

**Leibniz Universität Hannover**  
**Thursday 1st November, Sale d'Armi G - Arsenale**  
**10.30 - 12.30**

The Biennale Session VENICE ATHLETIC CLUB is organised by the Leibniz Universität Hannover in cooperation with the IUAV Venice in the context of the Special Programme for Higher Education Institutions at La Biennale di Venezia's 16th International Architecture Exhibition.

VENICE ATHLETIC CLUB is a cooperative design class and a series of talks investigating design strategies for architectonic and urban design in the context of the historic fabric. The focus is on the implementation of spaces for rapid physical exercise into the grateful slowness of the Serenissima. These free spaces for physical movement and wellbeing stretch from the exclusive hedonism of a spa to the inclusive freedom of a bagno public. In all cases they should serve as a social condenser for human intercourse like postulated for the Downtown Athletic Club by Rem Koolhaas.

VENICE ATHLETIC CLUB longs to gain and provide insight in current questions and ideas in dealing with the historic fabric in the architectural design process of European cities while emphasizing multilateralism and multiperspectivity in the contemporary making of the city. Furthermore it aims to transfer strategies from the German academic and professional architectural context to the Italian and vice versa. It will broaden the participant's acceptance and understanding for different design approaches and provide them insight in the complexity of designing hybrid spatial programmes in the European historic habitat.