Healthy Exercise for Social Elites: Sport and the Early Modern Italian Villa

The sixteenth and seventeenth centuries in Italy witnessed the development of increasingly large suburban and extra-urban villas and gardens. While these estates were markers of elite status and sources of agricultural production, they were also seen as essential for maintaining good health. Surrounded by greenery, villa visitors and owners enjoyed the salubrious effects of fresh air, soothing birdsong, and the benefits of physical exercise. Scholars have long focused on the patronage, architectural typology, and the sculptural iconography of villas, yet remarkably few studies have examined the fundamental role gardens played in fostering good health. I consider early modern Italian villas through a different lens: as spaces shaped by medical theories about health and exercise.

A widespread preoccupation with preventative medicine engendered a robust market for health advice in Italy, and publishers met this demand with treatises advocating regimens of diet and exercise and the best modes of exercise. Together they endorsed the types of moderate recreation most suitable for genteel readers—and best done in the refined and hygienic setting of the villa. Walking, hunting, and games such as *pallamaglio* (early croquet), *palla corda* (Royal Tennis), and *boules* (bocce ball), were the most commonly recommended sports for social elites. As these sports gained popularity, they became mainstays in villa landscapes, as wealthy patrons commissioned special ball courts, walking paths, and hunting grounds to promote healthy living.

Using agricultural, architectural, etiquette, medical, and sport treatises, archival documents, and recent research in medical and sport history, I discuss how integral early modern ideas of health and sport were to the landscape design and social uses of villas. In turn, I show how villa design helped to codify and spread the practice of sport in later periods.


In “The Abstract World of The Hot-Rodder” (1958), J.B. Jackson draws attention to a series of what he calls new sports—skiing, gliding, surf-riding, kayaking, motorcycling, and others—that signaled a transition beginning in the interwar years toward more active and embodied participation in the environment. Privileging the visceral over the visual, Jackson makes the case for what he calls topographical freedom—an opening up of often remote landscapes to direct bodily experience that had previously been reserved for passive, scenic observation and appreciation. Arguing that these sports explored space, matter, and motion in ways not unlike modern artists and architects, and even physicists, Jackson suggests that these forms of individual locomotion—what he would later call helix sports—allowed the average citizen to experience an “abstract nature” stripped of its scenic associations, and yet still intimately tied to the particularities of the physical landscape. In this paper, I examine Jackson’s historical reading of these mid-century “helix” sports and how his work in “The Abstract World of The Hot-Rodder,” and other essays spanning his career, frame issues of the body and nature in ways that were unique for the 1950’s and that anticipated more contemporary theoretical discussions of these concepts. More particularly, I explore Jackson’s notion of topographic freedom and consider how, through his conceptualizations, the varied landscapes of helix sports come into being through the visceral body.
Fields of Play as Laboratories of Spatial Invention

“Playing a game,” writes philosopher of sports Bernard Suits, “is the voluntary attempt to overcome unnecessary obstacles.” Such obstacles in sports include performative rules such as the prohibition of playing the ball with one’s hands in soccer and the very premise of golf, which tests the ability of a club-wielding player to convey a small ball hundreds of yards across challenging terrain into a four-and-a-quarter-inch hole. The obstacles, the physical means of overcoming them, and the appreciation of that effort by players and spectators may be thought of in terms of spatial practice, which this paper examines from two perspectives. The first concerns potential: the construction of settings beckoning human engagement from the meandering fairways of golf courses, to the gridirons of American football, to the routes invented in the urban landscape by skateboarders and the traceurs of parkour. The second perspective addresses the kinesthetic spatial experience of players and spectators within a game’s specially circumscribed terms of time and behavior. Athletes seek to exploit the affordances of the setting – a wide receiver in American football using the sideline to reduce exposure to defender; a traceur appropriating a park bench as a launchpad – transforming it into a site of spatial invention. As in architecture and landscape architecture, space-making may be understood in terms of measure and of phenomenological experience. Spectators, too, may respond to the action on the field empathetically, fusing their immediate perception with memory and imagination. Each in his or her own way, athletes and fans may achieve a state of flow, of being in the zone, or, to use a term more familiarly applied to the arts but equally applicable to sports, of aesthetic engagement.

