

SUMMER  
SCHOOL

RURAPOLIS  
RURAPOLIS

29.08.-07.09.2024

ASTURIAS, SPAIN

École nationale  
supérieure d'architecture  
Versailles

LéaV  
laboratoire de recherche  
ENSA Versailles



laboral  
Centro de Arte y Creación Industrial



NO-CITY



Asociación del  
Hórreo Asturiano



gijón | impulsa

AMBASSADE  
DE FRANCE  
EN ESPAGNE

foro cultural de austria

CONCEYU  
MIERES

ESDAC  
Escuela Superior de  
Diseño Arte y Comunicación



programa cultura cercana  
Laboratorio de Oviedo



Vicerrectorado de Extensión Universitaria y Proyección Cultural  
Universidad de Oviedo





Summerschool

# RURAPOLIS

29.08. - 07.09.2024

LABoral Centro de Arte / Pozu Espinos, Asturias, Spain

**The Rurapolis Summerschool is an innovative format that combines architectural theory and practice around the themes of rural depopulation, the evolution of post-industrial territory and the learning of sustainable construction techniques in wood and raw earth.**

The Summerschool is part of a wider research process entitled [Rurapolis](#). The project is based on the strong presence of rural ruins in Spain, where thousands of villages have been depopulated as a consequence of the rural exodus. The research process proposes a networked reactivation strategy for abandoned towns, villages and industrial sites, whose location in the heart of a preserved topography and moderate climate can make them viable and attractive again, especially in the face of current and future climate change forecasts. This revival of rural ruins is materialised through the use of ecological building techniques, starting from the ground, from the earth.

After its [first edition in Navarra, Spain](#), the Summerschool Rurapolis 2024 offers an immersion in a comparative territory, this time located in Asturias. The Summerschool Rurapolis is an external programme of [ÉNSA Versailles](#) in collaboration with the [University of Oviedo](#) and the Centre for Art and Industrial Creation [LABoral](#). It is also an integral part of [NO-CITY](#), an open inter-university educational programme. This next edition of Summerschool Rurapolis will last ten days in the summer of 2024 and is open to international architecture students, as well as students from other disciplines and any professional interested in the subject.

## The Summerschool Rurapolis 2024 will include:

- a **series of lectures and round tables** by renowned European personalities, accompanied by round tables where there will be open debate on the topics addressed during the lectures: rural depopulation and the possible reactivation of its ruins, peri-rural and post-industrial conditions, rammed earth architecture, architecture of ruins, architecture in times of crisis
- two days of prospective **exploration** of the post-industrial, peri-rural and natural territory of Asturias
- a **construction workshop** at the Pozu Espinos (a former mining site located in a small village of the Turón Valley) focusing on the use of wood, recycled materials and learning various construction techniques in raw earth. The aim of this format is to develop a constructive intelligence to create, within a week, small architectures/platforms/furniture emblematic of the Rurapolis.
- a **performance** that will inaugurate collectively designed architectural objects, making viable and attractive the possible reactivation of abandoned rural ruins.

Summerschool

# RURAPOLIS

PROGRAMME

## DAY 1 · Thursday 29.08.2024 · LABoral, Gijón Presentation, lectures and round table

10:00 - 12:00 · Presentation & introduction of the Summerschool Rurapolis

12:00 - 13:00 · Lecture Jaime Izquierdo Vallina

13:00 - 14:00 · Lecture Susanne Stacher

16:00 - 17:00 · Guided tour of the LABoral Art Centre

17:00 - 19:00 · Round table moderated by Ícaro Obeso Muñiz with the participation of Fernando Garcia Dory (Inland)

## DAY 2 · Friday 30.08.2024 · LABoral, Gijón Lectures & Round table

09:00 - Bus transport from the Student Residency of Mieres to LABoral Art Centre.

