsic to the profession as material precedes concepts—they are carriers of architectural meaning.

Bringing together a wide range of leading architects, engineers, and scholars, the Columbia Conferences on Architecture, Engineering and Materials are part of a multi-year project to explore the dramatically changing limits of known and new materials. In an era of rapid urbanization and within unprecedented forms of technical measurement, coordination, and production, we examine the increasingly blurred boundaries of professions and of materials. Do contemporary means of structural and material analysis suggest a way of modeling material attributes such that analysis itself might produce a new material and new practices? Do new techniques create a virtual strain or quasi-alloy, leading to a new realm of coordinated material action and conceptual action?

This conference on metals is the third in a series of conferences on architecture, engineering and materials. The conference explores the boundaries between architecture, engineering and materials science by mobilizing symposia, studios, exhibitions, books and films in an intensely focused investigation. How is a new generation of professionals and manufactures fusing engineering and architectural practices into new platforms for decisive urban action?

The expanding list of participating architects, engineers, historians and theorists includes:

**Jose Rafael Moneo**

Architect, Madrid  
Graduate School of Design,  
Harvard University  
Keynote lecture

**Paola Antonelli**

Museum of Modern Art,  
New York

**Phillip Anzalone**

GSAPP, Columbia University

**Michael Bell**

GSAPP, Columbia University

**David Benjamin**

GSAPP, Columbia University

**Roberto Bichiarelli**

Permasteelisa Cladding  
Technologies, Miami

**Lise Anne Couture**

School of Architecture,  
Yale University

**Anna Dyson**

School of Architecture,  
Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute

**John Fernandez**

Department of Architecture,  
Massachusetts Institute  
of Technology

**Kenneth Frampton**

GSAPP, Columbia University

**Laurie Hawkinson**

GSAPP, Columbia University

**Juan Herreros**

Escuela Técnica Superior  
de Arquitectura, Madrid

**Steven Holl**

GSAPP, Columbia University

**Keith Kaseman**

GSAPP, Columbia University

**Christoph Kumpusch**

Department of Architecture,  
Cornell University

**Sanford Kwinter**

Graduate School of Design,  
Harvard University

**Sylvia Lavin**

Department of Architecture  
and Urban Design, University  
of California, Los Angeles

**Neil Malekshahi**

Engineer,  
Buro Happold, New York

**Ronald Mayes**

Engineer,  
Simpson, Quinert & Heger,  
San Francisco

**Rory McEwen**

Engineer,  
ARUP, Beijing

**Detlef Mertins**

School of Design,  
University of Pennsylvania

**Christian Meyer**

Department of Civil Engineering  
and Engineering Mechanics,  
Columbia University

**Ana Miljacki**

Department of Architecture,  
Massachusetts Institute  
of Technology

**Toshiko Mori**

Graduate School of Design,  
Harvard University

**Jorge Otero Pailos**

GSAPP, Columbia University

**Theodore Prudon**

GSAPP, Columbia University

**Jesse Reiser**

School of Architecture,  
Princeton University

**Hilary Sample**

School of Architecture,  
Yale University

**Hans Schober**

Engineer  
Schlaich Bergermann  
& Partner, Stuttgart

**Matthias Schuler**

Engineer  
TRANSOLAR, Stuttgart

**Craig Schwitter**

Engineer,  
Buro Happold, New York

**Felicity Scott**

GSAPP, Columbia University

**Werner Sobek**

Engineer  
Werner Sobek Engineering  
and Design, Stuttgart

**Galia Solomonoff**

GSAPP, Columbia University

**Man-Chung Tang**

Engineer  
T.Y. Lin International,  
San Francisco

**Heiko Trumpf**

Engineer  
Werner Sobek Engineering  
and Design, Stuttgart

**Nanako Umemoto**

Graduate School of Design,  
Harvard University

**George Wheeler**

GSAPP, Columbia University

**Mark Wigley**

Dean  
GSAPP, Columbia University

**Mabel Wilson**

GSAPP, Columbia University

Convened by The Graduate School  
of Architecture, Planning and  
Preservation, Columbia University  
in the City of New York  
Mark Wigley, Dean

Michael Bell, Conference  
Chair and Professor

In collaboration with The Fu Foundation  
School of Engineering and Applied  
Science, Columbia University in the  
City of New York  
Christian Meyer, Chair and Professor

The conference will be accompanied  
by an installation curated by Rosana  
Rubio-Hernandez with assistance by  
Alejandro de Castro Mazarro. On display  
in Avery Hall, 200 Level, September  
30—October 9

**Event sponsors**



Ornamental Metal  
Institute of New York  
www.siny.org



Steel Institute  
of New York  
www.siny.org



American Institute  
of Steel Construction  
www.aisc.org

**Exclusive media sponsor**



THE ARCHITECT'S NEWSPAPER  
NEW YORK ARCHITECTS AND DESIGNERS  
www.archpaper.com

1 2 3 4...  
glass concrete metal plastic

For updated information and to register please see [www.arch.columbia.edu/postductility](http://www.arch.columbia.edu/postductility)  
or contact Benjamin Prosky, Director of Special Events, at 212 854 9248 or [postductility@columbia.edu](mailto:postductility@columbia.edu)