

**Habitat
H**

**Research
R**

**Center
C**

18:00 - 19:30

03.11.2025, 24.11.2025,

09.12.2025, 13.01.2026

EPFL Archizoom

20.01.2026

ZHAW Winterthur

+ Online

NRP 81 Session series

Baukultur: A European Genealogy

Sarah Wigglesworth

Jean-Marc Besse, Michael Jakob

Jean-Louis Violeau, Paolo Scrivano

Angelika Schnell, Irina Davidovici

Paul Landauer

Baukultur: A European Genealogy

NRP 81 Session series

from 03.11.2025
to 20.01.2026
18:00 - 19:30
EPFL Archizoom
and ZHAW Winterthur
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The concept of *Baukultur* has firmly taken its place in the European debate on architecture, cities and landscapes (Davos Declaration, 2018). It has become a well-established research topic in Switzerland (National Research Programme “Baukultur” NRP 81, 2025–2030), despite the fact that its roots have yet to be thoroughly debated. Due to its topicality, the term is widely accepted and taken for granted, without questioning the significance of the preceding experiences it encompasses.

From November 2025 to January 2026, the Steering Committee of the National Research Programme “Baukultur” (NRP 81) including Paola Viganò (President and Professor at EPFL), Pierre Caye (members of the Committee and research director at the CNRS) and Andri Gerber (members of the Committee and Professor at ZHAW) organises a series of sessions, to outline the European genealogy of a culture of the built environment. This cycle of public events, to be attended in person or online, is jointly set in collaboration with the Habitat Research Center (HRC) of the Swiss Federal Institute of Technology in Lausanne (EPFL) and the Zurich University of Applied Sciences in Winterthur (ZHAW).

Rather than searching for the origins of *Baukultur*, these sessions invite guest speakers, NRP 81 project teams, researchers, and students to explore the numerous ramifications that contribute to understanding its construction and emergence. From a Foucauldian perspective, the sequence of these complementary sessions aims to retrace the successive or parallel paths that led to the recognition of *Baukultur*'s shared principles and values.

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| 03.11.2025 | SESSION 1 (EPFL)
The European roots of Baukultur: An Introduction
Sarah Wigglesworth, London |
| 24.11.2025 | SESSION 2 (EPFL)
Cultural landscapes, landscape culture and the roots of Baukultur
Jean-Marc Besse, Paris
Michael Jakob, Geneva |
| 09.12.2025 | SESSION 3 (EPFL)
Baukultur and the critique of Modernity #1
Jean-Louis Violeau, Nantes
Paolo Scrivano, Milan |
| 13.01.2026 | SESSION 4 (EPFL)
Baukultur and the critique of Modernity #2
Angelika Schnell, Vienna
Irina Davidovici, Zurich |
| 20.01.2026 | SESSION 5 (ZHAW)
Umbaukultur: the roots
Paul Landauer, Paris |