

NO SPACE WITHOUT TRAITS

Using Interdisciplinary Perspectives to Explore Spatial Character

#perception #interdisciplinarity #identity&diversity
#designprocess

This theme explores the characteristics of spatial conditions, drawing from the arts, humanities and sciences.

INTRODUCTION AND AIMS

Space, from the scale of the room to the scale of the city and beyond, is the currency of architecture, urban design and spatial planning. Space also plays a fundamental role in the sciences and humanities, in cultural geography and the arts, with each field using its own terminology.

In order to improve the ability to perceive the character of places, this theme draws from activities in the arts, humanities and sciences to study the characteristics of spatial conditions and their expression.

By learning from the arts, can a discourse on perception be generated, linking space to its political and social dimensions? Can the concepts of cultural geography help depicting the fluid, rather than static, nature of present-day space? Can the methods of design be combined with those from the sciences to reveal characteristics of contemporary spatial experience?

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

2021

Book Presentation: **Charlie Koolhaas: City Lust. London Guangzhou Lagos Dubai Houston** with Scheidegger & Spiess, Zurich

Museum Dialogue: **Mark Fisher: Drawing Entertainment** with Tchoban Foundation. Museum for Architectural Drawing, Berlin

Lab Talk Series: **Wissensräume unserer Gesellschaft** with Bundesstiftung Baukultur, Potsdam

Online Conference: **d.fragmentation. Fragmentarische Positionen zur digitalen, hybriden und analogen Lehre in der Architektur** with master programme Architektur Media Management AMM, Bochum University of Applied Sciences

2020

Online Conference: **Architecture in Perspective** with American Society of Architectural Illustrators (ASAI), Hebron; Tchoban Foundation. Museum for Architectural Drawing, Berlin

2019

Symposium: **Das Skizzenbuch in Zeiten der Digitalen Transformation** with the master programme Architektur Media Management, Hochschule Bochum

Lab Talk: **Premio Berlino Fellowship 2018-2019** with the Italian Cultural Institute, Berlin

Museum Dialogue: **Álvaro Siza and the Bauhaus Legacy** with Tchoban Foundation. Museum for Architectural Drawing, Berlin

Symposium: **Extrovert Interior: Publicness and the Contemporary Museum** with KTH Royal Institute of Technology, Stockholm

2018

Museum Dialogue: **Drawing on Sketchbooks** with Tchoban Foundation. Museum for Architectural Drawing, Berlin

Museum Dialogue: **Speaking Through Sketchbooks** with Tchoban Foundation. Museum for Architectural Drawing, Berlin

Performance: **Das Arbeitende Konzert (Revision IV-V). Komposition für ein variables Ensemble** with Christopher Dell, Berlin

Lab Talk: **Premio Berlino Fellowship 2017-2018** with the Italian Cultural Institute, Berlin

2017

Film Screening: **La Cupola** by Volker Sattel

Conference: **Australia now Germany 2017. MUSEUM AS ACTIVATOR: Strategies for Public Space and Access** with Haus der Kulturen der Welt, Berlin and the Australian Government

Exhibition Talk: **Space On Demand** with Elizabeth Diller, Diller Scofidio + Renfro and Chris Dercon, Volksbühne Berlin

Museum Dialogue: **Hand-drawn Future. Architectural Drawing in the Digital Age** with Tchoban Foundation. Museum for Architectural Drawing, Berlin

Exhibition Talk: **Constructing Culture. Hong Kong's West Kowloon Cultural District**

Exhibition Talk: **Design Cultures. Urban Research and Design Methods in Europe and Asia** with Studio Zhu-Pei, Beijing and Jakob + MacFarlane, Paris

Symposium: **“ColourID“ – Farbstrategien in Architektur und Kommunikation** with the master programme Architektur Media Management, Hochschule Bochum

2016

Book Presentation: **Recording a Sensibility of Place. Ways of Seeing and Understanding by Alison and Peter Smithson**

Exhibition: **Architecture of Embodiment: an aesthetic research dispositive** with Alex Arteaga, Berlin University of the Arts

International Symposium at the Venice Architecture Biennale: **Museums and Cultural Spaces as Motor of Urban and Social Progress** with the Ministry of Culture of the Government of Moscow

Exhibition: **Zai Xing Tu-Mu. Sixteen Chinese Museums Fifteen Chinese Architects** with Zumtobel, Dornbirn

Lab Talk: **Museum Revisited** with Bauhaus Dessau Foundation

2015

Lab Talk: **Jenseits der Architekturpornographie. Über die Möglichkeiten und Grenzen des Auditiven in Zeitschriften und Wettbewerben der Architektur**

2014

Conference: **homecomings, etc. - Return and Delineation in Artistic Practice**

Lab Talk: **Dancing about Architecture. On the Critical Reflection of Body, Sound and Space in the City** with Schering Stiftung, Berlin and Schaubühne, Berlin

Conference: **Perception in Architecture. Here and Now** with the University of Sydney

Lab Talk: **Silence as Everyman's Right** with Nina Backman, Berlin

Museum Dialogue: **Lebbeus Woods. On-line** with Tchoban Foundation. Museum for Architectural Drawing, Berlin

Symposium: **Architectural Display - Aktuelle Positionen zur Architekturausstellung** with the master programme Architektur Media Management, Hochschule Bochum

Exhibition Series: **In-Between. Spatial Discourse in Visual Culture. On Cultivating Spatial Incertitudes in the City (2014 -2015)** with Lukas Feireiss, Berlin

2012

Book Presentation and Public Debate: **Sketch, Script, Score. Figures of Architectural Thinking** with Moleskine, Milan

Reading: **Blickwechsel** within the Aedes exhibition „agps clues“

2011

Dialogue: **Koolhaas - Sloterdijk. An architectural-philosophical dialogue moderated by Stephan Trüby**

Book Presentation: **Amster** by Juan Guillermo Tejada

2010

Lab Talk: **The Third Degree: Migration and Space** with Lukas Feireiss and Markus Miessen, Berlin

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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