

Curriculum Vitae Europass

LUCA BERTOCCI

0. RESEARCH INTERESTS

My academic and intellectual interests, along with my research, span a variety of fields. Mainly, I work on urban theory, political philosophy and critical geography. My main goal is to develop concepts that contribute to the advancement of radical democracy through an ecological, decolonial and trans-feminist perspective. During my PhD, I built the two related concepts of “social architect” and “becoming-architect of critical geography”, to suggest a renovated engagement with **Henri Lefebvre**’s style and proposals. I also explored **Massimo Cacciari**’s geo-philosophy, particularly his idea of “Archipelago”. This brought me to consider studies related to the Ocean Turn. My research has thus evolved to integrate these recent advances with critical urban geography. Such a move seems essential to address two significant contemporary phenomena: planetary urbanization and climate change. The latter, among other consequences, is causing sea level rise and an increase in extreme weather events. I refer to this epochal condition and research framework with the embodied name “**Planetary Flood**”. Within it, I aim to develop concepts, research and social practices that promote radical (and wet) democracy.

0.1. PHD DISSERTATION

Title:

The Archipelago. Envisioning the Urban Revolution amid the Planetary Flood.

Keywords: Urban, Critique, Ocean, Water, Archipelago.

Supervisors:

Prof. Marco Santangelo, Politecnico di Torino, Supervisor.

Prof. Camillo Boano, Politecnico di Torino, Co-Supervisor.

Doctoral Examination Committee:

Prof. Filippo Menga, Referee, Università degli Studi di Bergamo.

Prof. Sara Bonati, Referee, Università degli Studi di Genova.

Prof. Andrea Pavoni, Member, ISCTE - Instituto Universitário de Lisboa.

Prof. Matteo Puttilli, Member, Università degli Studi di Firenze

Prof. Isabella Consolati, Member, Politecnico di Torino.

Abstract:

The research has defined and investigated a new hyper-object, the Planetary Flood, together with one among its possible becoming: the Archipelago. They have constituted, at once, the abstract hypothesis I proposed, and the new historically concrete object the enquiry has put to the fore. Guiding question has been: how to bring the “urban revolution” concept back to its revolutionary origins at the time of Planetary Flood?

First part of the work has been theoretical. It has disassembled, updated, and reassembled Lefebvrian formulations by confronting them with Negri and Hardt's ones about the multitude and the Common, Morton's around hyper-objects and Moore's on metabolism. The social architect, and then the urbanistic and metabolic life of the multitude are thus offered as operative and living concepts. Subsequently, Italian philosopher Massimo Cacciari's "Archipelago" has been discussed and suggested as a new possible figure for the Urban Society. It stands for a common world to be built by means of the creative and constructive capacities of the human multitude while profiting from the turbulent materiality of the Sea.

Instead, part two of the research has reported and analyzed the material I gathered during a period of fieldwork in the Netherlands. There, by means of navigation, I observed and lived through the Dutch ubiquitous wetness. Specifically, the Room for The River Program (river courses management) and the work of Blue21 (floating urbanism) have been considered. Finally, they have been critically read to highlight, take care for, and orientate some embedded potentials of post-capitalist and post-statal ecologies.

Generally speaking, the research has been characterized by two major dimensions: a utopian momentum to break through into the possible and, consequently, a theoretical unbalance of the argument itself. That way, I aimed to show the urban-political alternatives currently existing Planetary Flood is in the grip of and to draw the outline of a new urban critique. One which should be rooted in the becoming-architect of critical geography. Namely, on the endless and always to be renovated meta-philosophical gesture of taking seriously, engaging in and thinking through the Project in its urban-political materiality.

1. EDUCATION

- 17/12/2017: **Bachelor of Literature and Philosophy**, University of Bologna (Italy). Title of the dissertation: Walking by questioning. Elements for a critique of urban experience.
- 20/03/2020: **Master in Geography, University of Bologna**. Title of the dissertation: Traces of urban critique in times of a planetary ambivalence: the case of the Abattoir market in Brussels.
- 16/05/2024: **PhD in Urban and Regional Development**, Polytechnic of Torino. Title of the dissertation: The Archipelago. Envisioning the Urban Revolution amid the Planetary Flood.

2. CURRENT POSITION

- 03/09/2024-: **Post-Doc fellow** at Sapienza University of Rome. Department: MEMOTEF. HE-founded project PartArt4OW (Participatory Art for Society Engagement with Ocean and Water – GA n. 101157247).

