

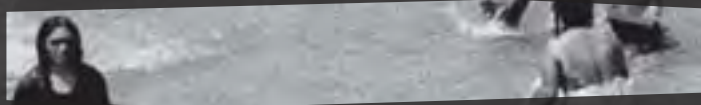
march The PhD Seminar on

19-20

2009

# PUBLIC SPACE

Proceedings



PUBLIC SPACE

# The PhD Seminar on PUBLIC SPACE




March 19th-20th 2009

Delft, the Netherlands



Delft University of Technology  
Faculty of Architecture / Department of Urbanism / Chair of Spatial Planning and Strategy  
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Delft, March 2009  
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# Foreword



Dear Participants,

Welcome to **The International PhD Seminar on Public Space** organized by the Faculty of Architecture and OTB Research Institute for Housing, Urban and Mobility Studies of Delft University of Technology. This introduction will serve as a guide to the seminar; its themes, accepted abstracts, key note speakers and participants, the seminar schedule and the field trip in Rotterdam. We wish you a wonderful and productive time in Delft & Rotterdam!

This seminar aims to open up questions regarding to the current transformation of physical public spaces, such as city squares, streets and parks; spaces which, in theory, are all open and accessible to everybody. However, their public nature is under pressure. Public spaces are increasingly being privatised and put under tight surveillance to improve security. The quality of public space as a space of everyday encounters is at risk. This is even more problematic considering our diversifying urban population. What are the consequences of these risks for urban public life? How can the rights of different urban groups to use public space be maintained and strengthened by spatial and social interventions? These are the main questions in the TU Delft PhD seminar on Public Space.

For this purpose, the seminar brings together PhD students, who work on public space in the fields of architecture, urban design and spatial planning, sociology, urban geography, cultural anthropology and history. They will present and discuss their work, supervised by distinguished scholars of the field. By doing so, the seminar provides a platform for sharing international and interdisciplinary perspectives within studies of public space.

The seminar is divided into three workshops, spread over two days: Public space and Neighbourhood quality, Public Space Interventions and Politics of Public Space.

The first workshop of the seminar, **Public Space and Neighbourhood Quality** seeks ways to investigate the relations between public space and neighbourhood quality. Neighbourhood quality is mostly argued in terms of residential qualities, particularly in countries which have a strong social housing tradition, such as The Netherlands. However, the significance of public space for the construction of social relationships, public familiarity and 'feeling at home' is seldom addressed. This workshop aims to focus on the neglected role of public space for neighbourhood quality. The workshop will be supervised by Prof. Talja Blokland from Humboldt University of Berlin, Germany.

The second workshop, **Public Space Interventions** aims to address innovative urban interventions which may introduce meaningful relations to urban public space and increase the quality of urban public life. The particular focus of this workshop is ongoing projects and proposals for public space interventions which translate spatial,

social and political theories to the practice of public space. The workshop will be supervised by Prof. Matthew Carmona from Bartlett School of Planning, University College of London, United Kingdom.

The third workshop, **Politics of Public Space** aims to discuss the making and re-making processes of public space as a consequence of intense political struggle between different modes of power. It addresses academic and non-academic debates on the transformation of public space from spaces of appearance to fragmented spaces of control by illustrating the conflicts and struggles of micro and macro politics through examples from real events and locations. This workshop will be supervised by Prof. Rob Shields from Faculty of Arts, University of Alberta, Canada.

Based on the general topic and the themes of the three workshops, over sixty abstracts were submitted, of which nearly forty were accepted. The abstracts were blind reviewed by seminar organizers and journal editors. The main selection criteria were the scientific quality of the abstract and its relevance to the workshop themes. The accepted abstracts vary in a great range of topics and geographical loci – representing fourteen countries, mostly from Europe, but also from the Middle East, Africa, USA and Canada. They are presented in the form of twelve power point presentations and twenty poster presentations.

This International PhD Seminar on Public Space has been made possible thanks to the financial support of several institutions. We particularly would like to mention Delft University of Technology, NETHUR – Netherlands Graduate School of Urban and Regional Research, and Journal of Planning Practice and Research. Their generous contribution is very much appreciated and we would like to thank them all for their support. We also would like to thank to The Faculty of Architecture of TU Delft, which provided the seminar location in the new faculty building, and to OTB Research Institute, which provided its facilities for the organization of the seminar.

There are a number of people that we would like to mention, whose support was of great value to us.

We would like to thank Prof. Vincent Nadin, from Chair of Spatial Planning and Strategy for his wide support and advice on this project. Likewise, we are very thankful to Dr. Marco van der Land from OTB for his encouragement. We would also like to thank Patrick Healy from Faculty of Architecture for his suggestions on organising the seminar. Our special thanks go to the seminar keynote speakers: Prof. Talja Blokland, Prof. Matthew Carmona, and Prof. Rob Shields, who made a room in their busy schedule to come to Delft, give lectures and supervise the workshops of the seminar.

We would especially like to thank Eveline Vogels, Secretary of the Organizing Committee, who made enormous efforts in order to make this conference happen. For



the beautiful layout of the seminar posters and proceedings, we would like to thank Itziar Lasa Epelde.

Our final thanks are reserved for each and every one of you participants who have made personal efforts in order to come here, to present and to discuss your research and to learn from one another.

With great pleasure, we all welcome you to Delft...

*Wenda van der Laan Bouma-Doff (TU Delft, OTB Research Institute)*  
*Ceren Sezer (TU Delft, Department of Urbanism)*

# Seminar Schedule



# The PhD Seminar on Public Space

Thursday March 19th 2009

8.00 Registration and Coffee

## Workshop 1: Public Space and Neighbourhood Quality

8.30 **Opening**

◇ Welcoming Speech by Vincent Nadin (Professor of Spatial Planning and Strategy)

9.00 – 10.00 **Key Note Speech**

◇ **Home in Streets and Squares. The Relevance of Public Space**  
*Talja Blokland (Humboldt University Berlin, Germany & OTB Research Institute, Professor of Spatial Planning and Strategy, Delft University of Technology, the Netherlands)*

10.00 – 12.00 **Power Point Presentations**

10.00 ◇ **The Legitimate Use of Public Space: Comparing Milan and Barcelona**

*Roberta Marzorati (Dipartimento di Sociologia e Ricerca Sociale, Università degli Studi di Milano, Italy & Departament de Sociologia, Universitat Autònoma de Barcelona, Spain)*

**Discussant:** Benjamin Michelon

10.30 ◇ **Gallatin Road: A Sketch of a Low Income Commercial Strip**

*Samuel Shaw (Vanderbilt University, Nashville Tennessee, United States of America)*

