International Conference

REBEL STREETS: urban space, art, and social movements

28 & 29 MAY 2019

MSH Val de Loire
University of Tours, Faculty of Law, Economics and Social Sciences
Rebel Streets: Urban Space, Art, and Social Movements

Art’s presence in the urban space is dynamic and interactive that communicates the complex forms of globalization, cultural hybridity, and plurality in contemporary daily life—where we experience politics. The new forms of agencies and strategies of urban creativity in the form of graffiti, wall paintings, yarn bombing, stickers, urban gardening, street performances, tactical art, creative campaigns and theatrical actions—among others—demand an active spectatorship and have a growing power to renegotiate space for new forms of political participation in the urban space.

Rebel Streets conference engages in the questions that scrutinize the complex relationships between urban space, social resistance, and art, such as: How can art in the public space be used as a weapon of resistance and a means of reconstruction? Are street artists obliged to be a part of the urban resistance against neoliberalism? How does art respond uniquely to gentrification? How do public artistic expressions reveal, delimit or question the complexity of neoliberal urbanization? How can we interpret the poetics of urban art from the perspective of subcultures, freedom of expression, and the limits of criminality? How is street art activism perceived by the authorities, politicians, businesses, and the wider public? What prompts urban artists to communicate with urban dwellers with their marks on the city’s surface? What kind of public should critical urban art try to constitute and what kind of public spaces are needed to that effect? How are symbols, slogans and visual expressions communicated in the urban space of social movements? Participants investigate the hypothesis that the aesthetic reconfiguration of the neoliberal city does not only allow for a hegemonic restructuring of the urban environment, but it also facilitates the growth of counter-hegemonic resistance.

SCIENTIFIC COMMITTEE

BENGTSEN, Peter (Art History and Sociology, Lund University)
DEBROUX, Tatiana (Geography, Université Libre de Bruxelles)
ERDI, Gülçin (Sociology, French Center for Scientific Research-CITERES)
FLORIN, Bénédicte (Geography, French Center for Scientific Research-CITERES)
GERINI, Christian (Philosophy, Université de Toulon)
HOPPE, Ilaria (Art and Philosophy, Katholische Privat-Universität Linz)
TSILIMPOUNIDI, Myrto (Geography, University of Aegean)
TUNALI, Tijen (Art History, CITERES-University of Tours)
TUESDAY 28 MAY 2019

MSH Salle Polyvalente

8H30 Welcome/Coffee

9H00 Welcome Speech
   Nora Semmoud, Director of CITERES

9H15 Opening Speech
   Tijen Tunali, PI and Organiser, University of Tours
   “Art and Urban Social Movements”

9H40 Keynote Speech
   Ilaria Hoppe, Institute of Contemporary Arts and Media, Catholic University of Linz, Austria
   “Graffiti is back: About the interconnection of visual and spatial practices in Berlin”
Parallel Sessions:

Session 1A: Art, Space and Place in the Neoliberal City
MSH Val de Loire - Salle Polyvalente

Moderator: Divya Leducq, Department of Planning, University of Tours

10H40 Panos Leventis, Drury University, Springfield, Missouri, USA
“Mapping the old city: Street art and community building in Nicosia, Cyprus”

11H10 Irit Carmon Popper, Technion-Israel Institute of Technology, Haifa, Israel
“Art Interventions as tools of civil rights in conflictual sites”

11H40 Mor Cohen, Manchester Metropolitan University, England
“Ecosophical art practices in Israeli urban spaces”

12H10 General Discussion

Session 1B: Urban Art and Everyday Resistance
MSH Val de Loire - Salle 147

Moderator: Tijen Tunali

10H40 Sreejata Roy, Revue Art Collaboration, New Delhi, India
“Street art and everyday: A Collaborative community art project engaging young women in an urban village in New Delhi”

11H10 Zeynep Ugur, EHESS, Paris, France
“From staging to enacting politics: The case of alternative theatres in Istanbul”

11H40 Justin Malachowski, University of California, Davis, USA
“Imagining the Sha`b: Exploring the fears and hopes of the new empowered political actor through the public arts in Tunisia”

12H10 General Discussion

12H30 Lunch Buffet (MSH Salle Polyvalente)

MSH Salle Polyvalente

14h00 Keynote Speech:
Julia Ramírez Blanco, Department of Art History, University of Barcelona, Spain
“Activist aesthetics in Madrid’s 2011 camp”
**Parallel Sessions:**

**Session 2A: Art and Activism on the Streets**  
*MSH Val de Loire - Salle 147*

**Moderator:** Roman Stadnicki, Department of Geography, University of Tours

15H10 **Tijen Tunali**, University of Tours  
“But is this art? Artistic activism and the rebel streets”

15H40 **Mohamed El-Shewy**, University of Warwick, England  
“The spatial and aesthetic politics of street art in post-revolution Egypt”

16H10 **Irina Kozlova**, The Russian Presidential Academy of National Economy and Public Administration, Moscow, Russia  
“This is our city: Spatial structure of street protests in contemporary Russia”

