

2024 LINA Conference

Community-Led Architecture

Sarajevo, 3–4 October 2024

Throughout history, there have been cities that have flourished because citizens, united around shared values and goals, rather than governments or corporations, have taken the lead in developing the city. LINA 2024: Community-Led Architecture highlights the importance of the role of communities in the development of the city and their contribution to the promotion of architectural innovation.

It is no coincidence that we are addressing this issue in Sarajevo, a city known for its resilience and inclusiveness. Unlike most European cities, where systematic urban development is carried out with government support and control, Sarajevo's growth has been driven by the empathy and mutual support of its people. Throughout history, and even today, neighbours and friends have proven to be far more reliable than governments. Bosnia is a true bottom-up place with important lessons about resilience and sustainability, and Sarajevo stands out as a great example of a city built on empathy and collective spirit.

These communities have proved crucial to the survival of the city, even as they have been the target of violence and oppression. As key guardians of cities, communities around the world continue to be targeted by violence, leaving devastation in their wake. While it may take years to rebuild physical structures, it takes decades of effort and compassion to rebuild shattered communities.

The power of community is underlined by Sarajevo's rich history, including its Olympic legacy, which celebrates its 40th anniversary this year. The city continues to inspire with its architectural achievements based on the spirit of community. The LINA 2024 conference will look at these projects not only as architectural achievements, but also as the heritage of the community. At the same time, we want to reveal their fragility, vulnerability and long-term processes of renewal that go beyond physical reconstruction.

The conference will bring together 34 member organisations and 25 LINA Fellows, as well as local and international speakers.

Keynote speakers include:

Léopold Lambert is an architect based in Paris. He is the founder and editor of *The Funambulist*. The focus of his work is on the ways in which architecture can be a perpetuator of political oppression and violence. *The Funambulist*, which Lambert launched in 2010, explores the intersection of architecture, politics and social justice.

Mickaël Labbé is a renowned philosopher and a professor at the University of Strasbourg, and the author of the book "Resuming Space". He specialises in aesthetics and the philosophy of art. His work often explores how architecture can contribute to social exclusion or promote inclusive and humane urban environments, highlighting the ethical responsibilities of architects.

Dunja Kravac and Irhana Šehović, Bosnian architectural duo working with LIFT spatial initiatives, a non-profit organisation based in Sarajevo, and a member of LINA. They are committed to making architecture and urban planning more inclusive and community-focused, as well as to educate local communities about architecture, urbanism and design.

Meriem Chabani, an architect and urban planner born in Algeria and based in Paris, is a co-founder and principal of New South. As a 2022 LINA Fellow, she promoted the concept of 'sacred ground', encouraging cities to reinvest in the notion of the sacred in order to improve care for the built environment.