**Discussant:** Susanne Komossa

11.00 **Break**

11.15 ◇ **The Transformation of the Dutch Urban Block in Relation to the Public Realm; Model, Rule and Ideal**

*Susanne Komossa (Faculty of Architecture, Delft University of Technology, the Netherlands)*

**Discussant:** Samuel Shaw

- 11.45     ◇    **The Local Market in Kigali as Controlled Public Space: Adaptation and Resistance by Local People to “Modern City Life”**  
*Benjamin Michelin (Ecole Polytechnique Fédérale de Lausanne, Switzerland)*  
**Discussant:** Sandra Simoni
- 12.15     **Feedback and Discussion**
- 13.15     **Lunch**

### Poster Presentations Public Space and Neighbourhood Quality

- ◇    **Neighbourhood Structure and Public Space: Implications for Low-Income Women’s Social Networks and Emotional Well-Being**  
*Alexandra Curley (Department of Urban Renewal and Housing, OTB Research Institute, Delft University of Technology, the Netherlands)*
- ◇    **Promoting Physical Well-Being in Public Space**  
*Marjolein van Esch & Machiel van Dorst (Faculty of Architecture, Delft University of Technology, the Netherlands)*
- ◇    **The Retraining of the Open Space in the Great Residential Complexes of the Public Outskirts**  
*Andrea Iaconi (Faculty Architecture Florence, Italy)*
- ◇    **Being Side by Side. On Changing Neighbourhood and Family Relations in Yenimahalle, Ankara, Turkey**  
*Övgü Pelen (Architecture History, METU, Ankara, Turkey)*

## Workshop 2: Public Space Interventions

- 14.00 - 15.00     **Key Note Speech**  
 ◇ **Contemporary Public Space: Critique and Classification**  
*Matthew Carmona (Bartlett School of Planning, University College London, United Kingdom)*
- 15.00 - 17.00     **Power Point Presentations**
- 15.00     ◇ **Public Space: Open to Everybody – But How? Street Art as a Threat or a Prospect**  
*Emma Paulsson (Department of Landscape Architecture, Swedish University of Agricultural Sciences, Sweden)*  
**Discussant:** Marian Simón Rojo
- 15.30     ◇ **Urban Lighting and Public Spaces at Night**  
*Sandra Mallet (Laboratoire Vie Urbaine, Institut d'Urbanisme de Paris, France)*  
**Discussant:** Ceren Sezer
- 16.00     **Break**
- 16.15     ◇ **How does a Neighborhood Street work als a Social Contact Place between Residents and Strangers of a Neighborhood in Amsterdam?**  
*Ceren Sezer (Faculty of Architecture, Delft University of Technology, the Netherlands)*  
**Discussant:** Sandra Mallet
- 16.45     ◇ **Public Spaces in Small Cities in a Shrinking Region. Putting Public Interest back into the Agenda**  
*Marian Simón Rojo (Universidad Politécnica de Madrid, Spain)*  
**Discussant:** Emma Paulsson
- 17.15     **Feedback & Discussion**
- 18.15     **Drinks (at OTB Research Institute)**

Poster Presentations Public Space Interventions

◇ **Modelling Costs and Quality of Housing Units and Public Spaces for Improving Public-Private Collaboration in New Residential Developments – Case Guayaquil, Ecuador**

*Alina Delgado Boborquez & Frank DeTroyer (Department of Architecture, Katholieke Universiteit Leuven, Belgium)*

◇ **Urban Literacy: Developing Tools to Analyse and Operationalise the Lived Experience of Public Urban Space**

*Klaske Havik (Faculty of Architecture, Delft University of Technology, the Netherlands)*

◇ **Public Space Network; Sustainability and Life Quality**

*Roozbeh Naghsbinih (Architecture and Society Faculty, Politecnico di Milano, Italy)*

◇ **Measuring, The Publicness' of Public Space: Toward a New Model**

*Georgiana Varna (Department of Urban Studies, University of Glasgow, United Kingdom)*

◇ **Transformation of Public Spaces as a Result of Power-Knowledge Strategy in Armed Conflict Time- Second Intifada- Palestine**

*Zahraa Zawawi (Centre for Urban Research COSMOPOLIS - City, Culture & Society, Vrije Universiteit Brussel, Belgium)*

## Friday March 20th 2009

### Workshop 3: Politics of Public Space

- 8.30      **Coffee**
- 9.00 - 10.00      **Key Note Speech**  
**Politics of Public Space**  
*Rob Shields (Faculty of Arts, University of Alberta, Canada)*
- 10.00 - 12.00      **Power Point Presentations**
- 10.00      ◇ **The Political Struggle on and at Kizilay Square with Respect to Perceived, Conceived and Lived Public Space before and after 1980**  
*Yasemin Ilkay (Department of Urban Policy Planning and Local Governments, Middle East Technical University, Ankara, Turkey)*  
**Discussant:** Sabine Knierbein
- 10.30      ◇ **The Little Tactics of Home and Habitat: Micro-Politics of Public Space in a Multi-Ethnic Neighborhood**  
*Leeke Reinders (OTB Research Institute for Housing, Urban and Mobility Studies, Delft University of Technology, the Netherlands)*  
**Discussant:** Glenda Garelli
- 11.00      **Break**
- 11.15      ◇ **'Can you hear me?' - Phone Centers and the Struggle for Public Space**  
*Glenda Garelli (College of Urban Planning and Public Affairs, University of Illinois, Chicago, United States of America)*  
**Discussant:** Leeke Reinders
- 11.45      ◇ **The Production of Public Spaces and the Politics of Attention**  
*Sabine Knierbein (Institute for European Urban Studies, Faculty of Architecture, Bauhaus-University Weimar, Germany & Faculty of Architecture and Spatial Planning, Vienna University of Technology, Austria)*  
**Discussant:** Yasemin Ilkay
- 12.15      **Feedback and Discussion**
- 13.15      **Lunch**
- 14.00      **Field Trip (Rotterdam)**
- 19.00      **Supper (Rotterdam)**

**Poster Presentations Politics of Public Space**

◇ **Contradictions in East Germany's Small Towns: Public Spaces as Lost Arenas of Civil Society?**

*Thomas Bürk (Leibniz-Institut für Regionalentwicklung und Strukturplanung, Germany)*

◇ **The Neglected Zone**

*Anna Casaglia (Dipartimento di Sociologia e Ricerca Sociale, Università degli Studi di Milano Bicocca, Italy)*

◇ **Public Space or Spaces for Diverse Publics?**

*Alexander G. Vollebregt (Faculty of Architecture, Delft University of Technology, the Netherlands)*





# Keynote Speakers



**Talja Blokland** is professor in urban and regional sociology at the Humboldt University in Berlin, Germany. She got her PhD from the University of Amsterdam in 1998; she then was a visiting fellow at Yale University and the University of Manchester. After a brief period as a lecturer there, she became a Fellow of the Royal Netherlands Academy of Arts and Sciences. From 2004 until 2009, she has worked as a senior researcher and program leader at the OTB at TU Delft, where she continues to be affiliated. Talja Blokland is author of *Urban Bonds* (Polity, 2003) and edited together with Mike Savage *Networked Urbanism* (Ashgate, 2008). Her recent journal articles include papers on urban violence, qualitative research methods in housing studies, and social networks and social capital in urban neighbourhoods, drawing on ethnographic research conducted in New Haven, CT. The paper presented today draws on a book published in Dutch in 2009 (*Oog voor Elkaar*, Amsterdam University Press 2009).

