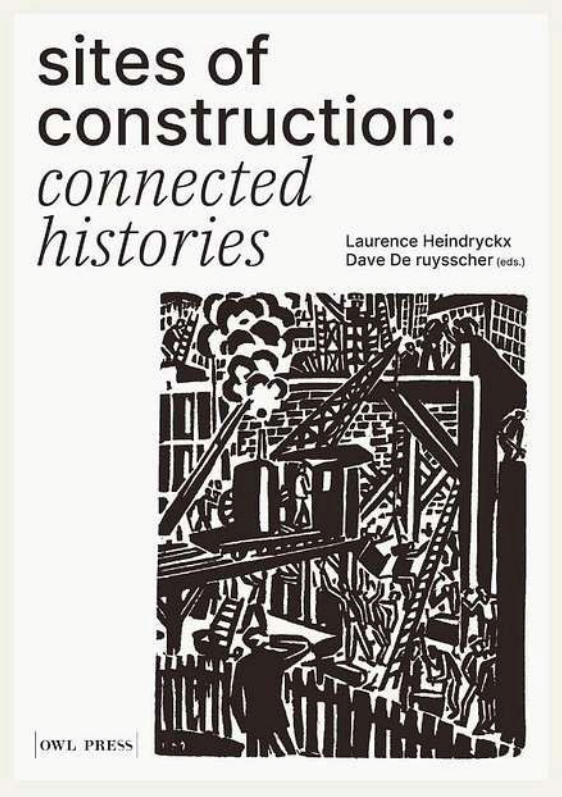
BOOK LAUNCH

Laurence Heindryckx & Dave De ruysscher (eds.)

Sites of Construction : Connected Histories

Tuesday 08.12.2026, 18h00 – 19h30

aud. I, Plateaucomplex, J. Plateaustraat 22, 9000 Gent, 1st floor



MORE ON THE BOOK

Sites of construction: connected histories reconceptualises construction as a dispersed, multi-sited, and interdisciplinary field of practice. Challenging the traditional centrality of the building site, this volume traces the legal, logistical, educational, colonial, political, and social forces that shape the production of the historic built environment.

Drawing on the EOS research project *Above and Beyond Construction History*, the contributors illuminate how expertise, labour, regulation, and material flows are formed across a range of unexpected sites, from vocational schools and chambers of the investigating judge to distribution centres, business lunches, protest-filled streets, warehouses that temporarily housed colonial labourers, and depots storing surplus brick. Combining empirically grounded historical case studies with methodological reflection, this book reveals how construction was, and remains, constituted through networks of actors, institutions, and knowledge practices that operate far beyond the fence line.

Sites of Construction thus offers an urgent interdisciplinary perspective on how buildings truly come into being, foregrounding the heterogeneity of construction processes and their entanglement with broader societal transformations

EVENT

In the context of a final workshop of the EOS-project *Above and Beyond Construction History*, the research team is cordially inviting you to the book launch of the edited volume that forms one of the outcomes of the project, next to the project's website (https://www.above-and-beyond-construction-history.be/) and a travelling exhibition which is currently being produced. After an introduction by the project's PI, **prof. Rika Devos** (VUB), the book's set up and content will be presented by **dr. Laurence Heindryckx,** one of its editors. This will be followed by a conversation on the book with **prof. em. Adrian Forty** (the Bartlett School of Architecture, UCL, London) and **dr. Ricardo Agarez** (associate researcher at ISCTE, Lisbon).

Please register for the event at: https://event.ugent.be/registration/EOSBookLaunch