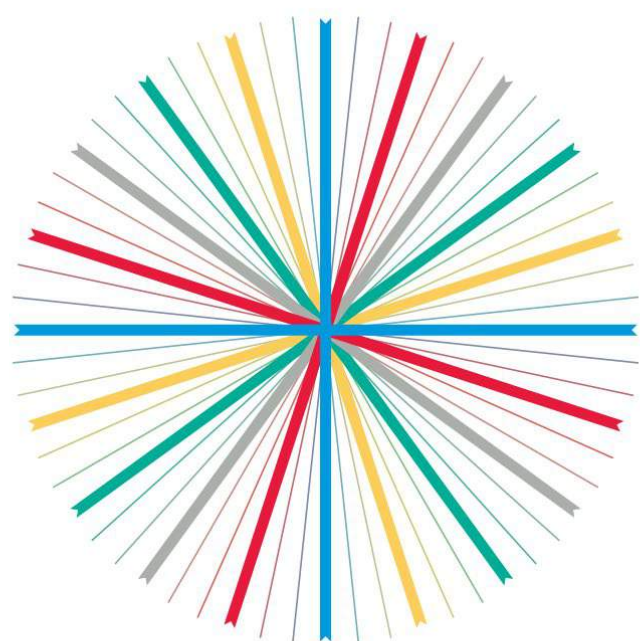


# **CROSSROADS** *Building the Resilient City*

**The Seoul Biennale of Architecture and Urbanism 2021**

**Launch of an International Call for Proposals**

05.29.2020 – 07.31.2020



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**SEOUL  
BIENNALE**  
OF ARCHITECTURE  
AND URBANISM

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**Dominique Perrault**  
General Director of the SBAU2021



**Park Won-Soon**  
Mayor of Seoul, Republic of Korea

## FOREWORD

### Dominique Perrault, General Director of the Seoul Biennale of Architecture and Urbanism 2021

On February 13th, 2020 the official launch of the third Seoul Biennale of Architecture and Urbanism (SBAU 2021) took place with the signature of an agreement between Mr. Park Won-soon, Mayor of Seoul, and French architect Dominique Perrault, chosen as the General Director of this major event, scheduled to be held from September to November 2021.

The Seoul Biennale of Architecture and Urbanism was established in 2017 as an event that focuses on cities and gathers their representatives to discuss the challenges linked to the urban condition and share their potential solutions. With 10 million inhabitants, Seoul is one of the most representative examples of contemporary metropolises and, as such, a particularly relevant context to frame this Biennale.

Appointed as the SBAU 2021 General Director, Dominique Perrault has a strong relationship with Seoul, thanks notably to the construction of the Ewha Woman's University in 2008 and more recently with the ongoing Gangnam International Transit Center, an underground infrastructure fully lit with natural light through an unprecedented glass structure dubbed the Lightbeam. The SBAU 2021 is intended to highlight Seoul's architectural effervescence and its desire to become an international showcase for the world's cities. Following the first two editions entitled "Imminent Commons" (2017) and "Collective City" (2019), the third edition entitled "CROSSROADS *Building the Resilient City*" will explore the evolution of the world's cities and metropolises.