Simon David, Founder, OSD|Outside + Adjunct Associate Professor, CCNY

Social Infrastructure for Manhattan: Resiliency and Recreation in the context of climate change

On October 29, 2012, Superstorm Sandy made landfall in NYC, flooding the city, causing over 40 deaths, $40 billion in damages, and sending a major metropolis into shock and darkness. As our world warms and post-industrial waterfronts offer new development opportunities, governments and practitioners are embracing a new typology of coastal landscapes that combines resiliency infrastructure with ever-evolving urban and ecological needs. The first phase of the BIG U: The East Side Coastal Resiliency project (ESCR), is an example of this new typology - resiliency infrastructure that strengthens regional ecologies, while embedding social life in the form of play and sports. Central to ESCR is East River Park, a 57 acre sports park originally built by Robert Moses. While Moses’ Park remains useful for organized sports, it does not reflect the diverse community of the Lower East Side. It also lacks accessibility and fails to connect to the region’s ecology.

To accommodate climate change and local needs, ESCR moves beyond modernist sports planning to become a flexible framework for infrastructure and social space. Moses’ East River Park is re-imagined as a sports and play ‘Park-ipelago’ – a network of programmed destinations for all ages and abilities. The parkipelago allows playing fields to be raised as the sea level rises, and program destinations to change as the needs of the community evolve. ESCR is a case study for future resiliency projects, offering a vision for the next incarnation of our waterfronts. By proactively connecting public infrastructure with social programs we can inject new urban life forms into the heart of our cities. New infrastructure can offer positive social side effects in the form of nested programs, parks and playgrounds – turning the investments by the few into enjoyment for the many.

Dorothée Imbert, The Ohio State University

The Politics of Sports, France 1900-1940

This paper examines the role landscape architects and planners played in the development of sports and nation-building during the first half of the twentieth century. Nudity, Nordic ideals, and gymnastics promoted physical and moral health, and sports associations were key to defining French identity across the political spectrum, from the socialist Front populaire to the collaborationist Vichy government. Although the stadia supporting the development of French athletes are well documented, the sports parks and fields centered on the body public are lesser known. Among these is the 1907 Parc des sports, in Reims, designed on the grounds of the champagne firm of Pommery by landscape architect Édouard Redont. Originally conceived to improve the workers’ physical and moral health, the park became a training ground for
athletes under Georges Hébert. The Collège d’athlètes, which opened at the onset of World War I, was a forum to test and demonstrate Hébert’s natural method of exercise and a tool to promote international sports. In the layout of his Parc des sports, Redont updated the nineteenth-century landscape of curvilinear paths and undulating topography with modern programs and techniques. Conversely, during the early 1940s, planners Robert Joffet and Albert Audias “landscaped” the tracks and fields of the Vichy sports training program by inserting school grounds and sports facilities in existing public gardens and parks. The overlay of technical and material research with open space planning yielded hybrid sports landscapes. In their projects, Joffet and Audias aimed to create a system of green spaces for Paris and its belt—ranging from the scale of the garden to that of the regional park—to improve the health of citizens, and, by allowing different age groups to exercise and rest amid trees and flowers, to strengthen the family unit dear to the Vichy regime.

Christian Jaser, The Humboldt University of Berlin

Spaces for Speed: Urban Streetscapes and Horse Racing in Renaissance Italy and Germany

Particularly in the years between 1470 and 1530, Italian and German urban horse races for the prize of a precious piece of cloth called palio or scharlach emerged as a fully-developed competitive sport culture that could be studied in all its dimensions – organization, performance, perception – for the first time since antiquity. On both sides of the Alps, these sport events were held on urban and suburban racetracks. Unlike the modern Siennese palio on its circular course on the Piazza del Campo, the palio races of Renaissance Italy predominantly ran alla lunga through the streets, mostly from one city gate to a central piazza or to the opposite gate. There was a spatial logic to traversing the urban area. In Upper Germany, horses galloped on eponymous racing tracks called Rennweg that mostly led straight ahead through plain suburban meadows. In order to ensure an undisturbed race and a fair competition, such tracks had to be cleaned, secured and prepared for the attendance of numerous spectators. As a consequence, races transformed urban streetscapes – already in normal times an eventful terra omnium of work, leisure and feast – into elongated arenas of spectacle and public participation.

