



1.000.000.000 over one billion people live in inadequate housing conditions in the world
100.000.000 over one hundred million people are homeless in the world
700.000 the American movie star Tom Cruise bought 700.000 square meters of Moon land

image by Das Schauspielhaus. Zweitausendzehn, Zweitausendelf
 Deutsches Schauspielhaus in Hamburg



**POLITECNICO
 DI MILANO**

Dipartimento di Architettura e Pianificazione

SUSAN FAINSTEIN

The Just City Urban Megaprojects and Contemporary Planning

Tuesday June 7th, 2011

Aula Gamma, Scuola di Architettura e Società, via Ampère 2 (MM2 Piola)
 h. 15.00 - 17.30

Introduction:

Massimo Bricocoli and Davide Ponzini

Researchers, Department of Architecture and Planning, Politecnico di Milano

Speaker:

Susan S. Fainstein

Professor of Urban Planning, Graduate School of Design, Harvard University

Discussants:

Alessandro Balducci

Professor of Urban Planning, Department of Architecture and Planning, Politecnico di Milano

Alessandro Coppola

Post-Doctoral Fellow, Department of Architecture and Planning, Politecnico di Milano

Matthew Gebhardt

Lecturer, Department of Town and Regional Planning, University of Sheffield

Many cities have been abandoning the use of master or structure plans that are binding for real estate development and they sometimes rely on a project by project piecemeal routine. Urban megaprojects are not a new formula for infrastructure and for developing large areas; the problems related to such approach due to various kinds of political and economic constraints, uncertainties and unbalanced effects have been widely acknowledged. However, one can notice that Olympics, World Expo and similar megaprojects have been mushrooming in cities on the five continents and tend to be developed with fewer limitations than most. Significant economic resources are provided by financial acts and special contributions, ad hoc powers are granted to task forces having the mission of planning and completing these interventions, development projects and master plans can join the opportunities of dispensations from ordinary planning cogency and procedures. Nonetheless, individual projects can be analyzed and finally evaluated according to their equity and, once recomposed in urban scale visions, to social justice.

Drawing on her recent research work in the US and in Europe, Susan Fainstein proposes to consider diversity, democracy and equity as central values for outlining new perspectives for contemporary planning theory and practice.

This is the first Seminar of the “Contemporary Planning Matters” Series, coordinated by Massimo Bricocoli and Davide Ponzini, DiAP, Politecnico di Milano. The next appointments will be with Jacques Donzelot (Paris IX, October 2011) and with Tim Rieniets (ETH Zurich, November 2011)

Contact: +39 02 23992603 / 5427

E-mail: massimo.bricocoli@polimi.it davide.ponzini@polimi.it