

Experiential approaches to documenting and mapping the urban

An invited research seminar co-organized by the Helsinki Collegium for Advanced Studies and Tampere University, School of Architecture.

Place: Helsinki Collegium for Advanced Studies, Fabianinkatu 24, Helsinki, Common Room (3rd floor)

Date: Thursday January 31, 2019

Warmly welcome to the event!

This invitation is directed to You personally, but do not hesitate to forward it to relevant researchers, architects, artists and beyond, in case You find that they might contribute to the discussion or be interested in future collaborations.

Our key idea is to facilitate methodological development for active use of less-typical data sets (voice, sound, body, movement, stories) that help to map urban experience, and advance collaborations towards research that unearths the uniqueness of place and experience in the fields of Urban Studies and Architecture. The notions of situated work and narrative link quite a few of the participating researchers, used as tools to explore and produce in academia and practice.

More information:

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Programme (note that small changes are possible)

10:00 **Florencia Quesada, Panu Lehtovuori** - *Welcoming words & introduction to the research project “Transformational Power of the Urban” that acts as the umbrella for the event as well as the organizing institutions.*

Block I. Situated

10:10 **Florencia Quesada** – *Introduction to Block I*

10:25 **Jens Brandt** – *Play Salo: The Urban as a Space for Play, Learning and Transformation*

10:45 **Päivi Takala** – *Sense of Sound. Experiencing the City.*

11:30 **Jani Tartia** – *The Temporality and Rhythmicity of Lived Street Space – Rhythmanalytical Approaches to Everyday Urban Mobilities.*

12:15 Lunch break (paid for speakers)

Block II. Finding meaning

13:15 **Panu Lehtovuori** – *Introduction to Block II*

13:30 **Mattia Thibault** – *Urban Gamification: the Playful Reinterpretations of City Spaces*

14:15 **Katherine Borland** – *When Master Narratives Masquerade as Multiculturalism: Heritage, Confederate Monuments, and Diversity in a Northern Midwestern Neighborhood*

15:00 **Dalia Milián Bernal** – *Changing Meaning: Narratives of Temporary Appropriations of Vacant and Abandoned Urban Spaces in Latin America*

15:15 Coffee Break

Block III. Discussion session

15:30 Round table: Experiential approaches. Discussion opened and moderated by professor **Klaske Havik** / TU Delft.

Speakers

Florencia Quesada Avendaño is a research fellow at the Helsinki Collegium for Advanced Studies (HCAS) and Adjunct Professor in Latin American Studies and Development Studies, University of Helsinki. She has been trained as a historian in Costa Rica, the United States, France and Finland. Her research interests are related to urban issues in Latin America from a historical and more contemporary perspectives and they include the study of urban cultural history, sustainable tourism, urban segregation, inequalities, urban violence and environmental risks. At HCAS her research focuses on Guatemala City, first on a historical analysis of the urban and cultural transformation of the capital between 1880 and 1930. Guatemala City is also the subject of another project that she is involved, about the impact of violence and environmental risks on precarious settlements.

Panu Lehtovuori is the Professor of Planning Theory at the Tampere University, School of Architecture. Before the current position, he was the Professor of Urban Studies at the Estonian Academy of Arts in Tallinn. Lehtovuori's research interests focus on contemporary forms of public urban space, temporary uses and new approaches to urban design and its regulation. Lehtovuori is partner of Livady Architects, one of Finland's leading experts in heritage evaluation and conservation; SPIN UNIT Lab, a transnational research group combining art and science for urban studies and advanced data solutions; and Nordic Urbanism, a start-up in continued professional education and urban consulting.

Dalia Milián Bernal is a Mexican architect, graduated from the TU Darmstadt in Germany and currently conducting her doctoral research in Finland at the Tampere University, School of Architecture. Before moving to Finland, Milián worked in Mexico as an architect, researcher and as an enthusiastic lecturer at the Universidad Autónoma de Querétaro. Always being interested on the social production of space, her present research focuses on spatial and sociopolitical transformations produced by temporary appropriations of vacant, abandoned and under defined urban spaces in the context of Latin America.

