

# VENICE

ALICE PAMPHLET N°4

2008

ARCHITECTURE BIENNALE

ALICE PAMPHLET

N°4

VENICE ARCHITECTURE BIENNALE

**VENICE**

ALICE

**venice  
architecture  
biennale  
2008**

EPFL / ENAC / IA / ALICE  
atelier de la conception de l'espace  
EXPLORATIONS IN ARCHITECTURE / SWISS PAVILLION / VENICE 2008



THE MULTIPLE MATERIALS AND COMPLEX  
FORMS WOULD BE CREATED USING THE  
OPEN END UNDERLAYING AND SUPPORT  
SYSTEM. A SELF-REGULATING, INTEGRATED  
SYSTEM THAT MOVES FROM CONCEPT TO  
FORM TODAY INTO TOMORROW.

© 2010

DIACTYCS

DESIGN AND MANUFACTURE FROM MATERIALS THAT BEHAVE AS IF THEY WERE LIQUID. THE  
PROCESS OF DESIGNING AND MANUFACTURING THESE FORMS IS A PROCESS OF  
EXPLORATION AND DISCOVERY. THE RESULT IS A SERIES OF FORMS THAT ARE  
UNUSUAL AND UNEXPECTED. THE USE OF  
PROCESSES AND MATERIALS IS NOT LIMITED.

LA DIDATTICA INCORPORA CONOSCENZE E PROCESSI PROGETTUALI A FORMARE UN  
CAMPO DI RICERCA. QUESTI VENGONO TRASPOSTI IN FORME E COSTRUZIONI  
TRI-DIMENSIONALI LA CUI INTERPRETAZIONE GENERA NUOVI PRINCIPI CONOSCITIVI.

LIGHTSPACE

LightSpace

The display consists of a grid of small, square images and text blocks arranged in a pattern that suggests a spatial or architectural layout. The images appear to be photographs or technical drawings related to the 'LIGHTSPACE' project.



## contents

venice architecture biennale 2008	8
studio case study: ALICE	14
team	30
acknowledgments	31

In late 2007 the ALICE design studio at EPFL was invited by the Swiss government to participate as part of the Swiss exhibition in the Swiss Pavilion in the Giardini in the Venice Architecture Biennale 2008. The exhibition was to expose research and teaching approaches in Swiss architectural education and how design and research are addresses mutually in four specific design and research studios at the Polytechnical Institutes ETH and EPFL in Zurich and Lausanne. The Swiss Federal Commission on Arts selected the LAPA design studio led by Harry Gugger and the ALICE lab from EPFL, the MAS UD unit by Marc Angélil / Jörg Stollmann at ETH Zurich, and the DFAB lab by Gramazio / Kohler, ETH Zurich. Under the name “explorations in architecture – teaching, design, research” Reto Geiser curated a show dwelling on the four distinct approaches of those labs, positioning them in a larger global and historical context, as proposed in the parallel publication of the same title (Birkhäuser, Basel, ISBN-10: 3764389214 / see the ALICE text contribution printed below).

The ALICE contribution, conceived by Marc Schmit in collaboration with Aline Dubach and Katia Ritz, documented the ALICE synthetic approach to architectural design processes taking curriculum and results of the academic year 2007/2008 as background. The exhibition design emphasized on the aspect of parallel investigations conducted with design tools of the architect/designer, locating produced documents from artifacts in physical and digital environments in a spatial disposition challenging the predominant wall layout of the overall exhibition.