These temporary spaces for speed both constituted and represented a political agenda. Every urban horse race through the city was a highly visible penetration of the urban space by “moving subjects” and equine kinetic energy. Through organizing these racing events, civic authorities implemented and demonstrated their spatial authority and the superiority of public over private interests. This was anything but self-evident at the time. The urban racetracks of the Renaissance became literal “spaces of power” where communal consensus could be achieved and made spatially visible through the forging of a public spectatorship.

Marta Kurkowska-Budzan, Jagiellonian University in Kraków

“Wild stadiums” in the Polish Countryside in the Socialist Era

The idea of modern sport was introduced in Polish society by communist authorities in the form of physical education in school curricula. While in the rural eastern parts of the country modern sport facilities had been lacking all along, during and after the Second World War, those modern sports infrastructures that did exist were largely destroyed. Consequently, local authorities tried to create sports grounds in connection with school buildings in every village but the financial resources of the impoverished state only allowed for very basic interventions. Therefore, young people created "wild stadiums" where they could follow their needs of autotelic physical activity for fun and pleasure. These informal spaces that were temporarily used developed incrementally: they “grew out of” the local landscape or developed in contrast to it. As informal spaces located on the margins of everyday life and out of sight of the authorities, these stadia provided young people living in the totalitarian country with autonomy and independence. The “official” sports stadia on the other hand served both sports and ideological purposes, and one would perhaps expect that these stadia in rural areas would be dominant landscape elements, both metaphorically and literally. Yet, despite the fact that these stadia were created by the ruling party they did not enjoy a special, privileged status. As with the "wild stadia," their existence was to the same extent determined by nature and landscape conditions as well as by Polish peasant culture and mentality. Examining various “official” and “wild” playfields created across the Polish countryside during the socialist era I explore issues of agency, conditionality, and materiality as they relate to these specific sport landscapes.
Fabiola López-Durán, Rice University

A Clinical Landscape: Crafting the Healthy (Re)Productive Body in Modern Argentina

Examining the rising convergence of medicine, society, and landscape architecture, this paper interrogates modern architecture’s clinical agenda in early twentieth-century Argentina. I show how two typically separated movements—hygienics and eugenics—were in fact connected, revealing a biopolitical coupling of the city and the countryside; human and animal bodies; and land and resources. The paper exposes a preoccupation with health, hygiene, fresh air, cleanliness, sunlight, productivity and “whiteness” in the writings and practices of technocrats, physicians, industrialists and architects alike, which has been surprisingly ignored in studies of landscape architectural modernism. Focusing on the networks of parks, gardens, playgrounds, open-air schools, and sport facilities near slaughterhouses and in meatpacking districts, this paper sheds light on a unified ideology of medicalization, aestheticization, urbanization and productivity underlying eugenics and its complicity with modern landscape architecture. It reveals a complex technological system that arose from prophylactic and pronatalist perspectives of the human body, rationalizing gender and sexuality, and instrumentalizing production and reproduction in the new Latin world.

Brian McCammack, Lake Forest College

Black Sporting Culture in Chicago’s Landscapes of Hope: Becoming Modern in the Great Migration Era

This paper examines a century of black sporting culture in Chicago’s parks and playgrounds, arguing that sports like baseball, tennis, swimming, and basketball in public green spaces were both integral to black Southern migrants’ acculturation to Northern city life and representative of barriers African Americans faced in their quest to achieve full equality. In the early twentieth century, many black Chicagoans believed that sports in the city’s landscaped environments were symbolic of the Great Migration’s promise, showcasing black achievement and bridging racial divides while laying claim to equal footing in modern American life in ways all but impossible in the Jim Crow South. Reformers also believed that sports in these public green spaces could help combat threats to that promise, building strong community bonds in modern urban environments that cultivated social dysfunction. But those hopes for progress were just as often dashed as fully realized, particularly in the decades after World War II when Chicago’s black population mushroomed and racial segregation patterns intensified. Rather than countering the racial discrimination that had followed migrants north, public parks’ athletic landscapes often channeled it. As Chicago’s black neighborhoods grew, many enveloped large nineteenth-century landscape parks like Washington Park, designed by Frederick Law Olmsted and Calvert Vaux. While those parks provided ample playing fields and courts for summer sports, many had fallen into disrepair and citywide infrastructural investments meant to promote more active sporting uses of public parks year-round repeatedly bypassed these communities. These racially discriminatory policies and broader residential segregation patterns yoked black Chicagoans to a static legacy of outmoded landscape aesthetics, forcing black communities to play in sporting environments ill-suited for the challenges of modern urban life.

