



Delft University of Technology

## From École des Beaux-Arts to École Sedad Hakkı Eldem

### A History of Architecture Education and the Formation of Urban Design Pedagogy in Turkey

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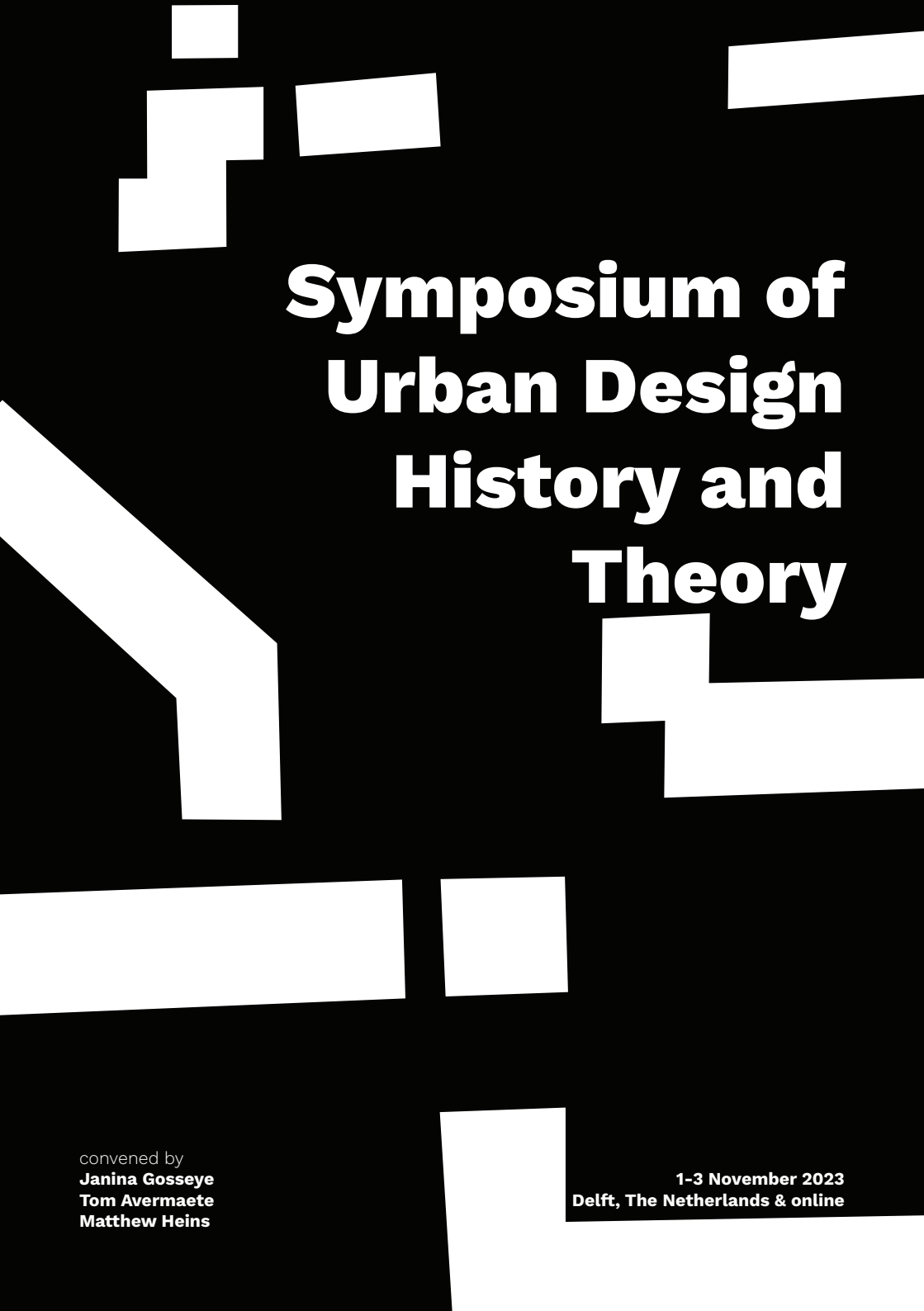
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The background is a solid black field. It is populated with several white geometric shapes of various sizes and orientations. These include a small square at the top left, a larger square below it, a horizontal rectangle to the right of the second square, a long diagonal bar on the left side, a horizontal bar at the bottom left, a square at the bottom center, a horizontal bar at the bottom right, and a large, irregular white shape on the right side that partially overlaps the text.

