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bel**г**раде

*Between Big Ideas
and Life's Realities*

conference 22 to 25 june retreat 26 to 30 june





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Between Big Ideas and Life's Realities

A city's development is inseparable from the life of the people inhabiting it and the aspirations to differently arrange that life. Alongside with the micro adjustments of the environment to the personal needs of the citizens, great ideas are born on how to reorganize or improve the entire society. Somewhere thereabout, between (grand) visions of a future society and ordinary life, lie realities of the city – its people, its ideologies, its construction sites, abandoned industries, luxurious buildings, suburbs without infrastructures, new facades and old habits. Today, that gap is a place of both a neoliberal expansion and a variety of resistance practices and social alternatives. A modern city bears witness to the new geopolitical constellations, the expansion of large capital interests, freedom of action, citizens' association and the attempts to establish more equitable social relations.

The conference *Between Big Ideas and Life's Realities* will present Belgrade as an "urban collage", created through an interplay of large, formal development narratives (from a never embellished capital and a victim of unfinished modernization, to a newly proclaimed commercial center of South-East Europe) and the informal practice of housing development, cultural creativity and social activism. Only in the last 50 years, changes in the paradigm of development went from a socialist, centralized model of management and planning, via the chaotic illegal construction and its legalization, only to end with surrendering to market-driven development rules. Different examples of housing policies and construction, cultural politics and practice and social activism graphically represent the intricate relationship between the formal paradigm and the informal practices.

Belgrade of course is not an isolated example of such urban transformation. The collapse of the socialist system, the accompanying universal mantra about privatization and foreign investments as the only way out, and the politics of creating new identities characterize the entire territory of the former Yugoslavia.

At the conference, we will examine a variety of development cases and some attempts to oppose the dominant paradigm typical to the entire region, and open up a wider debate on possible new development strategies.

General introduction to Belgrade development

Urban development of Belgrade in just few decades has gone from socialist centralized system, through chaotic construction in the nineties to free market development. Looking at the nature of these changes, we have a clear dominant development paradigm which runs in urban management and defines a new identity of the city, including it in the processes of regional and global integration. Urban physiology is being redefined in order to increase the attractiveness of the city and facilitate participation in the global competition. In these circumstances, the needs of the local population are being neglected.

On the other hand, following economic and political decline in the nineties, and as its result - collapse of the many urban functions, we have a spread of informal development paradigm that simultaneously takes place where local communities try to solve basic needs, achieve individual freedom and the establishment of a type of collectivity. Although they have an illegal status, most of them still tends to adopt regular features of city plans and programs.

Vladimir Dulović got his BA in history at Faculty of Philosophy, Belgrade and then his MA in Central European history at CEU, Budapest. His main fields of interest are urban histories and ethnic and national relations in South-East Europe. He is the author of a number of tourist guides dealing with the Balkans region including Belgrade in Your Hands. He is also a member of *Tačka komunikacije* citizens' association through which he participates in several projects dealing with Belgrade and its history.



Marija Maruna, PhD is an Assistant Professor at the Faculty of Architecture University of Belgrade, Department of Urbanism. She is predominantly engaged in scientific research in the field of Urban planning. Her special fields of interest are Integrated Urban Planning and Strategic Urban Design. She is the author of the book "Urbanism of Belgrade: Guide for Research the Process of Space Production" (2013) and co-author of the book "Strategic Urban Design and Cultural Diversity" (with Nada Lazarevic Bajec) (2009). She is also the author of many published papers oriented towards topics related to the issues of formal methods for understanding complex systems and complex dynamic processes.



She is dedicated to the improvement of the profession of urban planners in the circumstances of post-socialist transition. She is the Head of Master program Integrated Urbanism at the Faculty of Architecture.

Milan Prodanović, PhD is a retired professor of Urbanism at University of Novi Sad, Faculty of Technical Sciences. He is also retired Chair in Urban Design, course director "Urbanism and Communications" at Alternative Academic Educational Network, Belgrade, and course leader of "Sustainable city". He is a co director of Ecourban workshop Belgrade NGO, board member of Alliance University for Democracy AUDEM, member of International Advisory Board magazine CITY from London and member of Urban Design Institute, New York. Also he is vice president and a member of Board - Centro Internazionale di Studi sul Disegno Urbano from Firenze.





