

100% CITY

International conference

www.theatrefit.org

December 5–6, 2014, at Ģertrūdes ielas teātris, Ģertrūdes iela 101a

Working language: English

Free entrance, registration required

Please register by sending your name, field of professional work or studies, email, phone number, and attendance dates to gundega@theatre.lv

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For the past two and a half years, the Global City — Local City project, organised by 10 international festivals, has been focusing on cities and local implications of global processes in particular. An international group of artists looked inside the vibrant outskirts, conflict zones, allotment gardens, immigrant ghettos, and even family homes to examine local issues that can always be traced back to a wider social, political and economic context. They have responded to these issues with city-specific, custom-made artwork. They have been working closely with local residents, learning from their knowledge and keeping a global perspective in mind. It is no surprise that the uniting aspect in these artworks is that the artist has become an activist, an advocate of something they have found vulnerable, valuable or simply fascinating.

The conference 100% City will conclude the Global City — Local City project, and will once again bring together professionals from different fields, including artists who have participated in the research and residency stage of the project, as well as festivals that organised research labs, hosted residencies and presented city specific art work in their programmes. It will focus on active creative practices and forms of living, experiencing and making the city, and will discuss the effects of different unique and continuous activities, issues related to public space and impact of globalization on various local phenomena.

During the two days we will present and discuss two approaches: the 'constructive one' represented by urban planners, designers, architects, who come up with long-term initiatives and try to implement them more or less legally, and the 'destructive one' when artists, activists, communities change the city and make a difference by destroying the established order of things by sudden, unexpected and surprising actions and interventions. In his keynote Metthew Passmore will discuss the social, spatial and political implications of the new tactics of cities and citizens in crafting public spaces, Matjaž Uršič will analyse relationship of public art and urban space from the perspective of various city users, Kaspars Vanags will present examples of artistic intervention in public space. Italian theatre company Motus will offer an insight into their artistic practice that blends urgent social, political and city-specific issues. A number of case studies and practices will be presented and discussed during the morning and afternoon sessions.

The forum will gather proactive professionals from different sectors who have made a deliberate transition from criticizing to suggesting solutions.

The event is organized by the New Theatre Institute of Latvia in close collaboration with Global City-Local City partners and design platform for creative industries in Latvia FOLD.

PROGRAMME

Friday, December 5

Registration from 9:00

9:30 – 10:30

Keynote

Matthew Passmore (San Francisco)

Matthew Passmore is an artist, teacher and pioneering public space advocate. Best known as the original founder of the Rebar Art & Design Studio, Matthew has generated the concept for many well-known public art projects, including *PARK(ing) Day*, an annual global art event he has led since 2007, and the *PARKcycle*, the world's first pedal-powered public park. In 2014, Matthew founded MoreLab, a creative endeavor focused specifically on developing innovative public art, museum exhibitions and public spaces. Recent projects include the *Latham Square Pilot Plaza*, a temporary plaza in downtown Oakland and *Urbanauts*, an 18-month long artist fellowship and urban exploration project at the de Young Museum in San Francisco. Matthew speaks globally on topics of contemporary art and participatory design, most recently at TEDx in Vienna, Austria and d.Talks in Calgary, Alberta. He has taught a wide variety of courses at the San Francisco Art Institute and the California College of the Arts (CCA).

morelab.com

rebargroup.com

parkingday.org

10:30 – 13:30

Presentations

Marten Kaevats (Tallinn)

Marten Kaevats is an architect and city planner who studies the impact of various scalable technologies on the spatial behaviour of individual people and communities, as he believes that the subject field and field of impact of the third industrial revolution and the hyperlocal model of life create already today – but in near future even more – reformatory changes to the spatial and social behaviour of people. Marten is also an active member of several civil society organisations. He has been one of the founding members of the Uue Maailmä Selts (New World Society) in 2007 and contributed to the creation of freeware community web platform Community Tools, established in 2008. Recently he was chosen to be the curator of the TAB 2015 – Tallinn Architecture Biennale “Self-driven city”.

www.uusmaailm.ee

Evelīna Ozola and Toms Kokins (Riga)

Evelīna Ozola has worked as an architect and urban designer at MADE arhitekti in Riga and SVESMI in Rotterdam. Next to design work, for the last 7 years Evelina has been writing about architecture and cities or online and printed media, and currently she is the editor of FOLD, an online platform for creative industries in Latvia. Evelina is a lecturer at RISEBA Faculty of Architecture and Design.

Architect and urbanist Toms Kokins has established himself as a defender of public space and bicycle culture in Latvia, as well as the author of inventive small scale architecture, such as the modular house Osis. He has recently completed the Cycling Transport Development Strategy for Riga, therefore dubbed by the press ‘the father of Riga’s cycling lanes’. Toms is a lecturer at Riga Technical University.

Together Evelīna and Toms run their studio Fine Young Urbanists and organise the annual Riga Technical University International Summer School. Their most recent project is a 1:1 scale model of a more livable street space on Miera Street in Riga.

fineyoungurbanists.tumblr.com

fold.lv

Ania Molenda and Cristina Ampatzidou (Rotterdam)

Ania Molenda is a Rotterdam-based independent researcher and curator. Her work to date has spanned academia, an experimental think-tank (The Why Factory, TU Delft, Faculty of Architecture) and the architectural practice (MVRDV, Powerhouse Company, SVESMI). She is interested in cross-fertilisation between spatial practices with other disciplines and

the role openness and communication play in spatial, cultural and technological realms.

