



Paolo Cardini is currently Full Professor at RISD-Rhode Island School of Design and former director of the graduate program in Industrial Design. His previous appointment was within the interdisciplinary design graduate program at Virginia Commonwealth University in Qatar. His work ranges from critical and speculative practices to design innovation and strategic planning. He studied Industrial design at Politecnico di Milano and Glasgow School of Art and he has been department chair for the bachelor and master courses in Industrial Design at Istituto Europeo di Design in Turin. He designs and consults for various international firms and he is lecturing in conferences and design schools worldwide contributing actively to the field with papers and publications.

#### **SKILLS / MYBEST**

- 20 years' experience in product & visual design practice
- 17 years in higher education
- Solid business and academic management skills
- Strong conceptual and formal design abilities in product, graphic & strategic design
- Experienced in foresight, scenario development and innovation driven research
- Extensive experience in global engagement and partnerships
- Excellent communication and interpersonal skills
- Ability to facilitate and present new ideas
- Positive thinker
- Expert traveler
- Skilled chef

## **ACADEMICS / COURSES & ACADEMIC MENAGEMENT**

Politecnico di Milano – Industrial Design dept. | Milan, Italy Jan-Dec 2021  
1year commitment as Senior Resident Researcher

RISD Rhode Island School of Design – Industrial Design | Providence, USA 2020/Present  
Promoted to the rank of Full Professor

RISD Rhode Island School of Design – Industrial Design | Providence, USA 2018/20  
Director of the Industrial Design Graduate Program, Coordinator of the CAD curriculum

RISD Rhode Island School of Design – Industrial Design | Providence, USA 2018/20  
Director of the Industrial Design Graduate Program

Centro University – Design for Tomorrow Master Program | Mexico City, MX 2017  
Member of the advisory board

RISD Rhode Island School of Design – Industrial Design | Providence, USA 2014/15  
Associate Professor, Coordinator for the Design Principles Curriculum (freshmen year)

RISD Rhode Island School of Design – Industrial Design | Providence, USA 2014 - 2020  
Associate Professor, graduate & undergraduate studies, Industrial design program

VCUQ Virginia Commonwealth University Qatar – MFA Design | Doha, Qatar 2011 - 2014  
Assistant Professor, graduate studies, Interdisciplinary design program

IED Istituto Europeo di Design – BA Industrial design | Turin 2005 – 2011  
Department's Chair and Part-Time Professor

IED Istituto Europeo di Design – MA design for sport | Turin 2008 – 2011  
Department's Chair and Part-Time Professor

RISD Rhode Island School of Design – Main Academic Committees services, USA 2014 - Present  
Chair of the European Honored Program Committee | 2014/16  
Chair of the Global Engagement Committee | 2016/17  
Chair of the Students Material Fund | 2020/21

## **EDUCATION / GRASSROOTS & DIRTY HANDS**

Politecnico di Milano – Laurea Magistralis in Industrial design | Milan 2003  
1997/99 Bachelor degree in Industrial design  
2000/02 Master of Science in Industrial Design/ Transportation Design