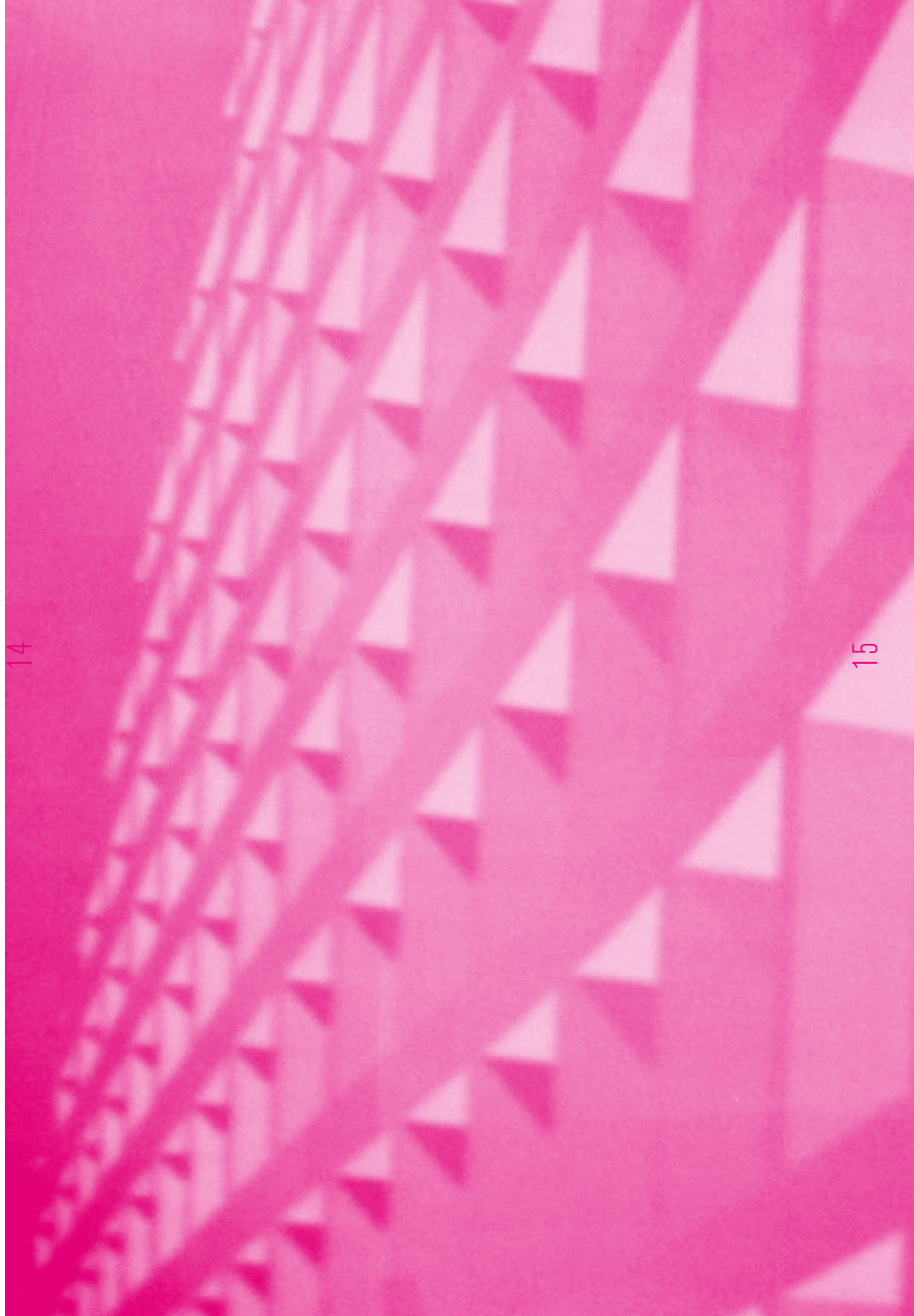
The ALICE contribution revisited the production and the design process of the London Pavilion for the London Festival of Architecture 2008 adding a purposefully artificial projection into the given light-cones of the parallel lighthouse project. The installation reanimated the pavilion structure as a purely digital event in a forged simulation of its former presence interacting with the tides in London on the Thames River. The light shooting up in the form of projections on daylight fluorescent cones of light offer a spatial outlook beyond the restraining walls of the Swiss pavilion in the Giardini to create visual distortions similar to the feedback in an amplifying system.

[www.explorationsinarchitecture.ch](http://www.explorationsinarchitecture.ch)