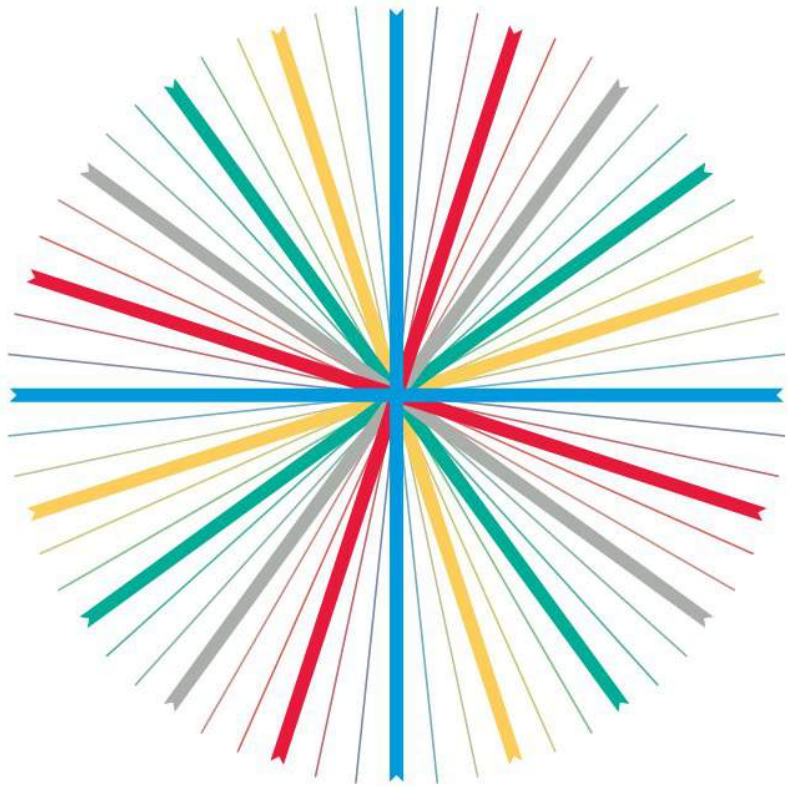
More than a hundred cities will be invited to participate. "CROSSROADS *Building the Resilient City*" will build on the accomplishments of the SBAU's previous editions, notably by featuring recurrent cities as well as new ones, thus increasing the number of guest cities to a hundred, from 85 in 2019 and 50 in 2017.

Through a series of exhibitions and events, the SBAU 2021 will open up opportunities for exploring the city of the future. It will affirm the place of cities as privileged spaces to open up the perspectives of a more sustainable world and will explore the central role that architecture and urban planning can contribute to this

**"THE SEOUL BIENNALE OF ARCHITECTURE AND URBANISM OCCUPIES A UNIQUE PLACE IN THE LANDSCAPE OF INTERNATIONAL EXHIBITIONS. IT IS ENGAGED WITH THE THEME OF URBANISM, CONSIDERING THE CITY OF TOMORROW AS A COLLECTIVE PURSUIT. THIS IS WHY TODAY IT SEEMS RELEVANT TO ME TO PLACE THE THIRD EDITION UNDER THE SIGN OF RESILIENCE."**

**Dominique Perrault,**  
General Director

of the Seoul Biennale of Architecture and Urbanism 2021



## **CROSSROADS *Building the Resilient City***

### **The SBAU 2021 Theme**

**The SBAU 2021, entitled "*CROSSROADS Building the Resilient City*", will attempt to respond to the complexity of the relationships that shape our cities nowadays and to the pivotal moment that humanity is facing by drafting, thanks to its contributions a manifesto in favor of a more sustainable city.**

The Seoul Biennale of Architecture and Urbanism 2021 (SBAU 2021) will be the first global architectural event entirely produced on the aftermath of a pandemic that has altered and questioned the foundations of our modern, technological civilization.

"*CROSSROADS Building the Resilient City*" illustrates its purpose to become a place of convergence. The SBAU 2021 intends to gather different forms of intelligence to reflect on the city of the future as a more sustainable, resilient and comfortable place for its inhabitants.

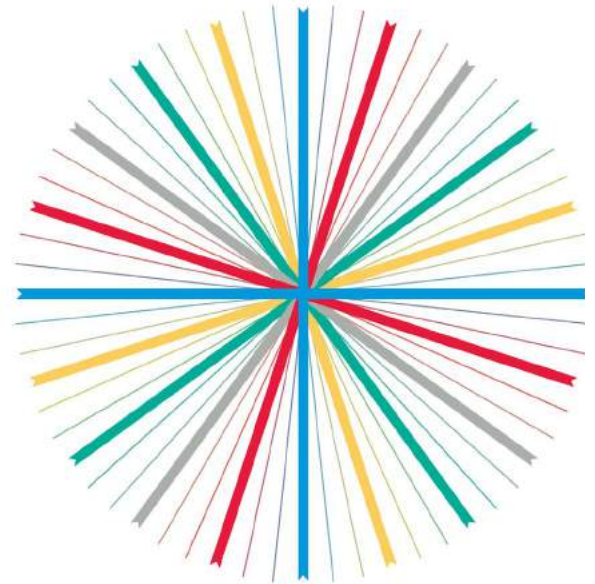
The wind rose has been chosen as the symbol for the event because it appropriately reflects the intention to understand the present moment and to anticipate future developments.