Cristina Ampatzidou is an independent researcher and writer, currently affiliated with UvA and a regular contributor to Uncube and Bettery magazines. Among others, she has collaborated with Play the City! foundation and the AFFR. Her work investigates the affordances of new media for 'city making' and the changing roles of professional designers, policy makers and citizens in that process.

They both run Amateur Cities, an online platform for emerging urban processes and a yearly magazine.

amateurcities.com

ruimtevolk.nl/stad-wijken/naturally-amateurs

Followed by discussion

13:30 – 14:30 Lunch break

14:30 – 17:30

Presentation of the city-related artwork by Enrico Casagrande and Daniela Nicolò / Motus (Bologna)

Motus was founded in 1991 by Enrico Casagrande and Daniela Nicolò. Motus has always sculpted its projects by action and reaction with regard to everyday facts large and small, like litmus paper, feeding on the contradictions of the contemporary, translating them and making them active material for reflection and provocation. The company independently produces numerous theatre shows and space-specific events/happenings conceived for unusual venues. For Motus there are no borders, no frontiers between countries or eras or disciplines, and no separation of art from involvement in society. Freethinkers, who have performed all over the world, Motus blends different expressive forms together, driven by the urgency to tackle subjects, conflicts, topical wounds.

www.motusonline.com

Followed by discussion

Artistic programme

15:00-19:00 Garden Affairs, video work by Katrīna Neiburga (LV) & Christine Umpfenbach (DE)

19:00 Cinema Imaginaire, city performance by Lotte van den Berg (NL)

Saturday, December 6

10:00 – 12:00

Keynotes

Matjaž Uršič (Ljubljana)

Matjaž Uršič is a researcher at the University of Ljubljana, Faculty of Social Sciences. He is a member of the Centre for Spatial Sociology. His research interests focus on the processes of socio-cultural transformation of cities and contemporary urban phenomena in the circumstances of globalization. Important research interests also include society development, cultural geography, analysis of (sub)cultures, urban migration and spatial systems with particular reference to transformations due to processes of urban regeneration, revitalization and renovation.

Kaspars Vanags (Berlin / Riga)

Art curator and writer

12:00 – 13:30

Presentations / part I

António Brito Guterres (Lisbon)

António Brito Guterres graduated Urban Studies (ISCTE - IUL). Before he studied Social Work and his graduation thesis looked at social and cultural impacts of rehousing policies. He is a member of Dinamia'CET and has participated in various

territorial development projects. Antonio has been Director of Critical Urban Areas Initiative - Vale da Amoreira Operation, and coordinator of the Performance & Arts Center in the same neighbourhood. Currently he works for the Aga Khan Foundation Portugal with issues such as participation, governance, education, youngsters, diversity and pluralism. He also takes part in URB - development of TV series about the diversity and imaginarium of Greater Lisbon daily life. He has been working as a freelancer and volunteer with grassroots organizations and informal groups in neighbourhoods all around Lisbon Metropolitan Area. He is often invited to give lectures on participation, urban regeneration, gentrification, commons and about the role of arts and culture in urban development. Antonio is a member of the International Network for Urban Research and Action.

Bani Brusadin (Barcelona)

Bani Brusadin is a freelance producer and researcher in the troubled water where art, digital technologies, popular cultures and politics clash. In the last decade he has been involved in several art, activist and research projects, exploring the power of fake, improper identities and new forms of subcultural epics. In 2004 he co-founded The Influencers, a small cult festival about non conventional forms of art and communication.

<http://theinfluencers.org>

13:30 – 14:30 Lunch break

14:30 – 16:30

Presentations / part II

Luca Chiaudano (Milan)

Torre GalFa is a 31-story high-rise from the 1950s that stands in the middle of Milan. On May 5, 2012 the building (empty since 1997) became the site of the Europe's largest occupation: 'Macao'. Far from being an isolated case, this occupation belongs to a network, comprising Cinema Palazzo and Teatro Valle Occupato in Roma, Sale Docs in Venice among others. Macao was intended to provide a space for cultural expression, as well as an answer to the heavy budget cuts that all governments have been imposing on cultural activities over the past years. It is a response to a story that too often has seen the city ravaged by public procurement professionals, unscrupulous building permits, in a neo-liberal logic that has always humiliated the inhabitants and pursued a single goal: the profit of few excluding the many. Luca Chiaudano is a film maker and activist, who has been part of Macao movement since its beginning.

<http://www.macaomilano.org>

John Jordan (UK/France) via skype

John Jordan is co-founder of The Laboratory of Insurrectionary Imagination (Lab of ii) that merges art and life, creativity and resistance, proposition and opposition. Known for touring the UK recruiting a rebel clown army, running courses in postcapitalist culture, throwing snowballs at bankers, turning hundreds of abandoned bikes into machines of disobedience and launching a rebel raft regatta to shut down a coal fired power station; they treat insurrection as an art and art as a means of preparing for the coming insurrection.

<http://www.labofii.net>

Followed by discussion

16:30 Film about Riga allotment gardens by Jaak Kilmi (26 min., Estonia)

Artistic programme

15:00-19:00 Garden Affairs, video work by Katrīna Neiburga (LV) & Christine Umpfenbach (DE)

13:00 and 19:00 Cinema Imaginaire, city performance by Lotte van den Berg (NL)

19:00 100% Riga, performance by *Rimini Protokoll* (DE)