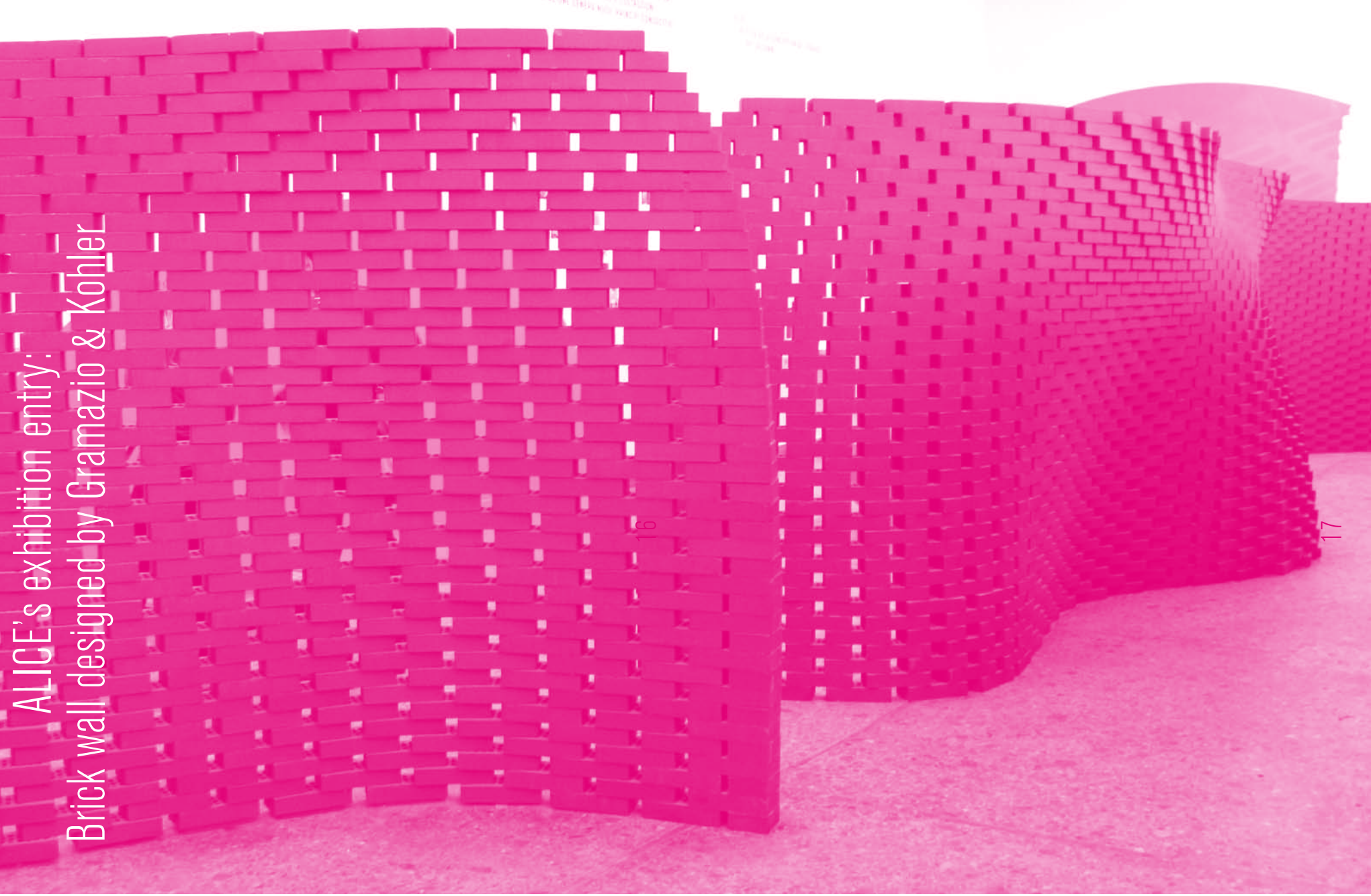
# studio case study: ALICE

14



15

ALICE's exhibition entry:  
Brick wall designed by Gramazio & Kohler



1:1 reanimation of the Overflow structure as a purely digital event in a forged simulation of its former presence interacting with the tides in London on the Thames River.



Purposefully artificial projection of the London pavilion into the given light-cones of the lighthouse project



20



21



# View through lightcones

designed by Thadée Lucan / Augusta Porok /  
Nicolas de Courten / Patrick Meier



24



25

**Lighthouse project**  
designed by Lila Held



26



27





alice students 2007/ 2008

**Adrien Alberti, Monica Rita Basbouss Moukarzel,  
Dorette Baumann, Matthias Bellmann, Fatma Ben Amor,  
Malaïca Cimenti, Esteban Coto Chavarria, Konstantinos Dell'Olivo,  
Nicolas de Courten, Nathalie Egli, Clio Gachoud,  
Ann-Madlen Gfeller, Andreas Gubler, Axel Harari, Steffan Heath,  
Sebastian Hefti, Lila Held, Alexander Hertel, Loïc Jacot-Guillarmod,  
Philipp Jakob, Aurélie Krotoff, Thaddée Lucan, Aurel Martin,  
Patrick Meier, Auguste Michaud, Mikael Monteserin,  
Minh-Luc Pham, Edouard Philippe, Augusta Prorok,  
Bertrand Sauterel, Christopher Tan, Sandro Tonietti,  
Andrés Tovar Nuez**

alice team

**Dieter Dietz, Aline Dubach, Eveline Galatis, Olivier Ottevaere,  
Daniel Pokora, Isabella Pasqualini, Katia Ritz, Marc Schmit**

booklet, concept and design

**Jonas Voegeli, Aline Dubach, Caroline Pachoud (Colour Concept)**

alice exhibition team

**Marc Schmit, Aline Dubach, Katia Ritz**

concept video installation

**Ralph Etter**

animation

**Lars Künstler**

special thanks to

**Reto Geiser, Curator; Nicolas Henchoz, Director EPFL+ECAL lab;  
Ines Lumunière, Director SAR, EPFL; Bruno Marchand,  
Director IA, EPFL; Giorgio Margaritondo, Vice President EPFL;  
Luca Ortellì, Former Director, SAR EPFL; Marc Parlange,  
Doyen ENAC EPFL; Urs Staub, Head of Section Art and Design  
Federal Office of Culture, Berne; Serge d'Urach,  
local coordination**

for their collaboration and wide spread support.

acknowledgments

**http://  
alice.epfl.ch**