

Carlotta Fontana (Pavia, 1952), M.A. in Architecture (1977), Ph.D. in Architecture Technology (1991), full professor of Architecture Technology.

Member of Department of Architecture and Urban Studies (DAStU) at the Politecnico di Milano, professor of Architecture Technology at the Scuola di Architettura Urbanistica Ingegneria delle Costruzioni (School of Architecture, Urban Design and Construction Engineering) where she directed the Bachelor course in Environmental Architecture from 2011 to 2016.

Carlotta Fontana has over 40 years of experience in the field of the built environment research, design and action. In her student years, she actively joined grassroots movements and associations for the promotion of social housing by means of the improvement of abandoned buildings in the city centre. After graduation, with a dissertation on the housing conditions of low-income citizens in the Milanese hinterland, she started a collaboration with the Urban Planning Office of the City of Milan (1979-1986), working mainly on refurbishment projects and district planning in the historic centre and on the typology and technical characteristics of the urban fabric of Milan. In the same years, she remained linked to academic research in methods and tools for rehabilitation and re-use of the built resources. Her Ph.D. and post-doctoral studies (1986-1991) were focused on project methods and tools aimed to *enhancing the environmental resource represented by the built stock-and-heritage*. Her Ph.D. dissertation, under the tutorship of Prof. Giuseppe Ciribini with Prof. Valerio Di Battista and Prof. Gianni V. Galliani, examined the methodology of building rehabilitation and re-use design. Ever since, this has been the core of her research, rooted in the field of the *sustainability of architectural design and building activity*: understanding and evaluating the “potential for reuse” of old buildings and urban fabrics, reducing the physical impact of refurbishing interventions on buildings, enhancing *integrated diagnostics* – rooted in Building-Performance and Post-occupancy evaluation – aiming to deeply understand the relationship between technical aspects and the human factor (i.e.; the users’ behaviour in the built environment) in such fields as building safety, risk management, and well-being). Another more recent research theme is the relationship between architectural design and Systemics.

In 1982 she joined Valerio Di Battista in founding the review *Recuperare – edilizia, design, impianti*, the first European architectural review entirely dedicated to the rehabilitation and reuse of existing buildings, which she co-edited up to its closure in 1994, together with Liliana Padovani, Ezio Manzini, Giulio Solaini. Later, she co-founded and co-edited, with Valerio Di Battista and Gianni Scudo, the review *Ambiente Costruito/Built Environment* (1996-2001) and with Gianni Scudo *Il Progetto sostenibile* (2002), which she co-edited until 2010.

She is author and editor of several books and articles in national and international reviews; participated in national standards commissions for the building industry (UNI-edilizia) and currently carries out consultancies for public institutions and local communities.