**Matthew Carmona** is Professor of Planning and Urban Design and Head of the Bartlett School of Planning, UCL. He has previously lectured at the University of Nottingham and before that worked as a researcher at Strathclyde and Reading Universities and as an architect in practice.

His research has focused on the policy context for delivering better quality built and natural environments, having worked on a range of research projects examining:

- design policies and guidance
- design coding
- residential design and development processes
- delivering urban renaissance
- the value of urban and architectural design
- the working relationships between housing providers and planners
- measuring quality in planning
- managing external public space
- local environmental quality and standards
- contemporary London squares

Matthew is on the editorial board of 'Urban Design Quarterly',

is European Associate Editor for the 'Journal of Urban Design', and edits the 'Design in the Built Environment' book series for Ashgate. In 2002 he worked with Norman Foster & Associates to win the West Kowloon Cultural District International Master-planning competition. He is Vice Chair of the RTPI's Research and Knowledge Committee and serves on CABE's Research Reference Group.

**Rob Shields** is a reader in Department of Sociology, Faculty of Arts in University of Alberta in Canada. He studied sociology and anthropology and his research interests are space and culture, urban / virtual research. Some of his books are *Places on the Margin: Alternative Geographies of Modernity* (Routledge, 1991), *Lefebvre: Love and Struggle – Spatial Dialectics* (Routledge, 1999), *The Virtual* (Routledge, 2003) and *What is a City? New Orleans after Hurricane Katrina* (co-edited with Philip Steinberg, University of Georgia Press, 2008). Shields is one of the founding editors of academic journal, *Space and Culture*.



# Abstracts



# Abstracts Workshop 1

## Public Space and Neighbourhood Quality

### Key Note Presentation

#### ◇ Home in Streets and Squares. The Relevance of Public Space

*Prof. Talja Blokland*

Humboldt University Berlin, Germany & OTB Research Institute, Delft University of Technology, the Netherlands

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Social scientists traditionally focus, albeit with a growing number of exceptions, generally on a conception of community in which durable ties between individuals contribute to bonding and belonging and a sense of home, often with a spatial reference. If residents in a neighbourhood hence lacks such ties, community is believed not to exist. However, they may not only develop ties that give them a sense of community elsewhere outside of their residential environment, but community may also take on different forms and shapes in times of modern, fluid urban life with lots of transitions, diversity and changes (Soenen 2005, 2008). In this paper, then, I will address the ways in which community or anomy is experienced in short everyday interactions in public streets and squares. I argue that for people to develop a sense of home in streets and squares, they need to be able to read off social signs in their place of residence. Historically, the decrease of what I will describe as public familiarity has altered their possibilities to do so. I will end with some suggestions for urban policy and urban design that may help develop such public familiarity in contemporary cities.

## Powerpoint Presentations

### ◇ The Transformation of the Dutch Urban Block in Relation to the Public Realm; Model, Rule and Ideal

*dr. ir. Susanne Komossa*

Associate professor architectural design, Faculty of Architecture, Delft University of Technology, the Netherlands

*Email: s.komossa@bk.tudelft.nl*

**Keywords:** architecture - urbanism - urban block - Dutch urban block-transformation - public domain - urban economy - Amsterdam - Rotterdam - architectural model - typo-morphological research - plan analysis - urban sociology

The research focuses on the transformation of the urban block in relation to the public realm of the two great Dutch cities Amsterdam and Rotterdam throughout the last 400 years. In order to analyse the process of transformation, Dutch urban blocks are selected that can be considered paradigmatic for different historical periods [1]. The time span covers the seventeenth and the nineteenth century, the beginning of the twentieth century, the period before and after the Second World War and from 1970 till now. The research shows that transformations of form of the Dutch urban block coincidence with moments of change in society and foremost in the public realm and city economy. As a consequence one has to accept that transformations of the architectural model - and the urban models connected - do not cause change, but are a consequence of change. Socio-cultural and economic alteration on one hand and architectural and urban models and their rules on the other are mediated by social cultural and economic ideals that a society strives for. Because of that, models and rules are not value-free but should be examined carefully.

As architects and urban designers we have to understand the inner logic [2] that binds the model and its rules to the ideals of society and we have to recognize the nature of the process of continuous transformation. We should be conscious of the often hidden ideals connected to architectural models in order to develop adequate designs. Only this can prevent us from designing architectural and urban models that are already outdated during their state of

<sup>1</sup> Komossa, Susanne, Han Meyer, Nynke Jutten, Sabien Thomaes; Atlas van het Hollandse bouwblok; Bussum, Thoth 2003, English edition: Atlas of the Dutch urban block, Thoth, Bussum 2005

<sup>2</sup> Castex, J., C.-Ch. Depaule, Ph. Panerai; Formes Urbaines: de l'îlot à la barre; Bordas, Parijs 1977, Dutch edition: De rationele stad, Van bouwblok tot wooneenheid; SUN, Nijmegen 1984 (2003)



becoming.

The research links sociological and economic notions, that pay a reference to the physical structure of the city, and techniques like close reading to methods more specific for the field of architecture and urbanism, especially to typo-morphological and typological research and the Delft method of decoding architectural precedents by plan analysis. One could state, in this research the combination of existing methods leads to a new research strategy and surprising results.

The paper for the 'Phd-seminar on public space' 19/20 March 2009 will focus on the relation between the form of the urban block and the qualities of the public domain. It will also show how urban and architectural model are interconnected, for example in the way in which models for urban extension or transformation reflect the relation between urban block and public domain on a bigger scale.

### ◇ **The Local Market in Kigali as Controlled Public Space: Adaptation and Resistance by Local People to “Modern City Life”**

*Benjamin Michelin*

Collaborateur scientifique, Chaire UNESCO des Technologies en faveur du développement

Direction de la Coopération, Ecole Polytechnique Fédérale de Lausanne,  
Switzerland

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The urbanization of the world is causing a profound change in urban practices. This process is clearly visible in the slums of African cities where most city dwellers live. Their inhabitants have to redefine their identity, which creates tension between integrating the modern, imaginary world of the “globalised” city and maintaining their sense of belonging that has its roots in traditional communities and their ways of thinking.

