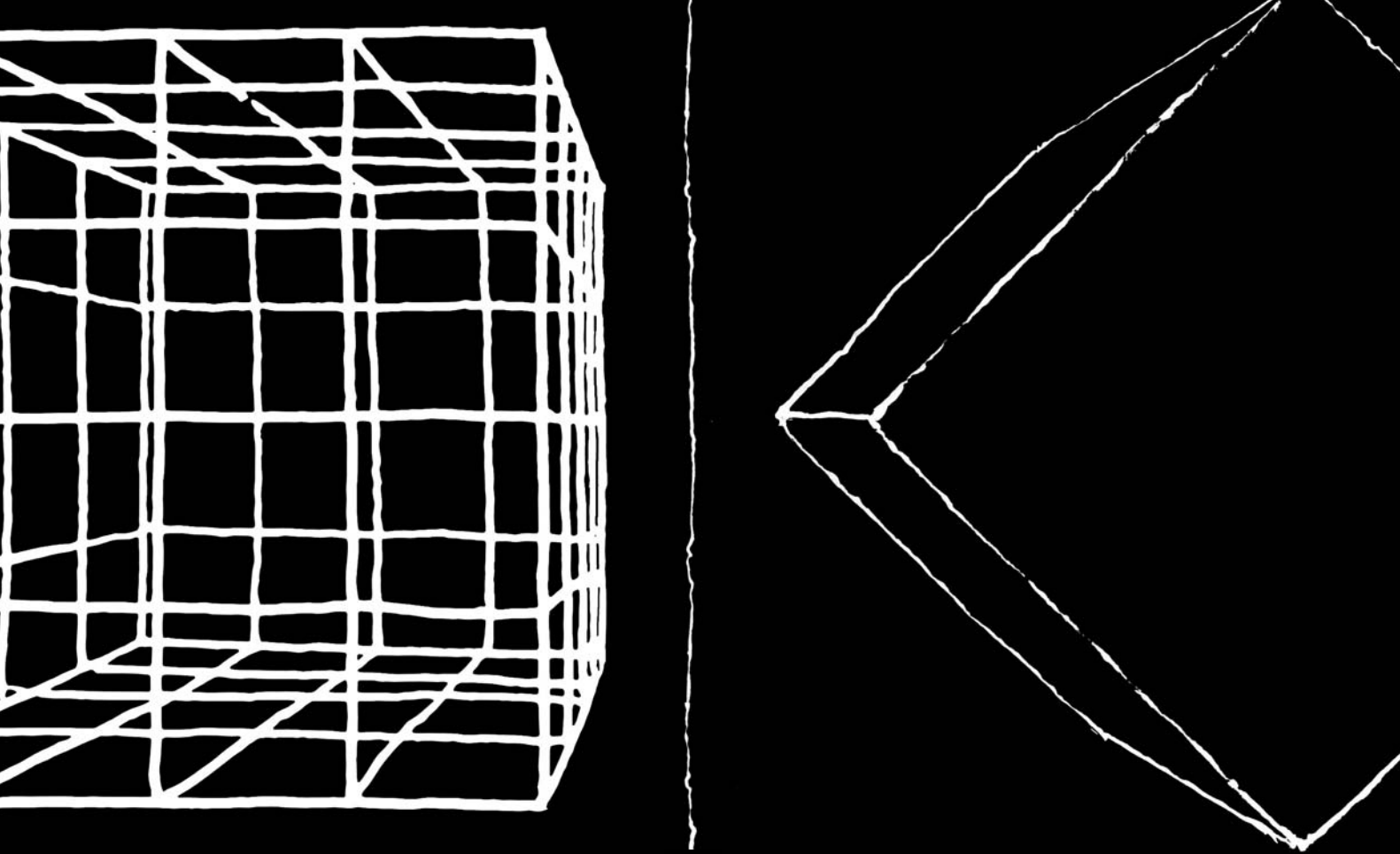


ARCHITECTURE OF CHALLENGES
EXPERIMENT IN SPACE — THE SPACE OF EXPERIMENT

ARCHITECTURE OF CHALLENGES
EXPERIMENT IN SPACE — THE SPACE OF EXPERIMENT

Head of works, editor-in-chief:
Anna Maria Wierzbicka

Reviewer:
Bogusław Podhalański
Aleksander Serafin

Scientific Committee:
Anna Maria Wierzbicka
Renta Jóźwik
Paweł Trębacz
Kinga Zinowiec-Cieplik
Magdalena Duda

