

Please don't  
hesitate to contact  
me

# Daria Belova

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dariia.belova@gmail.com

01 | 09 | 2025

I am a practising architect and researcher in architecture and urban morphology; hold a PhD in Architecture and Construction from the University of Rome (Sapienza) with supervisors in Architecture and Phenomenology (from Italy and Germany). Currently I am an architect at h4a-architekten and a visiting scholar at the University of Cologne, focusing on built heritage and sustainable development of historical environments in research and practice. I became acquainted with English heritage by working on the Live project during her MA at the University of Sheffield and assisted for two years in teaching at the design studio for the restoration course at Sapienza University of Rome, where I wrote her doctoral thesis on the genesis of the built form and the layers of historical cities. In sum, since 2007, I have been working in the field of historical urban architecture: as an architect in historical cities, and as a lecturer at universities: I was an assistant professor at Siberian Federal University, where had a research project and a design studio dedicated to difficult heritage. I also have experience in volunteer research projects in historic cities.

I strongly believe in cooperation and teamwork.

22 | 01 | 1987

Full portfolio and  
CV is available:  
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# Daria Belova

## Architect

## main work experience

### ARCHITECTURE

**Architect**  
H4A-Architekten  
Dusseldorf, Germany  
12.2024 - ...

**Architect**  
Anderhalten Architekten  
Cologne, Germany  
05.2023 - 11.2024

**Leading architect | group leader**  
1LN Group  
Krasnoyarsk, Russia  
10.2014-09.2017

**Architect | leading architect**  
Dubovik's Architectural Bureau  
Krasnoyarsk, Russia  
02.2008-09.2014

**Architectural assistant**  
ADM Architectural Bureau  
Krasnoyarsk, Russia  
02-09.2007

### RESEARCH

**Visiting researcher**  
Husserl Archives, the University of Cologne  
Cologne, Germany  
05.2021 - ...

### TEACHING ARCHITECTURE

**Senior lecturer | Assistant Professor**  
The Institute of Architecture and Design of the Siberian Federal University  
Krasnoyarsk, Russia  
10.2017-09.2022

## professional skills

### ARCHITECTURE

- pre-project research incl. analysis of context, history, local limitations and norms, etc
- suggesting building layout, function, style and other parameters
- preparing, developing and editing architectural drawings, models and images for conceptual design
- prepare technical drawings and detailed design
- coordination to the design team
- presentations and discussing design options with customers
- monitoring construction work in progress

### SOFTWARE

-Autodesk AutoCAD, Graphisoft ArchiCAD, 3Ds MAX+Vray, Adobe Photoshop, Adobe InDesign, Adobe Lightroom, MS Office.

-SketchUp+Vray (basic), Rhino+Grasshoper(basic), Revit (basic)

## skills

### LANGUAGE

**English**  
academic advanced  
**Russian**  
native  
**Italian**  
pre-intermediate  
**German**  
intermediate (B2)

### ACADEMIA

studio teaching  
organising conferences  
organising workshops  
public lectures  
academic publishing  
research  
team building

### ADDITIONAL

hand drawing  
sketching  
digital photography  
film photography  
model-making

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# Daria Belova

## Architect

## main education

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PhD in Architecture and Construction (urban form of historical cities)  
Sapienza University of Rome, Faculty of Architecture  
Rome, Italy  
2019-2023

Teacher-researcher - professional retraining  
Siberian Federal University  
Krasnoyarsk, Russia  
2018-2021

MA in Architectural Design (degree with distinction)  
The University of Sheffield (top-100)  
Sheffield, UK  
2016-2017

Manager - professional retraining  
Siberian Federal University  
Krasnoyarsk, Russia  
2014-2015

Master in Structural engineering (degree with distinction)  
Siberian Federal University  
Krasnoyarsk, Russia  
2010-2012

Specialist in Architecture (degree with distinction)  
Siberian Federal University  
Krasnoyarsk, Russia  
2004-2010

## main internships

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The University of Cologne, a.r.t.e.s. lab  
Cologne, Germany  
Visiting researcher  
2021-2022

GICON+GIZ  
Dresden, Germany  
Internship in international management in energy efficiency in construction  
2016