Glasgow School of Art – Product Design dept. – Exchange program | Glasgow 1999

Workshop with Droog Design | Glasgow 1999

**Open LCA** – Life Cycle Assessment Open-Source Software training | Berlin 2020

**Rhode Island School of Design** – Shoe Making training | Providence, US 2018

**Virginia Commonwealth University** – Physical Computing training | Doha 2013

## **LIVE / LECTURE TALKS & WORKSHOPS**

**Senses & Sensibilities Conference** – Presenter | Bari, Italy 2021

Lecture title: Design from within, endemic and endogenous design processes

**Jalisco Talent Land Digital** – Keynote Speaker | Remote 2021

Lecture title: Hyper-contextual Tools

**Speculative Edu Conference** – Presenter | Remote 2021

Talk title: Dreamt in Mexico, the case study

**Tech Monterrey Mexico City** – Guest Lecturer | Remote 2020

Lecture title: What to care about while designing

**Johnson & Johnson research center** – Guest Lecturer | Remote 2020

Lecture title: Re-designing Design

**Yantze River Delta Exhibition** – Keynote Speaker | Shanghai 2019

Lecture title: Why Design Must Be Critical

**World Global Future Federation** – Keynote Speaker | Mexico City 2019

Lectures title: A Search for Alternative Futures

**Sandia National Laboratories** – Guest Lecturer/Consultant | USA 2019

Lectures title: Listening to non-western perspectives

**SIA China – Design Experts' Tour**, lectures & | Beijing/Chengdu/Shanghai, China 2019

Lectures title: Hichhacker's Guide to Design

**Free University of Bozen** – Guest Lecturer | Bolzano, Italy 2019

Lecture title: Five Shades of Criticality

**Pratt Institute** – Guest Lecturer | NYC, USA 2018

Lecture title: Design in Context

**Rhode Island College** – Presenter | Providence 2018

Lecture title: Design Catalyst Experience

**Viemeister Industries** – Panelist/Organizer | NYC, USA, May 2018

Lecture title: Materials & Design

**FabLab Impact/WeWork** – Guest Lecturer | Mexico City, May 2018

Lecture title: Design Resurrection

**Centro de Diseño, Cine y Televisión** – Workshop + Lecture | Mexico City, Mexico, May 2018

Lecture title: Global Futures

Workshop title: Souvenirs from the Futures

**RISD Museum** – Gallery Talk | Providence Mar 2018

Lecture title: Fake in Italy

**MAXXI Museum** – Presenter | Rome, Italy, Mar 2017

Lecture title: The Global Futures Lab Experience

Workshop title: Souvenirs from the Futures

**Parson, The New School** – Guest Lecturer | NYC, Nov 2017

Lecture title: Fake in Italy

**Universidad Francisco Marroquin** – Guest Lecturer | Guatemala City, Oct 2017

Lecture title: Hyper-Contextual Design

**Brown University** – Guest Lecturer | Providence, Sept 2017

Lecture title: Beyond Design Thinking

**Biennial Forma Conference** – Keynote Speaker | Havana, Cuba, Jun 2017

Lecture title: The Pluriverse

**Premier Conference** – Lecture | San Francisco, USA 2017

Lecture title: Non-Western Futures

**Pontificia Universidad Catolica** – Workshop + Lecture | Lima, Peru 2017

Lecture title: Global Futures

Workshop title: Souvenirs from the Futures

**Pune Design Festival** – Keynote speaker | Pune, India 2017

Lecture title: The Pluriverse

**NID\_ National Institute of Design** – Workshop + Lecture | Ahmedabad, India 2017

Lecture title: Global Futures

Workshop title: Souvenirs from the Futures

**Isfahan Art University** – Workshop + Lecture | Isfahan, Iran 2016

Lecture title: Global Futures

Workshop title: Souvenirs from the Futures

**Booking.com Annual Meeting 2017** – Keynote speaker | Amsterdam, The Netherlands 2016

Lecture title: The Pluriverse

**Hiko Mizuno College** – Workshop Leader | Tokyo, Japan 2016

Lecture title: Design and everything else

Workshop title: Critical Hacking

**SAP Startup Focus Event** – Keynote speaker | Dubai, EAU 2016

Lecture title: Rise and fall of a brilliant Idea

**Design Practices and Principles Conference** – Presenter | Rio De Janeiro, Brazil 2016

Lecture title: How to deal with technological enthusiasm

**Zokei University Lecture Series**– Presenter | Tokyo, Japan 2015

Lecture title: Extranational Design

**Shenzen University Design Forum** – Presenter | Shenzen, China 2015

Lecture title: Design and Globalism

**Rensselaer School of Architecture** – Presenter | Troy, USA 2015

Lecture title: on Critical Design

**Design and Manufacturing | The Next Generation of Making** – Panelist | Providence 2015  
DesignxRI, Chamber of Commerce initiative initiative

**Critical Design / Critical Futures Symposium** – Panelist | Providence 2015  
Brown University + RISD initiative

**University of Rhode Island** – Lecture | South Kingstown | 2015

Lecture title: Art, Design, Engineer and Physical Computing

**Better World by Design** – Panelist | Brown University | Providence | 2015

Session Title: Critiquing Critical Practices

**Design Conversations** – Panelist | Providence 2015

Session title: " Sci-Fi to the Speculative "

Tool () Forum – panelist | Providence 2014  
Session title "Interfaces and Imagination"

ELIA Biennial Conference – Presenter | Glasgow 2014  
Talk title: "Deglobalizer, from global to local"

The Circle of European Communicators conference – Keynote speaker | Rome 2014  
Talk title: "The Beauty of the Unfinished"

