

City of Krakow and the Association of Polish Architects Krakow Branch cordially invite to take part in the **International Biennale of Architecture in Krakow**, whose next edition (**MBA Kraków 2019**) shall take part on the **8th-9th October 2019 at the ICE Congress Centre**.

Biennale is an event taking place since the year 1985. The title of this year's edition of the Biennale is "**CONNECTIONS — The Town and the River**".



As the role of the historic European city centres changes, from an industrial base to a recreational, cultural and educational role, the situation of the urban rivers changes as well. The Vistula River running through Kraków, was once the central artery of transportation for the urban economy. That has changed. The river now gives the city a major recreational quality, with calm waters and green banks. Could this relationship between the city and its river now be reinterpreted, be given a stronger connection, a boost with new facilities, some new life and new functions, a new significance for the whole urban environment?

The Old Town of Kraków is still dominated by the mighty Wawel castle, towering over the river banks. North of the Wawel hill, the town centre, with the grand public space Rynek as its centre-point, is contained within the boundaries of the old fortifications. This area, Planty, was turned into a lush urban park in the early 19th century. When this encircling park reaches the north side of Wawel and it is close to the river, for some reason it misses the connection. Could this area along the northern bend of the river, next to the castle, be 'the missing link' for the town, where the Old Town could meet the new recreational resources of the river and the historic significance of the castle? Could this area, between Planty and Vistula River, be where the 13 million annual visitors to the city could find new and exciting facilities, and where inhabitants could have an experience completing the urban narrative?

Organizatorzy:

Partnerzy:

This area, squeezed in between the Old Town, the castle and the river, may give an opportunity to find some answers – through the uses of urban design, architecture and design – to some of the challenges that are raised. For new decades, with growing concerns for the environmental balance, with more frequent river flooding and also more emphasis on green and blue recreation, the connection between the town and the Vistula River could challenge a new generation of architects and designers to rethink their roles in historic urban development.

As part of the MBA Kraków 2019, three competitions have been planned:

- 1) **Competition A** – architectural and urban competition
- 2) **Competition B** – seminar competition
- 3) **Competition C** – multimedia competition

All professionals, graduates, students, and scholars in such disciplines as: architecture, urban planning, photography, history, history of art, cultural heritage, urban studies, sociology, anthropology, urban transport, as well as tourism, natural history, or geography, are especially invited to participate in the competitions.

The works in their respective categories shall be assessed by a 7-person Jury, made up of architects and urban planners:

- **Peter Butenschøn**, Curator of the MBA Kraków 2019, Jury President, architect and city planner, Oslo
- **Oana Bogdan**, Founding Partner Bogdan & Van Broeck, Brussels
- **Lennart Grut**, Senior Partner Rogers Stirk Harbour + Partners, London
- **Jan Kleihues**, Founding Partner Kleihues + Kleihues, Berlin
- **Wojciech Małecki** (Reporting Judge), Founding Partner Biuro Projektowe Małecy, Poland
- **Ewa Kuryłowicz**, Vice President Kuryłowicz & Associates, Poland
- **Marta Sękułska-Wrońska**, Partner WXCA, Poland

Organisational structure of the MBA Kraków 2019 is as follows:

- Curator of MBA Kraków 2019: Peter Butenschøn / Norway
- Commissioner of the MBA Kraków 2019: Marek Kaszyński
- Commissioner of the Competition A: Marcin Włodarczyk
- Commissioner of the Competition B: Marta A. Urbańska
- Commissioner of the Competition C: Paweł Wiczorek
- Secretary for the External Affairs: Katarzyna Głuch
- Secretary for the Internal Affairs: Benita Strzałka
- Organizing Committee: Bohdan (Biś) Lisowski, Krystyna Łyczakowska, Mateusz Smoter, Marcin Ewý, Maria Gratkowska, Tomasz Jałocha

More information on the MBA Kraków 2019 and to be found at: <http://www.mba2019.sarp.krakow.pl>  
and FB: <https://www.facebook.com/events/317745052164727/>

Rules of the Competitions to be found at: <http://mba2019.sarp.krakow.pl/konkursy/>

Questions regarding general organisational issues should be addressed to the SARP Office Kraków Branch:

Stowarzyszenie Architektów Polskich Oddział Kraków  
Plac Szczepański 6, 31-011 Kraków  
tel.: +48 12 422 75 40, [mba-office@sarp.krakow.pl](mailto:mba-office@sarp.krakow.pl)

Questions regarding organisational issues of competitions A, B, C, should be addressed at the respective Commissioners:

A: [mba-competition@sarp.krakow.pl](mailto:mba-competition@sarp.krakow.pl)

B: [mba-seminar@sarp.krakow.pl](mailto:mba-seminar@sarp.krakow.pl)

C: [mba-multi@sarp.krakow.pl](mailto:mba-multi@sarp.krakow.pl)

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