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# Preface

Since its beginnings at Anhalt University of Applied Sciences in 1999, the Digital Landscape Architecture Conference has traversed various cities such as Istanbul, Malta, Zurich, Munich, Boston, Bernburg, Dessau and Köthen, showing a pattern of geographical, institutional and methodological diversity. In 2024, the 25th DLA conference will be hosted by the TU Wien in Austria with a thematic focus on “New Trajectories in Computational Urban Landscapes and Ecology”.

As our world experiences escalating interconnectivity and digital evolution, this conference aims to unveil transformative shifts in our approaches to urban landscapes and ecosystems, exploring the fusion of advanced computational techniques with socio-ecological principles. The aim is to foster innovative discussions that contribute to the evolution of various fields, such as landscape architecture, urban planning, architecture, and ecology, thereby offering insights into potential advancements and collaborations that shape more sustainable and livable urban environments. Central to the conference theme is the exploration of the dynamic interplay between advanced computational techniques, data-driven and co-creative design, and the intricate dynamics of urban ecosystems. In this way, the conference endeavors to provide novel insights and methodologies that align technological innovation with the intricate needs of the natural environment.

A total of 98 papers were selected through a thorough double-blind peer review process conducted by the founder and Scientific Director of DLA, Prof. Erich Buhmann and his editorial team.

In response to the current crises on our planet, there is a compelling need to focus on re-designing urbanization processes in line with socio-ecological goals. At the conference, we aim to ignite a crucial dialogue on these issues, bringing together authors of the papers and experts such as Prof. Bradley Cantrell (University of Virginia), Prof. Dr. Pia Fricker (Aalto University), Prof. Dr. Gerhard Schmitt (ETH Zurich), Associate Professor Dr. Defne Sunguroğlu Hensel (Southeast University), Viktoria Sandor (AIT Austrian Institute of Technology) and Fabian Pitscheider (Optimuse).

Our team, led by Prof. Dr. Susann Ahn, Prof. Dr. Thomas E. Hauck, Prof. Dr. Michael U. Hensel, Dr. Boris Salak, and Stefanie Tischberger, is excitedly preparing to welcome you to the conference. With our theme for this year, we aim to ignite active participation as we collectively forge new pathways towards a future where cities not only serve as hubs of innovation, but also stand as stewards of ecological vitality.

*Vienna, March 15, 2024*

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