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# Daria Belova

## Architect

## main prizes and awards

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- 2021 DAAD internship (the University of Cologne), winner
- 2020 LAZIO DISCO (Sapienza University of Rome) subsidy for the first year of PhD research
- 2019 The grant of Russian Fund of Mikhail Prokhorov for events in heritage and memory, winner
- 2019 The Scholarship of President for young researchers, winner (I rejected)
- 2018 International workshop 'Matera -the city of culture. Exhibition pavillion in Sassi district', Italy, special award
- 2018 Russian Reional Fund of Science, grant "Mobility" for young researchers, winner
- 2016 Russian Federal grant "Global Education", winner
- 2010 International Competition for graduation projects in architecture, the diploma of 1st category
- 2010 International festival of architecture 'Zodchestvo of Eastern Siberia', 'silver' certificate
- 2007 All-Russian Olympiad in architecture, Samara, the diploma of 1st category

+ supervisor of prize-winning works of students

## main activities

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- 2024 Co-organizer of the research initiative [pheno-morphology.com](https://pheno-morphology.com) and related scientific events
- 2023 Co-organizer of the scientific workshop on phenomenology, medical humanities and architecture 'Reshape Living Environments for Elderly'
- 2019 Co-organizer of the international partnering workshop and competition for the students of faculties of architecture of the Sapienza University of Rome and Siberian Federal University 'Reading and designing historical urban fabrics'
- 2019 Co-organiser of the Summer School of research interventions dedicated to the study of historical environments
- 2018 Co-organiser of the conference of French Institute in Krasnoyarsk
- 2017-2018 Voluntary curator of events of the Krasnoyarsk office of the All-Russian Union of Architects
- 2018 Co-founder of the voluntary design group "Architectural Community"

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# Daria Belova

## Architect

## teaching: seminars, lectures

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### COURSES (ASSISTANT PROFESSOR)

2017-  
2021 STRUCTURAL CONCEPT IN ARCHITECTURE (Siberian Federal University): **Lecture course** for Bachelor students, 5th Year, **Lecture course** and seminars for Master students, Year 1-2.

SOCIAL AND CULTURAL ASPECTS OF ARCHITECTURE (Siberian Federal University): **Lecture course** for Bachelor students, 5th Year; **Lecture course** and seminars for Master students, Year 1-2.

METHODOLOGIES FOR DESIGN RESEARCH (Siberian Federal University): **Lecture course and seminars** for Master students, Year 1-2.

DESIGN STUDIO 'CULTURAL BUILDINGS' (Siberian Federal University): **Supervising** Master students, Year 1-2.

EXPERIMENTAL DESIGN STUDIO 'DEVELOPMENT OF HISTORICAL BUILT ENVIRONMENTS' (Siberian Federal University): **Supervising** Bachelor students, Year 4-5.

THESIS PROJECTS (Siberian Federal University): **Supervising** Bachelor students, 5th Year and Master students, 2nd Year.

### 2020- 2021 DESIGN STUDIO (TEACHING ASSISTANT)

DESIGN STUDIO 'HOW THE SCHOOL RETHINKS THE CITY' (Sapienza University of Rome): **Teaching assistant** for Master students in Architecture and Restoration, Year 2.

### FREE LECTURES

2023 ARCHITECTURAL REFLECTIONS ON TYPOLOGY (University of Cologne, Husserl Archive): **Lecture** at the Phenomenological Workshop.

2023 FORM AND MEANING IN THE FOUNDATIONAL CITIES (Technische Universität Berlin, Faculty of Architecture): **Lecture at the workshop** 'The Great Transformation: Typology and Morphology in the Anthropocene'.

2023 LEARNING FROM CAPITALS. THE FORMATIVE PROCESS OF SIBERIAN SETTLEMENTS (University of Pisa, Faculty of Engineering): **Lecture**.

2023 FINAL JURY FOR A DESIGN STUDIO 'PROJECTS FOR THE PALACE OF CULTURE OF VKHUTEMAS' (University of Pisa, The School of Ingenuering): **A reviewer** for Design Studio projects.

