

# Donato Ricci

**PostDoc Researcher • mèdialab SciencesPo**

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Born: 21 October 1979  
Nationality: Italian

## Academic Affiliations

**SCIENCESPo**  
**mèdialab**  
3, rue de l'Université  
75007 Paris - France

**POLITECNICO DI MILANO**  
**DensityDesign Lab**  
Via Durando 10  
20158 Milan - Italy

**UNIVERSIDADE DE AVEIRO**  
**DECA**  
Campus Universitário de Santiago  
3810 Aveiro - Portugal

## Areas of specialization & competence

Diagrammatic reasoning  
Communication Design • Data & Information visualization • Infographic • Cartography • Project Management

## Professional Experience

since 2011 **mèdialab - SciencesPo**, Paris - FR | Research fellow. Design Lead  
2005-2011 **DensityDesign Lab**, Milan - IT | Research fellow. Design Lead  
since 2005 **Office Milano**, Milan - IT | Co-Founder & Senior Designer  
2003-2006 **McCann-Erickson**, Milan - IT | Strategic Planner  
2002-2004 **Radar Trend**, Milan - IT | Multimedia Art director

## Resumé

In 2005 he graduated in Industrial Design at Politecnico di Milano. In 2010 he obtained a PhD degree *summa cum laude* in Industrial Design and Multimedia Communication at Politecnico di Milano with the dissertation “Seeing what they are saying: Diagrams for social complexity and controversies”.

After two years as research fellow and senior designer at DensityDesign Lab, where he carried out scientific researches, design project and teaching activities in the field of visual epistemology, he joined, as Post-Doc research fellow the Bruno Latour’s AIME project [founded by ERC Grant ‘IDEAS’ 2010 n° 269567].

He is Research Assistant Professor of “Digital tools and methods for visualization” at the Politecnico di Milano and Assistant Professor of “Representação e Conhecimento” (Knowledge and Representation) at the Universidade de Aveiro. His works have been featured in several exhibitions (MediaLAB Prado – Visualizaro8; SIGGRAPH09 Conference; MIT Humanities + Digital Conference), publication and showcases (Data Flow; Malofiej; Visual Complexity).

## Education

- 2007 - 2010      **Ph.D in Industrial Design and Multimedia Communication** | Politecnico di Milano, Italy  
**Title of thesis:** Seeing what they are saying: Diagrams for social complexity and controversies  
**Research partners:** Laboratorio per la Mobilità e il Trasporto - Politecnico di Milano  
**Supervisor:** Prof. Paolo Ciuccarelli | **Tutor:** Prof. Roberto Maja  
**Evaluating Commission:** Prof. L. Guerrini; Prof. P. McGrory; Prof. C. Germak; Prof. G. Tozzi  
**Final grade:** Magna cum Laude
- 1999-2005      **Laurea (5 years | B.Sc + M.Sc) Product Design** | Politecnico di Milano, Italy | **Final grade:** 98/100

## Education - Advanced Courses

- Jan. - Mar. 2009      **Ethnography and Discourse analysis** | 50h | **Università Bicocca - Milano**  
Dottorato di Ricerca Sociologica Applicata - Ph.D School | Prof. G. Navarini
- Apr. - May 2008      **Design Semiotics** | 50h | Politecnico di Milano  
DIeCM - Ph.D School | Prof. S. Zingale
- Mar. - Apr. 2008      **Methods and models for the decision making** | 50 h | Politecnico di Milano  
DIeCM - Ph.D School | Prof. A. Colorni
- May 2007      **Analysis of Complex Networks** | 32h | SICC - Società Italiana Caos e Complessità  
Prof. O. Popovych; Prof. S. Boccaletti; Prof. V. Latora; Prof. C. Piccardi; Prof. A. Provenzale

# Appointments Held

## I. RESEARCH

since 2011 **PostDoc Researcher** (current position)  
SCIENCESPO - médialab  
*Data & information visualization for Digital Humanities | Design Lead*

2010-2011 **PostDoc Researcher**  
POLITECNICO DI MILANO - DensityDesign Lab  
*Visualization and diagrams for social complexity*

## 2. TEACHING

since 2011 **Assistant Professor**  
POLITECNICO DI MILANO - M.Sc Communication Design  
078389 | Integrated Course Final Synthesis Studio  
*Metodi e strumenti digitali per la visualizzazione (Digital visualization methods and tools)*

since 2010 **Assistant Professor**  
UNIVERSIDADE DE AVEIRO - Mestrado em Design  
47790 | *Representação e Conhecimento (Knowledge and Representation)*

since 2010 **Lecturer**  
UNIVERSIDADE DE AVEIRO - Ph.D de Estudos em Design  
(a) *Culturas de Convergência nos Media (Converging cultures of media)*  
(b) *Digital methods for design research*  
(c) *Visualization in scientific researches*