Interdisciplinary Design Symposium Masheireb Enrichment Center – Presenter | Doha 2014  
Talk title: "The Case for a New Aesthetic"

MATHAF Arab Museum of Modern Art – Presenter | Doha 2013  
Talk title: "Designers, from problem solvers to problem makers"

DMY – Presenter | Berlin 2013  
Speech title: "Design in Middle East"

Consapevolmente – Presenter | Italy 2013  
Talk title: "Objects and us, awareness in everyday design"

Tasmeem Conference – Presenter | Doha 2013  
Talk title: "Open Design: A Natural Habitat"

Katara Art Center – Presenter | Doha 2012  
Speech title: "The Beauty of the Unfinished"

TED Global – Presenter | Edinburgh 2012  
Talk title: "forget multitasking, try monotasking"

Aalto University – Visiting Professor | Helsinki 2012  
Flaneuring Design workshop  
Pratt Institute – Visiting Lecturer | Brooklyn NYC 2012  
Seminar to Industrial design graduate students

World Maker Fair – Presenter | Hall of Science NYC 2012  
Talk title: "Open design from Qatar to Cuba"

ISDI Istituto Superior de Diseno Industrial – Visiting Professor | Havana 2012  
Open Design workshop

Politecnico di Torino - lecturer | Turin 2009  
Strategic design and districts development.

Designation - presenter | Turin 2009  
Be able to be, round table on Universal Design.

Design & Martini -- lectures I Turin 2008  
Series of lectures on design trends.

Politecnico di Milano - lecturer I Milan 2003  
Urban scenarios and future city mobility.

## **EXPERIENCE / MAIN PROFESSIONAL PROJECTS**

Tigeraire -- Design Director 2021- Present  
Supervision and guidance for a startup developing innovative wearable ventilation systems.

From Anthropocene to Aerocene -- Research Leader, Hyundai Motor Group, Seoul 2019-20  
Research project on the future of mobility and urban flying vehicles

Mexican Futures Observatory -- Project Manager, Universidad Centro, Mexico City 2018-20  
Laboratory on hyper-contextual speculative practices.

Design Resurrection -- Project Manager, Laboratorio para la ciudad, Mexico City 2018  
Research project on Circular Economies and Open Design practices.

Global Futures Lab -- Project Manager, Various Locations 2016-2018  
Speculative Design Research Project on Non-Western Futures Perspectives

Design Catalyst Initiative -- Project Manager and Product Designer, RI, USA 2016-2018  
R&D on Diversification for composites manufacturers funded by the Department of Defense

Fake in Italy -- R&D I Product Designer I Providence, USA/Florence, Carrara, Italy 2016  
Design investigation on products' identity and cultural appropriation.

Nike -- R&D -- Research Leader I Providence/Portland, USA 2015  
Design investigation on the topic "The Future of Skin".

Design Gang -- Co-founder, CEO and project manager I Turin 2004 -- 2011  
Multidisciplinary design consultancy firm based in Turin, Italy.

E-pop for Casio./ Product Designer I Milan 2010  
Development of pop-up shops and exhibit modules based on Swedish Re-board technology for Enel & Brera Design District in Milan.

Contship Italia Group -- Project Manager and Communication Designer I Milan 2009  
Creative direction and development of brand communication strategy.

Canavese Connexion -- Project Manager I Turin 2008  
Innovation design driven & manufacturing development in northern Italy Industrial district.

**Ferrino** – Product Designer | Turin 2007

Design of a camping tent and sleeping bag based on the concept of Responsible Tourism.

**Motorola / Pininfarina extra** – Product Designer | Miami 2005

Nextel project - Mobile phones and IT devices Advanced design project.

**FIAT** – Product Designer | Turin 2005

Design a Fiat Grande Punto inspired chaise longue for the Milan Triennale.

**Airplus silent** – Product Design development | Turin 2004

Professional hair-drying system, user centered research and styling.

**Lievore Altherr Molina** – Junior Furniture Designer | Barcelona 2002

Furniture design, styling and engineering.

