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Luca Merlini is born in 1952 in Mendrisio (Switzerland) and graduated in 1977 in architecture in the ETH of Zurich. He is both Swiss and French.

He worked in New York and Paris with Bernard Tschumi, first on theoretical projects, then as project manager for the winning entry for the **Parc de la Villette** competition and its completion (1980-92). Luca Merlini opened his own architectural firm in 1985 in Lausanne and Paris. For almost 10 years, through often awarded competition entries, he revealed a high involvement in « fighting » and theoretical projects, before coming to « real buildings » with the « **Ponts-villes** » project in Lausanne (Interface des Transports publics du Flon). Actually, building a conceptual method was as important than building houses... This voluntary travel through concepts and methods opened to him the ability to project in every dimensional and programmatic scale. For instance, since 1995, Luca Merlini completed as well 15 railway stations between Lausanne and Geneva than « architectural performances » (Les Urbaines in Lausanne, Villa Noailles in Hyères). He is the author of the winning « territory screenplay » that became the big international exhibition **Expo.02** in the Région des 3-Lacs (Switzerland). He achieved in 2010 the completion of three stations for the Lausanne subway and the connected urban transformations. He works now, with the Merlini-Rivier Architects firm, on the extension of the main **railway station of Lausanne**, which had to double its capacity in 2025.

Luca Merlini teaches since 1985 architectural project and urban planning : Ecole d'architecture in Geneva (1985-94), ENSA in Strasbourg (1994-03), ENSA Paris-Malaquais (2003-18). He is now **Professor Emeritus in the Ecole Nationale Supérieure de Paris-Malaquais** and is member of research laboratory LIAT (laboratoire infrastructures, architecture, territoire).

He is the author of several **texts** on architecture. He published the « urban novel » *Les Habitants de la lune* (Sens & Tonka, Paris, 1999). In 2010, he published the book "*Le pays des maisons longues...et autres trajectoires*" (Métispresses Editions, Geneva): this book contains for instance a tale on the making of the city *RHB*, *revisiting hieronymus bosch*, or the critical essay *The land of long houses*, winning entry of the competition which was organized in 2007 by the city of Zurich on the question : how will we live tomorrow ? In 2014 he published the book "*L'archipel Tschumi*" (*Tschumi archipelago*) at the B2 Editions: a personal interpretation of Tschumi's work. He published in 2017 a new book of drawings and texts, or "draw-texts" under the title of "*Le XIQ, dits et dessins d'architecture*" (Métispresses Editions, Geneva), a kind of intellectual and sentimental *derive* in architectural concepts, heroes and fictions.

Texts and projects are published in newspapers, magazines or books: 24heures (Lausanne), NZZ (Zurich), Le Monde (Paris), Tagesanzeiger (Zurich), Le Temps (Genève), L'Express (Neuchâtel), AMC (Paris), Arca international (Milano), Archimade (Lausanne), Architecture d'Aujourd'hui (Paris), Architecture suisse (Lausanne), Archithèse (Zurich), A+U (Tokyo), Bauen + Bewirtschaften (Glarus), Casabella (Milano), d'A (Paris), Faces (Genève), Hochparterre (Zurich), IAS (Lausanne), Of-arch (Milano), Rivista Tecnica (Lugano), Techniques & Architecture (Paris), Tracés (Lausanne), Werk/Bauen und Wohnen (Zurich), « L'Habitation en projets » de Eleb, Châtelet, Mandoul et Prelorenzo, « Balises urbaines » de Boiscuillé (ed. de l'imprimeur), « Modern trains and splendid stations » de M. Thorne (ed. Institute of Art, Chicago), « Architecture in/of motion » de Jos Bosman (NAI Publishers), « Exploring the urban condition » (Editions Actar), « Architecture Expo.02 » (ed. Birkhäuser), « Atlas de l'architecture contemporaine » (Phaidon ed.), « L'art dans son temps » (ed l'Harmattan).

Luca Merlini lectured about his theoretical and built work in several universities: Lausanne, Geneva, Paris, Lille, Fribourg, Chur, Milano, Lugano, Zurich, Stuttgart, Strasbourg, Hyères, Marseille, Québec, Burgdorf, Nantes, Cagliari, Agrigento, Angers, Trieste, Grenoble, Napoli, Palermo... Exhibitions about his work took place in Neuchâtel, Geneva, Berlin, Paris, Roma, Lausanne, Marseille. In 2007, the connections between theoretical devices, realized buildings and writings were presented in a monographic exhibition in the Mallet-Stevens Villa Noailles in Hyères, under the title "**On a tous quelque chose de l'escargot**".