"*CROSSROADS Building the Resilient City*" will

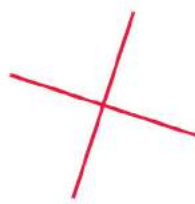
feature works focusing on cities – understood as the superposition and interactions of inhabitants, buildings, infrastructures, flows and regulations – to examine, research and exhibit how they can be serve as positive assets toward a sustainable planet.

Echoing the dynamics of urban planning, the SBAU 2021 will gather participants representing a broad range of expertise: architects and urbanists, representatives from cities and metropolises, but also experts in science, engineering, humanities, artists, academics and students.

**This will be the Biennale to open paths towards the city of the future, through five possible ways.**



ABOVE / BELOW



HERITAGE / MODERN



CRAFT / DIGITAL



NATURAL / ARTIFICIAL



SAFE / RISK

## FIVE INTERSECTING FIGURES

### The Biennale wind rose

This Biennale will be structured in the form of five crossroads figures, which will converge in their intention to promote a more responsible urban growth.

These five thematic figures are the starting point for the main exhibition of the SBAU 2021 and the international call for projects that will identify its contributions::

- Crossroad 1 (C1) on urbanism: Above / Below
- Crossroad 2 (C2) on architecture: Heritage / Modern
- Crossroad 3 (C3) on design: Craft / Digital
- Crossroad 4 (C4) on landscape: Natural / Artificial
- Crossroad 5 (C5) on the city: Safe / Risk

The five tandems represent the starting point for the main exhibition of the SBAU 2021, that will place them in relation, or in tension, to nourish our vision of the city:

#### C1 : ABOVE / BELOW

Will foster methods of urban planning that increase the thickness of the superficial layers of the city. By exploring the potential interconnections between the city's surface and underground, it will seek to increase its density while limiting urban sprawl.

#### C2 : HERITAGE / MODERN

Will discuss our relationship to the temporality of the built environment in the quest for sustainable development. It will question the notions of unlimited construction or destruction and will explore the possibility of optimizing what already exists.

#### C3 : CRAFT / DIGITAL

Will consider the potential of the city as an instrument of remote production, accessible from anywhere by everyone, in contrast to traditional spaces and production methods.

#### C4 : NATURAL / ARTIFICIAL

Will examine how nature is at the core of the act of building and will highlight practices that give increasing prominence to building in harmony with nature.

#### C5 : SAFE / RISK

Will question the ability of architecture and urbanism to adapt, transform and deal with the unexpected risks of the contemporary world.



## A VISION

# for the Seoul Biennale of Architecture and Urbanism 2021

**Traditionally, the Seoul Biennale is formed by five sections, each with its own separate exhibition.**

This third edition will radically transform the organization of the SBAU to address as large an audience as possible, across all sectors of activity and ages. To achieve this, the SBAU 2021 will merge for the first time the Cities and Thematic exhibitions in a single main event located at the Dongdaemun Design Plaza.

- **The Thematic exhibition** examines in detail the overall theme and takes place in the Dongdaemun Design Plaza (DDP), designed by Zaha Hadid Architects.

- **The Cities exhibition** gathers contributions from the perspective of the cities they represent. In previous editions, it took place in the Donuimun Museum Village, but will be held this year in the DDP.

- **The Global Studios** is devoted exclusively to university research and showcases Seoul City. It was previously held in the Multipurpose Hall, Sewoon Plaza, a Brutalist building designed by architect Kim, Swoon-geun and completed in 1966. Instead of presenting theoretical projects, the student works featured at the Global

Studios will consist of temporary installations, selected through a separate Call for Proposals addressed to universities from all over the world.

- **The Live Projects** section is the on-site programs consisting of research, built environment, exhibitions and public programs with the citizen of Seoul. It will be organized in the Sewoon Plaza and different venues across Seoul.

- **The Seoul Exhibition** presents urban and architecture policy and innovative projects conducted in Seoul. It takes place in the Seoul Hall of Urbanism and Architecture.

