ARCH 170 | NOVEMBER 10 | 5PM

SCHOOL OF
ARCHITECTURE
College of Engineering, Architecture and Technology

ARCH SEMINAR SERIES

Mola: a new way to study, teach, and design structures.

MÁRCIO SEQUEIRA DE OLIVEIRA

This lecture presents the history of the Mola project, from an idea born in a university classroom to becoming the largest crowdfunding campaign in Brazil. Today, Mola is used in more than 100 countries and has been adopted by leading institutions such as MIT (USA), the University of Cambridge (UK), ETH Zurich (Switzerland), the Polytechnic University of Madrid (Spain), and Oklahoma State University (USA). The talk will explore the creation, development, and validation of the Mola Structural System, showcasing examples of its application in both educational contexts and professional architecture and engineering practices worldwide.

BIO

Márcio Sequeira de Oliveira is a Brazilian architect and holds a Master of Science in Civil Engineering. His research focuses on bridging the gap between architecture and structural engineering. Since 2004, he has been developing the Mola Structural Model project – a physical model designed to simulate the behavior of real structures. In 2014, after ten years of development, he launched the first edition (Mola Structural Kit 1) online. In just 11 days, Mola became the largest crowdfunding campaign in Brazil. Today, the kits are used by universities and companies in more than 100 countries worldwide. The Mola Structural Kit has since received international recognition, with features in publications such as Wired, ArchDaily, and MIT News. It has won multiple awards and even earned praise from the Apple Design Team for its design. Currently, Mola's fourth kit is in production.