May 2011 **Visiting Instructor**  
CHULALONGKORN UNIVERSITY, Bangkok, Thailand | CommDe | joint B. Sc courses  
Open Studio II | *Engines of findings: A Data (Re)Materialization Experience*

May 2010 **Visiting Instructor**  
UNIVERSIDADE DE AVEIRO - Open workshop | World Graphic Day Commemoration workshop  
*Visualizing environmental discourse in design issue*

2004 - 2010 **Teaching Assistant**  
POLITECNICO DI MILANO - M.Sc Communication Design  
078389 | Integrated Course Final Synthesis Studio

2006 - 2008 **Teacher**  
ISTITUTO MARANGONI  
Communication design

# Other Activities

2004-2011 **Responsible for the communication and social media activities of the DENSITYDESIGN LAB**

since Jun. 2011 **Reviewer of Share your Knowledge Project**  
**Tracking the diffusion of the project contents through digital methods**  
Founded by Fondazione Cariplo & Lettera27

May 2010

**Organization of the Open Seminar**

*VisualEyes / The Role of Design in Data, Information and Knowledge Visualization*

**POLITECNICO DI MILANO**

Jan. - Jul. 2008

**Meta-design project, organization and students tutoring**

*Complexity Maps | Designing Connected Places workshop*

**TORINO WORLD DESIGN CAPITAL 2008**

## Publications

### 1. JOURNAL ARTICLE

**Donato Ricci. forthcoming.** Documenti di scena. *Progetto Grafico*, no. 23

Azzi, Matteo, Giorgio Caviglia, **Donato Ricci**, Paolo Ciuccarelli, Emanuele Bonetti, and Loredana Bontempi. **2011.** Dust: A Visualization Tool Supporting Parents' School- Choice Evaluation Process. *Parsons Journal for Information Mapping* Vol.3, no.4.

**Ricci, Donato. 2011.** Con poche parole. Note brevi sulla storia dei linguaggi visuali. *Link | Idee per la televisione*. no. 10. ed. Fabio Guarnaccia and Luca Barra. Milano: RTI.

Graffieti, Michele, Gaia Scagnetti, **Donato Ricci**, Mario Porpora, and Luca Masud. **2011.** Tell them anything but the truth: they will find their own. How we visualized the map of the future with respect to the audience of our story. *Leonardo*, vol.44, no. 3. Cambridge: MIT Press.

Scagnetti, Gaia, and **Donato Ricci. 2007.** Diagrammi generativi | Generative Diagrams. *Linea Grafica*, no. 370

### 2. SELECTED PEER-REVIEWED CONFERENCE PROCEEDINGS

Masud, Luca, Francesca Valsecchi, Paolo Ciuccarelli, **Donato Ricci**, and Giorgio Caviglia. **2010.** From Data to Knowledge - Visualizations as Transformation Processes within the Data-Information-Knowledge Continuum. In *IV10 - 14th International Conference Information Visualisation*, ed. E. Banissi, S. Bertschi, R. Burkhard, J. Counsell, M. Dastbaz, M. Eppler, C. Forsell, et al., 445-449. London: IEEE.

**Ricci, Donato. 2010.** Seeing what they are saying: Diagrams for socio-technical controversies. In *DRS2010 - Design & Complexity proceedings*, ed. D. Durling, R. Bousbaci, L. Chen, P. Gauthier, T. Poldma, S. Rowoth-Stokes, and E. Stolterman. Montreal.

Valsecchi, Francesca, Paolo Ciuccarelli, Giorgio Caviglia, and **Donato Ricci. 2010.** A Didactical Framework to Experiment the Potential of Visual Languages in Engaging Social Complexity. In *DRS2010 - Design & Complexity proceedings*, ed. D. Durling, R. Bousbaci, L. Chen, P. Gauthier, T. Poldma, S. Rowoth-Stokes, and E. Stolterman. Montreal.

Valsecchi, Francesca, Paolo Ciuccarelli, Giorgio Caviglia, and **Donato Ricci. 2010.** The DensityDesign lab: communication design experiments among complexity and sustainability. In *Young Creators for Better City and Better Life - Cumulus Conference 2010*. Shanghai: Tongji University.

