

## *Future Mobilities Conference*

September 12 – 13, 2022

Guggenheim Museum Bilbao. Auditorium

Sponsor: **VOLKSWAGEN**  
AKTIENGESELLSCHAFT

This conference delves into advanced visions and scenarios of global mobility, as presented in a series of design and technology projects drafted by students at some of the world's most prestigious universities for the Gallery of the Future—the gallery that brings to a close the exhibition *Motion. Autos, Art, Architecture*, curated by Norman Foster for the Guggenheim Museum Bilbao. This show, along with its culmination in the Gallery of the Future, is on view from April to September 2022, and will be the backdrop of the conference in the framework of the Summer Course program at UPV-EHU.

Guest speakers at *Future Mobilities* include faculty members from the Royal College of Art in London, ETH Zurich, Umeå University, TU Delft, MIT Media Lab, Yale University, the University of Tokyo, Politecnico di Milano, Tsinghua University, Universidad de Mondragon, University of Cape Town, Hongik University, Tecnológico de Monterrey, ArtCenter College of Design and Universidad de Navarra. The presentation of their research will be accompanied by dialogues with the curatorial team at the Guggenheim Museum Bilbao and the Norman Foster Foundation. Through them, the course will give voice to the design teams that have guided international groups of students in the materialization of their visions of mobility in speculative, distant and midterm futures. In so doing, it will address the most urgent questions about the sustainability of local and planetary economies, and the future of human societies driving them.

### Objectives:

1. The course is aimed at exploring the futures of mobility, as well as the collaboration capabilities of new generations of designers, engineers, and technologists in the creation of novel scenarios for sustainability and coexistence.
2. It also seeks to establish futuristic forecast exercises as a powerful tool to analyze the present, connecting the infrastructure narratives of the big industries with the speculative-design and science-fiction narratives that have marked the global culture for the past fifty years.
3. The course is thus cross-disciplinary, meant as a platform for joint learning, discussion, and exchange for students and professionals in mobility-related fields—

from the automotive industry to architecture and urban planning to social and environmental science to, of course, art and design.

4. The course highlights the importance of generating critical, context-based hypotheses that account for the new forms of interaction between humans and non-humans in urban, rural, and natural ecosystems.
5. It will also focus on the movement of people and the transportation of goods at the global level, as well as on reforestation and new sources of energy, in an effort to broaden the perspective on mobility, going beyond the automotive industry and personal mobility.
6. The ultimate goal is to address all these issues within a context of thought where sustainability, resilience, and the creative transformation of society matter, in the face of today's threats of irreversible planetary disequilibrium in environmental, material, and cultural terms.

## PROGRAM

September 12, 2022

- 15:00. Welcoming words by Juan Ignacio Vidarte and Gorka Moreno, Vicerrector del Campus de Bizkaia de la UPV/EHU followed by opening address by Lord Norman Foster (virtual).
- .
- 15:20. Introduction to the course by Manuel Cirauqui, Curator, Guggenheim Museum Bilbao followed by discussion with Tony Jankowski and Melanie Köcheler, Design Strategy department, Volkswagen Future Center Europe (VFCE).

*All participants walk to Museum galleries*

- 16:00. Commented visit to the Exhibition by curatorial team. Esperanza Pino, Coordinator, Norman Foster Foundation; and Manuel Cirauqui, Curator, Guggenheim Museum Bilbao (*Motion*, historical galleries, *Future*, and Q&A).

*After a short break, session resumes at Auditorium.*

- 17:30. *Section I: Anticipations*. Presentations by Dr. Philippa Tumubweinee, University of Cape Town (via zoom); Prof. Kent Larson, MIT Media Lab (via zoom); Prof. Salomon

Frausto, TU Delft (via zoom); Prof. Jay Sanders, ArtCenter College of Design (via zoom); and Prof. Manabu Chiba, University of Tokyo (via zoom), followed by roundtable.

- 19:45. Closure

September 13, 2022

- 09:30. *Section II: Mobility in New Ecosystems*. Presentations by Prof. Jonas Sandström, Umea University; Prof. Alfredo Hidalgo Rasmussen and Dra. Xóchitl Arias, Tecnológico de Monterrey, and Prof. Paz Morer, Universidad de Navarra, followed by roundtable.
- 11:30. Coffee break
- 11:45. *Section III: Post-human Cityscapes*. Presentations by Prof. Eddie Eoh, Hongik University (via zoom); Prof. Peter Russell and Prof. Louise Holloway, Tsinghua University; and Prof. Matthias Kohler, ETH Zurich, followed by roundtable.
- 13:45. Lunch break
- 15:00. *Section IV: Mobility as Speculative Vehicle*. Presentations by Prof. Flora Gaetani, Politecnico di Milano; Prof. Gavin Hogben, Yale University, and Prof. Chris Thorpe, Royal College of Art; followed by roundtable.
- 16:45. General roundtable (all participants combined) and open discussion.
- 17:30. Closure