

**Mateus Paulichen**

B.Arch Unicamp

January 2023

***IE Personal Statement- MArch***

I believe I can contribute to the IE MArch community through the plurality of my life experiences and part of that can be explained by my trajectory. I did not come from a rich family and I lived in a rural state of Brazil during all my childhood. I moved to one of the biggest cities in the world, São Paulo, to study architecture and urbanism at UNICAMP, which is among the best universities in my country. After standing out during my graduation, I had the opportunity to study abroad at the University of Lisbon, with a scholarship that allowed me to get to know several countries in the region.

The architectural baggage of this experience made me achieve several awards in architecture competitions, giving me the certainty that I was following the right path. And a path, many times, extremely multidisciplinary. I have always been very active in student institutions, in addition to having experience in scientific research and professional work in some renowned architecture offices in Brazil. This professional experience was carried out in two relevant architectural firms: Andrade Morettin Arquitetos Associados and OSPA Group, both working in the most diverse project scales.

Regarding awards in competitions, during the degree and in collaboration with these offices, there are project proposals for: a multifunctional building to supply the infrastructure demands in the Rocinha slum, in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil; a modular design methodology for schools in Ethiopia; a building with a vertical farm for the center of São Paulo, Brazil; among others. All these works bring as guidelines two main issues: the use of new technologies/unusual building technologies and the concern with sustainability in the projects. In my final graduation thesis, I conducted a study for a sustainable methodology for vertical buildings in complex urban contexts, developing a mixed-use building for the central region of São Paulo.

But among all these achievements, perhaps the one I am proudest of is my resilience. I have overcome the difficulty of my father's death in 2019 and my mother, who currently works as a housekeeper, believes in me as the future of the family. And it is up to me to honor that hope. And hope is a word with a lot of meaning for me. I have the hope to be one an important part of a new generation of architects in Brazil, having as main virtue the concern for environmental issues in the design practices. And I believe that Columbia is the best place to help me achieve this goal, in a mutual exchange of knowledge and experience. Not only with the professors, but also with the whole academic community.

As the future of my professional and academic practices, I intend to deepen my master's studies in the typologies of vertical buildings and the applicability of new sustainable technologies in developing countries. I intend to be an important part of the change I want to see in the future in Brazil.

1<sup>st</sup> January, 2023



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