To observe and analyze the emergence of this new form of mixed “urban life”, we focus on one type of public space, local markets, since this is where the flows of people and goods in a city can be seen, a place where the neighbourhood, the city and the countryside intersect. We focus especially on Kigali in Rwanda, a growing city where slum dwellers’ means of spatial appropriation and representation reflect how newcomers to the city construct new identities and forms of society.

## ◇ Gallatin Road: A Sketch of a Low Income Commercial Strip

*Samuel C. Shaw*

Graduate student and urban sociologist, Vanderbilt University in Nashville, Tennessee, United States of America

*Email: samuel.shaw@vanderbilt.edu*

Sprawling commercial strips receive very little attention among urban scholars, and when they do they are represented either as anathema to intelligent urban design, as asocial spaces given over to the automobile and American consumerism, or they are lamented as representing the loss of community. But these vernacular spaces are far more common than Chicago's South Side, New York's Greenwich Village, or any other 'vital' urban spaces that ethnographers overwhelmingly focus on. Gallatin Road, in relatively poor East Nashville, Tennessee provides an opportunity to take seriously the lived experience of this very common type of twenty-first century urban environment. This paper explores several themes related to issues of public space, and that lay the groundwork for an innovative urban ethnography of the automobile-centric, vernacular commercial strip, including: a) issues of automobility and immobility, b) the spatial organization of low-income and auto-centric amenities and commercial uses, c) and the commercial strip as a 'fluid' spatial boundary that separates East Nashville's residents along racial and class lines.

## ◇ Formal Modification Strategies for the Construction of Public Spaces in Urban Regeneration Projects of European Cities

*Sandra Simoni*

PhD Candidate, University of Rome "La Sapienza", Rome, Italy

*Email: sandra.simoni@gmail.com*

The construction or reconstruction of outdoor public spaces is key aspect of many urban regeneration projects in suburban or derelict areas of various European cities. This paper analyses three case studies of urban regeneration in Denmark, France and Scotland in order to trace common patterns and recent trends. The focus of this study is on the modifications undertaken on the organisation of the city in order to link public spaces organically to the urban fabric.

In all the cases under scrutiny, the provision of public spaces is derived from the actual shape of the neighbourhood, so that the

relationship between built areas and free spaces becomes the main element orienting urban choices. The renewal projects end in identifying new sources of interdependence between buildings, streets and squares, in order to create a network of different mixed use outdoor public spaces. This kind of urban structure resembles historical city centres to the extent to which it gives a central role to the formal design of space that is defined before the functional organisation of places.

## Poster Presentations

### ◇ **Neighbourhood Structure and Public Space: Implications for Low-income Women's Social Networks and Emotional Well-being**

*Alexandra M. Curley*

Department of Urban Renewal and Housing, OTB Research Institute, Delft University of Technology, the Netherlands

*Email: A.M.Curley@tudelft.nl*

This paper contributes evidence from a longitudinal study of public housing relocatees in Boston, Massachusetts. Quantitative and qualitative methods uncovered different ways in which neighborhood structure, public spaces, and facilities can shape social networks, emotional well-being, and feelings of safety. Multivariate analyses of survey data indicate that neighborhood facilities and public spaces such as parks, libraries, and recreation facilities, were strong predictors of generalized trust and shared norms among neighbors. Further, in-depth interviews with relocated women revealed the important role neighborhood structure and resources played in shaping women's encounters and social ties in their new neighborhoods. Many women who moved to private market housing with vouchers experienced improvements in emotional well-being due to the increased sense of privacy and dignity such an environment brought; but at the same time they encountered neighborhood structures that impeded encounters and ties with people in their communities. A discussion of why neighborhood resources may be so important for social networks and well-being is presented, and implications for policies aimed at improving poverty neighborhoods and low-income people's access to social capital are considered.

## ◇ Promoting Physical Well-Being in Public Space

*Marjolein van Esch MSc*

PhD Candidate, Environmental Design, Climate Design / Building Physics, Faculty of Architecture, Delft University of Technology, the Netherlands

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*Machiel van Dorst PhD*

PhD Candidate, Climate Design / Building Physics, Faculty of Architecture, Delft University of Technology, the Netherlands

The last decades building densities have increased rapidly, and they can be expected to increase more if approaches to stimulate intensive land use are to be followed. For the liveability of these dense urban environments its microclimates are of great importance, since microclimates can significantly affect the physical well-being of urban dwellers. An urban microclimate can be defined as the distinctive climate in a small-scale urban area, and is constituted by the influence of the built environment on the larger scale climatic conditions. In other words: the spatial layout of a neighbourhood sets the conditions for its microclimates.

There is a significant body of scientific knowledge on the influence of the built environment on microclimates, but it is difficult to directly apply this knowledge to urban designs and plans. This paper proposes a framework for the structuring and translating of scientific climatic knowledge into information that is useful in the different phases of the design process. This tool will enable designers and planners to estimate the influence of their spatial design choices on the (future) microclimate and also has the capacity to play a role as a communication tool in a multi-actor environment. This will help creating conditions for urban microclimates that favour physical well-being.

## ◇ The Retraining of the Open Space in the Great Residential Complexes of the Public Outskirts

*Andrea Iacononi*

PhD Candidate Urban Project, Faculty Architecture Florence, Italy

*Email: andrea.iacononi@unifi.it*

This contribution put attention on physical dimension of the public space that today involves a relationship with the idea of void. Even if we speak of transformation of the classical idea of space public – the “slow places” traditional, the plaza telematic or the cyberspace – can be noticed as physical articulation (pla-

zas, roads, parks, libraries, stations, hypermarkets...) has tightly assumed today a correlated meaning of the idea of open space and freely accessible to everybody. Nevertheless the urban voids acquire an importance which spaces of retraining (connection and relationship among the parts of the city). Particularly the attention is set to the districts of great dimensions been born in the post war period in which the open space was residual and not subject of project. In the sense it purchases thickness the project of ground in the retraining of the peripheral districts, renewing the continuity between the residence and the collective space. Is put in evidence the role of the public spaces in the urban centrality as system of free spaces in the physical continuity, place of intersection among thematic and plain different; an idea of city of "wide sweaters" that takes form from the sketch of the open spaces.

### ◇ **Being Side by Side. On Changing Neighbourhood and Family Relations in Yenimahalle, Turkey**

*Övgü Pelen*

PhD Candidate in METU Architecture History, METU, Turkey

*Email: ovgupelen@gmail.com / ovgupelen@yahoo.com*

In this paper, one of the most important issues to be discussed is the social relations of reproduction regarding neighbourhood and family relations. As a unique case in Turkish housing history, Yenimahalle have always had strong neighbourly relations due to several socio-economical and cultural reasons.