Finally, a new information kiosk, **the Biennale Pavilion** will be installed next to the City Hall and located inside of an artist's installation. Its purpose will be to guide visitors to the SBAU's exhibitions and other activities.

In its structured network of exhibitions and events, "*CROSSROADS Building the Resilient City*" will assert the participant cities' desire to strive for a more sustainable development and the central role that architecture and urban planning can play in this objective.



Dongdaemun Design Plaza (DDP) ©Kyungsub Shin Studio.

# THE THEMATIC AND CITIES EXHIBITION

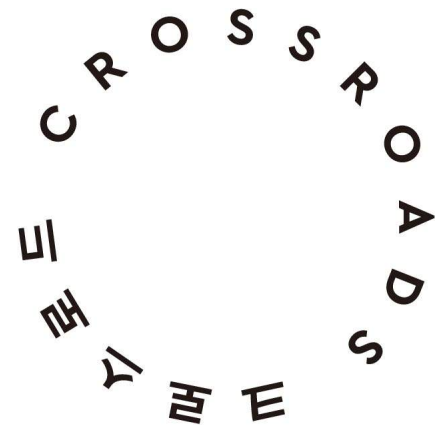
## Dongdaemun Design Plaza

For the first time since its creation, the SBAU 2021 will merge the Cities and Thematic exhibitions into a single main exhibition in the Dongdaemun Design Plaza.

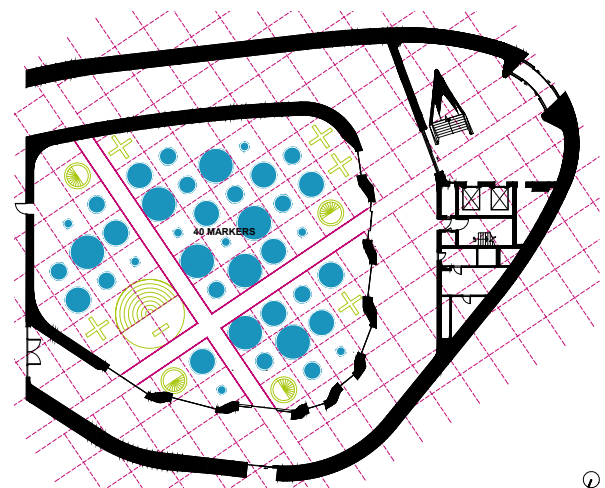
The exhibition design will evoke a chessboard configuration, in which the playing table will be the exhibition areas and their corresponding grid:

- The starting point for the exhibition design is an intersection of two main perpendicular axes (the Crossroads) which evoke the Roman Cardus (North-South road) and Decumanus (East-West road).
- The pieces will be called the "markers" and the "landmarks", mixing the projects of the two sections of the exhibition.
- Markers are the exhibition areas that will host the artists' contributions. They can be of different types and it will be up to the artists to suggest which one is best that adapted to their proposal.
- In reality, this grid will not be visible. Proposals will be grouped in constellations according to whether they belong to the Cities or to the Thematic section.

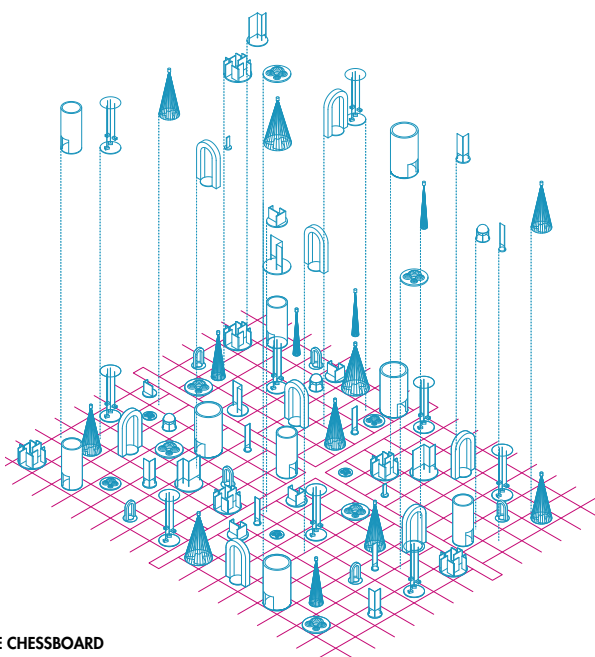
Inspired by the Celestial Vault, the featured works, selected through an international Call for Proposals, will be grouped into "constellations" according to whether they belong to the Cities or to the Thematic section.