# **Symposium of Urban Design History and Theory**

convened by  
**Janina Gosseye**  
**Tom Avermaete**  
**Matthew Heins**

**1-3 November 2023**  
**Delft, The Netherlands & online**

1 November 2023 Concepts Tools and Theories

15:30 - 18:00

Berlage Room 2

## **Urban Design Ideas Traveling Between Cultures and Nations**

*Nadi Abusaada*

### **Maryia Rusak**

Imported Urbanisms: A [Not-So-] Model Town in the Tropics  
ETH Zurich

### **Tianchen Xu**

New Architecture, New World: Ian McKay's Early European Experiences and the Australian Localization  
University of Melbourne

### **Dingliang Yang**

Modern Urban Design in China: An Imported Discourse  
University of Minnesota

### **Burcu Köken**

Mimarlık, 1963-1972: Expertise, Exchange, and Planning in Turkish Architecture  
TU Delft

### **Fatma Tanış**

From École des Beaux-Arts to École Sedad Hakki Eldem: A History of Architecture Education and the Formation of Urban Design Pedagogy in Turkey  
TU Delft / Nieuwe Instituut

1 November 2023  
15:30 - 18:00  
Berlage Room 2

**From École des Beaux-Arts to École Sedad  
Hakkı Eldem: A History of Architecture  
Education and the Formation of Urban Design  
Pedagogy in Turkey**  
Fatma Taniş

Transnational exchanges between France and the Ottoman Empire, the German-speaking world and Turkey, respectively, were foundational in the professionalization of Ottoman-Turkish architects. In regard to changing regimes, the architecture school Sanayi-i Nefise Mektebi in Istanbul was the key node for pedagogical exchanges and the development of a pioneer architectural program. This paper focuses on three periods between 1882 and 1968 marked with pivotal moments of encounters in the history of the architecture school to have a better understanding of the formation of an urban design pedagogy in Turkey.

Established in 1882 by Osman Hamdi, the École des Beaux-Arts served as a model for the architecture school until the appointment of Ernst Egli in 1930. Egli made radical changes to the curriculum in parallel to the modern movement and linked architectural competitions to education. Furthermore, Egli's suggestion to his assistant Sedad H. Eldem of finding the source of knowledge in vernacular architecture gave a new direction to the architectural pedagogy. From 1936 until his sudden death in 1938, Bruno Taut led the architectural program, placing specific focus on housing in architectural design studios and introducing the concepts of *Zeilenbau* and *Existenzminimum*—the theme of the CIAM II held in Frankfurt-am-Main in 1929.

Until the next institutional reform in 1968, Eldem consolidated the architectural program and pedagogy, which are still well-protected today by a staunch three-generation of lecturers. Surveying vernacular architecture has been an educational focus, and *Existenzminimum* has become the norm in architectural design studios. Eldem expanded architectural education to offices of architect-lecturers who worked on architectural competitions with students. Born from transnational exchanges, the École Sedad Hakkı Eldem ingrained new ways of thinking about architecture and urban design in Turkey through French notions (e.g. atelier, esquisse, béton armé, project) that made Ottoman concepts obsolete and paved a new path for the architecture profession in practice.

Fatma Taniş is a researcher at TU Delft and the coordinator of the Jaap Bakema Study Centre, Nieuwe Instituut in Rotterdam. Previously, Taniş trained as an architect in Istanbul and Stuttgart and received master's degrees in Architectural History and Conservation & Restoration of the Historic Built Environment. Having a particular interest in in-between realms, she has explored the specificity of port cities through the notion of cosmopolitanism in her doctoral project where she combined her personal interest in literary writing with her interdisciplinary background to explore İzmir from a cross-cultural perspective. Taniş earned a PhD degree from TU Delft with her dissertation entitled 'Urban Scenes of a Port City (2022)'.

This symposium is convened by Janina Gosseye, Tom Avermaete, and Matthew Heins. The full conference committee consists of:

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