Erica Munkwitz, American University, Washington, D.C.


Sports have a considerable impact on how we design and understand landscapes – and vice versa, landscapes impact how sports are played. One of the most important “sport landscapes” has been the English countryside, from which field sports like fox-hunting developed and evolved over the late eighteenth and nineteenth centuries. Changes in these landscapes not only impacted sporting strategies, but also influenced new ideals of gender and femininity in the Victorian era. In the early eighteenth century fox-hunting was a leisurely countryside recreation. Ground in the Midlands remained wet and heavy without proper drainage, so a gentle canter or brisk trot was the fastest speed possible. Because most of
the country was not yet enclosed, there were very few (if any) fences to jump. The moderate pace and open landscape encouraged women’s participation, and many did so, riding sidesaddle as convention dictated. By the late eighteenth century, however, the landscape was being transformed by enclosure. These new grassy pastures were lush enough to support heavy grazers like cows instead of sheep, but cows required solid fences to keep them contained, leading to the construction of substantial fences that sub-divided a formerly open landscape. Hunting now required serious and almost constant jumping. In addition, a new kind of reckless male sporting behavior and rowdy sociality caused many to deem hunting inappropriate for respectable women. While enclosure initially limited women’s participation in field sports like fox-hunting, female equestrians worked through such challenges to gain sporting inclusion and acclaim. They adopted a new kind of sidesaddle and claimed that their participation returned the sport to its genteel, respectable roots. Through fox-hunting, women riding sidesaddle ultimately gained a sporting parity with male sportsmen. In this way, the landscape of the English countryside transformed fox-hunting, as much as hunting transformed the countryside — both of which advanced sporting equality for women.

Sun-Young Park, George Mason University

The Urban Gymnasia of Nineteenth-Century Paris, between Landscape and Architecture

Post-revolutionary Paris saw the rebirth of the gymnasium as an urban program amidst anxieties regarding national decline. Following the Napoleonic Empire’s collapse in 1815, general opinion affirmed that France was ailing, in body and in spirit. Under the cloud of the mal du siècle, doctors argued that the science of hygiene should extend beyond matters of sanitation and disease prevention to address bodily improvement as a means to moral and social renewal. In response, medical professionals and educators advanced modern gymnastics — defined broadly as the art of diverse exercises of the body — to transform a range of pedagogical environments. This paper examines the confluence of medical, political, and social discourse in the space of the urban gymnasium. In Paris, physical education was first implemented in the military context to reform the soldier’s body. Its equipment imitated elements of nature — vaults, beams, and bars served as interpretations of environmental obstacles such as hedges, ditches, and trees that one might encounter in situations of war. This abstracted landscape gradually migrated to schools, clinics, and even the bourgeois recreational sphere to bridge the categories of hygiene, education, and play. From discrete interventions in the enclosed yards and gardens of urban lots, the modern gymnasium eventually became a spatial construct that assumed various forms: hangars, modernist basilicas, and neoclassical temples.

In tracing this history, this paper argues that despite the seemingly neutral agenda of advancing physical and moral health, gymnasiums and their associated practices stemmed from Enlightenment ideologies that imbued the classed and gendered subjects at their heart with political charge. Promoting liberal principles of progressive improvement, productivity, and mobility, this nascent sports culture and its material accouterments were entangled in contemporary narratives of urbanization, modern citizenship, and social democracy in a nation vacillating between monarchism and republicanism.

