Biographies

Paul Feigelfeld

Paul Feigelfeld majored in cultural studies and computer science at the Humboldt University of Berlin where he worked for Friedrich Kittler and Wolfgang Ernst till 2013. Until 2016, he was an academic coordinator for the Digital Cultures Research Lab at the Leuphana University of Lüneburg. He teaches and publishes on media technology, its history, its future, and its impact on knowledge, society, politics, and art, e.g. as a visiting professor at the Art Institute in Basel and a faculty member at the Strelka Institute in Moscow. In 2019, he was the guest curator of UNCANNY VALUES: Artificial Intelligence & You on the occasion of the VIENNA BIENNALE FOR CHANGE 2019. In October, he will be starting a fellowship at IFK (International Research Centre for Cultural Studies) in Vienna.

Harald Gruendl

Harald Gruendl is a designer, design theorist, and curator. He is a partner at the design studio EOOS and director and founder of the IDRV – Institute of Design Research Vienna. He is specialized in research on and application of sustainable design strategies. The client list of the highly acclaimed international design studio EOOS (Martin Bergmann, Gernot Bohmann, and Harald Gruendl) includes brands such as Adidas, Alessi, Armani, bulthaup, Walter Knoll, LAUFEN, Herman Miller, Zumtobel, and many more. For several years now, EOOS has also dedicated its time to projects in social and sustainable design. In this area, EOOS is working on toilets for the poor for the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation and has developed a revolutionary prototype of a toilet for urine separation to fight the global nitrogen problem. Furthermore, EOOS developed contributions to the International Architecture Exhibition La Biennale di Venezia 2016 and the XXII International Exhibition of La Triennale di Milano 2019.

Nikolaus Hirsch

Nikolaus Hirsch is a Frankfurt-based architect. He was the dean of Städelschule and director of Portikus Kunsthalle in Frankfurt. His architectural work includes the award-winning Dresden Synagogue (2001), Bockenheimer Depot Theater (with William Forsythe), unitednationsplaza (with Anton Vidokle), European Kunsthalle, Cyberrmohalla Hub (Delhi, 2012), and the pavilion Do We Dream Under The Same Sky (Art Basel, 2015 and LUMA Arles, 2017). Current projects include Bar Laika in New York and a masterplan for the Fundació Antoni Tàpies.

Anab Jain

Anab Jain is a designer, filmmaker, and co-founder of Superflux, a critically acclaimed foresight, design, and technology company in London working for clients like V&A, Google, UNDP, and BBC. Anab Jain’s work has won honors from Apple Computers Inc., UNESCO, Geneva Human Rights Festival, and TED. Her work has been featured on NPR Radio, BBC 4, CBC, New York Times, Evening Standard, and the Guardian, and exhibited at MoMA New York, V&A Museum, and National Museum of China, amongst others. Anab Jain is also professor and program leader for design investigations at the University of Applied Arts, Vienna. Her work can be found at www.superflux.in. You can follow her on twitter @anabjain

Yasmeen Lari

Yasmeen Lari—architect, architectural historian, heritage conservationist, and philanthropist—is one of the most renowned as well as the first female architect of Pakistan. She graduated from Oxford School of Architecture (Oxford Brookes) and was elected to the Royal Institute of British Architects (1969). Since her retirement from architectural practice in 2000, she has been engaged in heritage management and humanitarian architecture. She has been published as one of 60 women who contributed most towards UNESCO’s objectives. Her Barefoot Social Architecture strategies have brought about social change among Pakistan’s marginalized sections. To mitigate GHG emissions and foster human well being, she promotes low-cost, zero carbon, and zero waste methodologies based on vernacular heritage and renewable materials, such as earth, lime, and bamboo. In recognition of her services, she has received the national awards Sitara-i-Imtiaz and Hilal-i-Imtiaz and the coveted Fukuoka Prize for Asian Art and Culture from Japan.

Ena Lloret-Fritschi

Ena Lloret-Fritschi is an architect with a strong interest in searching for innovative ways of processing and shaping concrete without the need for traditional formwork. She successfully defended her PhD dissertation on Smart Dynamic Casting: A Digital fabrication method for non-standard concrete structures on 16
June 2016. The process was patented and received the Concrete Innovation Award at the Concrete Innovation Conference in Oslo and was shortlisted for the SPARK award at the ETH Zurich for the best innovation of 2016. Currently, Ena is a postdoctoral researcher in a bridge position between the chair of Gramazio Kohler research and the chair of physical building chemistry of Professor Robert Flatt. Her work is embedded in the research strand mouldless shaping of concrete within the DFAB or the NCCR, ETH, where she guides PhD students and coordinates projects in the realm of mouldless shaping of concrete.