In contrast to the luminous exhibition areas, pathways in the ramps will immerse visitors in an ethereal ambiance suggesting the Milky Way, formed by a continuous series of videos projected onto the walls, ceilings and floors of the building.

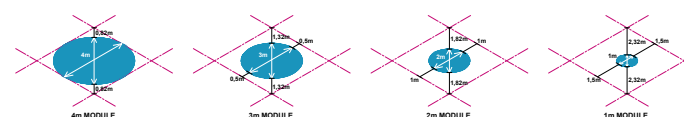


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THE CHESSBOARD

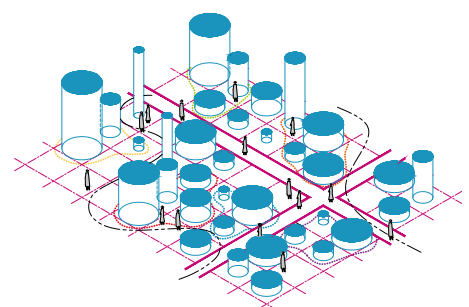
THE GRID

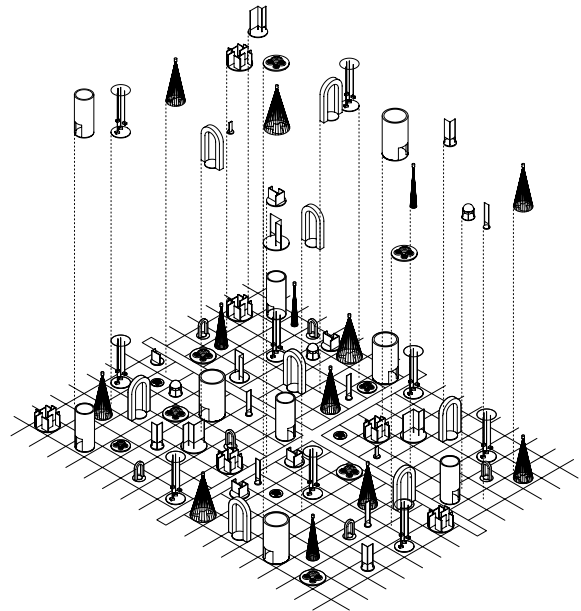
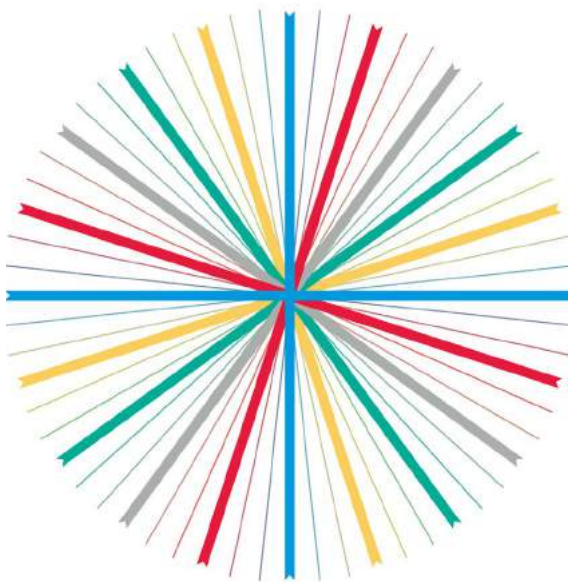


THE MARKERS



STANDARD PLOT 4X4m





## THE INTERNATIONAL CALL FOR PROPOSALS

### 05.29.2020 – 07.31.2020

**An international Call for Proposals is launched to identify the works that could be featured in the Thematic and Cities exhibition of the SBAU2021, with the intention of gathering works conducted or envisioned for one hundred cities from the five continents.**

The number of selected projects is not limited and all relevant projects may be selected. The selected proposals, provided they are technically and financially feasible, aim to be realized at the SBAU2021.