Together with the changing physical environment, Yenimahalle faced a rapid transformation process concerning the socio-cultural life. With the alteration of the original fabric and rapid construction of apartment blocks, inhabitants encountered with insufficient urban environment and an increasing population. The homogeneity of Yenimahalle inhabitants disturbed with the changing population. These factors affected the neighbourly ties and family relations there. In this paper, the transforming environment with its causes and effects will be explored. Therefore, it can be said that the aim of the paper is to draw attention to the dissolving relationships between neighbours and family members in a socio-physical perspective. As a survey method, interviews with five people who used to live or still living in Yenimahalle conducted. The scope of this paper will be limited with the changing neighbourhood and family relations in Yenimahalle. It seeks to investigate the changing relations between public space, neighbourhood, neighbourhood qualities and neighbourliness.

# Abstracts Workshop 2

## Public Space Interventions

### Key Note Presentation

#### ◇ Contemporary Public Space: Critique and Classification

*Prof. Matthew Carmona*

Bartlett School of Planning, University College London, United Kingdom

*Email: m.carmona@ucl.ac.uk*

This paper draws upon different scholarly traditions to highlight the key tensions at the heart of the contemporary public space debate. Critiques of public space can broadly be placed into two camps, those who argue that public space is over-managed, and those who argue that it is under-managed. This over-simplifies a complex discourse on public space that this paper aims to unpack, but nevertheless provides a useful lens through which to view the critiques. In fact there are a series of discrete but related critiques of the contemporary public space situation, and it is these that the first part of this paper identifies and organises. In so doing it also reveals a range of public space types that are used in the second part of the paper to suggest a new typology of public space. All this provides a conceptual framework for a review of contemporary public space in London, an eighteen month research project that is currently underway at UCL and which will be outlined as a conclusion to the paper.

## Powerpoint Presentations

### ◇ Urban Lighting and Public Spaces at Night

*Sandra Mallet*

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In France, a new way of urban lighting of the public spaces at night was born in the late 1980s. A consensus exist around two ideas: nowadays, the urban lighting must be more qualitative and designed as a more global scale than before, throughout the scale of a city or a neighbourhood.

The analysis I propose is based on the study of three French cases: the cities of Paris, Saint-Denis and Bordeaux. It wants to show the political principles of the today's lighting of a city.

It reveals that urban lighting stays only designed for a mise en scène of the day-time city, that is to say, a city to admire, more than to practice. It builds an image of a false city, unreal and dreamed that ignores the real urban night-time, its ambiances and its problems.

In this presentation, I also analyse the processes used by lighting designers and policies: the technical masteries of dark and light and the use of symbols associated with night and light.

### ◇ Public Space: Open to Everybody – But How? Street Art as a Threat or a Prospect

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**Keywords:** street art, public space, urban planning, creativity, accessibility

Street art, a form of local urban intervention, encounters strong oppositions from many planners. Making an imprint in public space is, for the most part, only legal if you advertise or if the municipality commissions you. By unlawfully taking up space in the city, streets artists challenge the laws and unwritten rules that make up the foundation of contemporary design and regulation of public space.

Are these illegal actions a threat against an open and democratic city where public space should be accessible to everybody? Or are

they prospects for a more democratic and creative public space? In this paper, street art is studied as an example to illustrate different interpretations of the right to public space, and to discuss whether the promotion of local interventions can contribute to a more democratic public space and if they can be catalysts for city development in general.

Photographic mapping and interviews with street artists and planners are linked to literature on city development and public space.

### ◇ How does a neighborhood street work as a social contact place between residents and strangers of a neighborhood in Amsterdam?

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**Keywords:** street morphology, social contact, urban design, Amsterdam

Classic texts have argued that the street is a core place of social engagement between locals and strangers of a neighborhood (Jacobs, 1961, Gans, 1962). Some studies on street morphology suggest that certain street forms tend to facilitate activities for the engagement of urban groups (public-ness), while certain forms support desires for exclusivity, isolation, and may create urban enclaves (private-ness) (Alexander, 1965; Pope, 1996; Hillier, 1996).

In this framework, this paper questions how the street functions as a contact place between locals and strangers in Amsterdam. To do so, it presents empirical work based on a comparison between ten case studies in the city, chosen according to their street configuration, physical layout, activities, time use, control and public transportation accessibility. Considering these variables, the analysis maps the spatial potentials of each case study street to support the facilities to bring locals and strangers together. The findings are compared to show the distribution (structure) of ‘public’ quality of the street in Amsterdam.

The paper concludes by translating the research findings into spatial recommendations to shift a street in Amsterdam from “socially passive” place to a “socially active” place.



## ◇ **Public Spaces in Small Cities in a Shrinking Region. Putting Public Interest back into the Agenda**

*Marian Simón Rojo*

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There is no shortage of technical recommendations and guidelines on public spaces design to enhance public life. But if these guidelines are to be effective, special consideration is required for the stage that precedes design, namely the stage at which public space goals are set. The research presented in this paper analyzes the shifting urban patterns in small cities along Duero corridor (Spain) since 1985. The study of the urban planning instruments developed over the last decades for this region reveals a recurring political strategy that significantly explains the loss of urban vitality: Local and regional governments oriented their efforts to attract business and industry, while goals of public interest and well-being almost vanished from the agenda, or at the very best were secondary to economic growth and competitiveness. The research concludes with a methodological proposal to expose goal inconsistency through the plans at different scales and to visualize their spatial translation into what Max Neef described as synergic satisfactors of human needs.

## Poster Presentations

### ◇ **Modelling Costs and Quality of Housing Units and Public Spaces for Improving Public-Private Collaboration in New Residential Developments – Case Guayaquil, Ecuador**

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Over the last 15 years Guayaquil Municipality invested in major urban renewal projects: a new waterfront was built, inner city and

main parks reshaped, historical neighborhoods and sale markets rebuilt, mass transport improved, some informal settlements were regularized and a social housing project started. In 2004 UNDP recognize this activity as a best practice in local development. Nevertheless there is still a great necessity for provision of urban residential developments and basic services. For those major projects collaboration between the public and the private sector will be required in order to mobilise enough funds. The public sector should take care of the quality of the public spaces (streets, squares, parks) and the coherent planning in space and time (location of services and commercial spaces). This will add value to private developments. Private developers should become aware of opportunities to provide a whole range of dwelling types with basic qualities and upgrading and expansion possibilities for a mixture of social groups. A balance between increased costs and better quality should lead to a win-win situation between public and private sector. Models are elaborated to simulate different scenarios for developing a range of dwelling types (including cost and qualities leading to a certain market value), for providing infrastructure and public spaces (and by doing so influence market value of privately developed dwelling units), for phasing projects and for comparing different approaches of subsidising new urban developments. The aim of the models is to guide the collaboration between stakeholders in coming to an integrated approach for providing better, more variety, beautiful and feasible urban developments.