Graphic design and typesetting:
Martyna Rowicka-Michałowska

Publication layout coordinator:
Paulina Lis-Meldner

Cover based on graphics by:
Konrad Kucza-Kuczynski

© Copyright by Warsaw University of Technology Press, Warsaw 2026

Publisher: Warsaw University of Technology Press
(Oficyna Wydawnicza Politechniki Warszawskiej – UIW 48800)
Polna 50, 00-644 Warsaw, Poland, phone (48) 22 234 70 83

Internet bookstore of the Warsaw University of Technology Press (OWPW):
https://www.sklep@pw.edu.pl; e-mail: oficyna@pw.edu.pl
phone (48) 22 234 75 03; fax (48) 22 234 70 60

This work must not be copied or distributed using electronic, mechanical, copying, recording, or other equip ment, including publish ing and disseminating through the Internet, without the written consent of the copyright holder

ISBN 978-83-8156-863-0

printing and bookbinding in WUT Press Printers, phone (48) 22 234 70 30

Ivashko Yulia
Prof. DSc PhD Eng. Arch.
Kyiv National University of Construction and Architecture, Kyiv, Ukraine

yulia-ivashko@ukr.net

Ivashko Oleksandr
PhD Eng. Arch.
Kyiv National University of Construction and Architecture, Kyiv, Ukraine

oleksandr-ivashko@ukr.net

Dmytrenko Andrii
PhD Eng. Arch., Assoc. Prof.
National University "Yuri Kondratyuk Poltava Polytechnic", Poltava, Ukraine

ab.dmytrenko_au@nupp.edu.ua

Bibliography:

1. Ivashko, Y., Dmytrenko, A., Belinskyi, S., Pabich, M., Kuśnierz-Krupa, D., Kobylarchyk, J., Bednarz, L., Kuzmina, H., & Kovtiukh, N. (2024). The Influence of Colonial Policy on the Destruction of National Cultural Identity and Ways of Overcoming Its Consequences. *International Journal of Conservation Science, 15*(S.I.), 31–42. https://doi.org/10.36868/IJCS.2024.si.03.

2. Ivashko, Y., Tovbych, V., Hlushchenko, A., Belinskyi, S., Kobylarczyk, J., Kuśnierz-Krupa, D., & Dmytrenko, A. (2023). Preparing for the post-war reconstruction of historical monuments in Ukraine: Considerations in regard of the ongoing Polish post-WWII experience and international law on the protection and conservation of historical monuments. *Muzeológia a kultúrne dedičstvo, 10*(1), 53–71. https://doi.org/10.46284/mkd.2023.11.1.4.

3. Ivashko, Y., & Pawłowska, A. (2025). Transformations of Exhibitions in War-Affected Ukraine: 2024 Perspectives on Art-Driven Inclusion and Socialization. *Muzeológia a kultúrne dedičstvo, 13*(2), 43–63. https://doi.org/10.46284/mkd.2025.13.2.3.

4. Kashchenko, T., Akhaimova, A., Homon, O., & Cieplucha, W. (2021). Synthesis of landscape and architecture as a means of expressing national identity. *Landscape Architecture and Art, 19*(19), 31–42. https://doi.org/10.22616/j.landarchart.2021.19.03.

National Identity in Architecture and Ways of its Creation

The issue of preserving national identity is relevant for many countries in the context of globalization. The purpose of the study is to identify the defining features of national identity in the architecture of Ukraine, because there is no single catalog of Ukrainian identity in different historical periods and in different fields of knowledge.

A new methodology for researching and implementing national identity in architecture is proposed, based on classifiers of national identity features in different historical periods. According to the method of system-structural analysis of style classifiers in different historical periods, a database of national features in architecture is created using artificial intelligence, which is open to addition with new features of national identity. Such a database significantly reduces the time for scientists and designers who deal with national identity in scientific works and implement it in modern architecture on a national basis. Similar databases can be created separately for architecture, fine arts, decorative and applied arts, and intangible culture. One of the tasks of such a methodology is to identify the process of genesis of national identity in various spheres of social life and the place of architecture in this process. It is determined how the Ukrainian national identity integrated into itself and transformed more ancient identities (Trypillian, Kyivan Rus) and national identities of other peoples (Polish, Slovak, Romanian, etc.).