Proposals must consider, either discussing and/or challenging the five intersecting topics of the SBAU 2021.

#### • WHO CAN APPLY?

The CFP wishes to bring together a great diversity of participants, not limited to professionals of the built environment. It is aimed at architects, town planners, all creators and organisations that contribute to the creation of cities and metropolises.

The work will foster an salutary societal and/or scientific debate in a way that engages as large an audience as possible.

- The CFP is open to individuals, institutions or organizations, or cross-disciplinary teams from individuals, institutions or organizations.
- Team members may include but are not limited to: architects, designers, urban planners, landscapers, researchers, students (as a member of a team), writers, artists, critics.
- Each team must appoint a Team Leader who will represent the group and act as the main contact

during the entire process. The team leader cannot be a student.

#### • WHAT TO SUBMIT?

The expected proposals showcase a project and an exhibition design, in other words, a CONTENT and a FORM.

- Regarding the CONTENT, any project can be submitted: built (less than 10 years), unbuilt, theoretical, academic, fictional. Recent and unpublished projects will be preferred, and new proposals are welcome.
- The proposal shall imperatively be applied to a specific city. The city can be anywhere around the world.
- Regarding the FORM, the proposal should respect the Guidelines and the provided SBAU2021 exhibition concept plan. The proposal should match the allocated budget for their realization.

#### • HOW TO SUBMIT?

The CFP is fully online, on the CFP dedicated website, in two steps: a preliminary Online Registration before June 30th, 2020 / an Online Submission before July 31th, 2020.

Candidates must provide a set of:

- Completed Application Forms
- Proposal content Documents (A3 formats x2)
- Proposal form Documents (A3 formats x2)

#### • WHEN TO PARTICIPATE?

The Call for Proposals will run from May 29th to July 31th, 2020. The selected projects are expected to be exhibited during the SBAU2021.





©Dominique Perrault Architecte/Adapp

## CALENDAR

<b>05.29.2020</b>	<b>Opening of the Online Registration</b>
<b>06.30.2020</b>	<b>Registration Deadline</b>
<b>07.31.2020</b>	<b>Submission Deadline</b>
<b>AUGUST – SEPTEMBER 2020</b>	<b>Selection Process</b>
<b>OCTOBER 2020</b>	<b>Announcement of the teams selected</b>
<b>SEPTEMBER – NOVEMBER 2021</b>	<b>Seoul Biennale of Architecture and Urbanism 2021</b>

**APPLY NOW!**

**[HTTP://SEOULBIENNALE.ORG](http://SEOULBIENNALE.ORG)**

## SCIENTIFIC COMMITTEE

For the SBAU 2021, Dominique Perrault is relying on the support of a scientific committee, in charge of enriching the debates and the reflection on the Biennale's theme.

The scientific committee is composed of experts chosen for their particular approach to the field of intervention of this event. They will have an advisory role during the event's entire process.



**Andreas Ruby**

Critic and curator, Director of the Swiss Architecture Museum (SAM) in Basel. Founder of Textbild, agency of architectural communication, with Ilka Ruby.



**Francis Rambert**

Journalist and architecture critic, Director of Architectural Creation at the Cité de l'Architecture et du Patrimoine in Paris, France.



**Haewon Shin**

Architect, founder of Lokaldesign. Curator of the Korean Pavilion of Venice Architecture Biennale 2021.



**Miquel Adrià**

Architect, Director of Arquine architecture magazine, Dean of Architecture at Centro University and Cultural Adviser to the Mayor of Mexico City.



**Sarah M. Whiting**

American architectural designer, Critic, and Professor. Dean and Josep Lluís Sert Professor of Architecture at the Harvard Graduate School of Design.



**Farrokh Derakshani**

Architect, Director of the Aga Khan Award for Architecture.



**Winy Maas, Architect**

Founding partner of MVRDV and of The Why Factory think-tank, Rotterdam. Professor of Architecture and Urbanism at Delft University of Technology.