### ◇ **Urban Literacy: Developing Tools to Analyse and Operationalise the Lived Experience of Public Urban Space**

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In 2000, Charles Landry introduced the notion of ‘urban literacy’ as a tool for urban innovation. (1) He defined ‘urban literacy’ as a way to read the urban environment. In this paper, I will show how urban literacy can be developed into a research and design approach in which the everyday realm of ‘lived space’ plays a part. Lived space (2), space as experienced and lived through, can often be encountered in literary writings. If existing literature can offer insights in how people experience their environment, a literary approach, using instruments from literature, is conceivable within

the domain of design.

Therefore, I will introduce a number of literary techniques that allow not only to 'read' public urban spaces but also to 'write' them. Student work of the Public Realm studio in Delft will be shown to illustrate how this can result in interventions in public space.

### ◇ **Public Space Network; Sustainability and Life Quality**

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Like public space, which is now one of the first challenges among the urban designers, public space network has now become another considerable subject in the urban designing discipline.

The public space network beside the all importance of public space itself, contain other particular critics in which can be mentioned: the relation between urban cores and the urban sprawl through the series of connected public spaces – whether open or not – and the sustainability of the cities by qualifying and providing equilibrium among the different part of urban diffusion.

In addition, it is clear that through a public space networks, the critic nodes according to the cultural, historical and social point of view are those which situated in the urban cores while the natural and green public spaces expected to be find along the territory borders. Therefore it is important to dedicate the high priority to the urban cores' public spaces.

The next question will be how could be possible to extend the public space networks through a dense, restricted, conserved texture of this zone. Referring to the urban experiences in the cities such as Barcelona and the evolution of the public spaces in this city through the previous 20-25 years or Rotterdam in the other hand the primary guide lines have been already exposed; the new definition which Bohigas has described for the streets, squares and eventually public spaces can help any further urban design for the urban cores.

Recently there are new theories and even architecture organization properly assigned to the subject of public spaces and public space network through the cities and especially urban cores.

<sup>1</sup> Charles Landry, *The Creative City- a toolkit for urban innovators*, Comedia / Earthscan, London 2000, pp. 165

<sup>2</sup> Henri Lefebvre, *The production of space*, London, 1991 (*La Production d'espace*, Paris 1974)

“Creating public spaces centering on traffic focal points throughout the city [that] would significantly affect the rehabilitation of city centers... in terms of urban design we must create city corridors, city rooms and transportation exchanges at strategic points in the city; and second we must realize that these new focal points become urban generators. The architect does not concern himself with the ways city corridors and rooms will be used...” theory of group form Maki.

Moreover, having a quick view through the recent urban programs for the candidates’ cities of the EXPO project, declare the priority of the public spaces – more than building function or functional zoning programs – inside the city cores. For instance Milan, which recently has been chosen for the expo 2015, dedicated a lot of attention to the studying projects and researches base on the public spaces among the master plan of expo path in and outside the Milan urban core.

In conclusion, it is important for the sustainability and the life quality of each city to study and improve its public space networks, especially through the city cores and towards the territory borders for sure.

My research on public space network and the transformation of the south west of Milan according to the Expo path  
Barcelona Public spaces and public space networks inside the urban plan of cerda’

## ◇ Measuring ‘The Publicness’ of Public Space: Toward a New Model

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When considering the question: ‘How “public” is a public space?’ many writings adopt a descriptive and typically unilateral disciplinary view. Drawing on this diverse literature (Carr, 1992; Sorkin, 1992; Mitchell, 1997; Zukin, 2000; Madanipour, 2003; Massey, 2005; Mensch, 2007) and applying different disciplinary lenses to the concept of public space, this paper proposes a more holistic, multi-disciplinary tool for assessing the publicness of public places.

It starts by accepting that the concept “publicness” of public space is both complex and ambiguous – in other words it is slippery. It therefore tries to establish and stabilize its meaning by defining

and then investigating six meta-themes of publicness: Ownership, Physical configuration, Access, Use, Power, and Meaning.

It then attempts to apply this model to real life cases of public places with the aim of measuring their 'publicness'. For each meta-theme, key parameters/metrics/indicators are proposed in order to accurately define them. A distinction must always be made between parameters that are consistent for all individuals and groups and those that vary between groups and/or individuals. The parameters are then calibrated and placed on a scale from 1 to 5, with each stage defined as precisely as possible. These can then be displayed pictorially using a star diagram which in turn becomes a graphic and numeric illustration of each case study public place. The star diagrams therefore provide a means of comparing and contrasting the relative publicness of different public places.

### ◇ Transformation of Public Spaces as a Result of Power-Knowledge Strategy in Armed Conflict Time- Second Intifada- Palestine

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Most of the researchers who worked on Palestinian-Israeli spatial conflict studied and analyzed it on the territorial and urban level but they didn't reach the scale of public spaces, that's why this research will take this role and study the public spaces' transformation during armed conflict time especially in the second intifada. This paper argues that the transformation that took place in public spaces in Palestine during the Second Intifada (2000-2005) was a major one compared to other times of Palestinian- Israeli conflict history and this transformation is a result of a power-knowledge strategy Israeli exercised over these spaces.

To study and analyze the transformation of public spaces as result of power-knowledge strategy from a methodological point of view. This research, therefore, will explore the critical theory (Foucault, Deleuze, Guattari) to understand the relation between power, knowledge and space, and study the chronological classification of the history of Palestinian-Israeli conflict which will lighten the major historic-geographical events.

# Abstracts Workshop 3

## Politics of Public Space

### Key Note Presentation

#### ◇ Politics of Public Space

*Prof. Rob Shields*

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This talk considers the current status of three forms of publics: 'public space', 'transnational publics', and 'public domain'. While 'public' tends to signal 'public space' for English-speakers, as in parks or urban squares, recent academic publications focus on the problems of minority or specific groups' inclusion and exclusion from the public sphere and from spaces of 'public' social interaction such as streets, shopping malls and recreational facilities. At the same time, the most far-reaching developments for the public appear to be the ongoing struggles over the public or private status of intellectual property rights and commodification of cultural texts and biological information in an entirely different 'sphere' – the 'natural'.