Jens Brandt Teaching at the School of Architecture, Tampere, Finland and working with European partners on the UEL project - Urban Education Live: collaboration between universities and communities. Researching the topic of urbanity to produce new theory and methods of how to create cities that are more open and dynamic. My field of work can be described as a cross-connection between the build environment and public sphere: Working as a planner, facilitator, designer, artist and activist from large scale (Oresund region) to a very local scale: facilitating processes that strengthen weak communities (social housing in the suburbs of Copenhagen). Co founder of Supertanker, a Copenhagen based network working on the borders between action research, process design and urban development.

Dr. Päivi Takala is a lecturer in music technology at the Sibelius Academy of University of the Arts, Helsinki. Takala works also as a composer, sound designer, musician and a documentary film-maker. After graduating from Sibelius Academy she worked as a violinist for Helsinki Philharmonic Orchestra for almost 10 years. Takala's first, an award-winning documentary Mwe Bana

Bandi, was released in 1989. With her students she has carried through several sound projects. "Hearing Helsinki" was an international workshop at Aalto University 2008. Takala's audiovisual installation "The Most Beautiful Sound of Helsinki" was presented at Helsinki Festival in August 2012.

Jani Tartia is a grant researcher and PhD student (urban planning, urban studies) at the Tampere University, School of Architecture, with a background in environmental policy and regional studies (M.Sc.[Admin.]). Tartia is finishing his doctoral dissertation that focuses on urban rhythms and temporalities, urban mobilities, and embodied place-making.

Dr Mattia Thibault, is a Postdoctoral Researcher at Tampere University of Technology (Marie Skłodowska Curie IF). He worked as research fellow at Turin University, where, in 2017, he earned a PhD in Semiotics and Media within SEMKNOW, the first pan-European doctoral program on semiotics, and has been visiting researcher at Tartu University (Estonia), The Strong Museum of Play (Rochester, NY, US), and Helsinki University (Finland). His research interests revolve around the semiotics of play and the cultural relevance of games while his current research focuses on establishing an interdisciplinary framework for urban gamification. He has presented and organized numerous talks, conferences, and activities dedicated to these topics and he has published many peer-reviewed articles and edited several volumes, among which: *Gamification urbana: letture e riscritture ludiche degli spazi cittadini* (Aracne, 2016), *Virality, for an Epidemiology of Meaning* (with Gabriele Marino, 2018, monographic issue of the journal *Lexia*) and *I discorsi della fine. Catastrofi, Disastri, Apocalissi* (Aracne, 2018 with Vincenzo Idone Cassone and Bruno Surace).

Katherine Borland, Director of the Center for Folklore Studies and Associate Professor of Comparative Studies in the Humanities at Ohio State University, is currently serving as the Fulbright Bicentennial Chair of North American Studies at the University of Helsinki. Dr. Borland researches the politics of culture in Central and North America. Her recent publications include work on the Arts of Solidarity Activism, International Voluntourism, Women's Oral Narrative and Family Folklore.

Klaske Havik is Acting Professor of Methods & Analysis and Head of Research of the Department of Architecture at Delft University of Technology the Netherlands. She has developed a distinct research approach relating the experience and use of architecture and urban space to literary language. Her book *Urban Literacy. Reading and Writing Architecture* (Rotterdam: Nai010 2014) developed a literary approach to architecture and urban space. Other recent publications include *Writingplace. Investigations in Architecture and Literature* (2016), and "Writing Atmospheres", in Jonathan Charley (ed), *Routledge Companion to Architecture and Literature*, (London: Routledge, 2018) and *Architectural Positions: Architecture, Modernity and the Public Sphere* (2009). Havik is editor of the architecture journal *OASE*, and *Writingplace* journal for *Architecture & Literature*. As a practicing architect, Havik has been involved in urban re-use projects such as the redevelopment of ship wharf NDSM in Amsterdam. In recent years, Klaske Havik has worked with her students on the topic of the "commons" in both European and Latin-American context. From 2015-2017, she was Visiting Professor of Architecture Design at Tampere University of Technology, Finland.