**Yoonhie Lee**

Architect, Professor at the Department of Architecture, Ewha Womans University, Seoul, Korea, Founder of ADSLab (Architectonic Design Strategy Laboratory).



**John Hong**

Architect, Professor at Seoul National University, Korea.



**Barry Bergdoll**

Historian of modern architecture, Meyer Schapiro Professor of art history at the Department of Art History and Archaeology at Columbia University, New York.

## DOMINIQUE PERRAULT

### General Director of the SBAU 2021

**Dominique Perrault is a French architect and a leading figure of his generation. Along with the Bibliothèque nationale de France, his main projects to date include the Olympic Velodrome and Swimming Pool in Berlin, the extension of the Court of Justice of the European Union in Luxembourg, the Olympic Tennis Stadium in Madrid, the Fukoku Tower in Osaka and the DC1 Tower in Vienna. In recent years, Dominique Perrault inaugurated the new Paris Longchamp racecourse and led various heritage rehabilitation projects, including the new public entry pavilion for the Château de Versailles and the repurposing of La Poste du Louvre in Paris.**

The new campus of Ewha University in Seoul (2008), marked the beginning of a long and ongoing relationship between Dominique Perrault, the city of Seoul, and South Korea. In 2008, the building received the "Seoul Metropolitan Architecture Award" and in 2010 the AFEX Grand Prix (French architects abroad). In 2011, the studio participates in the Gwangju Design Biennial through the creation of an "urban folly" in metallic mesh and gilded aluminum. In September 2017, Dominique Perrault was invited as keynote speaker for the 27th World Congress of the International Union of Architects (UIA), and also participated in the Seoul Biennial with about sixty students of the SubLab (EPFL) and of Ewha. They presented the "Groundscape eXPerience" pavilion and the installation "GSXP2", a black steel wire model placed in the public space representing the underground gallery "Eujiro" running through the metropolitan area of Seoul for 2.7km. In 2017 Dominique Perrault was selected through an international competition to design the new Gangnam International Transit Center (GITC) in Seoul. With the Ewha campus, these two interventions share a common spirit and a recurring notion, the idea that the future of cities will involve a reinvention of the territory by integrating its underground.

**Research and teaching play an increasingly important role in the evolution of DPA's practice. The French architect and urban planner is honorary professor and director of the Underground Architecture Laboratory (SUB) at the**

**Ecole Polytechnique Fédérale de Lausanne, Switzerland. In October 2018 he launched, in partnership with EPFL and edX educational platform the first MOOC (massive open online course) dedicated to the architecture of the "Groundscape".**

He is working to develop and share innovative views on architecture through DPA-X, the studio's integrated research platform. DPA-X nourishes and fosters this practice and future intellectual production in a constantly evolving exchange. Its prospective approach is to participate in the acceleration of architectural innovations to keep pace with global metropolitan developments. Dominique Perrault's projects, research and publications are achieving increased acceptance of the idea of "Groundscape", a union between "Ground" and "Landscape", as a new field of research, a form of architecture that explores the spatial potentialities included in and beneath the surface of our cities, and offers a resilient, responsible, aesthetic and sustainable response to the many current urban challenges.

**Dominique Perrault lectures widely in France and abroad and participates in many architectural competition juries. He also participated and curated various significant exhibitions. In 2010 Perrault curated the French Pavilion "METROPOLIS?" at the Venice Biennale of Architecture. His work has become part of the permanent collections of the New York Art Museum (MoMA), the Royal Academy of London, the Centre Pompidou and the Cité de l'Architecture et du Patrimoine in Paris.** His work has been recognized through numerous awards including the Mies van der Rohe Prize for the National Library of France in 1997 or the Seoul Metropolitan Architecture Award first prize for the Ewha Womans University, Seoul (2008). In 2010, he was awarded the Gold Medal by the French Academy of Architecture. He was also elected at the French Academy of Fine Arts and Praemium Imperiale laureate in 2015. Since October 2019, Dominique Perrault chairs the UNESCO-UIA Joint Committee to ensure the coordination, monitoring and evaluation of all activities related to the Rio de Janeiro World Capital of Architecture.



