

IDENTITY IN PLACE

Reconnecting Built Form with Societal Diversity

**#heritage #identity&diversity #righttothecity
#behaviour #localknowledge**

This theme explores how architecture and urban planning can support the diverse identity of present-day cities.

INTRODUCTION AND AIMS

Across the earth, places have evolved to be remarkably distinct from each other, even when their geography and climate are similar. Culture is the manmade factor that expresses this difference, most tangibly in the built environment. Culture requires supporting spaces expressing shared identity and heritage – be these daily activities or significant events – to foster societal cohesion.

Despite the importance of culture in determining how all places look and are experienced, it tends not to be a critical tool in urban design and planning. This is lost potential, especially in the present-day era of rapid urbanisation and movement, when there is often little time to grow an identity through shared heritage, as entire cities can emerge in just a few years, urban dwellers increasingly live and work between multiple cities and large portions of societies migrate to distant and culturally different places, escaping environmental, political or economic disasters that also destroy cherished urban fabrics.

How can architecture and urban planning express the diverse identity of present-day cities? Can urban practice broaden and revise the spectrum of housing, workspace, public and open space typologies in line with how societies need and use space today? Are other concepts required to illuminate the connections between people and where and how they live? How should the reconstruction of lost built fabric and the identification of heritage be approached?

ANCB FORMATS

Public Debates

Concise presentations jumpstart an interdisciplinary exchange between peers, involving a public audience. Our public debates are not about showcasing portfolios. Instead, key figures from architecture, planning, research, governance, industry, civil society and the arts take on topics ranging from climate change to the social fragmentation of our societies, anchored in the discussion of the built environment. ANCB's public debates aim at generating an understanding of the complex issues our cities and regions are facing today.

Lab Talk	Two-hour evening talks – as one-off events or a series – consisting of three to four short presentations and a moderated discussion with an interdisciplinary panel
Symposium	All-day events consisting of several panels
Exhibition Talk	Lectures and discussions in conjunction with Aedes exhibitions
Book Presentation	Book launches with talks involving the protagonists of the publication and a book sale

Workshops

University Design Studio	Students from ANCB's international partner universities and their teachers explore a globally relevant topic through specific case study sites and/or building typologies in Berlin over a two to eight-week period. The studios are enriched with lectures and urban tours tailored to the specific topic and the outcomes are presented to our local network.
Round Table	Closed expert colloquia accompanying public debates to prepare them or deepen their outcomes
Metro Lab	Workshops with students or young professionals lasting up to a week in combination with a public debate
Junior Campus	Workshops to introduce children and youth to the perception of architecture and urban space and to foster an interest in design through cultural education and aesthetic development

Collaborative Projects

ANCB and a partner from industry, governance or research collaboratively explore a particular architectural or urban question over a one to three-year period with bespoke enquiry formats including a combination of lab talks, symposia, design studios, round tables and publications.

Publications & Outputs

ANCB collects, edits and shares the processes, ideas and proposals created in its programme and invites others to contribute their experience. A unique knowledge resource, the ANCB archive includes publications, research reports and video recordings.

PROJECTS SO FAR

2020

Dialogue Series: **In Transit** with ZEIT-Stiftung, Hamburg; Austrian Cultural Forum Berlin; Norwegian Embassy, Berlin; Danish Embassy, Berlin

Book Presentation and Exhibition: **Ursula Schulz-Dornburg / Martin Zimmermann: Die Teilung der Welt. Zeugnisse der Kolonialgeschichte. Erkundungen im Archivo General de Indias in Sevilla** with Verlag Klaus Wagenbach, Berlin

2019

Lab Talk: **Transit Spaces: (Dis)Connections and the Fluid Places In-Between** with ZEIT-Stiftung, Hamburg

Symposium: **Reimagining the Region** with Tatiana Bilbao, Mexico City and CEMEX Deutschland AG

Exhibition Talk: **Kashef Chowdhury**

2018

Lab Talk: **Borders and Territories II: Spatial Representations of Connections and Disconnections** with ZEIT-Stiftung, Hamburg