2023 URBAN VOID. TYPO-MORPHOLOGY OF EMPTY SPACES (The University of Cologne, The Institute of Art History): **Lecture**.

2023 RESISTANCE IN URBAN FORM AS A MEANS OF CONTINUITY AND FAMILIARISATION (University of Cologne, a.r.t.e.s. Graduate School): **Lecture at the forum** 'Challenging Surroundings'.

2023 CONTINUITY. URBAN FORM. FAMILIARISATION (Macromedia High School in Cologne): **Lecture**.

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# Daria Belova

## Architect

## publications

### PHD THESIS

Belova, D. 2023. CONCEPTUALISATION OF URBAN FORM OF SIBERIAN HISTORICAL CITIES (PhD thesis).

Available at: <https://iris.uniroma1.it/handle/11573/1700512>

### INTERNATIONAL PEER-REVIEWED JOURNALS

Belova D., Malfroy S., Dzwiza-Ohlsen E.N. and Primas U. 2024. 'TYPICAL SITUATIONS': A SYMPOSIUM ON PHENOMENOLOGY AND URBAN MORPHOLOGY, HUSSERL ARCHIVES, COLOGNE, 12–13 APRIL 2024 (Report). Urban Morphology Vol. 28 No. 2 (in print).

Belova D., Gaikova L. and Fedan A. 2022. THE ROLE OF UNIVERSITY IN HERITAGE RESEARCH AND PRACTICE: SIBERIAN CONTEXT. Heritage & Society.

Available at: DOI: 10.1080/2159032X.2022.2126220

Belova D. and Schofield J. 2022. COLLABORATIVE EXPERIMENTATION IN THE URBAN PROCESS: ACTIVISM AND EVERYDAY HERITAGE IN KRASNOYARSK (SIBERIA, RUSSIA), International Journal of Heritage Studies.

Available at: DOI: 10.1080/13527258.2021.2020878

Belova, D. 2021. PRESERVING IDENTITY OF HISTORICAL ENVIRONMENTS IN SIBERIA: A CRITICAL LITERATURE REVIEW. Architecture and Engineering, 6 (4).

Available at: <https://aej.spbgasu.ru/index.php/AE/article/view/479/210>

### INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCES. PROCEEDINGS

Nawratek K. and Belova D. 2018. RESPONSIBILITY OF THE UNION OF ARCHITECTS FOR SUSTAINING THE LOCAL VISUAL AND CULTURAL IDENTITY OF KRASNOYARSK AS A PROSPECTIVE CULTURAL CAPITAL OF EASTERN SIBERIA. ISUF | International Seminar on Urban Form | Urban Form and Social Context: From Traditions to Newest Demands.

Available at: [https://conf.sfu-kras.ru/uploads/conf\\_975/1\\_Proceedings\\_of\\_the\\_25trd\\_International\\_Seminar\\_on\\_Urban\\_Form.pdf](https://conf.sfu-kras.ru/uploads/conf_975/1_Proceedings_of_the_25trd_International_Seminar_on_Urban_Form.pdf)

Belova D. and Gaikova L. 2019. 'HUMAN COMPONENT' IN URBAN AND ARCHITECTURAL HERITAGE MANAGEMENT: RUSSIAN CONTEXT. ISUF | International Seminar on Urban Form | Cities as Assemblages.

Available at: [http://cyprusconferences.org/isuf2019/wp-content/uploads/2019/06/ISUF2019\\_Abstracts\\_Book.pdf](http://cyprusconferences.org/isuf2019/wp-content/uploads/2019/06/ISUF2019_Abstracts_Book.pdf)

Available at: [https://www.tabedizioni.it/shop/product/cities-as-assemblages-331?section=universita&order=ordering%20desc&fbclid=IwAR3waPQ88hM\\_krLpy-G6eiPRkv3k98ruMAF3fOba-JQLAQ1MSdVnZPA72XS8](https://www.tabedizioni.it/shop/product/cities-as-assemblages-331?section=universita&order=ordering%20desc&fbclid=IwAR3waPQ88hM_krLpy-G6eiPRkv3k98ruMAF3fOba-JQLAQ1MSdVnZPA72XS8)

Belova D., Gaikova L., Fedan A. 2020. READING URBAN FORM AS A STUDIO TEACHING METHOD: CASE STUDY IN SIBERIA. ISUF | International Seminar on Urban Form | Cities in the 21st Century.

