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Landscape and Time

Past, Present and Future in Landscape Studies,
Through Different Disciplinary Perspectives

27 May 2025

University of Lausanne
Sion Campus

Unil
UNIL | Université de Lausanne



UNIVERSITÀ
DEGLI STUDI
DI PADOVA

Exploring the Temporal Dimensions of Landscape

Objectives

This workshop aims to explore the temporal dimension of landscapes through various disciplinary perspectives. This reflection stems from the need to interpret the **concepts of change and permanence** – both central to landscape studies – in light of contemporary “accelerations”, such as climate change and rapidly shifting geopolitical dynamics.

What lasts for a long time and what changes rapidly are recorded in landscape; they are the result of the **intersection of different time scales** of the phenomena. The analysis of landscape imagery and representations encourages a forward-looking approach, linked to modes of communication and narration, and proves valuable for addressing current challenges. However, the temporal dimension will not only be considered towards the future but will also be addressed in the past: how scholars and society were thinking about the future of landscapes in the past.

In this sense, **past, present, and future** are not isolated, but rather interconnected dimensions that can be jointly examined in landscape studies. This integrated approach contributes to a deeper understanding of landscapes themselves, as well as of the spatial, social and cultural phenomena with which they are intertwined.

The temporal dimension encompasses both the **material and immaterial aspects** of landscapes and shapes the evolving relationships between them.

Context

This workshop is organised by the [Landscape Platform](#) of the University of Lausanne, within the framework of the Privileged Partnership between the Universities of Lausanne and Padua. It is supported by the International Relations Office (SRI) and the Interdisciplinary Centre for Mountain Research (CIRM) of the University of Lausanne.

Programme – May 27, 2025

- 08:22 *Departure by bus (Bus sédunois, Sion Clinique stop)*
08:46 *Arrival at Bramois (Pont de Bramois stop)*
08:56 *Arrival of the train from Lausanne (departure 07:48) – Transportation by car to UNIL Sion campus*
- 9:20 **Welcome address**
Laine Chanteloup, Interdisciplinary Centre for Mountain Research (CIRM), UNIL
Leïla Kebir, Institute of Geography and Sustainability (IGD), UNIL
Emmanuel Reynard, Landscape Platform, SHC-CIRM, UNIL
- 9:40 **Keynote Speech – Viviana Ferrario**, IUAV University, Venice, *Landscape Temporality, Heritage in Action*
- 10:20 **Caterina Franco**, EPFL and CIRM-UNIL, *Ski Resorts in the Swiss Alps (1960-1970): How to Write the History of Unfinished Projects?*
- 10:50 **Coffee Break**
- 11:10 **Roberto D’Alba**, University of Padua, *Hidden Traces: Timescapes of Bears and Wolves’ Comeback in the Southeast Alps*
- 11:40 **Nathalie Dietschy**, University of Lausanne, *Aftermath: Measures to Cover Alpine Glaciers and Their Impact on Tomorrow’s Landscapes*
- 12:10 **Federica Stevanin**, University of Padua, *Land Art and Time: Robert Smithson’s Spiral Jetty (1970) as a Case Study*
- 12:45 **Lunch**
- 13:45 **Guido Furlan**, University of Padua, *The Thin Red Line: Past and Present in Archaeological Landscapes*
- 14:15 **Laïla Houlmann**, University of Lausanne, *From Field to Landscape: The Evolution of Agriculture and Landscape in the Rhone Valley, XIX-XX Century*
- 14:45 **Tania Rossetto**, University of Padua, *Engaging with Landscapes through Re-photography: Timeframes and the Agency of Things*
- 15:15 **Coffee Break**
- 15:30 **Rihab Abdelkebir**, University of Lausanne, *Temporal Scale Imbrication in Cultural Landscapes: Insights from Jebel Dahar (Southeast Tunisia)*
- 16:00 **Francesco Zuccolo**, University of Padua, *Shaping ‘Last-Mile’ Responsibility: Exploring the Future Dimension of Urban Landscape Construction through Narrated Micromobility Practices*
- 16:30 **Conclusion by Benedetta Castiglioni**, University of Padua
- 17:14 *Departure by bus (Bus sédunois, Bramois Institut stop)*
17:26 *Arrival by bus (Bus sédunois, Place du Midi stop)*
- 17:30 **Short visit of Sion Historical Centre** under the guidance of **Lionel Tudisco**, Geographer and Urbanist, City of Sion, responsible of the project Acclimatasion

Practical information

The workshop will take place at the Sion campus of the University of Lausanne, in the canton of Valais.

Address:

UNIL-Site de Sion
Chemin de l'Institut 18
1967 Bramois, Switzerland

Registration:

Registration is mandatory and can be completed online until **May 16, 2025** :



<https://go.unil.ch/fKrpu>

Costs:

Participation in the workshop is free of charge. However, participants wishing to join the lunch will need to pay **CHF 35**. If participation in the workshop is canceled less than 10 days before the event, the amount will still be charged.

Meal costs are covered for speakers, as well as members of IGD, CIRM, SHC, and the University of Padua.

Organisation

Prof. Emmanuel Reynard, Prof. Nelly Valsangiacomo, Mélanie Clivaz

Université de Lausanne

Interdisciplinary Centre for Mountain Research (CIRM), <https://www.unil.ch/centre-montagne>

Faculté des lettres, Centre des sciences historiques de la culture (SHC), <https://www.unil.ch/shc>

Plateforme Paysage, <https://unil.ch/plateforme-paysage/>

Prof. Benedetta Castiglioni

Università di Padova

Dipartimento di Scienze Storiche, Geografiche e dell'Antichità (DISSGEA), <https://www.dissgea.unipd.it/>