Stefano Boeri is an architect and Professor of Urban Planning at Milan Polytechnic. He has been a guest Professor at various universities including Harvard Graduate School of Design, Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT), and the Berlage Institute and is the founder of Multiplicity, a research group devoted to the study of territorial transformations and the different ways of observing and representing the city according to different disciplines. Boeri is the Director of the international festival of architecture FESTARCH and the former Executive Councillor for Culture, Design and Fashion for the Milan Municipality.

If we happen to land in one of the major European airports at night, the perception we have is that of a large constellation of lights that rotates beneath us. It is the representation of a quite specific city and territory. The lights we see while landing at Malpensa airport, not so different from those we see landing in Paris, Berlin or Frankfurt, are the representation of a space that was built over the last 30 years according to a very different logic to that of the ‘traditional city’. What we see is a city made of a multitude of individual buildings; it is difficult to understand what links a building to a housing block to a car wash to a mall and so on. It is as if these new cities have lost their syntax.

ANTICITY AND THE FUTURE OF PUBLIC SPHERE explores the interlinkages between Research, Design, Media and Politics through a transversal glance, particularly looking at the role Architecture plays in redefining the contours of the public sphere in contemporary cities.

Discussant: Dr Camillo Boano

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