



Futamiokitama shrine, Mie, Japan, 2017 © Stephen Cairns

**Veranstaltungen****Wednesdays and  
Thursdays**

Atelier F400 / Zoom

**Modulverantwortung:** Prof. Lando Rossmair**Lehrteam:** Prof. Lando Rossmair, Mulan Sun Buschor, Prof. Dr. Uwe Teutsch, Yves Dusseiller;  
Assistant: Solhae Yoon / KIT Team: Prof. Masahiro Kinoshita, Prof. Hiroyuki Kimura, Ryotaro Hirose (Assistant)**The Culture of Water: Water & Commons**

In the autumn semester 2021 the design studio Architecture & Material will continue the project 'The Culture of Water' – a joint research project with the Kyoto Institute of Technology (KIT). The main focus of the five-year research project is to explore the relationship between water and architecture around Lake Lucerne in Switzerland and Lake Biwa in Japan.

The current theme is Water & Commons. In the last spring term we investigated the theme through aspects of 'collective productivity' at the Lake Lucerne. Now, in the autumn semester, we approach Lake Biwa to investigate the theme in regard to 'collective ritual'. In the region, there have been countless festivals in every village since ancient times. Most of these were to pray for safety or for a good harvest. Later, with the modernisation of society, the development of civil engineering & medical technology, and changes in the social structure, the threat of living could now be overcome without praying. Many collective activities are disappearing with the decline or growing irrelevance of the commons. However, modern society is facing a number of disasters that cannot be overcome by conventional technologies and social systems. The Great East Japan Earthquake in 2011 was a turning point for Japan. In the aftermath, people realised the limits of hard disaster management and the importance of soft disaster management. In response to the changes in the natural environment on a global scale, what kind of commons do we create now, and what do these commons pray for? What kind of environment will be the receptacle for these prayers? The assignment is to learn about the history of water and commons, and then to propose ways of building the future.

**Instagram**

@hslu\_kit\_the\_culture\_of\_water #thecultureofwater

**Introduction Lecture** Monday, 20.9.21, 14:00; F-Nische

**Joint digital Workshop with KIT** 29.9 & 30.9.21 on zoom

**Study Trip**

Plan A: 1.11 – 14.11.21 in Japan

Plan B: 1.11 – 5.11.21 in Switzerland

**Joint Midterm Review with KIT** 10.11, 11.11 & 12.11.21

**Joint Final Review with KIT** 17.1, 18.1 & 21.1.22