10:00 - 11:00 · Lecture Sergio Sebastián

11:00 - 12:00 · Lecture Déchelette Architecture

12:00 - 14:00 · Round table moderated by No-City

Afternoon: Guided visit to the Interpretation Centre of the Hórreo and the village of Bueño with the Asturian Hórreo Association

## DAYS 3 & 4 · Saturday & Sunday 31.08.- 01.09.2024 · Exploration of the Asturian territory with the teacher's team of ÉNSA Versailles – Universidad de Oviedo – ESDAC/ESNE – NO-CITY

## DAYS 5 to 9 · Monday to Friday 02.- 06.09.2024 ·

10:00 - 18:00 · Raw earth workshop at the Pozu Espinos - Valle de Turón

## DAY 9 · Friday 06.09.2024

20:00 · Opening night at the Pozu Espinos ·

Performance in situ by the artist formation *lofácil*

## DAY 10 · Saturday 07.09.2024

10:00 - 15:00 · Final review, storage & departure

\* These activities are open to the public

# LECTURES

# TERRITORY

# WORKSHOP

29.08.24



30.08.24

31.08.24



01.09.24

02.09.24



07.09.24

## LABoral Centro de Arte GIJÓN

## Various itineraries ASTURIAS

## EARTH · WOOD · STRAW · RAMMED EARTH · COB · LIGHT EARTH · RURAL POZU ESPINOS, VALLE DE TURÓN

10:00 Presentation  
12:00 Jaime Izquierdo  
13:00 Susanne Stacher  
17:00 Round table

10:00 Sergio Sebastián  
11:00 Déchelette Architecture  
12:00 Round table  
16:00 Guided tour Hórreos

Everyday from 10:00 to 18:00

20:00 Inauguration Performance by *lofácil*

Final review & storage



**Déchelette Architecture** The studio promotes thrifty, inventive architecture that is faithful to their ecological convictions: economy of materials, respect for the landscape and sustainability of uses.



**Bioconstrucción Asturias** puts ecological construction into practice using techniques based on natural materials, and intervenes in a respectful way in the traditional buildings of the Asturian rural environment.



**Jaime Izquierdo Vallina** Graduate in geological sciences, former Commissioner for the Demographic Challenge of the of Asturias, author of the book "The agropolitan city, the cosmopolitan village"



**Anna Laura Bourguignon** Franco-Mexican architect who specialized in earthen construction at the CRATerre laboratory in Grenoble, France. She collaborates with architecture schools and professional training centers.



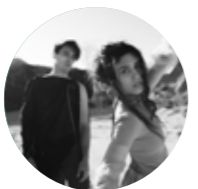
**Sergio Sebastián** Architect, author of the award-winning project for the preservation of the abandoned village of Ruesta (Aragon, 2017-2020) and the San Juan de Ruesta Hermitage (2021).



**Inland** A multi-site para-institutional project that develops different ways of linking culture, rural areas and social change. The collective was founded by Fernando García Dory in 2009.



**Susanne Stacher** Architect, researcher and author of the book "Architecture in times of crisis. Current and historical strategies for designing new worlds" (Ed. Birkhäuser, 2023).



**Lofácil** The musical formation explores the interaction between the atmospheres created from the acoustic coordinates collected beforehand for each location.