Available at: <https://epubs.utah.edu/index.php/ISUF2020/article/view/4306/3685>

Belova D. and Carlotti P. 2021. COMPARATIVE STUDY OF URBAN FORM OF COLONIAL CITIES AS A METHOD: CASE STUDY OF QUEBEC AND KRASNOYARSK. ISUF | International Seminar on Urban Form | Urban Form and the Sustainable and Prosperous Cities.

ISBN 9781914241161

Available at: <https://strathprints.strath.ac.uk/view/isbn/9781914241161.html>

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## Architect

## publications

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Belova D. 2022. READING THE CHANGING URBAN FORM OF SIBERIAN CITIES. 6th ISUFItaly International Conference, Bologna, 8-10 June 2022: MORPHOLOGY AND URBAN DESIGN. New strategies for a changing society.  
Available at: <https://www.urbanform.it/u-d-edi-u-d-books/>

Belova D., Malfroy S., Dzwiza-Ohlsen E.N. and Primas U. 2024. THE ROLE OF TYPIFICATION IN PHENOMENOLOGY AND URBAN MORPHOLOGY. ISUF | International Seminar on Urban Form | Future Horizons of Urban Form (in print)

### INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE. BOOKS OF ABSTRACTS

Erik Norman Dzwiza-Ohlsen, Daria Belova. 2023. Urban Morphology and Phenomenology: The Case of Situational Typification. ISUF | International Seminar on Urban Form | Praxis in Urban Morphology, p. 142 (coming soon as a published paper).  
Available at: [https://raf.arh.bg.ac.rs/bitstream/handle/123456789/1316/bitstream\\_4562.pdf?sequence=1&isAllowed=y](https://raf.arh.bg.ac.rs/bitstream/handle/123456789/1316/bitstream_4562.pdf?sequence=1&isAllowed=y)

### PEER-REVIEWED JOURNALS IN RUSSIAN

Belova D. 2021. METROLOGICAL ANALYSIS OF THE SIBERIAN CITY FABRIC USING KRASNOYARSK AS AN EXAMPLE. Architecton, №4(76).  
Available at: [http://archvuz.ru/2021\\_4/3/](http://archvuz.ru/2021_4/3/)

Belova D. and Semchenko E. 2019. ARCHITECTURAL EXEMPLIFICATION OF SOCIAL SPACE FOR DIFFERENT AGE GROUPS ON SOCIAL WELFARE. Vestnik Tomskogo Gosudarstvennogo Arkhitekturno-Stroitel'nogo Universiteta. Journal of Construction and Architecture 21 (4): 62–75.  
Available at: <https://www.elibrary.ru/item.asp?id=39244513>

Belova D. and Petrochenko Y. 2019. SOCIAL AND CULTURAL SIGNIFICANCE OF CULTURAL AND EDUCATIONAL ENVIRONMENT IN KRASNOYARSK. Vestnik Tomskogo Gosudarstvennogo Arkhitekturno-Stroitel'nogo Universiteta. Journal of Construction and Architecture, no. 3: 120–32.  
Available at: <https://doi.org/10.31675/1607-1859-2019-21-3-120-132>.  
<https://www.elibrary.ru/item.asp?id=38498389>

Gorban N. and Belova D. 2021. ON THE METHODS OF MEASURING THE QUALITY OF COMFORT OF THE URBAN ENVIRONMENT, APPLICABLE TO THE WORK OF AN ARCHITECT, ON THE EXAMPLE OF ZHELEZNOGORSK. Architecton: izvestiya vuzov. № 2 (74).  
Available at: <https://www.elibrary.ru/item.asp?id=46276279>

Belova D. 2022. TYPOMORPHOLOGY OF THE KRASNOYARSK CITY CENTER. PART 1. UNITS IN HISTORICAL URBAN FABRIC. Architecture and Modern Information Technologies, no. 1(58), pp. 30-51.  
Available at: [https://marhi.ru/AMIT/2022/1kvart22/PDF/02\\_belova.pdf](https://marhi.ru/AMIT/2022/1kvart22/PDF/02_belova.pdf)  
DOI: 10.24412/1998-4839-2022-1-30-51