Kay Schiller, University of Durham

Landscape, Architecture and Democracy: Planning, Appropriating and Experiencing the Munich Olympic Park, 1972 to the Present

This paper explores the representative housing and landscape architecture of the Munich 1972 Olympic Park and its post-Olympic uses and modifications. It compares and contrasts the ideas of Olympic planners and their contemporary realization on occasion of the 1972 Games, e.g. Günther Grzimek’s programmatic ‘Occupation of the Lawn’ (Besitzergreifung des Rasens), Werner Ruhnau’s ‘Avenue of Games’ (Spielstraße) and Heinle, Wischer & Partners’ path-breaking Olympic Village (Olympiadorf), with the later uses of the built environment. For the period after 2000 particular attention will be given to episodes of resistance of the current inhabitants of the Olympic Village against the commercialization of the Olympic Park, respectively their support for maintaining its integrity as a historical monument. In this context, the paper will also discuss the negotiations about the design and location in the Olympic Park of the most
recent 2016 ‘Place of Memory of the Olympic Terrorist Attack’ (Erinnerungsort Olympia-Attentat). The aim of the paper is to trace the mutually affective relations between state and citizens as provided by the built environment from 1972 to the present by focusing on specific examples and episodes. The city, Bavarian and federal governments stand for the state. The citizens in turn are represented by the users of the park as an everyday space for sports and play, leisure and culture. By exploring the consecutive chains of planning, appropriating and experiencing representative housing and landscape architecture, the paper therefore provides a case study of the built environment’s emotional politics.

Christian Tagsold, University of Düsseldorf

Landscaping Modern Tokyo Through Sports: The Komazawa Olympic Park

The 1964 Tokyo Olympics reshaped the Japanese capital and the country. Japan succeeded in fundamentally rebranding its image, which had been tarnished through its aggression during WW II. The organizers wanted to stress the modernity of Japan paired with its traditional rootedness. The largest of the newly built sports complexes for the Games was the Komazawa Olympic Park with stadiums and gymnasiums for soccer, volleyball, hockey and wrestling. However, large parts of the Komazawa Olympic Park were designed as a public park; at its inauguration, it was the fourth largest and certainly the most modern in Tokyo. Through the park’s design we can read the complex and at times slightly contradictory message(s) of the Games. The landscape and architecture of the Komazawa Olympic Park served the needs of an industrialized society and also represented the country’s development to a global audience. The landmark Control Tower overlooking the park was equipped with antennas for TV broadcasting and contained the technical equipment for running the sports complex. But its design was a reference to Buddhism and Japanese wooden structures of past ages. The same effort to unite apparent tradition with modernity shaped the landscape. It was built to be easily accessible for thousands of visitors to the Games using public transport. At the same time premodern Japanese gardening methods were cleverly used to conceal unappealing concrete structures, giving visitors the impression of a much vaster green area and eventually turning the park into an attractive spot for recreational purposes as well. Due to its state-of-the-art design the Komazawa Olympic park served as a blueprint for Japanese cities to build sport parks of their own after 1964.

Speaker Biographies

Katherine Bentz is Associate Professor of Art History and Fine Arts Department Chair at Saint Anselm College in Manchester, New Hampshire. Her research focuses on urbanism, landscape and garden history, and antiquities collections in 16th- and 17th-century Rome. In 2016 she received the Landscape History Essay Prize from the Landscape History Chapter of the Society of Architectural Historians for her article, “The Afterlife of the Cesi Garden: Family Identity, Politics, and Memory in Early Modern Rome” (JSAH, 2013). She has received fellowships from institutions such as Dumbarton Oaks, Columbia University, The Getty Research Institute, the National Endowment for the Humanities, the Kress Foundation, and Villa I Tatti, the Harvard Center for Italian Renaissance Studies in Florence. Her current book project examines the role of health and preventative medicine in the patronage, design, and use of villa gardens built by cardinals in and around Rome during the later sixteenth century.

Jeffrey Blankenship is an Associate Professor of Art and Architecture at Hobart and William Smith Colleges in Geneva, NY where he teaches the History of Modern Landscape Architecture and design studios. He holds a Bachelor of Science in Landscape Architecture from the University of Kentucky, a Master of Landscape Architecture and a Master of Regional Planning from the University of Massachusetts Amherst, and a Ph.D. in Cultural Geography from the University of Massachusetts Amherst. His interests are in cultural landscape studies and design history within the broader context of 20th-century intellectual history. He has recently published on J.B. Jackson in Landscape Journal; Environment, Space, Place; GeoHumanities; and ACME. His current book project for the LSU Press’s Reading the American Landscape Series is Everyday Modernity: J.B. Jackson and the Mid-Century American Landscape.

