



THE CITY AFTER CHINESE NEW TOWNS

EXCELLENCE COURSE IN URBAN
AND REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT



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FRANCESCA GOVERNA | ANGELO SAMPIERI
Professor of Economic and Political Geography
Associate Professor of Urban Planning
Polytechnic of Turin

26/02

THE CITY AFTER CHINESE NEW TOWNS
Castello del Valentino | Sala Caccia | 3.00 pm

XUEFEI REN
Associate Professor of Sociology and
Global Urban Studies, Michigan State University

04/03

BUILDING NEW TOWNS IN CHINESE CITIES
Castello del Valentino | Sala Caccia | 5.30 pm

05/03

INDIVIDUAL CONSULTANCIES WITH PH.D. STUDENTS
Castello del Valentino | Sala Vigliano | 9.00 am

YANG DINGLIANG
Instructor in Urban Planning and Design
Harvard University Graduate School of Design

12/03

TOWNIZATION: NEW URBAN PARADIGM IN CHINA
Castello del Valentino | Sala Caccia | 5.30 pm

13/03

INDIVIDUAL CONSULTANCIES WITH PH.D. STUDENTS
Castello del Valentino | Sala Vigliano | 9.00 am

AUSTIN WILLIAMS
Senior Lecturer in Architecture, Kingston School of Art
Honorary Research Fellow, Xjtlu University

12/04

ECO-CITIES IN CHINA
Castello del Valentino | Sala Caccia | 10.00 am

12/04

INDIVIDUAL CONSULTANCIES WITH PH.D. STUDENTS
Castello del Valentino | Sala Vigliano | 3.00 pm

07/05

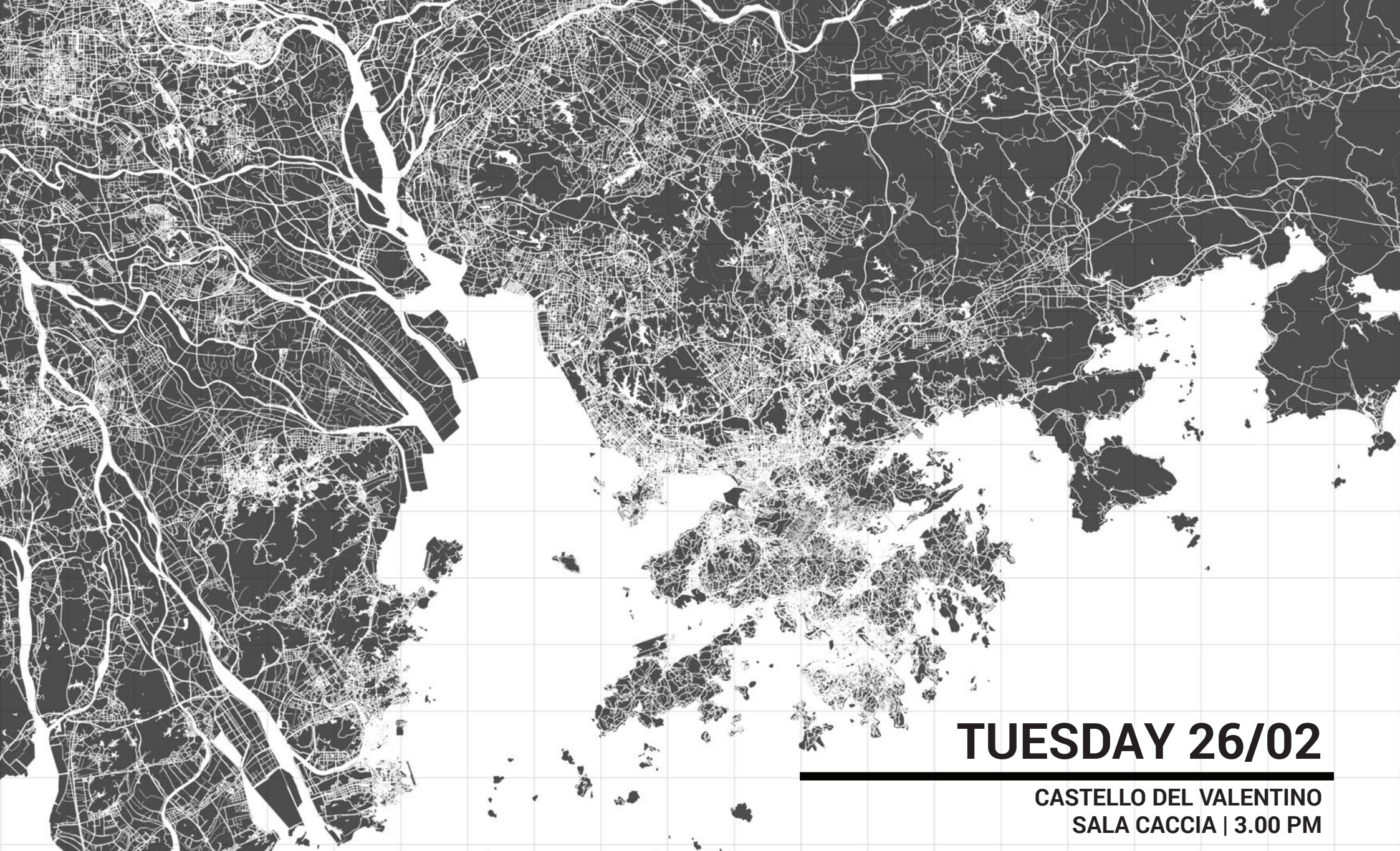
FINAL DISCUSSION
Castello del Valentino | Sala Vigliano | 3.00 pm