3. FIELDWORK EXPERIENCES.

- 09/2018-02/2019: **Erasmus+**. Affiliated with: ULB, Université libre de Bruxelles.
- 09/2019-12/2019: **Fieldwork in Brussels for the Master Thesis**. Site: Abattoir market, Anderlecht, Brussels". Affiliated with: Cosmopolis; VUB, Vrije Universiteit Brussel. Research about the green regeneration of the Abattoir area in Anderlecht, Brussels. The work consisted of studying how new agricultural-related projects were transforming one among the poorest neighbourhoods in the city. I did semi-structured interviews with the people and practitioners involved.
- 01/2022 – 07/2022: **Fieldwork (PhD) in the Netherlands**. Affiliated with: PortCity Futures, TU Delft (contact person: Carola Hein). Research about port and port-related infrastructures in Rotterdam; water-related civil engineering projects aimed at coping with the increasing of flood (Room For the River project) and rising sea levels (Blue 21 - floating urbanization).
- 12/2024 -: **Co>Sea**. Pilot experimentation (supported by La Sapienza University of Rome) in Anzio (Rome, Italy) for investigating society's relationship with the Ocean and the main socio-environmental issues affecting the coastal sea.

4. CONFERENCES.

- 9/12/2022: **Oltre la Globalizzazione**: Narrazioni/Narratives, Como, Università degli studi dell'Insubria. Speech title: *Giacomo Leopardi and the Archipelago of Massimo Cacciari*.
- 5-8/06/2023: **IGU Thematic conference**: “The Ocean and Seas in Geographical Thought”, Milano, Università di Milano-Bicocca. Speech title: *The Sea in Massimo Cacciari Geo-philosophy*.
- 22/04/2024: **AAG Annual Meeting (Hawaii)**. Speech title: *The Planetary Flood. Tools for conceptualizing the encounter between the World-Ocean and planetary urbanization*.
- 24/04/2025 - **3rd Historical Materialism Athens Conference** (Athens). Speech title (with Rosa Caramassi): *The Project problematique: notes for a (time-spatial) discussion*.
- (forthcoming) 3-5/09/2025 - **XXXIV Congresso Geografico Italiano** (Torino). Speech title (with Caterina Pozzobon): *Deep sight. On the heuristic value of Visual Research for Marine Social Geography*.
- (forthcoming) 08-10/09/2025: **Conference of Environmental Sociology**. University of Turin (Italy). Speech title: *Metabolism and Hypersea: what do we exchange with water?*

5. SCHOOLS.

- 1-3/12/2021 - Winter School on Research Methodology, University of Firenze.
- 21-23/06/2021 - Summer School in Global Studies and Critical Theory: political imagination after covid-19, University of Bologna.

6. OTHER PROJECTS/ENGAGEMENTS.

- 01-10/2021 – “*Dialoghi Immunitari. Città, Territorio, Comunità*”, DIST, Politecnico di Torino. An innovative didactic project whose aim was to organise 4 podcasts starting from the question: “How is the urban and territorial question in its main economic, value, normative and symbolic dimensions being restructured in the wake of the COVID-19 pandemic?”. The project consisted of: teamwork, semi-structured interviews with professors, practitioners and social activists; workshops for structuring and imagining the podcast as an educational tool.
- 2008-2018 – *Political activism for environmental and social justice-oriented issues*. Organization of seminars, collective initiatives, and autonomous social enquiry.

7. TEACHING ACTIVITIES

- 25, 27/11/2024: 4 hours teaching in Chiara Certoma's course of Economic Geography, MEMOTEF, University of Rome la Sapienza. Title of my slot: Urban + Ocean = Planetary Flood.

8. SUPPORTED STUDENTS

- Co-supervisor of a Master Thesis in Semiotics, University of Bologna, Department of Philosophy and Communication. Author: Mattia Vignati. Title: *Oltre la Natura, oltre la Città. Per un pensiero ecologico urbano non-moderno e compositivo*. Successfully discussed cum laude on date: 13/07/2022.

9. ORGANIZED SEMINARS

- 3-4/10/2024: *PartArt4OW Kick-off meeting* (with Chiara Certomà and Caterina Pozzobon), La Sapienza University of Rome. Two days of discussion and organization with international partners for launching the Horizon-funded project “PartArt4OW – Participatory art for society engagement with ocean and water” (30 participants).
- 17/12/2024: *Critique and the Project* (with Into the Black Box) - University of Bologna. Open door workshop about the challenges that critical theory is facing in times of poly-crisis. 50 participants.
- 3/10/2025 (forthcoming): *Present and Future of science, creativity and participation for the*

Ocean (with Chiara Certomà, Chiara Salari and Caterina Pozzobon) – La Sapienza University of Rome. Creative workshop to write – from a Marine Social Science perspective - a position paper about the many challenges our oceans and waters are facing.