16H40 Coffee Break

16H50 General Discussion

**Session 2B: Art, Communities and Anti-Gentrification Resistance**  
*MSH Val de Loire - Salle Polyvalente*

**Moderator:** Gülçin Erdi

15H10 **Michelle Veitch**, Mount Royal University, Canada  
“Indigenous cultural resurgence and creative city discourses”

15H40 **Marie-Pierre Vincent**, University Paris 1 Panthéon-Sorbonne, Paris, France  
“Art and anti-gentrification resistance: the role of two artists in a local community market (Ridley Road market, in the borough of Hackney, Inner London”

16H10 **Heather Shirley, Todd Lawrence, Paul Lorah, Martin Beck, Tiaryn Daniels, Hannah Shogren-Smith & Chioma Uwagwu**, University of St.Thomas, Minnesota, USA  
“The urban art, landscapes, and community stories project: Mapping art, narrative, and community in St.Paul, Minnesota”

16H40 Coffee Break

16H50 General Discussion

**18H00-20H00 Opening Cocktail of Exposition Curated by Tijen Tunali**  
“The Art of the Oaxaca Commune: Right to the City, Right to Visual Democracy”
WEDNESDAY 29 MAY 2019
Faculty of Social Sciences and Economics, Salle du conseil (2nd floor)

9H00 Morning Coffee

9H30 Keynote Speech: Peter Bengtsen, Department of Arts and Cultural Sciences, University of Lund, Sweden
“Living with Street Art”

Parallel Sessions:

Session 3A: Urban Encounters: Art, Architecture and the Public in the Neoliberal Era

Faculty of Social Sciences and Economics, Salle du conseil (2nd floor)

Moderator: Christian Gerini

10H40 Christian Gerini, University of Nice Sophia Antipolis and Toulon
“The yellow vests movement in France and its expression on the walls by street artists”

11H10 Konstantinos Avramidis, Drury University, Aegina, Greece
“Writing [on] architecture in crisis-ridden Athens: The aesthetics of destruction and reconstruction”

11H40 Mathilde Vignau & Alexandre Grondeau, University of Aix-Marseille, Marseille, France
“Arts, culture and neoliberalism: instrumentalization and resistances through the case of Marseille”

12H10 General Discussion

Session 3B: Street Art Utopia and Its Discontents

Faculty of Social Sciences and Economics, Por B 2

Moderator: Ilaria Hoppe

10H40 Vittorio Parisi, University Paris 1 Panthéon-Sorbonne, Paris, France
“Neoliberalism and the death of graffiti: a “spectral” analysis”

11H10 Sandra Uskokovic & Boris Bakal, University of Dubrovnik, Croatia
“Urboglyphs - Urban figures of memory”

11H40 Tina Bitouni, Lund University, Sweden
“Racist street art: implicitness, impunity and interaction”

12H10 General Discussion

12H30 Lunch Buffet (MSH Salle Polyvalente)
Faculty of Social Sciences and Economics, Salle du conseil (2nd floor)

14H00 Keynote Speech:
Myrto Tsilimpoudini, Department of Sociology, University of the Aegean, Greece “If these walls could talk’: Political street art from the streets of Athens”

Parallel Sessions:

Session 4A: Art, Urban Space and Migration Crisis
Faculty of Social Sciences and Economics, Salle du Conseil (2nd floor)
Moderator: Myrto Tsilimpoudini

15H10 Christy Petropoulou, Orestis Pangalos, University of the Aegean, Greece “Representing and commoning the ‘refugee crisis”
15H40 Geneviève Guetemme, University of Orleans, Orleans, France “Street art’s take on migration”
16H10 Vincent Lambert, University of Nice, France “Palimpsest walls for an entanglement heritage: street art & graffiti against financial & migration policies in contemporary Europe”

16H40 Coffee Break
16H50 General Discussion

Session 4B: Artistic Intervention, Re-appropriation and Self-Organization in the Urban Space
Faculty of Social Sciences and Economics, Por B 2
Moderator: Julia Ramírez Blanco

15H10 Demet Lükslü, Yeditepe University and Cemre Zekiroglu Sabancı University, Istanbul, Turkey “Street musicians struggling to open for themselves a space in the city”
16H10 Gabriele Boero, University of Genoa, Italy “The ‘Assedio’ project in Turin, Italy: a real siege to give an example of street artists’ resistance in public space re-appropriation”

16H40 Coffee Break
16H50 General Discussion

Optional: Gala Dinner at La Chope Restaurant (20h00) in Tours
The conference will be held on 28th May at:
Maison de Sciences de l’Homme Val de Loire
Salle polyvalente et salle 147
33 allée Ferdinand de Lesseps - Tours

on 29th May at:
Faculty of Law and Social Sciences - Salle du conseil
50 avenue Jean Portalis - Tours

Both places are located in campus 2 Lions of the university of Tours and accessible by tram from the city centre.