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ASTRID SAFINA, LEONARDO RAMONDETTI





TUESDAY 26/02

**CASTELLO DEL VALENTINO
SALA CACCIA | 3.00 PM**

THE CITY AFTER CHINESE NEW TOWNS

The lecture discusses the outputs of a research on Chinese new towns focusing on three places:

Tongzhou New Town, located in the eastern suburban expansion of Beijing; Zhaoqing New Area, currently being built twenty kilometres from the old city of Zhaoqing (Guandong Province); and Zhengdong New District, located near Zhengzhou (Henan Province). These places

allowed us to identify two issues that still seem to be in need of investigations both empirically and theoretically: the spatial features and the regional scaling-up of the Chinese urbanisation processes.

While presenting these issues, on the one hand the lecture emphasises their specificity in the investigated contexts, on the other, transcends these specific cases in order to question urban studies beyond the (alleged) exceptionality of Chinese urbanisation. By adopting this approach Chinese new towns become an object of study as well as a specific viewpoint from which to examine contemporary urbanisation and radically re-discuss old categories, conceptualisations, and even the epistemology of the urban.

FRANCESCA GOVERNA

PROFESSOR OF ECONOMIC AND POLITICAL GEOGRAPHY
POLYTECHNIC UNIVERSITY OF TURIN

ANGELO SAMPIERI

PROFESSOR OF URBAN PLANNING
POLYTECHNIC UNIVERSITY OF TURIN

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BUILDING NEW TOWNS IN CHINESE CITIES

MONDAY 04/03

**CASTELLO DEL VALENTINO
SALA CACCIA | 5.30 PM**

In recent years, Chinese cities have witnessed a boom of newtown development. Most research to date has focused on newtowns in the largest cities such as Beijing and Shanghai, or the spectacular ghost towns such as Ordos in Inner Mongolia. This talk discusses a different type of newtown development taking place in China's rustbelt. In spite of the sluggish economy and population growth, many newtowns in China's northeast region have been steadily attracting residents and, some have even become desirable neighborhoods to live in. This talk examines the logic of newtown development in China's rustbelt, which resembles but also departs from newtowns in China's boom cities and ghost towns.

XUEFEI REN

PROFESSOR OF SOCIOLOGY AND GLOBAL URBAN STUDIES
MICHIGAN STATE UNIVERSITY

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TOWNIZA- TION: NEW URBAN PARADIGM IN CHINA

TUESDAY 12/03

**CASTELLO DEL VALENTINO
SALA CACCIA | 5.30 PM**

For the past four decades, the benefit of agglomeration has been hugely emphasized by the central government of China. This exclusively inclination on 'city-making' leads to density problems, environmental deterioration, and the urban-rural disparity. These facts, together with the demand of urbanization to stimulate the economic growth, are the most important reasons for a policy reorientation in searching of alternatives of the urbanization paradigm. After several years of research, it is proved that there can be developed into a 'town network' consists of 19,683 existing towns, as the complementary system of the existing 'city network', to help absorb the 300 million potential becoming-citizens/urban-rural migrants within the next 15 years. The lecture discusses this 'townization policy' and its possible implication in urban design projects. One exemplary and one extreme town design cases will be presented to indicate how the innovative strategies can contribute to improve built environment, reduce environmental pollution and protect the agricultural land.