10. PUBLICATIONS.

ON PEER-REVIEWED SCIENTIFIC JOURNALS:

- 1) Bertocci, L. (under peer review). Brutalism. *Ardeth*. (Book review).
- 2) Bertocci, L. (accepted, pending minor revision). The social architect in the making: towards a productive engagement with planetary urbanization and Henri Lefebvre's metaphilosophy. *Environment and Planning D*.
- 3) Bertocci, L. (under peer review). The Planetary Flood: bringing critical urban and ocean studies closer for creating our wet planetary oeuvre. *Urban Geography*.
- 4) Bertocci, L., (2024) "La tua domanda è troppo grande". Come lasciare l'elefante nella stanza e non entrare in loop durante il Dottorato, *Lo Squaderno*, 68, pp. 25-29.
- 5) Bertocci, L., (2023) Galleggiare nel cambiamento climatico. Scenari dall'Olanda, *Atti e Rassegna Tecnica*, anno LXXVII, 1, pp. 41-46. ISSN 0004-7287.
- 6) Bertocci, L. (2021) Il Minore e l'Urbano, *Territorio*, 97, pp. 186-187. (Book Review).
- 7) Bertocci, L, Panosetti, G., Pirone, T., Spanu, G., (2020) Urbanizzazione planetaria e Covid-19: nuove geografie per convivere con la natura?, *Documenti Geografici*, 1, pp. 605-618. https://doi.org/10.19246/DOCUGEO2281-7549/202001_38.
- 8) Bertocci, L., (2018) SguardoSpazioImpressionista, *Zapruder*, 46, pp. 144-149.

ON OPEN ACCESS REPOSITORIES:

- 1) Passani, A., Custureri, S., Diakou, S., & Bertocci, L. (2025). D2.4 FSTP Call documentation. Zenodo. <https://doi.org/10.5281/zenodo.1602358>.
- 2) Bertocci, L., Certoma', C., & Pozzobon, C. (2025). PartArt4OW Data and Ethics Management Plan. Zenodo. <https://doi.org/10.5281/zenodo.14762307>.
- 3) Certoma', C., Bertocci, L., Pozzobon, C. (2024). PartArt4OW Project Management Plan. Zenodo. <https://doi.org/10.5281/zenodo.14254011>.

WITH RESEARCH COLLECTIVE "Into the Black Box":

- 1) Bertocci, L., (2024, 2 December). *Critica e Progetto*. At: <https://www.intotheblackbox.com/events/critica-e-progetto/>.
- 2) Bertocci, L., (2023, 17 November). *L'Arcipelago Toscano. Note per navigare domandando nell'Alluvione Planetaria*. At: <http://www.intotheblackbox.com/articoli/arcipelago-toscano/>.
- 3) Bertocci, L. (2023, 21 March). *Progetto, metropoli e climate change. Intervista a Marco Assennato (II° parte)*. At: <http://www.intotheblackbox.com/articoli/progetto-metropoli-e-climate-change-ii/>.
- 4) Bertocci, L. (2023, 10 March). *Progetto, metropoli e climate change. Intervista a Marco Assennato (I° parte)*. At: <http://www.intotheblackbox.com/articoli/progetto-metropoli-e-climate-change-i/>.
- 5) Bertocci, L. (2022, 23 February). *I due naufragi: Jeff Bezos, lo Chthulucene e l'urbanistica*. At: <http://www.intotheblackbox.com/articoli/i-due-naufragi/>.
- 6) Bertocci, L., (2020, 31 March). *Urbaine partout, ville nullepart*. At: <http://www.intotheblackbox.com/articoli/urbaine-partout-ville-nullepart/>.

ON NON-SCIENTIFIC JOURNALS:

- 1) Certoma, C., Pozzobon, C., Bertocci, L., Salari, C., Fornaro, F., (2025, 28 May). 'Home is the Ocean': *Intervista a Livia Vonaesch*. At: https://www.taxidrivers.it/447344/interviews/livia-vonaesch-intervista.html?fbclid=IwY2xjawK2ZeFleHRuA2FlbQIxMQBicmlkETBLRVhVMnhoSGs1cU0waW8zAR6BDdRMmefpm8SH-tEnO-YloLaFe0ml-2OEt8qzbtOty_JCv3fCI2LCxFzZQ_aem_XWkffX3PmXNxYV_Ld0pdDQ.
- 2) Pozzobon, C., Bertocci, L., Certomà, C., (2024, 9 November). 'Breath'. *Andare a fondo, risalire*. At: <https://www.taxidrivers.it/409756/festival-di-cinema/medfilm-festival/breath-andare-a-fondo-risalire.html>.

VIDEO:

- 1) Bertocci, L., (2020, 18 Maggio). *Il Covid-19, l'aria e la Webcam*. Into The Black Box – YouTube. At: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Zc_kKGyOg4M.