ECC Seoul (2008) ©Ewha Womans University



«Lightwalk», Gangnam International Transit Center©Rayus/DPA/Adagp

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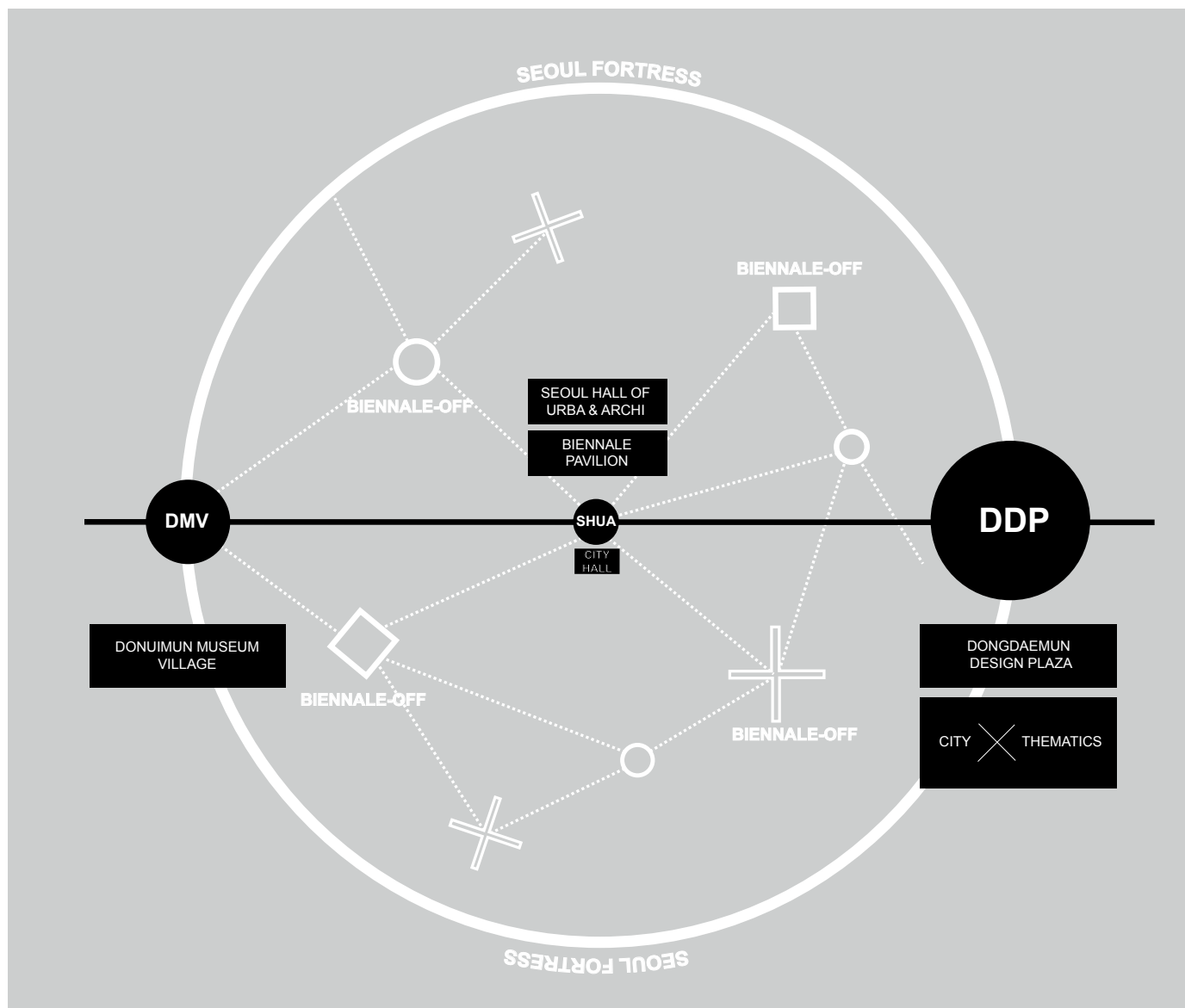
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2021  
서울도시건축비엔날레  
Seoul Biennale  
of Architecture and Urbanism



서울특별시  
SEOUL METROPOLITAN GOVERNMENT