

ABC SCHOOL L-A-B-O-R SPEAKERS

Lygia Sabbag Fares is core faculty at the Brooklyn Institute for Social Research where she specializes in Political Economy and Economics. Her Ph.D. focused on Development Economics: Social and Labor Economics, which she received from the University of Campinas (Brazil). She has served as Director of the Department of “Alternative Income” at the Secretary of Women for the city of São Paulo and as a member of the Young Scholars’ committee of the International Association for Feminist Economics (IAFFE). She is an organizer of the Gender working group of the Young Scholars Initiative (YSI) - Institute for New Economic Thinking and is a member of LABIEB a multidisciplinary research group on development studies at the University of São Paulo and member of “As Pensadoras” a feminist scholars’ network. Recent publications of her are: “A Feminist Perspective on the 2017 Labor Reform in Brazil: Impacts on Higher Education Faculty.”; “Increasing Inequality in Working Time: An International Trend.”; “Working, Caring, Surviving: The Gender Dynamics of Remote Work in Brazil Under COVID-19.”

Ekta Mittal is co-founder of the Bangalore-based media arts organisation, Maraa, where she works as a researcher, facilitator, and filmmaker. She has been making films on cities, migration and labour since 2009. Her most recent film, *birha* is about grief, loss and separation in the context of migration. One of Mittal’s earlier projects, *Behind the Tin Sheets*, included a series of short films that observed the lives of migrant laborers building the metro in Bangalore. The film *Gumnaam Din* (2019) is about missing days from the calendar; of missing people who left to faraway cities for work. *Gumnaam Din* situates itself in a season of waiting, climate of uncertainty: where only a loud screech or impenetrable silences can register the distance between loved ones. The film explores yearnings, both from the perspective of the missing and those who wait endlessly for them. These missing days comprise obscurity, escape and abandonment, in everyday life. Her film *Presence* (2012) is the second film from *Behind the Tin Sheets* project, started in the year 2009, and features ghost stories narrated by workers amidst a rapidly transforming city.

Ramnath Bhat holds a PhD in Media and Communications from the LSE Department of Media and Communications, which focused on Internet Infrastructure in Digital India. Prior to this, Dr Bhat spent more than a decade working on media and communication (for) development in the Asia Pacific region. In 2008, he worked with Ekta Mittal to co-found the collective Maraa, which works on arts in public spaces and democratisation of media. Throughout his career, he has taught media and communications at various educational institutions in India, and has consulted with a wide range of organisations on media and communications issues pertaining to tackling fake news, disaster preparedness, telecommunications and internet regulations, media ownership, digitalisation of television and radio, spectrum allocation, and universal service provision.

Jessica Garcia Fritz (she/her/hers) is a citizen of the Cheyenne River Sioux Tribe (Itazipco). She is an Assistant Professor in the Department of Architecture (DoArch) at South Dakota State University, where she helped start the first architecture school in the state. Jessica has studied and practiced architecture in the United States and Europe, including the Faculty of Architecture at the University of Lisbon in Portugal. Before joining DoArch, she was an exhibit designer at the Smithsonian's National Museum of the American Indian in New York. Her work on the links between building arts and architectural labor has been published in several international venues, including the Technology, Architecture, and Design Journal and the upcoming International Congress on Construction History. Jessica is also a co-worker of LAB-OR, a design practice in Brookings, South Dakota.

Federico Garcia Lammers (he/him/his) emigrated from Montevideo, Uruguay to the United States in 2001. He is an Associate Professor in the Department of Architecture (DoArch) at South Dakota State University, where he helped start the first architecture school in the state. Before moving to South Dakota, he practiced architecture in New York, Minneapolis, and Lisbon, Portugal. Federico's scholarship on the labor practices of the Uruguayan engineer Eladio Dieste has been published and presented in a range of academic venues in South America, North America, and Europe. In March 2020, Federico received a Practice and Leadership Teaching Award from the American Institute of Architects and the Association of Collegiate School of Architecture for inventing and directing the Forensics Studio: Architectural Labor in South Dakota. Federico is also a co-worker of LAB-OR, a design practice in Brookings, South Dakota.

Aska Welford and **Kirti Durelle** are members and coordinators of **United Voices of the World – Section of Architectural Workers (UVW-SAW)**, which is a member-led trade union for architectural workers in the U.K, formed in 2019. Members of SAW collectively organise both in their workplaces and across the sector around the negative impacts of architectural work on workers, communities and the environment. We use worker-to-worker solidarity to take action, empowering each other through learning our legal rights, sharing experiences, forming common demands and strategising together. UVW-SAW includes: architectural assistants, model-makers, BIM technicians, admin workers, architects, landscape architects, students, visualisers, researchers, receptionists, university workers, interior designers, freelancers, and sole-traders; from all sizes of practice, and across the U.K. Members are architectural workers across migration statuses, professional qualification, region, contract type, and size of practice. We are not those with the power to hire and fire.