Scagnetti, Gaia, **Donato Ricci**, Giovanni Baule, and Paolo Ciuccarelli. **2007**. Reshaping communication design tools. Complex systems structural features for design tools. In *IASDR07 proceeding*, ed. S. Poggenpohl. Hong Kong.

**Ricci, Donato**, Paolo Ciuccarelli, and Francesca Valsecchi. **2008**. Handling changes through diagrams: Scale and grain in the visual representation of Complex Systems. In *Changing the Change proceeding*, ed. C. Cipolla and P. Peruccio. Turin: Allemandi.

### 3. BOOK CHAPTERS

**Donato Ricci. forthcoming**. Linguaggi e proiezioni cartografiche del territorio: dal panorama del Reno alle forme digitali. In *Architettura e Turismo*, ed. L. Coccia. Franco Angeli.

Caviglia, Giorgio, Paolo Ciuccarelli, and **Donato Ricci**. **2010**. Dust. La multidimensionalità del dato e la sua visualizzazione. In *Design Research Maps*, ed. P. Bertola and S. Maffei. Maggioli.

**Ricci, Donato**. **2009**. Design and visualization. Diagrammatic tools for complexity. In *Design Connected Places*, ed. E. Lupo and C. Campagnaro. Milano: Editrice Compositori.

**Ricci, Donato**, and Paolo Ciuccarelli. **2009**. Complexity Maps. In *Design Connected Places*, ed. E. Lupo and C. Campagnaro. Milano: Editrice Compositori.

Quaggiotto, Marco, **Donato Ricci**, Giorgio Caviglia, Gaia Scagnetti, Michele Graffieti, Samuel Granados Lopez, and Daniele Guido. **2009**. New maps from the media-city. CityMurmur as a tool for the visualization of urban space. In *Nouvelles cartographies, nouvelles villes. HyperUrbain.2*, ed. Z. Khaldoun. Paris: Europa.

## Invited Communications & Workshops

- Apr. 20-27, 2013 **DESIGN INTERNATIONAL**. Université du Québec à Montréal  
Montréal, CA.  
*Visualizing for understanding*
- Apr. 04, 2013 **COST - ARCHITECTURE BEYOND**. COST Action IS0904  
Gent, BE.  
*Data exploratory analysis for architectural research*
- Nov. 14, 2012 **COCREATIONCAMP**. Creative Wallonia  
Liège, BE.  
*Digital Humanities & Philosophy*
- Jun. 25-30, 2012 **BEIRUT DESIGN WEEK**. Beirut Design Week International Workshop  
Beirut, LB.  
*INFOVIS WS : The Guardian Panorama on Lebanon*
- Dec. 12-17, 2011 **BETTER NUVEAU**. Dataviz: Visual Representation Of Complex Phenomena  
Torino, IT. In collaboration with Nodebox.net
- Oct. 12-14, 2011 **NACIS 2011**. Cartography & Information Design: How does design make a difference?  
Madison, US.  
*Dust - Where does my child go to school? Supporting parents decision with a georeferenced visualization tool.*

- Jun. 20-21, 2011 **Frontiers of Interaction**  
Firenze, IT.  
*Visualizing and understanding society between ethics and aesthetics.*
- Jun. 23-25, 2011 **ARS'11. 3rd International Workshop on Social Network Analysis, Collaboration Networks and Knowledge Diffusion: Theory, Data and Methods.**  
Napoli, IT.  
*Contributed Sessions on Network Visualization.*
- Jun. 9, 2011 **Lectures of the School of Advanced Studies | Architecture, Environment and Design Ph.D. school | UNICAM**  
Ascoli Piceno, IT.  
*Digitalism - New Maps for These Territories.*
- May 17, 2011 **Creativity in organizations and urban settings | Università Commerciale Luigi Bocconi**  
Milan, IT.  
*WritingMilan: maps and diagrams for a new city.*
- Apr. 13-16, 2011 **Interdisciplinary SocioPatterns workshop @ IMÉRA | Institute for Advanced Study**  
Marseille, FR.  
*Network visualization: do we need graphs anymore?*
- Mar. 16, 2011 **Stanford Humanities Center | Mapping the Republic of Letters - Visualizing for Understanding**  
Venezia, IT.  
*Digital Macroscopic: A Journey Around Visualization Tools.*
- Oct. 28-30, 2010 **6<sup>th</sup> Swiss Design Network Conference**  
Basel, CH.  
*Versus: Diagrams and visualization to observe Social Complexity.*
- May 20-22, 2010 **humanities + digital | Visual Interpretation Conference | Aesthetics, Methods, and Critiques of Information Visualization in the Humanities, Arts, and Social Sciences, MIT**  
Cambridge, US.  
*CityMurmur.*
- May 10-14, 2010 **Arts | Humanities | Complex Networks - Leonardo satellite symposium @ NetSci2010. BarabásiLab - Northeastern University**  
Boston, US.  
*Tell them anything but the truth: they will find their own.*
- Aug. 3-9, 2009 **SIGGRAPH - 36<sup>th</sup> International Conference and Exhibition on computer Graphics and Interactive Techniques | Emerging Technologies Experiences.**  
New Orleans, US.  
*CityMurmur.*