## **FUNDING / RESEARCH PROJECTS AND GRANTS**

**Design from Within**, a study for endogenous design processes through the lens of materials

innovation – Principal investigator | Milan 2021

Funded by Politecnico di Milano for \$20.000

**Global Future Lab Fellowship** – Principal investigator | Rhode Island 2017

Funded by RISD for \$15.000

**Design Catalyst** – Principal investigator | Rhode Island 2016

Funded by USA Department of Defense for \$350.000

**Fake in Italy** – Principal investigator | Rhode Island 2016

Funded by RISD and VCUQ for \$15.000

**Canavese Connexion** – Principal investigator | Turin 2008

Funded by Italian Government for \$180.000

**Open Design: A Natural Habitat** – Principal investigator | Doha 2012

Funded by Virginia Commonwealth University for \$ 8.000

**Made in Qatar** – Principal investigator | Doha 2012

Funded by Virginia Commonwealth University for \$ 9.700

**Everyone's Design** – Principal investigator | Doha 2013

Funded by Virginia Commonwealth University for \$ 3.000

**The Time Machine** – Principal investigator | Doha 2013

Funded by Virginia Commonwealth University for \$ 2.000



Deglobalizer – Principal investigator I Doha 2014  
Funded by Virginia Commonwealth University for \$ 8.000

## **ON-SHOW / EXHIBITIONS & DESIGN EVENTS**

Abierto Mexicano, Museo Nacional de Arte, 2018, Mexico City, Mexico  
Project: Design Resurrection

Faculty Biennial, RISD Museum 2018, Providence, NY, USA  
Project: Fake in Italy

ICFF\_ 2018, NY, USA  
Project: Black Flamingo

1/9 Gallery\_2018, Rome, Italy  
Project: Global Futures Lab

Woods Gerry Gallery\_2017, Providence, USA  
Project: Global Futures Lab

Wanted Design, NYCxDDesign 2016, New York City, NY, USA  
Project: Fake in Italy

RISD Faculty Biennial\_2015, RISD Museum, Providence, RI, USA  
Project: Perpetual Motion Machine

Katara Art Center\_2015, Doha, Qatar  
Project: Deglobalizer

Strange Wonders\_2014, Msheireb Enrichment Center/ Doha  
Project: Social Interactions – The Doha Rider

Q-pop\_2014, Design Days Dubai/ Dubai  
Project: Deglobalizer

Made in Qatar\_2013, Tasmeem / Doha  
Project: The Circus Collection

Faculty Show\_2013, Tasmeem / Doha  
Project: The Time Machine

East Modernism\_2012, Design Days Dubai/ Dubai  
Project: Middlefield & Not Renewable Oil Lamp

The Future in the Making \_2012, Palazzo Clerici / Milan  
Project: Gringo

Designersblock\_2011, Milan Design Week  
Project: I Like Sit

ADI Compasso d'Oro Awards\_ 2011, Museo Macro/ Rome  
Project: Canavese Connexion

L.O.V.\_2010, Vanchiglia Open Labs / Turin  
Project: Touch Me

Piemonte Torino Design\_2010, Palazzo della Regione/ Turin  
Project: Open Up

To Be Eco\_2010, Expo Casa/ Turin  
Project: Neighborhood Design

Fuorisalone\_2010, Zona Bovisa/ Milan  
Project: E-Pop

Canavese Connexion Exhibition\_2009, Palazzo Bricherasio/ Turin  
Project: Canavese Connexion

Canavese Connexion Exhibition\_2009, La Serra/ Ivrea  
Project: Canavese Connexion

L.O.V.\_2009, Vanchiglia Open Labs / Turin  
Project: Gang in Lov

FIAT showcase\_2006, Triennale/ Milan  
Project: Mr. Dot

## **ON-PAPER / SELECTED PUBLICATIONS & ARTICLES**

Design from Within – A Study for Endemic and Endogenous Design Processes – with Valentina Rognoli, Senses&Sensibilities, Bari, Italy, Dec 2021

Academic Paper in camera ready refinement stage – long abstract accepted

<https://drive.google.com/file/d/12Ev97bFLkBGPCbG4VvXkMQ9eCu7h8ZXZ/view?usp=sharing>

Hyper-contextual Futures in Mexico City – Cumulus Conference, Rome, Italy, July 2020

Academic Paper published in the proceedings of the conference ISBN: 978-952-64-9004-5

[https://cumulusroma2020.org/proceedings-files/DC\(s\)\\_MULTIPLICITY\\_track.pdf](https://cumulusroma2020.org/proceedings-files/DC(s)_MULTIPLICITY_track.pdf)