Belova D. TYPOMORPHOLOGY OF THE KRASNOYARSK CITY CENTER. PART 2. THE STRUCTURE OF HISTORICAL URBAN FABRIC. Architecture and Modern Information Technologies, 2022, no. 2(59), pp. 142–160.  
Available at: [https://marhi.ru/AMIT/2022/2kvart22/PDF/10\\_belova.pdf](https://marhi.ru/AMIT/2022/2kvart22/PDF/10_belova.pdf)  
DOI: 10.24412/1998-4839-2022-2-142-160

Belova D., Babadzhanova A. 2020. SOCIO-CULTURAL VALUE OF SPORTS AND RECREATION COMPLEXES. Adaptive Physical Education, 1 (81), pp.33-37.  
Available at: <https://www.elibrary.ru/item.asp?id=42507882>

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# Daria Belova

## Architect

## publications

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### CONFERENCE PROCEEDINGS IN RUSSIAN

Belova D. and Malovinskaya E. 2021. THE INFLUENCE OF THE THEATER BUILDING ON THE FORMATION OF URBAN SPACE. Innovations in Socio-cultural space, p. 141 - 149  
Available at: <https://elibrary.ru/item.asp?id=46272042>

Belova D. and Afanasieva D. 2019. CONTEMPORARY HOTEL AS THE REFLECTION OF LIFESTYLE. Contemporary Problems and Perspectives of Development of Construction, Heating-Gas and Energy-Supply Systems, 29–35.  
Available at: <https://www.elibrary.ru/item.asp?id=37414813>

Surnacheva N., Petrova N., and Belova D. 2019. SOCIO-CULTURAL, ENVIRONMENTAL AND HISTORICAL PRECONDITIONS FOR THE DESIGN OF CREAMATORIES. WORKING WITH SOCIAL STEREOTYPES. New Ideas of New Century, 343–48.  
Available at: <https://www.elibrary.ru/item.asp?id=37383074>

Pogosyan Y., Belova D., and Yamaletdinov S. 2019. INFLUENCE OF SOCIAL AND CULTURAL FACTORS ON THE FORMATION OF SCHOOL SPACE. New Ideas of New Century, 203–9.  
Available at: <https://www.elibrary.ru/item.asp?id=37382974>

Belova D. and Stepanchenko A. 2019. SOCIAL COMPONENT IN FORMATION OF PUBLIC SPACES. In Contemporary Problems and Perspectives of Development of Construction, Heating-Gas and Energy-Supply Systems, 255–59.  
Available at: <https://www.elibrary.ru/item.asp?id=37414885>

Belova D. and Petrochenko Y. 2018. DESIGN METHODOLOGY FOR THE MUSEUM OF CULTURE IN MATERA, ITALY. XII Conference for Aspirants and Young Scholars, 19–23.  
Available at: <https://www.elibrary.ru/item.asp?id=37076425>



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# Daria Belova

## Architect

### abstract of PhD thesis

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The historical city is in a constant state of becoming, with new layers being added to the old, (continuously) creating an increasingly complex urban palimpsests. These palimpsests are different in different locations and have temporal, spatial and 'disciplinary' dimensions, encompassing multiple (congruent) layers of existence, including urban form and social and cultural forms: buildings, spaces and associated practices, lifestyles, rhythms and rituals, narratives, values and histories of place. This palimpsest, which determines the character of the city, is at the heart of my research.

Against this background, Siberian historical cities are underexplored and under-represented in international research, and are therefore of particular interest. In addition, peculiarities such as the local traditional dominant material (wood) or climate, rare archaeological excavations, frequent devastating fires in the early periods and remoteness from central Russia have limited the number of historical artefacts, documents and maps, while the accuracy of these historical maps is often low. These cities with a complex past, having survived numerous interruptions, dramatic economic, cultural, social or political periods, changes of power and ideology, shouldn't be studied in fragments, but require tailor-made methodologies capable of describing and conceptualising the complexity of the evolution of palimpsests or continuity in urban organisms over time.