A public is understood in Dewey's sense as not simply bodies but also forms and protocols of association, admission and exclusion, and of engagement and denial. The paper explores the trade between the range of uses of the term 'public' and urban and regional understandings and implementations of 'public space' as a spatialization of a collectivity. Vice versa it also considers the reliance new discourses on publics have on models of public space which are fundamentally grounded in ideals of presence, faciality and engagement. What are the cultural and political implications of this network of relations between different discourses, forms and spatializations of publics?

## Powerpoint Presentations

### ◇ **The Political Struggle on and at Kızılay Square with Respect to Perceived, Conceived and Lived Public Space before and after 1980**

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Since the time it was conceived as a socio-spatial project of new established Republic of Turkey, Kızılay Square has been reproduced within its (historical) meaning, (urban) function and (spatial) form, through changing contradictions and actors within political, social and economic context. In the first half of 1960s the square turned to be both the scene and subject of political struggle as a symbolic public space within the oppositional movement to party in power. After the military coup d'état in 1960, demonstrations were expelled out of the square by legal regulations. By 1980s spatial implementations occurred as attempts to change the square from a pedestrian zone to a junction. Within this article, under the assumption of political character of the square, the perception of actors reproducing and experiencing the square will be questioned through five criteria determining public space: access, freedom of action, claims to space, change and ownership and disposition.

### ◇ **The Production of Public Spaces and the Politics of Attention**

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Since the 1980s public spaces in Berlin have become a sphere for strategic communication. Out-of-home media companies have developed different ideas to foster the installation of informa-

tion carriers. Although the distribution of information had been highly regulated still in the 1990s, a market-induced compensation model made its way into urban development processes as an 'exception'. Only in recent years, urban politicians have come to terms with such an institutional compromise by deregulating basic legal frameworks. This transformation can be interpreted as a post-fordist symptom of a general change in urban politics regarding the production of public spaces. Public spaces have become a sphere for the institutionalization of a new accumulation strategy organized around the logic of the attention economy. State institutions try to settle the extra-economic conditions to embed this strategy by following a politics of attention featuring aesthetic, economic and medial restructuring of central public spaces in the renewed German Capital.

### ◇ **The Little Tactics of Home and Habitat: Micro-Politics of Public Space in a Multi-Ethnic Neighborhood**

*Leeke Reinders*

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Public space is space which is open, accessible and does not discriminate with regard to gender, race, class, ethnicity or age. Within the advent of neoliberal strategies of surveillance and privatization, however, notions of full citizenship and public culture are increasingly seen as pressing and problematic. This paper discusses questions on the meaning and texture of space and the public body in the context of the restructuring of neighborhood space in Nieuwland, a multi-ethnic housing project located in a middle-large city in the Netherlands. Nieuwland was build after the Second World War according to the principles of modernist planning and, after a series of massive redundancies in the shipbuilding and steel industry, developed into a low income and mixed ethnic neighborhood. Since the end of the 1990s a large regeneration scheme has been initiated to differentiate the social and physical fabric through demolition of part of the housing stock and the building of new housing complexes. The paper shows how the reorganization of public and collective spaces intersects with the micro-politics of everyday life. Using ethnographic examples, a topography of public space is sketched out which relates the hard city of architecture and planning to the soft city of home, belonging and cultural meaning.



In the paper four kinds of public space are discussed. First the full spaces of intimacy and affection that link personal and collective identities to the social nuclei within a neighborhood, such as in the regularized settings of a local drugstore and neighborhood park. Second, public space is filled with spaces that are forgotten, ignored or left untouched. These empty spaces often reflect contrasts in the physical arrangement of neighborhood space or the symbolic transition from one place to the other, such as in the interstitial zones between old modernist apartment flats and new middle class housing complexes. Empty space also relates to the reactive exclusion of what is seen as strange or undesirable, such as symbolic objects which are seen as out of sight or as a hindrance, like a local mosque. These spaces do not so much define a vacuum or an absence, but rather mark out zones of intense competition. Third, the cultural construction of public space is very much defined by hot spaces within a neighborhood area. These relate to trouble spots within a neighborhood that are marked by fear, threat and social conflict. Finally, public spaces are linked with local history and collective memory, as for example in recollections of the public community gardens that used to fill up gaps between apartment flats. These memory spaces very much touch on the discourse of belonging and the lost sense of public familiarity with localized networks of neighbors, friends and family.

Through a textural topography of neighborhood space the paper argues for a more detailed, layered and ambivalent understanding of notions of public and private as they intersect with the micro-political construction of everyday life. Public space here is seen as interwoven with the manifold tactics through which people put up boundaries between themselves and the outside world, between inside and outside, and between what is close and what is distant. It uses ethnographic observation, interviews, mental mappings and photographic images to provide an alternative perspective on the professionally sanctioned cartography of local institutions. It ultimately touches on what is hidden from formal cartographies and neglected in general statistics: the intricate and sometimes conflictive spaces of meaning and texture that make up our daily public lives.

## ◇ ‘Can you hear me?’ - Phone Centers and the Struggle for Public Space

*Michela Semprebon*

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Urban policies focused on perceptions of unsafety may be theorized as a form of vengeful, revanchist urbanism (Smith, 1996), in an on-going management by political elites of constituencies’ anxieties. The resulting interventions tend to be played-out in strategies to ‘re-order’ and ‘clean’ urban space from a dangerous other (Dal Lago, 1999), towards whom all fears are catalyzed (Palidda, 2008; Petrillo, 2000). In this paper, I investigate into this form of urbanism, by drawing on empirical data collected through my phd research work in two Italian cities: Verona and Modena. In particular, I will focus on the regulation of phone centers and on related power struggles, by drawing on the narratives of all the actors involved. This will allow to shed a light on how parts of public space are being transformed through practices of control and how actors are resisting with respect to these changes.

## Poster Presentations

### ◇ Contradictions in East Germany’s Small Towns: Public Spaces as Lost Arenas of Civil Society?

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**Keywords:** small town urbanism, sustainable urban development and planning, public space xenophobia, Germany

The post-socialist transformation of former GDR small and middle- towns from East-Fordist (Matthiesen) regional industrial clusters to shrinking Post-Fordist cities in the German state of Brandenburg leads also to a new emerging symbolic order of public and private spaces. This spatial order is characterized by new infrastructures of musealized old urban city centers, privatized semi-public shopping malls, an urban periphery of former socialist flats as areas of decline and fear, of post-socialist bungalow- sub-urbanisation and old industrial derelict sites with new industrial

zones without industry (“illuminated meadows”). The urban setting in total is influenced by a strong tendency of migration of predominantly young and female, better educated urban dwellers on the one hand and the lack of immigrants and so called foreigners at the same time. One result is a public sphere - characterized depending on the perspective- by the one as warmly homely, anti-urban and communitarian cosiness, and by others as a claustrophobic setting of homogeneity, monocultural stagnation and xenophobia without strangers. Public spheres and spaces have always been contested; this could be described to be the mere character of it. In some of the cases I will focus on, the lack of actors to engage in civic and democratic initiatives arise the opportunities for right-wing activists to fill these gaps by assuming the role of model citizens. Is this emerging public imbalance with a bias of right-wing, racist activists and a consensus based on xenophobia, heterosexual normativity and social pressures of conformity a usual experience of living in small towns nowadays?

