

# Preface

This volume is the second in the series inspired by the cycle of three seminars connected to the celebrations of the 150th anniversary of the Politecnico di Milano, entitled *The Visual Language of Technique Between Science and Art: Heritage and Expectations in Research and Teaching* and focusing on *History and Epistemology* (May 2013), *Research* (June 2013), *Education* (July 2013). The book includes the contributions to the second meeting on the use of the *image* in technical research.

Reflecting the structure of the seminar, this volume starts with two *Forewords*, written by the Research's Delegate and by the Head of the Department of Architecture and Urban Studies of the Politecnico di Milano, that point out the role of the *visual representation* in relation to the research activities in the fields of Engineering, Architecture and Design. A short introduction, the *interview* with the Editorial Staff of the Science Magazine "Focus", and an introductory essay, form the *Part I* and help the reader to frame the topic. Essays by invited international lecturers form *Part II*, where some of the most advanced researches in the field of Digital Graphics and Applied Geometry are discussed in detail together with the display of a significant series of case studies. *Part III* includes the talks of the poster session *Images in Research*, where Ph.D. students of the Politecnico illustrate the level of progress in their research, which lies between the Past and the Future. The last part, the *Conclusion*, is a final synthetic report about the discussion related to the Round Table, including a *Tentative afterword*.

According to the target of the three volumes, this book can be read by scholars, teachers, students and by all those readers who are interested in the way technical research in Engineering, Architecture and Design use *visual representations* nowadays. More about the cycle of seminars can be found at: <http://www.150.polimi.it>.

My grateful thanks go to the authors, namely the invited colleagues and the Ph.D. students, for their advanced contributions and for the preparation of the here published essays, and to all those students, colleagues and friends who have attended the seminar and participated in the discussion. My thorough thanks go to Prof. Federico Brunetti for the photographic records of the event and to my students Mihai Dragos Potra, Violeta Popova, Pavlina Malinova, Caterina Scalzo, who helped me with the transcription, translation, and formatting of the published

materials. Thanks to my wife, Francesca Scherillo, for her presence and her support, and also for her hints about the seminar logo.

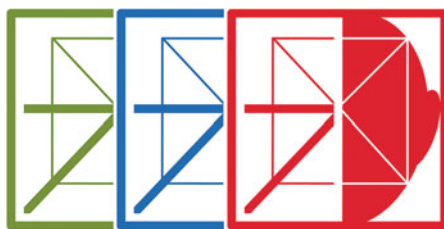
Concerning the organization of the seminar I address my acknowledgments to the Staff in charge at the Politecnico for the 150th celebrations. My gratitude goes to the Department of Architecture and Urban Studies for the financial support.

Milan, March 2014

Luigi Cocchiarella



The official logo of the sesquicentennial



Seminar Logo<sup>1</sup>

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<sup>1</sup> (Designed by the Author. Assembled by the Communication Staff of the Politecnico di Milano)

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