YANG DINGLIANG

INSTRUCTOR IN URBAN PLANNING AND DESIGN
HARVARD UNIVERSITY GRADUATE SCHOOL OF DESIGN

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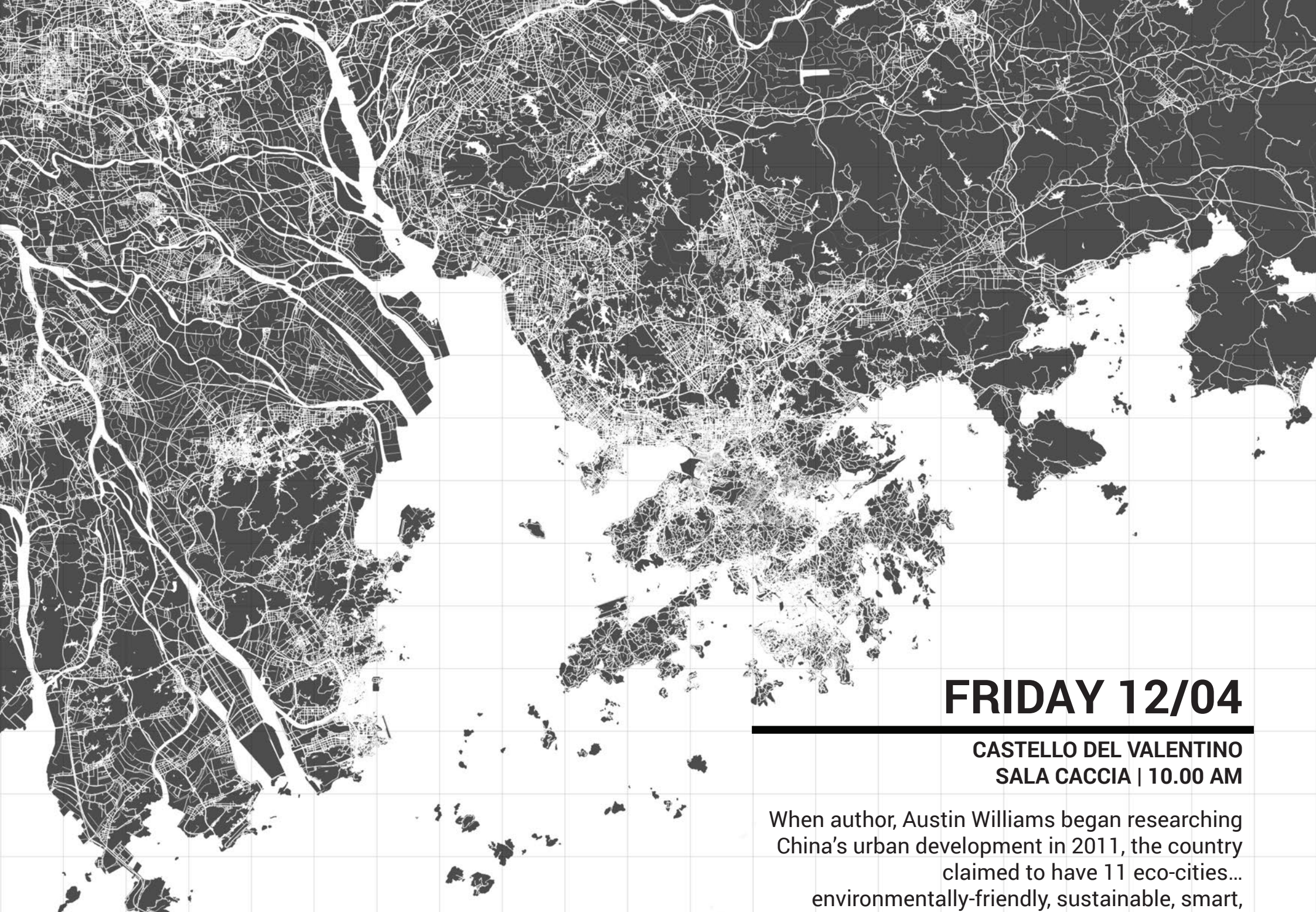
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ECO - CITIES IN CHINA

FRIDAY 12/04

**CASTELLO DEL VALENTINO
SALA CACCIA | 10.00 AM**

When author, Austin Williams began researching China's urban development in 2011, the country claimed to have 11 eco-cities... environmentally-friendly, sustainable, smart, low- carbon, urban centres. Within 5 years, it had documented 285. China has regularly been portrayed as an environmental pariah, so are we witnessing history's greatest environmental turnaround.

Are China's urban experiments providing valuable lessons for cities worldwide?

What is an eco-city anyway?

This lecture will explore the social, political, historical and cultural context for China's environmental rise: exploring the benefits and dangers of China's vast eco-city program.

Williams will describe the complexities which emerge in the race to balance the environment with industrialisation, quality with quantity, and the liberty of the individual with the authority of the Chinese state.

AUSTIN WILLIAMS

SENIOR LECTURE IN PRACTICES IN ARCHITECTURE
KINGSTON SCHOOL OF ART

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