# RURAPOLIS

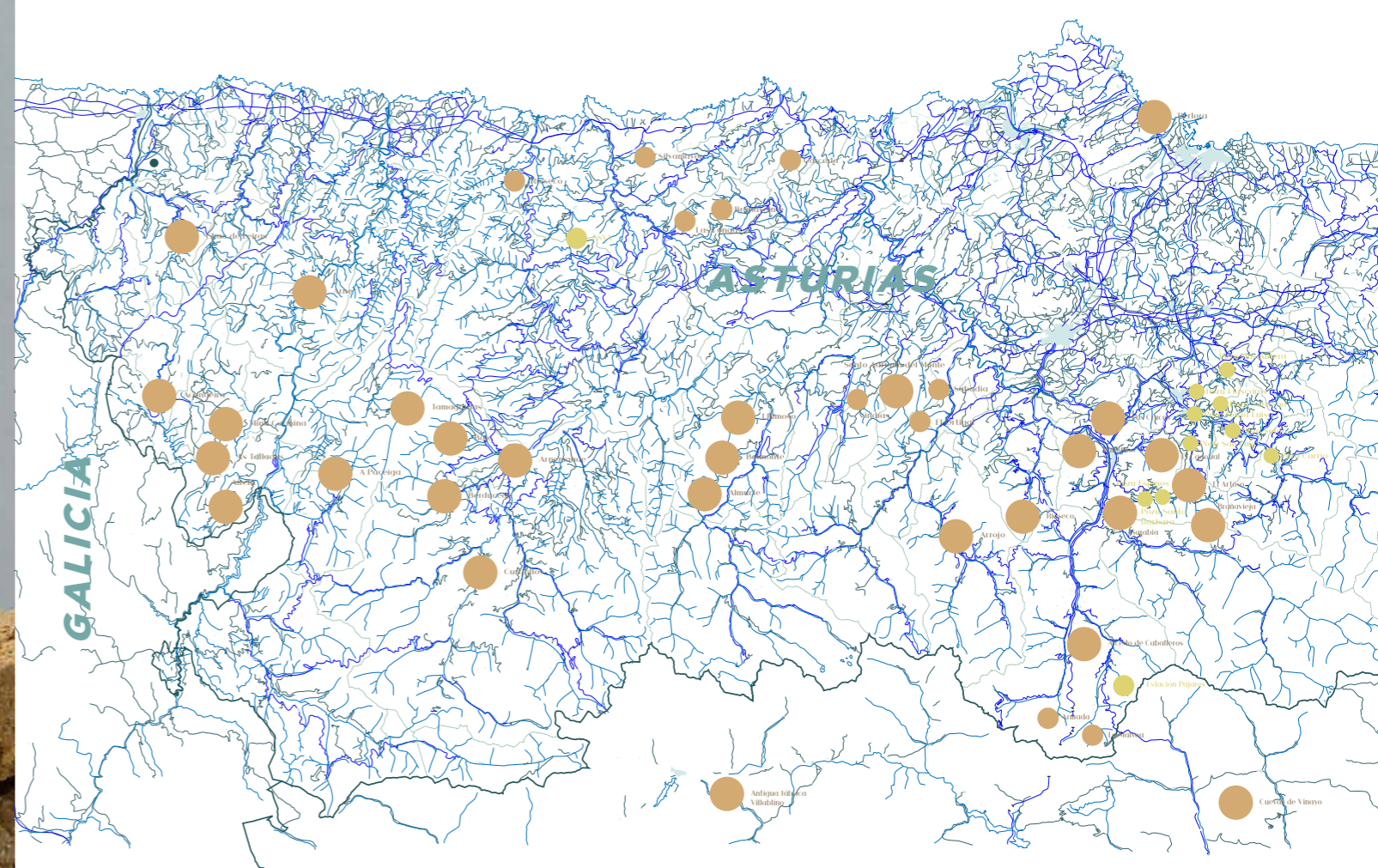
REENCHANT THE FUTURE  
IN THE FACE OF  
RURAL DEPOPULATION

## RURAPOLIS EXHIBITION

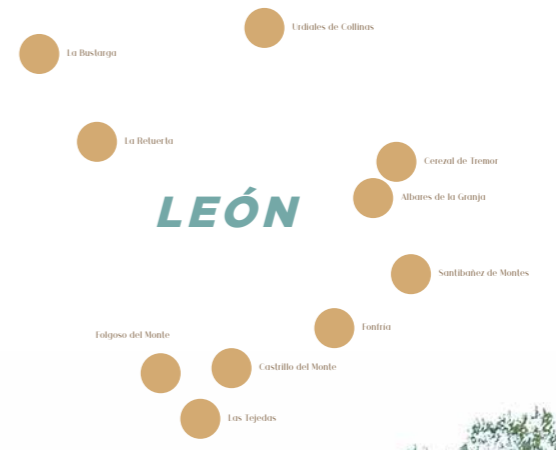
The results of the two Rurapolis Summerschools 2022 (in Navarra) and 2024 (Asturias) as well as the utopian and fictitious concept/project of the Rurapolis, with comparative explorations in the Pre-Pyrenees (Navarra and Aragón) and the Cantabrian Mountains (Asturias and León) will be exhibited in September 2025 at LABoral Centro de Arte y Creación Industrial in Gijón, Asturias, Spain.







Locations - Rurapolis Archipelago in the trans-regional area Galicia/Asturias/Leon



(c)Gorka Beunza



# SUMMER SCHOOL RURAPOLIS 2024

## CONTACT

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