

Matthias Kohler

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Matthias Kohler is an architect with multidisciplinary interests ranging from computational design and robotic fabrication to material innovation. In 2000, he founded the architecture practice Gramazio Kohler Architects in conjunction with his partner Fabio Gramazio where numerous award-winning designs have been realised. One of the latest projects was the design of the NEST building of Empa and Eawag, a future living and working laboratory for sustainable building construction. Opening also the world's first architectural robotic laboratory at ETH Zurich, Gramazio Kohler's research has been formative in the field of digital architecture, setting precedence and de facto creating a new research field merging advanced architectural design and additive fabrication processes through the customised use of industrial robots. This ranges from 1:1 prototype installations to the design of robotically fabricated high-rises. The recent research is outlined and theoretically framed in the book "The Robotic Touch: How Robots Change Architecture" (Park Books, 2014). Matthias Kohler initiated the NCCR Digital Fabrication and was its Director from its official foundation in the summer of 2014 until the summer of 2017. He now works as one of the NCCR's principal investigators.