### ◇ **The Neglected Zone**

*Anna Casaglia*

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Nicosia is the last divided capital of Europe, since a buffer zone, patrolled by the UN, divides it in two parts, one Greek-Cypriot and the other Turkish-Cypriot, since 1963. There are three crossing points through which people can go on the other side, crossing the UN area. The rest of the buffer zone is still a no man's land, which covers a big part of that which was the core of the city. In the progress of time the division has represented not only a physical barrier between the North and the South, but also a tool for the construction of memories and identities based on a lost space. It is a space charged with meanings, even if, or exactly because, it is neglected. In this context I will analyze how power relations have been reflected on this space and how people relate to it and are affected by it, trying to understand the significance of the loss of this space and the role it assumes in the construction of the city's identity.

## ◇ Public Space or Spaces for Diverse Publics?

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This paper investigates certain limitations inherent in concepts and designs using the notion of ‘public space’ in regards to the contemporary city. Revisiting origins of spatial and linguistic tools of modernism in regards to the fabrication of a city predominantly homogeneous in its socio-cultural makeup, the research strives to find alternative approaches in which polemics apparent in the current urban field can sensibly be (re)addressed. Particularly notions concerning integration and segregation in the public realm in a moment when cultural diversity is gradually emerging as the hallmark of our time.

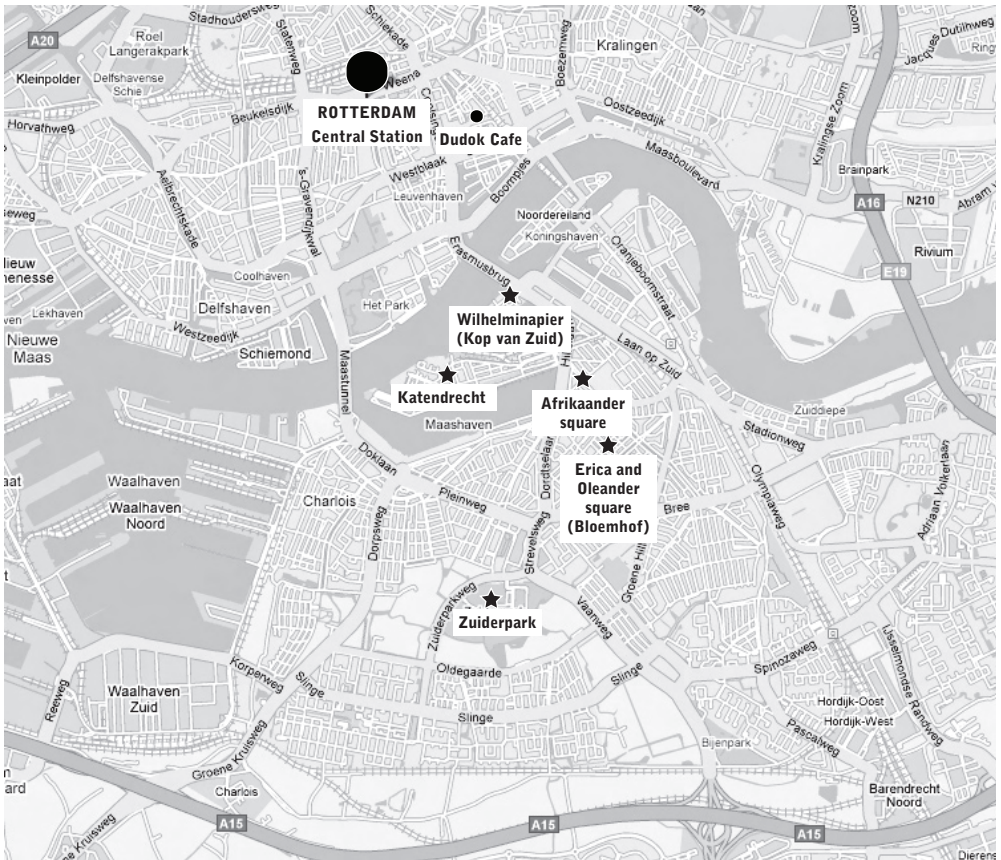
We are well aware that we cannot solve problems with the same language and tools that created them, as such, can we open our field of perception and opt to perceive the city as a field of urban processes of movement, convergence and temporal crystallizations, and if so, how can instruments be devised to propose sustainable policies and design tools through an enhanced sensibility? If the city and its creative potentialities are to be unleashed, then forging enabling spaces is the quest for the spatial designer, may they be architect or urbanist. Through the reconceptualization of ‘public space’ as ‘spaces for diverse publics’ a conceptual pathway is proposed enriching a sensibility to the actual complexities in everyday social-spatial urbanisms, gradually moving from spaces of constraints to spaces of affordance.



# Field Trip



# The Field Trip Schedule in Rotterdam



## 13:30 Leaving Delft by Bus

The fieldtrip will be organized by the organisation “Pact op Zuid” (South Pact) and the municipality of Rotterdam. This is a jointly investment program for the South of Rotterdam initiated by the housing associations, the municipality and local municipalities. We are delighted that the involved professionals are willing to show us some of their projects.

First, we will be welcomed by U Yong Hu, who will introduce the Pact op Zuid program. Next, Annemiek Fontein, dS+V (department of urban planning and housing) will explain the importance of public space for Rotterdam South neighbourhoods and will shortly introduce the projects that we will visit.

We will be undertaking this excursion in order to explain and demonstrate how the city of Rotterdam together with the South Pact and related stakeholders are working to achieve a higher quality of public space. The group will be divided into 3 smaller groups with different routes. The following projects and areas are shown.

**Erica and Oleander square (Bloemhof) and Zuiderpark**

**Afrikaander square and Katendrecht**

**Wilhelminapier (Kop van Zuid)**

## Debate

At the end of the afternoon a short debate is organized to exchange experiences. The participants will be asked to reflect on what they have seen during the afternoon walking tour, and to exchange their views and perceptions with the professionals.

The bus will drive us back to the city centre of Rotterdam where we will show you a few more interesting public spaces.

## Final STOP: Dudok Café for Supper!

*Address:* Meent 88, 3011 Rotterdam  
010 4333102 / [www.dudok.nl](http://www.dudok.nl)





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