

## Ecological Architecture | Emilio Ambasz, Princeton University

*Press release, with pray of diffusion*

### Ecological Architecture

Princeton, New Jersey – *On Thursday, April 20, at the Betts Auditorium of Princeton University, **Emilio Ambasz** gave the lectio 'Ecological Architecture'. Organized thanks to the Kenneth Kassler Memorial Lecture Fund, the conference – [rescheduled Fall 2022 Kassler Lecture] - represented for the father of green architecture a return to the university where he studied and, still very young, taught architecture.*

**Emilio Ambasz** (born 1943, Argentina; Spanish citizen by Royal Grant) is an internationally acclaimed, award-winning architect, designer, and inventor widely recognized as a pioneer of Green Architecture.

Integrating landscape and building, returning to the community is paramount in his work. He has completed a number of public projects around the world including the **Lucile Halsell Conservatory** in San Antonio, Texas and the **Prefectural International Hall** in Fukuoka, Japan. His home, **Casa de Retiro Espiritual** in Seville, Spain, or “Spiritual Retreat”, is an example of how architecture can coexist with the landscape.

Ambasz studied at **Princeton University** where he completed the undergraduate program and received a Master's Degree in Architecture. Shortly after, he taught as Philip Freneau Preceptor of Architecture. From 1969 to 1976, he served as Curator of Design at the Museum of Modern Art, in New York City, where in 2020, the Emilio Ambasz Institute for the Joint Study of the Built and the Natural Environment was established in his name.

Ambasz has been the subject of numerous international publications and exhibitions. He has had solo presentations at the Museum of Modern Art, New York; La Triennale di Milano; The Arts Institute of Chicago; The Museum of Contemporary Art Reina Sofia-Madrid; Le Centre Canadien d'Architecture; and the Tokyo Gallery of Contemporary Art; among others. His architectural work has been featured in publications such as *Domus*, *ON*, *Space and Design*, *Architectural Record*, and *Architecture plus Urbanism*. Most recently, Rizzoli published a monograph written by Barry Bergdoll called *Emilio Ambasz: Curating a New Nature* (November 2022).

Among his many awards and honours, Ambasz is an **Honorary Fellow** of the American Institute of Architects and an Honorary International Fellow of the Royal Institute of British Architects. In 2014, he was awarded the Medal of Science, the highest honour bestowed by the Institute for Advanced Studies of the University of Bologna. Additionally, Ambasz was granted the honorific title of Commendatore d'Italia, Stella d'Oro, by the **Presidency of the Italian republic** for his contributions to Italian culture. In 2021, the University of Bologna awarded him an Honorary Doctoral Degree in Architecture and Engineering. In 2023, Politecnico di Torino university awarded him an Honorary Master Degree in Systemic Design.

*Lecture made possible by the Kenneth Kassler Memorial Lecture Fund. The School of Architecture, Princeton University, is registered with the AIA Continuing Education (AIA/CE) and is committed to developing quality learning activities in accordance with the AIA/CE criteria.*

In attach:

poster of the lectio with a portrait of Ambasz, by James Wine;  
portrait of Emilio Ambasz (credits Wade Zimmermann);  
the images of the three mentioned works.

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