The notion of form became the starting point and fundamental concept of this work, which focuses on the socio-cultural (congruent) forms imprinted in physical urban form. First, this thesis selected the relevant definitions of the notions of form and type, enriching them with interdisciplinary insights, to ultimately clarify the method. It then extended the Caniggian Process-based Typology, making it suitable for the selected location. The methodology is then tested and elaborated on the selected case studies of historical Siberian cities in order to answer the question: what is locally specific, and what particular patterns persist over time despite change and transformation, and how? Retrospective reading and careful redrawing of the overlapped maps was tactically used and was informed by archival documents and historiographical literature.

The process of local settlement formation is examined to show how local identities have been formed in the process of formation and transformation, continuously. Usually, Siberian cities are considered as planned and replanned. This work illustrates that this approach is not fully relevant by showing the presence of a distinct historical continuity in form genesis. Importantly, the thesis shows how the process of transformation of the prevailing concept of type has defined the urban form of the cities under consideration: the Soviet Union has shown the emergence and development of the statistic-based type, which gradually changed the spontaneously developed traditional type (in Caniggian definition). However, it is evident that even these new typologies contained a certain degree of historical continuity, which proves its importance. This can be seen as the core of the formative process for the cultural area under consideration. Finally, an illustrative conceptual design research is presented to demonstrate how the established development principles can be continued in architectural practice.

The study conceptualizes urban heritage of historical Siberian cities and offers a principle of the process of local identity formation through the intertwining of the local-traditional and the new. In cultural terms, the continuity of development suggests that each transformation preserves the most survivable characteristics of the previous phases of development and adds to it what was missing through the process of constant intertwining. Continuity in the development of environments is achieved through certain similarities between old and new - both tangible (e.g. buildings) and intangible (e.g. human relationships). Besides, we build our understanding of the new on something we already know, adding new information to the old: people need a clear starting point in the unknown in order to become familiar with it and to acquire further information, therefore continuity is of particular importance. Therefore, especially in an atmosphere of radical change, we still need a starting point for habituation, orientation, familiarisation. That is why the methodologies, which conceptualise the genesis of historical urban form, and facilitate the integration of new architectures are of vital importance.

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# Daria Belova

## Architect

### area of interest

Recently, my interest in (congruent) socio-cultural and physical urban and architectural form, or to put it simply, the connection of architectural form and human experience, has begun to take shape. With colleagues and friends from Italy, the Netherlands, Switzerland, Germany and the UK, we have started a non-institutionalised free research initiative around the theme: **pheno-morphology.com**. But what are urban morphology and phenomenology?

The tradition of urban form studies links architecture, urban history, planning and design through form, uniting a vast and growing community of researchers originally coming from such diverse disciplines as architecture, urban design, geography, history, anthropology, heritage studies and so on. The field encompasses several complementary approaches that are collaborating within the framework of the International Seminar on Urban Form (ISUF). One of them is rooted in the method of Process-Based Typology of S. Muratori and G. Caniggia (the main method for my PhD), and stands apart from other typological approaches in its emphasis on process and the history of the development of local urban palimpsests, which is particularly attuned to historical and cultural context. Another approach striving to link urban morphology to human spatial perception is Space Syntax: this configurational approach to urban form (by Bill Hillier, Julianne Hanson: Bartlett, UCL). It examines the relationship between human behaviour and spatial configurations, comparing patterns of activity with patterns of space, using the methods of computational design (the approach is now in my focus). The third, new relational-material approach combines enactivism and participatory methods with form studies.

On the other side, phenomenology (Husserl) provides an understanding of the human experience of the world that is methodologically rigorous. It focuses on the structures of lived experience and shows (and reflects on) the ways in which things appear. The phenomenology of architecture (Seamon, 2023) offers comprehensive and in-depth investigations of the most fundamental concepts, terms and ideas in architecture – such as space and place (Casey, 2009; Malpas, 2018), dwelling, building and atmospheres (Bollnow, 2011), embodiment, environment and lifeworld (Harries, 1988; Seamon, 2018) as well as actions, perception and affordances (Rietveld and Brouwers, 2016). The experience of the lifeworld, or more precisely, of our home-world, is shaped by intentional attitudes including perception, movement, perspectivity, orientation, familiarity, historicity, and so forth (Dzwiza-Ohlson, 2022). The concepts of typicality and habituality, for instance, are profoundly relevant to urban morphology as they have a strong influence on how we perceive, interact with and inhabit our built environments.

