

**Marialessandra Secchi,**  
MA Architect, Phd  
[marialessandra.secchi@polimi.it](mailto:marialessandra.secchi@polimi.it)  
[www.privileggio-secchi.com](http://www.privileggio-secchi.com)

### *Biography*

Marialessandra Secchi studied at Politecnico di Milano where she obtained her Master degree in Architecture, magna cum laude. She completed her studies obtaining a PhD in Architecture and Urban Design at Politecnico di Milano. Her thesis (*Una violenta rottura : il progetto della città europea nel ventesimo secolo.*) reconsidered elementarism, as a specific XXth century approach towards the project on the city.

She is currently assistant professor in Urban Planning and Design at Politecnico di Milano, where she is in charge of the Urban Planning and Design studio, and of the Landscape and Infrastructure Design studio.

She currently serves as a member of the teaching board of the Doctoral program in *Urban Planning, Design and Policy*, while she previously served as a member of the teaching board of the Doctoral program in *Architecture, Urban planning and Conservation of landscape and built environment*, at Politecnico di Milano. In this position she has been the supervisor in several PhD dissertations, developing research about several distinct urban situations all over the world. She took part in conferences, lectured and was visiting critic in diverse university and master programs as KU Leuven, TU Eindhoven, IUAV Venezia, Domus Academy, Università di Genova.

She worked with Bernardo Secchi in several projects – in Kortrijk (Belgium), Bergamo, Quartiere and Brescia - prior to establish her own practice *Privileggio – Secchi*, in Milan, together with Nicolò Privileggio.

Her work as an architect and urban planner has been fed by a constant research commitment and an intensive activity in international urban design competitions. The work of the office Privileggio-Secchi was awarded with several prizes such as in the *Europas 5* competition - first prize (1999), the *MPPAT* competition for new administrative centre of *Sejong*, future capital city of South Korea - second prize 2007, the *Fribourg Agglomeration Project*, CH -second prize (2011), the *Belgorod city centre*, RU - first prize (2013) among others.

Her design work was published in international magazines such as, *Hochparterre. Wettbewerbe, Archi, Traces, Project Russia, C3-Korea, Concept, Arhitektura, Bauwelt*.

### *Research interest*

Her research interest deals with forms and processes of transformation of contemporary urban territory. Research works and publications addresses the relation between landscape and urbanization in fragile territories, with a specific focus on how new green economies can affect the built environment. A specific focus is put on how infrastructure, water, energy, waste and food reorganization can provide new tools in addressing the 'new urban question'.

She participated in diverse research programs. Among them:

1998-2004 - *Infrastructures, Urban Habitat and Settlements*, granted by MIUR-MURST (Ministry of University and Research) - a research investigation on the infrastructural asset of Italian urban territory (as a member of the Milano research unit)

2010 - *Master plan for tourism development, heritage conservation and landscape protection of the Huyang and Huizhou Municipality*, Guandong Province, granted by Fondazione Politecnico and the Italian Ministry of Foreign Affairs. ( as a project leader). The research focused on heritage preservation and tourism enhancement confronting with rapid the urbanization of a peripheral city in the Shenzhen region.

2011 – *Risultato città / The city as a result* (as the scientific coordinator) – a research investigation on the new port infrastructure in a fragile landscape environment in Northern Adriatic. The new port was part of the future infrastructural investment, which were foreseen according to the Baltic- Adriatic European corridor.

2017-2018 – *Urban Lab* – (as the scientific coordinator). The research granted by AICS (Italian Agency for cooperation and development) was addressed to provide guidelines for local planning and development in Albanian territory supporting the development of local planning practices driven by the careful consideration of urban metabolism theory. The main concern, in the development of an attractive coastal region, was to provide a design strategy centred on water, waste and energy management while at the same time protecting landscape and the natural environment.

*Among her most recent publications:*

Chiara Nifosi; Marialessandra Secchi, *Around the Lagoon*, in: L.Pedata, E.Porfido, L. Rossi (eds.) [Co]habitation tactics : imagining future spaces in architecture, city and landscape: Tirana architecture week (TAW) : international scientific conference.

Tirana, 20th-23th September 2018: conference proceedings, pp 55-64, Tiranë : Polis press, 2018. ISBN 978-9928-4459-6-4

Chiara Nifosi, Marialessandra Secchi, *Territorio costiero, paesaggio di intermediazione. Visioni territoriali, linee guida e progetti pilota per il territorio costiero albanese nella regione lagunare di Karavasta*. In: TRIA. Territorio della Ricerca su Insediamenti e Ambiente, 19 (2/2017) :107-124  
ISSN: 2281-4574, DOI: 10.6092/2281-4574/5812

Marialessandra Secchi (2017) *Restructuring the Swiss city: urban regeneration is not for everyone*, In: R.Rocco and D. Villa (eds.), Conference Proceedings 2015 New Urban Languages. Tales and images of spatial justice TU Delft, 2016, pp 135-145, ISSN 9789461867179

Matteo, Motti; Marialessandra, Secchi (2015). Rethinking Infrastructure Towards Synergic Design. In Monograph. Research. R.E.D.S. 2 Alps. Designing a Sustainable Future, eds. M. Ricci, P Scaglione, Listlab, Trento, pp.256-259. ISBN:9788898774425

Marialessandra Secchi (2013). Three Images of the contemporary city in NUL – New Urban Languages Conference proceedings, Planum. The Journal of Urbanism, n°27, vol 2/2013  
She is co-author of X Milano, Hoepli, Milano 2004, a design investigation on Milano metropolitan city, granted by the Italian Ministry of University and Research(1998-2004)

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