Argued by the period of concentrated expression in architecture, as well as in other spheres of Ukrainian life, the period of the 17th-18th centuries is called. This is the maximum surge of phenomena united by the common term “national identity”. Since the greatest influence on the lands of Ukraine was exerted by the Polish Baroque (through which, in fact, European Baroque traditions penetrated), it is necessary to characterize the features of the Polish Baroque in more detail. Polish Catholic Baroque went through traditional stages of development from simplicity and limited decoration in the early period to emphasized decoration in the mature period, when a large amount of stucco decoration was used on facades and in interiors, and expensive finishing materials such as marble, gilding, and monumental paintings were used in the interiors. In the second period, earlier churches were decorated. Thus, national identity in architecture is presented as a complex multicultural phenomenon at the intersection of many spheres of culture and art.

The issue of loss of identity always causes a surge of national consciousness and national forms in architecture. The proposed methodology, on the one hand, analyzes the established characteristic forms of Ukrainian national identity in architecture, and on the other, uses the latest scientific and technical achievements (artificial intelligence, new methods of accumulating and processing materials, new materials and structures that allow modernizing and contemporizing traditional Ukrainian forms and methods of decoration).

The scientific novelty of the research is as follows:

- a new scientific direction has been initiated, and a methodological apparatus has been developed for the affiliation of architectural objects and cultural phenomena to the Ukrainian national identity, foreseeing their ability to develop and be supplemented with new features of the Ukrainian national identity for the first time;

– the hypothesis that the most significant expression of identity as such is architecture, which integrates manifestations of identities in various spheres of human activity and represents a constant process of transformation with the integration of different identities, is confirmed.



Anna Maria Wierzbicka

Architect, teacher and professor, D.Sc. (habilitation) in Architecture, Professor at the Faculty of Architecture, Warsaw University of Technology. Head of the Department of Architectural and Urban Design and the Studio of Sacred and Monumental Architecture.

Her scientific and teaching activities focus on architecture as a carrier of meaning, spatial narrative, and the ethical dimensions of design. She specialises in sacred and monumental architecture, the adaptation of religious heritage buildings, and experimental methods of teaching architecture through actual construction. She is the author of monographs and numerous scientific publications on symbolism in architecture, contemporary churches, and the role of narrative in design.

An active advocate for equal opportunities for women in architecture and engineering fields – she supports initiatives promoting gender balance in technical professions, mentoring, and the visibility of women in public space and academia. Author and co-author of many architectural projects, including sacred buildings, adaptations of historic structures, and experimental pavilions constructed as part of her educational programme. Initiator and coordinator of the stawiamy_ project – a unique didactic programme in which students build full-scale pavilions in public spaces (including the Royal Łazienki Park in Warsaw).

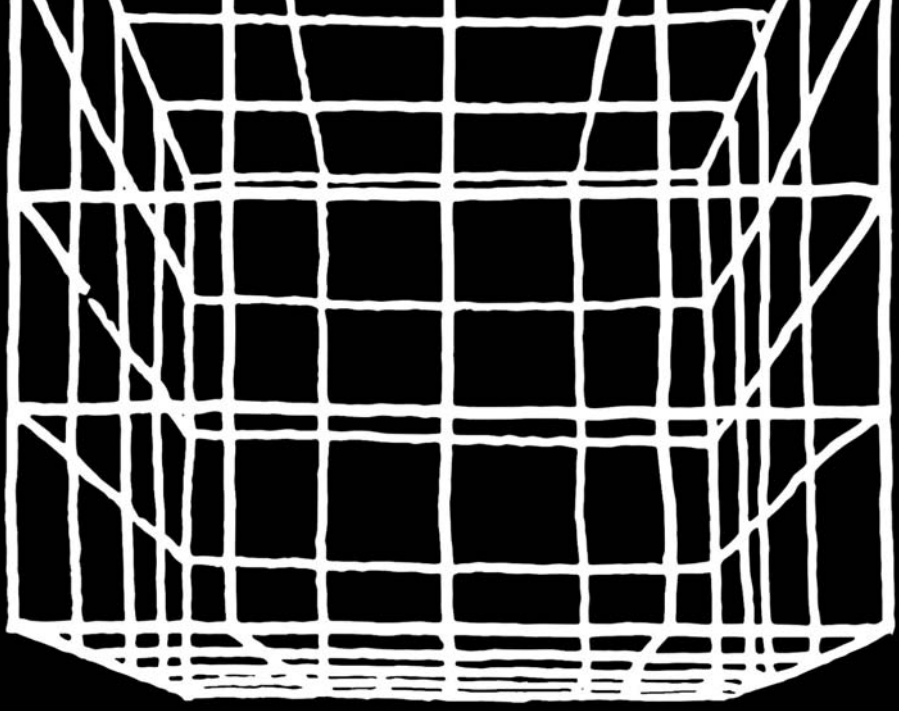
Co-founder and editor of the “Architecture of Challenges” series – already more than 4 international conferences and collective publications in which she develops the concept of architecture as a response to contemporary civilisational, climate, and social crises. Participant in international conferences, including those of the AIA, and supervisor of numerous diploma theses that combine theory with architectural practice.