Richard Cleary is an architectural historian recently retired from the University of Texas at Austin where he was Professor and Page Southnerland Page Fellow in the School of Architecture. In addition to his current work on spatial practices in sports, he has published articles on eighteenth-century French architecture, Roman Catholic churches in antebellum
Garden: Transatlantic Architecture and the Crafting of Modernity

Simon David is a professional Landscape Architect, Urban Designer, and Trained Architect, with fifteen years experience in New York City, Los Angeles and Thailand – with extensive experience in resilient urban environments, master planning, and riverfront design. He is Founding Principal of OSD|Outside, an interdisciplinary design studio based in NYC, and Adjunct Associate Professor. At Bjarke Ingels Group he was Project Leader for Phase 1 of the BIG U (ESCR) - a $1.4 billion coastal resiliency project – as well as for regional ASLA award-winning projects for both The Spiral Roofscape and the Pittsburgh Lower Hill Master Plan. Simon worked for several years at Michael Van Valkenburgh Associates, and prior to that led the winning competition team for the Hudson Yards Open Space and Streetscapes, the largest private development in New York City. Simon regularly lectures and publishes on resiliency and the urban environment.

Dorothée Imbert is the Hubert C. Schmidt ’38 Chair and head of landscape architecture at The Ohio State University. Prior to joining OSU, Imbert established the Master of Landscape Architecture program at Washington University in St. Louis, taught at Harvard University, and practiced at Peter Walker and Partners. She is the author of The Modernist Garden in France (Yale: 1993) and Between Garden and City: Landscape Modernism and Jean Canneel-Claes (Pittsburgh, 2009). She co-authored with Marc Treib Garrett Eckbo: Modern Landscapes for Living (UC: 1996, 2005), edited Food and the City: Histories of Culture and Cultivation (Dumbarton Oaks: 2015) and A Landscape Inventory: Michel Desvigne Paysagiste (ar+rd, 2018). She has served on numerous boards and juries, including Dumbarton Oaks and the Society of Architectural Historians, and organized several symposia on historical and contemporary topics. She continues to engage in research and design practice and recently completed the Novartis Square in Basel, Switzerland, with Andrew Cruse.

Christian Jaser is a Research Fellow at the chair of Late Medieval History at Humboldt University Berlin. In December 2018, he finished his postdoctoral thesis on fifteenth-century urban horse racing in Italy and Germany. He has held appointments as a doctoral and postdoctoral research fellow at Humboldt-University Berlin and Technische Universität Dresden. He obtained several scholarships from Historisches Kolleg in Munich and the German Historical Institutes in Rome and Paris. His dissertation entitled Ecclesia maledicens. Rituelle und zeremonielle Exkommunikationsformen im Mittelalter was published by Mohr Siebeck in 2013. He is the co-editor of anthologies on medieval and early modern duelling and a forthcoming book on urban contests in Renaissance Europe. His publications include articles on horse racing in fifteenth-century Florence in the Historische Zeitschrift (2014) and on the palio culture of Renaissance Italy in Ludica. Annali di storia e civiltà del gioco (2017).

Marta Kurkowska-Budzan, Ph.D (2001), habilitated (2011), professor at Institute of History, Jagiellonian University in Krakow (Poland). She has held postdoctoral fellowships at the US Holocaust Memorial Museum in Washington, DC and the Remarque Institute, New York University. Her areas of expertise are: cultural history of 20th century Poland, memory studies and methodology of history. Among her recent research projects are: Oral Sources Re-visited (2016-) and Sport in the Polish Provinces, 1945-1989: Study in Historical Anthropology (2013-2016). From 2008 until 2012 Kurkowska-Budzan served on the editorial board of Oral History Review. Since 2011 she has been the editor of Historical Anthropology Yearly. She is co-founder of the Polish Oral History Association and Center for Historical Anthropology Research at the Polish Historical Association. Her monograph “Stadium on the Outskirts” (2016), written with Marcin Stasiak, was among ten books nominated in 2017 for the prestigious “Kazimierz Moczarski’s Award” for the best book in contemporary history.