In our regular workshops, we take phenomenology and morphology as a starting point and go further, bringing together experts in philosophy, anthropology, enactivism and PAR, landscape architecture, urban planning and design, architecture, psychology, architectural history and literature. As a team, we will facilitate inter- and transdisciplinary dialogue on the transformation and transmission of the meaning of place in time, with a view to designing intergenerational environments for the present and future that respect well-being and life quality.

Morphology provides effective tools to facilitate integrated design. I believe that design based on morphological research goes far beyond formal integration. Sustainable architecture has recently been focused on technology and energy efficiency, often neglecting the cultural and material contexts of local communities (they should be considered in historical perspective). However, in many parts of the world, traditional building methods using natural materials and associated forms have been inherently sustainable through their gradual adaptation to local climates and resources. These methods reflect the cultural and environmental needs of a society and embody culturally authentic and localised sustainability. The study of the historically evolved structure of cities offers a way to integrate sustainable strategies with cultural and social dimensions. It links technological innovation with inherited cultural awareness and resource use, enabling more effective planning. The city should be seen not just as a zero-emission mechanism, but as a dynamic, complex organism shaped by evolving social, economic and cultural interactions, where morphology can contribute to sustainable urban environments by addressing both physical form and social organisation and integration.

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# Daria Belova

## Architect

### motivation letter

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Like many young architects, I began my career with ambitious architectural statements and solutions that seemed to be in stark contrast to the surrounding historic city in which I lived. For better or worse, some of these buildings were built. Through these projects, first as an architect and then as a project manager, I learned the basic tools of the architect and the basic technical and technological principles of design, as well as the coordination of the design team and the ways to find compromises and ultimately consensus. But I also learnt that the proliferation of architectural statements doesn't wave the fabric, which became particularly obvious when compared to the historic wooden blocks of the communities of traditional houses.

To formulate my interests, I came to Sheffield School of Architecture and its brilliant Live Project initiative. Working as part of an international team of 12 students and professionals from a range of disciplines on a real-life development strategy project for two Grade II listed English churches, I learnt the principles of working with historic buildings through participatory collaborative design. My main interest was formed and formulated. After completing my MA in Sheffield (My thesis was applicable and applied) and having worked as an architect for about 10 years, I was invited to the School of Architecture at the Siberian Federal University, where I was given the position of assistant professor and the freedom to work on my interests: we explored the methods of research design and design research, and the social and cultural aspects of urban formation. Together with the students and colleagues, we initiated the experimental design studio dedicated to historical environments and related social and cultural issues, which I developed in parallel with the two-year participatory research project dedicated to real cases of difficult heritage in our city.

While co-organising a joint workshop for my students and the students of La Sapienza University in Rome, I decided to do a PhD on historical urban form at La Sapienza. Unfortunately, the start of my studies coincided with the COVID 19 pandemic. However, making personal meetings impossible, this dramatic situation gave me the opportunity to be connected online, and at the same time to further explore my interest in the other institutions and go beyond the pure study of form. As I was interested in the work of Peter Zumthor, with his focus on human perception and the phenomenology of architecture, I was remotely invited as a visiting researcher to the Husserl Archive at the University of Cologne, where I found my friends and colleagues for future research initiatives.

Completing my PhD, I continued to explore the connections between urban form and human experience with my professors in phenomenology, anthropology and architecture, and with friends and colleagues. As a free research group, we have a plan of scientific events for the next two years (pheno-morphology.com). In order to finance my life and free research initiative, I have been working in the architectural firms, including Anderhalten Architekt that focuses on historical buildings and environments, where we explored the reconstruction of the historical building of the University of Bonn. Architectural practice fostered my inner discipline and provided the necessary connection to reality, the real problems and limitations of architectural planning. However, I am now ready to broaden my horizons further.

The interdisciplinary framework based on morphological studies, which I have been focused on, can serve as a perfect basis for integrated, community-driven and participatory research and design. I would be happy to bring my experience, (extensive) connections, and the methodologies and practices associated with them to the position I am applying for, and to broaden my knowledge with the approaches, which are being developed at the Faculty.

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## Architect

## references

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