Workshop: **Science. Fiction. Politics. Visible and Invisible Borders** with Bucerius Summer School/ZEIT-Stiftung, Hamburg

Film Screening: **Barcelona Pavilion and Beyond** with the Mies van der Rohe Foundation, Barcelona

Collaborative Project: **Mobilising the Periphery #5. Focus Europe. From Fragmented Periphery to Metropolitan Region** with the Schindler Transit Management Group, Ebikon

Lab Talk: **Borders and Territories: Identity in Place**

2017

Lab Talk: **Rural-Urban Transition: Strategies in Diversity** with the 2017 UABB-Bi-City Biennale of Urbanism\Architecture, Shenzhen

Lab Talk Series: **überFLUSS #6 - Der Spreekanal: Abwasserkanal oder Lebensader?** with Flussbad e. V., Berlin

Collaborative Project: **Mobilising the Periphery #4. Focus Latin America** with the Schindler Transit Management Group, Ebikon

Lab Talk: **Save and Rescue - Frei Otto's Multihalle in Mannheim** with BuroHappold Engineering, Berlin

Collaborative Project: **Cinema of the Future 2017. Hands on Cinema 2.0! Concepts for the Spatial Design and Strategic Development of Six Arthouse Cinemas** with Medienboard Berlin-Brandenburg

2016

Lecture: **How Do We Make Better Cities? The Architectural Review presents Reinier de Graaf**

Exhibition: **Expressionism and New Objectivity. The Discovery and Restoration of Haus Buchthal in Berlin**

Lab Talk: **Türme, Schlösser, Hütten. Helge Pitz: Rezepturen für die Bewahrung des historischen Erbe**

Lab Talk Series: **überFLUSS #5 - Recht auf Fluss** with Flussbad e. V., Berlin

Collaborative Project: **Mobilising the Periphery #3. Focus Sub-Saharan Africa: Informality and Urban Pattern** with the Schindler Transit Management Group, Ebikon

Lab Talk Series: **überFLUSS #4 - Copenhagen** with Flussbad e. V., Berlin

Lectures: **Designing Educational Facilities. 20th Century versus 21st Century Approaches** with the American Institute of Architects

Book Presentation: **Baumschlag Eberle 2226 - ein gebautes Manifest.** Ilka Ruby im Gespräch mit Dietmar Eberle

Collaborative Project: **Cinema of the Future 2016. Hands on Cinema! Concepts for the Spatial Design and Strategic Development of Five Arthouse Cinemas** with Medienboard Berlin-Brandenburg

2015

Exhibition Talk: **Marte. Marte Architects. Appearing Sculptural. Museumsbauten in Berlin und Krems**

Collaborative Project: **Mobilising the Periphery #2. Focus China: The New Habitat** with the Schindler Transit Management Group, Ebikon

Lab Talk Series: **überFLUSS #3 - Isarlust e.V. München** with Flussbad e. V., Berlin

Exhibition Talk: **Identity in a Floating World** with Rocco Design Architects, Hong Kong

Dialogue: **Daniel Libeskind and Tim Renner talk about Berlin**

Collaborative Project: **Mobilising the Periphery #1. Four Types Four Cases** with the Schindler Transit Management Group, Ebikon

Exhibition Talk: **Nur Kulisse oder Denkmal-Schutz? Strategien für den Umgang mit alter Bausubstanz** with gmp Architekten, Hamburg/Berlin

Symposium: **Die Altstadt von Aleppo: Strategien für den Wiederaufbau** with Deutsch-Arabisches Gesellschaft, Berlin

2014

Exhibition Talk: **Urban Interplay - Community, Identity and Space** with Francine Houben, Mecanoo architecten, Delft and Benedetta Tagliabue, EMBT, Barcelona

Exhibition Talk: **Seoul: Towards a Meta-City. Recent Urban Projects** with the City of Seoul

Lab Talk: **Baugeschichte(n) und Denkmalpflege. Zum Umgang mit Bauten der Nachkriegsmoderne** with Wüstenrot Stiftung, Ludwigsburg

Symposium: **Jerusalem - Berlin: Urban Spaces, Art and Architecture: Strategies for Raising Public Consciousness** with TU Berlin and Technion Haifa

