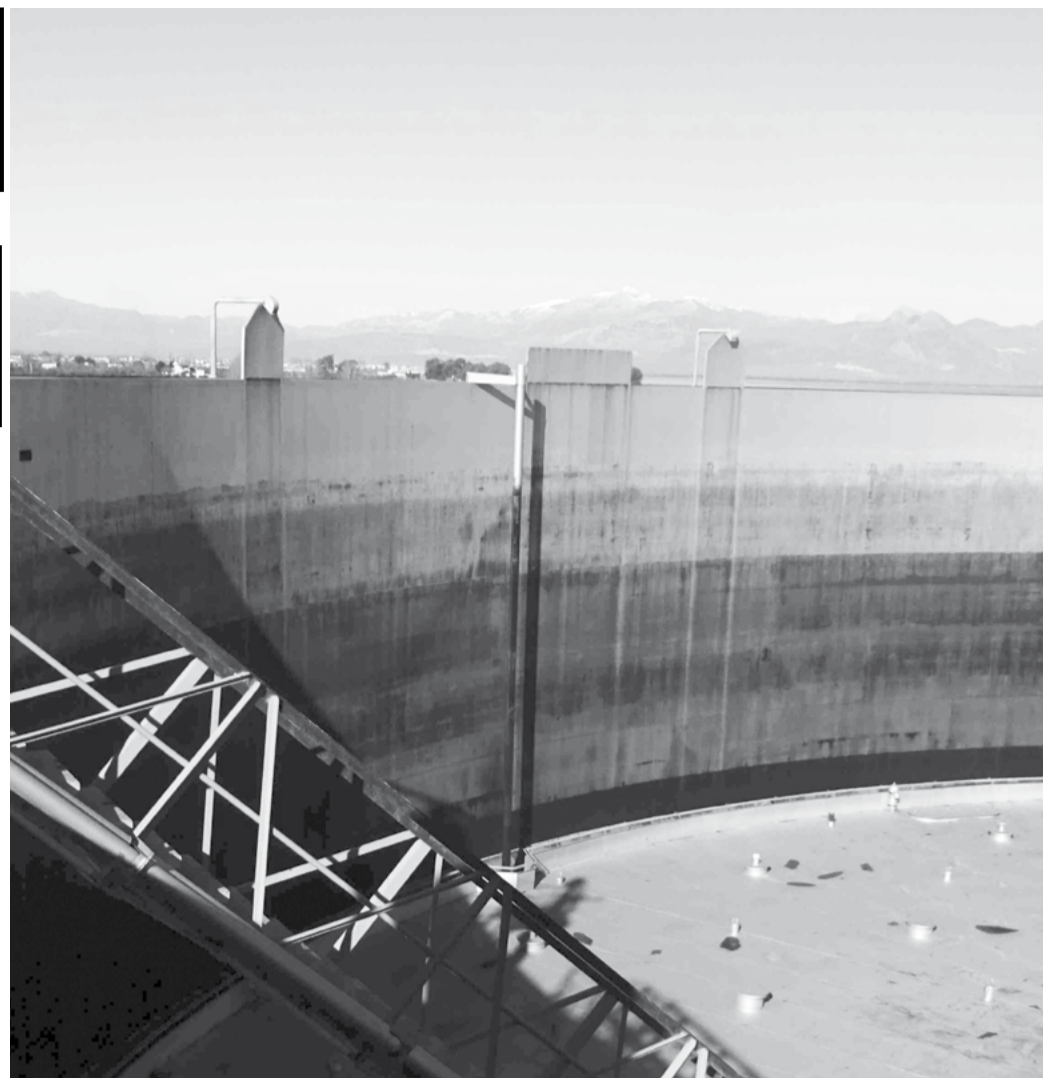




Webinar organized within the framework of the Territorial Fragilities Project of the Department of Architecture and Urban Studies (DAStU) and the MSc Land Landscape Heritage, Politecnico di Milano

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

Over 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 In these discussions, oil is often portrayed as an outdated fossil fuel, belonging to a past soon to be forgotten.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 other hand, 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:

14<sup>00</sup>

Welcome and greetings

**Massimo Bricocoli** / DAStU  
Department Head

**Gabriele Pasqui** / DAStU TF Project  
Scientific Director

**Christof Mauch** / Rachel Carson  
Center Director

14<sup>15</sup>

Introduction

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

14<sup>30</sup>

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

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

15<sup>15</sup>

Excerpts from the “Oil Spaces”  
book

**Giulia Scotto** / University of Basel

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

15<sup>50</sup>

Break

16<sup>00</sup>

Multidisciplinary perspectives  
on the global petroleumscape

**Michael Jakob** / DAStU Visiting  
Professor; hepia Geneva

**Oana Tiganea** / DAStU

**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

17<sup>30</sup>

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  
chiara.geroldi@polimi.it



### 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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**DIPARTIMENTO D'ECCELLENZA FRAGILITA' TERRITORIALI 2018-2022**



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### contacts:

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