## Exhibitions & Media Reference to works

2012

### **GeoCity Smart City - International Information Design**

Beijing Design Week 2012. Curated by CMOA (China Millennium Monument Museum of Digital Arts)

Information Graphics. Köln: Taschen

Malofiej 19. Pamplona: The Society for News Design – SND

IdN EXTRA 07: Infographics. Hong Kong: Systems Design Ltd

Editorial Design. Shanghai: Chois's Gallery

2011

La Repubblica, May 14th

Nov24 - Il Sole 24 Ore, May 12th

Visual Complexity. Princeton: University Press

Visual storytelling. Köln: Taschen

Information Design. Köln: Taschen

Visual Story. Berlin: Gestalten

ExpoMap @ Triennale Museum. Milan, Italy

2010

Data Flow 2. Berlin: Gestalten

Computer Arts magazine, no.141. Bath: Future Publishing

2010

User friendly diagrams. Tokio: Pie International

Dust @ L'Italia degli innovatori @ EXPO2010. Shangai, China

CityMurmur. 100 Anni di Cartografia in Italia. Milano, Italy

2009

### **La Repubblica, September 1st**

DesignNet magazine - special report, vol 146. Seoul:Korea

CityMurmur @ Innovate2009 - VirginiaTech Educate09. Richmond, USA

## Selected Academic, Consultancy & Applied Research Works

- since 2012*      **AIME** | founded by ERC n° 269567 EC - FP7/2007-2013.  
*Design Lead.*
- since 2011*      **EMAPS Electronic Maps to Assist Public Science** | 7th FP - SiS.2011.3.0.6-1.  
*Design Lead.*
- since 2010*      **Dust** | Founded by US Office of Naval Research under the Iridescent Learning NGO USN (Urban School Needs) project.  
*Project manager and supporting researcher.*
- 2011*            **Mappe della complessità televisiva** | RTI Mediaset  
*Main Investigator, Project Coordinator and Senior Designer.*
- WritingMilan** | Università commerciale Luigi Bocconi  
*Main Investigator, Project Coordinator and Senior Designer.*
- the McKinsey's curve** | Greenpeace UK  
*Project Leader.*
- 2010*            **How's my fishing** | Greenpeace UK  
*Project Leader.*
- Net @ Work** | Wired Italia  
*Project Leader and Scientific supervisor.*
- Fineo** | in collaboration with the Mapping the Republic of Letters team @ Stanford Humanities Center.  
*Supporting researcher.*
- ExpoMap** | Founded by EXPO2015 Milano.  
*Project manager and supporting researcher.*
- 2009*            **The Map of The Future** | Wired Italia  
*Project Leader and Scientific supervisor.*
- Students' Behaviour** | Founded by CPF - Politecnico di Milano - Facoltà del Design  
*Main Investigator and Senior Designer.*
- 2008*            **Design Research Maps, Visions of academic design research** | Founded by Sistema Design Italia  
*Coordinator and Senior Infographic Designer.*
- CityMurmur** | Sponsored by Madrid MediaLAB Prado  
*Project Leader.*



## Grants, Awards & Scholarships

2010 - 2011	<b>Post-Doctoral research fellowship (2 years)</b>   mèdialab-SciencesPo, Paris, France
2012	<b>Bronze medal</b>   Malofiej 20 - Society for News Design, Pamplona, Spain
2010 - 2011	<b>Post-Doctoral research fellowship (2 years)</b>   Politecnico di Milano, Milan, Italy
2008	<b>Researcher-in-residence (2 weeks)</b>   Visualizar'08: Database City - Medialab-Prado, Madrid, Spain
2007 - 2010	<b>Doctoral research fellowship (3 years)</b>   Politecnico di Milano, Milan, Italy
2003 - 2004	<b>Visiting studentship (12 months)</b>   Universidade Lusofona, Lisbon, Portugal

## Languages

Italian, *mothertongue*  
English, *proficient*  
French, *intermediate*  
Portuguese, *basic*