Exhibition Talk: **Visions of the Alhambra | Álvaro Siza. New Access and Visitor Information Centre for the Alhambra World Heritage Site in Granada**

Exhibition Talk: **From a Knowledge of Space. be baumschlager eberle**

Metro Lab: **Enquiry Week: Water as Ritual** with AXOR hansgrohe, Schiltach

2013

Lab Talk: **On Contemporary Polish Architecture** with the Polish Institute Berlin and Centrum Architektury Warsaw

Symposium and Exhibition: **Madrid-Berlin. Heritage and the Transformation of the City** with Senatskanzlei Berlin and Ayuntamiento de Madrid

Film Screening: **The Human Scale** by Andreas M. Dalsgaard

Collaborative Project: **Cinema of the Future 2013. Cinematic Acupuncture. The Cinema as Social and Creative Catalyst** with Medienboard Berlin-Brandenburg

2012

Exhibition Talk: **White Mountain. Chilean Contemporary Architecture**

Exhibition Talk: **Urban PlayScapes: Initiating Encounter in the Fragmented City** with Atelier Bow-Wow, Tokyo

Symposium: **Cities and Culture and Challenge**

Collaborative Project: **Cinema of the Future 2012. New Strategies for a Neighbourhood Cinema** with Medienboard Berlin-Brandenburg

Exhibition Talk: **Profiling the European City: Notes from Copenhagen and Cologne** with Schmidt Hammer Lassen Architects, Aarhus and the City of Cologne

2011

Book Presentation: **Living and Working in the City of Knowledge**

Collaborative Project: **Cinema of the Future 2011. Back to the Future?** with Medienboard Berlin-Brandenburg

Symposium: **My Knowledge Space: A New Public Library for the 21st Century. The New Berlin Library as Prototype** with the Central and Regional Library Berlin

2010

Book Presentation: **Re-inventing Construction.** Edited by Ilka & Andreas Ruby

Dialogue: **Crossovers - How Architecture Shapes the Perception of its Context** with Nieto Sobejano, Madrid/Berlin and Jürgen Mayer H., Berlin

Book Presentations: **Improvisations on Urbanity. Trendy Pragmatism in a Climate of Change** by Ton Matton and Christoper Dell; **Of People and Houses: Architecture of Styria** by Ilka & Andreas Ruby, photography by Livia Corona

Exhibition Talk: **Mind your Behaviour - How Architecture Shapes Behaviour** with 3XN Architects, Copenhagen and Gehl Architects, Copenhagen

Lecture: **Fragments of a City - Cidade da Cultura de Galicia** with Peter Eisenman, New York

Symposium: **Abstract City: urbanes Hausen** with the University of the Arts Berlin

Lecture: **Marzahn, a World Heritage Site?** With Winy Maas, The Why Factory, TU Delft

Lecture: **Architectural Behaviourology** with Yoshiharu Tsukamoto, Atelier Bow-Wow, Tokyo

Workshop and Conference: **Re-act Lab: São Paulo Architecture Experiment** with Secretaria Municipal de Habitação of the City of São Paulo (Sehab) and S.L.U.M. Lab Columbia University, New York

2009

Lab Talk: **Los Angeles vs. Berlin. How Should Cities Deal with their Architectural Past?** With Getty Museum, Los Angeles

ANCB The Aedes Metropolitan Laboratory in Berlin is a unique interdisciplinary platform for urban discourse, exploring the interplay between built environment and social life for the future of our human habitat at an international level. Since 2009, ANCB has curated an internationally renowned discussion and enquiry programme, complementing Aedes Architecture Forum. At the centre of a global network, ANCB initiates interdisciplinary processes into critical issues facing the built environment. By bringing together proposals from architecture and spatial practice with societal and cultural discourses, technical research, political considerations and industry products, ANCB generates collaborations across conventional boundaries and facilitates exchange to explore potentials for improved sustainable living conditions around the world. Through its programme, ANCB contributes substantially to the discourse of space making in its changing political, societal and cultural frameworks. The outcomes and ideas thus generated have been captured in a series of ANCB publications and are documented in an open-access video archive.

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