Peter Mörtenböck

Peter Mörtenböck is professor of visual culture at TU Wien, co-director of the Centre for Global Architecture, and research fellow at Goldsmiths College, University of London. His current research focuses on urban speculation, global resource consumption, and new data publics.

Helge Mooshammer

Helge Mooshammer is an urban and cultural theorist based at TU Wien, co-director of the Centre for Global Architecture, and research fellow at Goldsmiths College, University of London. He has initiated numerous international research projects around questions of (post-)capitalist economies and urban informality.


Katja Schechtner

Katja Schechtner is an urban scientist who holds a dual appointment between MIT and OECD to develop new technologies and shape innovative policies to keep cities on the move. Currently, she is focussing on the future of algorithmic governance and what it will mean for cities and citizens’ mobility when the legal code is fully implemented in digital code. Previously, she led the transport technology program at the Asian Development Bank, advised the Inter-American Development Bank and the EU Commission on
Smart City strategy, and headed an applied research lab for mobility at the Austrian Institute of Technology.

Katja Schechtner has published widely, both in scientific journals and the popular press in the US, Asia, and Europe, including two books: Accountability Technologies – Tools for Asking Hard Questions and Inscribing a Square – Urban Data as Public Space. Her work has been exhibited globally at venues such as Venice Biennale, Cooper Hewitt, the MAK, and Ars electronica. She also holds a visiting professorship at TU Vienna and curates urban tech exhibitions across the globe.

**Seetal Solanki**

Seetal Solanki is a materials designer and researcher based in London. She is founder and director of Ma-tt-er, a materials research design studio, consultancy, and school advising, designing, communicating, and educating what materials are and can be in order to implement a more responsible future. She is the author of *Why Materials Matter* (2018) and a visiting tutor at the Royal College of Art. She was made an honorary fellow at Hereford College of the Arts and received her fellowship at the Royal Society of the Arts in 2018. Furthermore, she holds a master’s degree in textile futures from Central Saint Martins. Her work has been widely featured around the globe. Seetal Solanki’s work focuses on creating a positive social, economic, political, and environmental impact revealing the truth about how we live today and might live tomorrow.

**Sarah Spiekermann-Hoff**

Since 2009, Sarah Spiekermann-Hoff has been chairing the Institute for Information Systems & Society at Vienna University of Economics and Business (WU Vienna). She is a well-regarded scientist, author, speaker, and advisor on digital ethics. She has published several books, including *Digital Ethics – A Value System for the 21st Century* (Droemer, 2019), *Ethical IT Innovation: A Value-based System Design Approach* (Taylor & Francis, 2015), as well as *Networks of Control* (Facultas, 2016). In 2016, Sarah Spiekermann-Hoff founded the Privacy & Sustainable Computing Lab at WU Vienna. To date, she has published over 100 scientific articles on the social and ethical implications of computer systems and given more than 200 talks on her work. She has co-authored US/EU privacy regulation and worked as an expert and advisor for companies and governmental institutions, including the EU Commission and the OECD. Sarah also maintains a blog on The Ethical Machine at Austria’s leading daily newspaper Standard.at and is on the advisory board of the Austrian Digitalization Agency.
Johannes Strohmayer


Thomas Traxler

Katharina Mischer and Thomas Traxler form mischer’traxler studio. Balancing between handcraft and technology, they design objects, furniture, production processes, kinetic or interactive installations, and more, thereby focusing on experiments and conceptual thinking within a given context. After graduating from the IM-masters department at the Design Academy Eindhoven and collaborating for several years, Katharina and Thomas founded mischer’traxler studio in Vienna in 2009. Their works have been displayed in numerous museums and at international festivals and fairs. Projects by mischer’traxler studio are to be found in the permanent collections of the Art Institute Chicago, the Vitra Design Museum, and the MAK Vienna. Their projects have won several awards. As a studio, mischer’traxler has been honored with the Designer of the Future Award by Design Miami/Basel and W-hotels in 2011, in 2014 with the Young Talent Award by the Be-Open Foundation, and recently with the Swarovski Design Medal 2016 by Swarovski and the VIENNA DESIGN WEEK.

Lilo Viehweg

Lilo Viehweg is a designer, researcher, lecturer, and collaborative curator. In her works she investigates knowledge transfer and social processes between humans and non-humans. Since her studies at the University of Art and Design Halle and the University of the Arts Berlin, she has been active in various cultural...
fields. At the Bauhaus Dessau Foundation, she investigated material knowledge through design processes together with research partners like the Weißensee Academy of Arts Berlin, Zurich University of Arts, the Material Archive Switzerland, and the Fraunhofer Institute. Lilo Viehweg teaches design methods between theory and practice, curates collaborative exhibitions, and designs participative mediation tools between diverse actors.