Fabiola López-Durán. Adopting a transnational and interdisciplinary perspective, Fabiola López-Durán’s research and teaching focus on the history and theory of modern European and Latin American art and architecture; non-western modernisms; ecology and race; and the intersections of science, architecture and politics. Her new book, Eugenics in the Garden: Transatlantic Architecture and the Crafting of Modernity (University of Texas Press, 2018), investigates a particular strain of eugenics that, at the turn of the twentieth century, moved from the realms of medicine and law to design, architecture, and urban planning—becoming a critical instrument in the crafting of modernity. López-Durán earned her Ph.D in the History, Theory, and Criticism of Architecture and Art from Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT). Her
awards include fellowships from the Woodrow Wilson Foundation, Dedalus Foundation, CLIR, Harvard Center for European Studies, the Fulbright Program, and a SAH/Mellon Author Award for her 2018 book. She is an Associate Professor at Rice University’s Art History Department.

**Brian McCammack** is the author of *Landscapes of Hope: Nature and the Great Migration in Chicago* (Harvard University Press, 2017), which in 2018 was awarded the Organization of American Historians’ Frederick Jackson Turner Award, the American Society for Environmental History’s George Perkins Marsh Prize, and the Foundation for Landscape Studies’ John Brinckerhoff Jackson Book Prize. He holds a Ph.D. from Harvard University’s History of American Civilization Program, and he teaches at Lake Forest College, where he is Beerly Assistant Professor of Environmental Studies and Chair of Urban Studies. He is currently working on a book that examines the origins of the environmental justice movement.

**Erica Munkwitz** is a historian of modern British and European history. Her research focuses on gender, sport and empire in modern Britain, specifically women’s involvement in equestrianism. She received her BA in History and English from Sweet Briar College and her PhD from American University, where she was honored with the Award for Outstanding Scholarship at the Graduate Level. She is the winner of the 2018 Solidarity Prize for Excellence in Early Career Equine Research, as well as the 2016 Junior/Early Career Scholar Award from the European Committee for Sport History. Her book manuscript, “Women, Horse Sports and Liberation: Equestrianism and Britain from the 18th to the 20th Centuries,” is under contact with Routledge for 2019.

**Sun-Young Park** is an architectural and urban historian specializing in modern France, currently Assistant Professor in George Mason University’s Department of History and Art History. Her work lies at the intersection of cultural history, history of the built environment, and history of medicine. Her first book, *Ideals of the Body: Architecture, Urbanism, and Hygiene in Postrevolutionary Paris*, was published by University of Pittsburgh Press in 2018. Her current project is on the architectural and urban frameworks of disability in France between the late eighteenth and early twentieth centuries. Dr. Park received a B.A. in Architecture from Princeton University, and an M.Arch. and Ph.D. in the history of architecture and urbanism from Harvard University. Her research has been supported by the National Endowment for the Humanities, Graham Foundation for Advanced Studies in the Fine Arts, Whiting Foundation, and Minda de Gunzburg Center for European Studies, among others.

**Kay Schiller** is a cultural historian of 20th-century Germany. He has published widely on modern German-Jewish history, notably *Gelehrte Gegenwelten* (2000). He has written on the history of the Federal Republic and the GDR including monographs and co-edited volumes and articles on terrorism, youth and sport during the 1970s. His co-authored monograph *The 1972 Munich Olympics and the Making of Modern Germany* won both the North American Society for Sport History Book Award and the Aberdare History Prize of the British Society of Sports History. He is currently leading an interdisciplinary research project on masculinity, gender and sports, and writing a history of German sports from the 1920s to the 1970s. In 2010-11 he was a Senior Research Fellow at Humboldt University in Berlin and during 2012-13 DAAD Visiting Professor in Contemporary History at Technical University Dresden. He is editor in chief of the journal *Sport in History* (Taylor & Francis).

**Christian Tagsold** is a researcher at the Department for Modern Japan, Heinrich Heine University Düsseldorf. His Ph.D. research dealt with the Tokyo Olympics in 1964 and their role in re-establishing national identity in Japan after World War II. Recently Tagsold has been researching Japanese gardens in Europe and the USA. His book “Spaces of Translation: Japanese Gardens in the West” (Penn Studies of Landscape Architecture) appeared in August 2017. In winter 2018/19 he curated an exhibition on “Japanese Gardens in Germany,” which was on display at the Museum of Garden Art, Düsseldorf, Germany. Other research interests include the aging society in Japan and the Japanese diaspora in Europe. A volume on Japan in Düsseldorf edited by him will appear in spring 2019.