**Global Futures Lab: Search for Hyper Contextual Futures** – Oxford, UK, July 2020  
Chapter included in the book *Futures* published by Oxford University Press ISBN: 9780198806820  
<https://www.oxfordhandbooks.com/view/10.1093/oxfordhb/9780198806820.001.0001/oxfordhb-9780198806820-e-30>

**Global Proximity: case studies of international and interdisciplinary collaboration between the USA, Italy, Guyana and Japan** – Cumulus Conference, Rome, Italy, July 2020  
Academic Paper published in the proceedings of the conference ISBN: 978-952-64-9004-5  
[https://cumulusroma2020.org/proceedings-files/DC\(s\) PROXIMITY track.pdf](https://cumulusroma2020.org/proceedings-files/DC(s) PROXIMITY track.pdf)

**Back from the future: how to deal with technological enthusiasm** – USA 2018  
Paper published by ergonomics international journal, Medwin publishers  
<https://medwinpublishers.com/EOIJ/EOIJ16000133.pdf>

**Global Futures Lab: Search for Alternative Futures** – USA, 2018  
Article, published by Core77  
<https://www.core77.com/posts/73713/The-Global-Futures-Lab>

**Openness in Design Education** – USA 2016  
Paper published by IDSA (Industrial Designers Society of America)  
<https://www.idsa.org/educationpaper/openness-design-education-open-software-open-hardware>

**How Local Influences Drive Design in The Digital Age** – New York, USA 2015  
Article, published by Fast Company Design  
<https://www.fastcompany.com/3048364/how-local-influences-drive-design-in-the-digital-age>

**Open Design: A Natural Habitat** – Doha, Qatar 2013  
Q-Science journal, Bloomsbury Publishing  
<https://www.qscience.com/content/journals/10.5339/tasmeem.2014.1?crawler=true>

**Canavese Connexion, Design Industria e Innovazione** – Turin, Italy 2008  
Umberto Allemandi Publishing, 2008, ISBN 13: 9788842217091  
[https://books.google.com/books/about/Canavese\\_connexion.html?id=VhVxPgAACAAJ](https://books.google.com/books/about/Canavese_connexion.html?id=VhVxPgAACAAJ)

**Metafunctional-Metafictional Objects** – Providence, USA 2015  
Critical Design Critical Futures Symposium Repository  
<http://www.cd-cf.org/articles/metafunctional-metafictional-objects/>

**The Beauty of the Unfinished** – Milan, Italy 2014  
published by Editori di Comunicazione, 2014  
<https://drive.google.com/file/d/14V4lWSZqX5YDMddoPPMPnn639OD7r90W/view?usp=sharing>

**The Case for a New Aesthetics** – Doha, Qatar 2015  
Interdisciplinary Design Symposium, conference proceedings by VCUQ  
[https://www.academia.edu/27005901/The\\_Case\\_for\\_a\\_New\\_Aesthetic](https://www.academia.edu/27005901/The_Case_for_a_New_Aesthetic)

At Nike's place – Providence, USA 2015

Intro Essay, Nike+RISD internal publication

[https://drive.google.com/file/d/1B9rD\\_3L-Z0IRpntaDfyyG9VdZGM9I4Ze/view?usp=sharing](https://drive.google.com/file/d/1B9rD_3L-Z0IRpntaDfyyG9VdZGM9I4Ze/view?usp=sharing)

## **DESIGN AWARDS / PRIZES AND COMPETITIONS**

Core77 Design Awards – winner | 2020

Winner of the Speculative Design category with the project "Dreamt in Mexico".

Core77 Design Award – honorable mention | 2020

Honorable mention for the Education Initiative category with the project "Dreamt in Mexico".

Design for Death – shortlisted | 2013

International design contest on re-thinking the future of death care.

Autoprogettazione 2.0 – Winner | 2012

Open Designed Furniture for Fab Labs.

Autogrill Universal Design – 2<sup>nd</sup> place | 2010

Redesign of a fully accessible Parking Area.

Monaco Luxe Pack Design Award – honorable mention | 2006

Luxury water bottle design.

## **LANGUAGES / BLABLABLA**

Italian – native language

English – w/ fluent | s/ fluent

Spanish – w/ fluent | s/ fluent

## **PORTFOLIO / FINALLY SOME PICTURES ☺**

You can check my projects and my thoughts on <http://www.paolocardini.com>