

## The Foros 2020 lecture series considers the interactions between contemporary architecture and art

The new edition of the lecture series, organised by the UIC Barcelona School of Architecture, kicks off on 29 January and will run until the end of April, with two free lectures each month.

Ghana-born British architect Elsie Owusu, founder of the Black Architects Society (SOBA); architect and caricaturist Klaus; and French sociologist Éric Fassin are among the speakers featured in this new series.

**Barcelona, 16 January 2020.** The Foros series of lectures organised by the UIC Barcelona School of Architecture, the essential annual event in the field of architecture and urban planning, begins a new edition in early 2020 that will run from 29 January through to 29 April.

Under the heading of “**co-benefits**”, Foros 2020 aims to consider the links and the processes of cultural interaction between contemporary architecture and other artistic manifestations such as dance, sculpture, film and comedy. The series will be managed for the second year running by lecturers **Guillem Carabí** and **Fredy Massad**. “In the same way that contemporary art, in all its different manifestations, often takes ownership of architectural elements, devoid of any connotations of habitability, architecture also feeds from the different artistic disciplines to reclaim its emotional character and thus recover some of the bonds it has lost with its users,” they explain.

The series kicks off on 29 January with a lecture by the well-known caricaturist and architect **Klaus (Koldo Lus Arana)**. Since he launched his blog, Klaustoon, ten years ago, Klaus has stood out for his biting criticism of the architectural status quo. His work has been published in numerous architectural magazines and shown in both solo and group exhibitions. As a lecturer at the School of Engineering and Architecture (EINA) at the University of Zaragoza, he studies the interactions between architecture and the media, as well as urban visions of the future in architecture and the visual arts.

The second lecture will take place on 13 February, given by **MADOLA (M. Ángeles Domingo Laplana)**, a plastic artist with a PhD in Fine Arts based in Premià de Dalt; she is a member of the International Academy of Ceramics and the Work-Craft Council, which is based at UNESCO in Paris. Madola is known for her large-format ceramic works in public spaces, some of her most notable interventions being the Plaça de la Font Castellana in Barcelona, the Rotonda Blava in Premià de Mar and the “Organic” installation in the Design Museum of Barcelona.

On 26 February, **Carme Torrent** will give a performance-based lecture. The Catalan artist has many years of experience as a performance artist for choreographers of the stature of Min Tanaka, Carmelo Salazar and Xavier Le Roy, and has participated in many programmes for exhibition spaces worldwide.

The series continues on 11 March with a lecture by the Croatian architect and critic **Maroje Mrduljaš**. Editor-in-chief of the magazine *Oris*, he is particularly known for his work as an author and editor of books on architecture and design. He has also curated exhibitions at international art centres such as the MoMA in New York, the DAM in Frankfurt, and the MUO in Zagreb. Maroje Mrduljaš also acts as an independent expert for the European Union Prize for Contemporary Architecture – Mies van der Rohe Award and is a lecturer at the University of Zagreb.

On 25 March, will take place the intervention of the Ghana-born British architect **Elsie Owusu**. Owusu co-led the refurbishment of the Supreme Court of the United Kingdom in 2009 and worked on Green Park tube station in London. She is a founding member and the first chair of the Society of Black Architects (SOBA) and has extensive experience in urban planning, transportation and infrastructure in Lagos, Nigeria and Accra, Ghana.

On 15 April, Foros continues with a lecture by the architect and film expert **Jorge Gorostiza**. Gorostiza has published countless articles and books on film and architecture since the 1990s, and was the director of Filmoteca Canaria between 2000 and 2005. He serves as a jury member at many film festivals and gives lectures at architectural schools and cultural centres across Spain.

Foros 2020 closes on 29 April with a lecture by the French sociologist **Éric Fassin**, lecturer of sociology at Paris-8 University in Vincennes-Saint-Denis. Fassin's work focuses on the polarisation of sexual and racial issues in France and the United States, immigration policies in Europe, and the notions of leftism and democracy. He is one of our most outstanding contemporary thinkers with a strong commitment to the public sphere in France.

#### About Foros

Foros is an annual cycle of lectures organised by the UIC Barcelona School of Architecture at which prestigious Spanish and international professionals share their views of architecture through their work. All the lectures are open to students, sector professionals and anyone else who wishes to participate.

#### About the UIC Barcelona School of Architecture

UIC Barcelona School of Architecture is committed to the intellectual, professional and personal growth of all those who form part of it. The School of Architecture has strongly invested in a teaching model based on individual attention, practical learning based on embracing every field of knowledge, cutting-edge technology, and teaching staff with international experience in order to train architects to be able to tackle the challenges posed by society.

#### Further information:

##### Marcos Doespiritusanto.

Head of Communications UIC Barcelona School of Architecture

T. +34 932 541 800 / [mdoespiritusanto@uic.es](mailto:mdoespiritusanto@uic.es) / [www.uic.es](http://www.uic.es) / [@UICbarcelona](https://twitter.com/UICbarcelona)