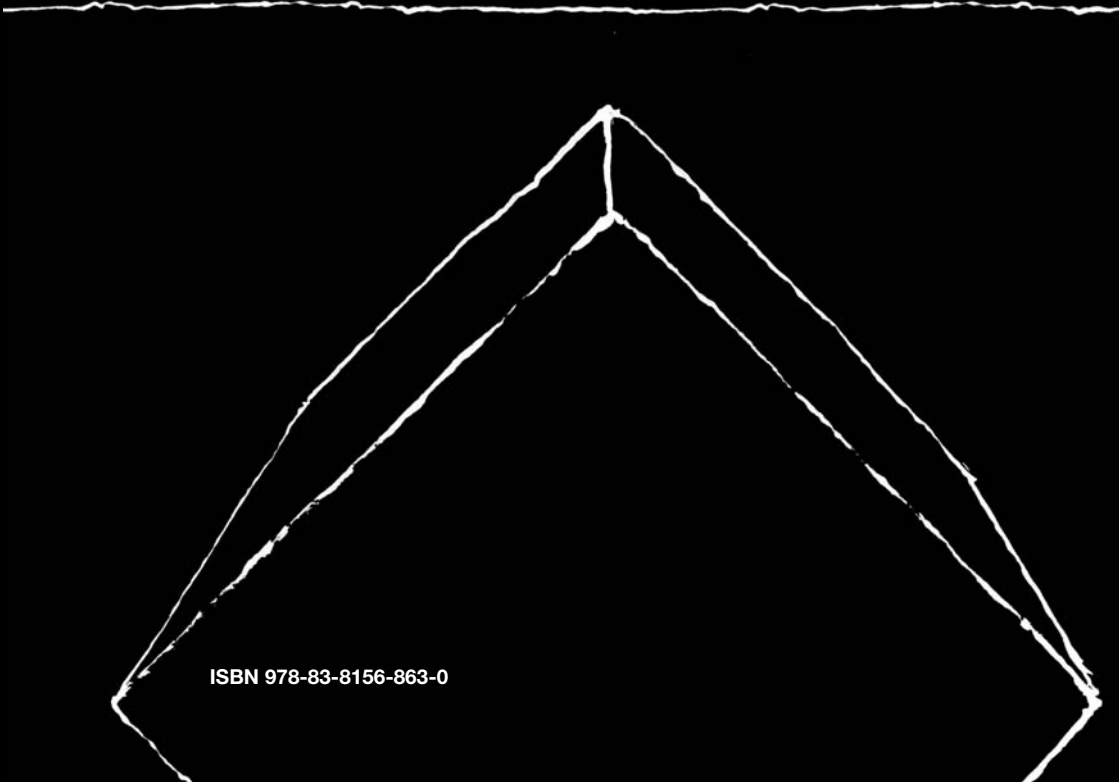
In the monograph Architecture of Challenges. Experiment in Space – Space of Experiment she explores experiment as the essence of contemporary architectural practice – not only as a design tool, but as a fundamental way of thinking about space as a laboratory of meanings and shared experiences.

She lives and works in Warsaw.

Experiment is the sole judge of scientific truth.

Richard Feynman





ISBN 978-83-8156-863-0