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Girot / Gramazio Kohler Research

A new topology for Valle Riviera

The HS 2017 Robotic Landscapes Design Studio is a collaboration between the Chair of Christophe Girot and the Gramazio Kohler Research. It will explore the robotic manipulation of local topography to create a new linear landscape park and sound barrier along the A2 in the lower Valle Riviera, Ticino. Innovative topological modelling methods will be used to study the shaping of formless soil material with robotic fabrication processes.

The goal of the studio is to define a new landscape topology with regard to acoustic performance through robotic fabrication. Students are asked to develop tangible and precise landscape structures at various stages, phases, and scales over time. The design work will follow the precepts of a site-specific approach with an emphasis on precise terrain modelling. There will be a conceptual approach to this studio as well as a pragmatic approach to problem solving. The studio methodology will combine analogue design tools with digital design tools and fabrication. Workshops on soil textures, robotic fabrication and physical landscape modeling will guide the students in form finding methods.

The introduction will take place on Tuesday September 19th, HIB Open Space 2 (Arch_Tec Lab), 10:00 h



Institute of Landscape Architecture Professor Christophe Girot



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Photo by Fabio Chironi 2014 Renaturation of the River Aire by Georges Descombes