

# PICTURESQUE MODERNITIES

## ARCHITECTURAL REGIONALISM AS A GLOBAL PROCESS (1890-1950)

International Conference  
(Paris, 30 November – 2 December 2016)  
**PhD-Workshop (INHA)**

German Center for Art History Paris  
Cluster of Excellence "Asia and Europe in a Global Context", Heidelberg University  
Centre André Chastel (University Paris-Sorbonne)  
CRIHAM (University of Poitiers)  
Association française des Historiens de l'Architecture (A.H.A.)

### Beaux-Arts Design and the International Imaginary, 1867-1932

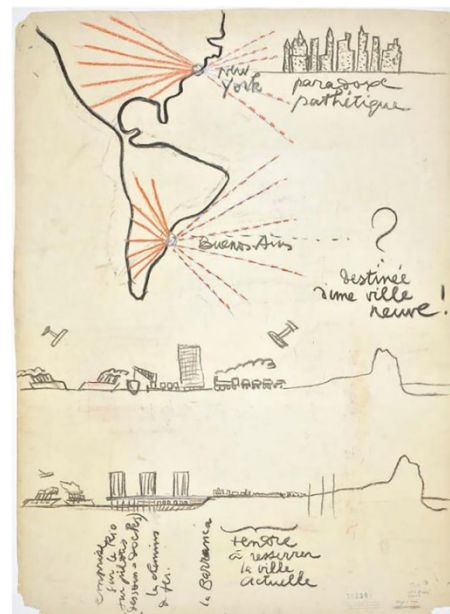
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#### Abstract

This dissertation examines the transatlantic dissemination of Beaux-Arts architecture amid the rise of liberal internationalism during the long fin-de-siècle. In the final decades of the nineteenth century, the École des Beaux-Arts became a hub of international activity as architects from the United States and Latin America flocked to the school for its famed pedagogy and for the urban spectacle of Haussmann's Paris. At the same time, the school hosted international professional conferences and exhibitions at Paris World's Fairs to standardize architectural training and practice across national boundaries. This project asks: To what extent did Beaux-Arts design intersect with other emerging international standards and systems? And how did the use of Beaux-Arts methods and forms shape the built environment to the will of internationalist ideologies, from free trade to imperialism to world peace?

The École's drawing-based methods conceived of architectural design as a process of planning, an idea that acquired new political agency and urban potential in the rapidly developing cities of the Americas. Analyzing case studies ranging from Buenos Aires to colonial Baguio, this research explores how Beaux-Arts design methods allowed architects to telescope between the scales of building, city, and environment to construct regional urban polities within a larger, international order. Furthermore, I argue that the Beaux-Arts city created a spatial network for global connectivity and exchange that paved the way for later modernism.



Above : Spread from Hendrik Christian Andersen and Ernest Hébrard, *Creation of a World Center of Communication*, 1913 [Harvard University Library]. Below: Le Corbusier, Plan for Buenos Aires, 1929 [Fondation Le Corbusier]