Milica Vasilijic is an activist of an NGO "Centre for Youth Integration" (www.cim.org.rs) that is based in Belgrade, Serbia. She was born in Knjazevac in 1986 and grew up in Majdanpek, a multicultural town in northeast of Serbia. From the early age she became interested in intercultural learning, human rights and participation. She also lived in Nis for four years, before moving to Belgrade and enrolling in the Medical Faculty, University of Belgrade.

She became involved in the "Centre for Youth Integration" in 2007, and since then is focused on the work with/for street involved children and on the issues such as poverty, discrimination and homelessness. Her dedication to these issues brought her to the decision to change her major and she is now finishing her studies at the Faculty of Political Sciences, department of social politics and social work. She is an experienced educator, out-reach worker, training facilitator, program coordinator.

On both theoretical and practical level, Milica is especially interested in the process of self-organization, and the influence of media in the context of the fight against discrimination.

For the last seven years, Milica is advocating for the fulfillment of the rights of street involved children and youth. She is a representative of the "Centre for Youth Integration" within the Regional network for children living and working on the street, and a coauthor of the best practice guide "We know best".



Mia David obtained her University Degree from the Faculty of Architecture, Belgrade University, as well as her MA and Ph.D. Degrees in Interdisciplinary Studies – Department for Stage Design, University of Arts, Belgrade. She also participated in the Center for Contemporary Art's School in Belgrade. Mia has been the member of NUNS (the Serbian Association of Independent Journalists), the Society of Architects of Belgrade and the Serbian Chamber of Engineers.

Author of several construction realized projects within architecture field, set design, art, graphic design and exhibition settings. She has published more than 150 articles in journals and magazines. Mia was one of the partners in CBS and Blok architecture studios that are dealing with all areas of architecture and design. Being the editor for Architecture and Design, she was engaged in the Camp magazine. Mia David was also the editor-in-chief in Ambijenti magazine. She used to be the founder and the editor-in-chief of Kvart magazine dealing with architecture, design, art, and the phenomena of contemporary culture. She has been the founder of the NGO Blokovi, involved in education in architecture, design and contemporary art. She was engaged for two years as lecturer at the Faculty of Dramatic Arts, within Architecture and Scenic Techniques and Technologies. From 2010th she is working as the Acting Director of the Belgrade Cultural Center.

Housing as Right and Commodity

Gradual disintegration of welfare state and deregulation of housing policies have left many people without a decent and affordable housing and not rarely even without any accommodation. This raises the question of the role of the state and its responsibility for vulnerable citizens. And while the debate can go on for a long time, those in need have to find their own solutions by joining together and figuring out models of financing and (re)constructing their future homes.

On this panel we will discuss housing policy in Serbia in the past 60 years and recent trends in the Netherlands and Switzerland and explore the models of co-operative housing as an affordable alternative for those who cannot satisfy their needs on the market or through state programs

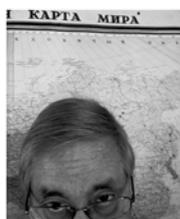
Smarter Building, initiated in 2012 in Belgrade through the Who Builds the City platform, addresses one of the highest ranking unresolved societal issues: the access to housing. The approach to do so is to construct a community, that would deconstruct the existing norms and models of the unattainable apartment purchased on the market, in order to come up with possible ways to make affordable housing, by disentangling it from unsustainable credit debts, economic and social enslavement, poverty, and gender-based dependence. From its inception, the project is open to people seeking to jointly engage – in a ‘smarter’ way – by planning collectively, investing responsibly (their time, knowledge, work skills and/or financial resources available) and building intelligently. <http://kogradigrad.org/>



Miodrag Ninić, holds a degree in architecture from the University of Belgrade, majoring in Theory and History of Architecture and Art; works at 360 Belgrade – an independent platform for research and presentation of architecture and urbanism heritage of Belgrade; also writes for the A10 New European Architecture magazine. He practices architectural design and criticism, is an artist and art critic and participates in cultural activism. He lives and works in Belgrade.

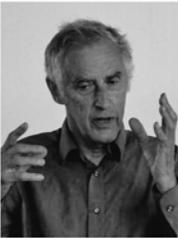


Arie van Wijngaarden studied architecture and housing in Delft, Aarhus and Warsaw. After his study, he was project manager for infill projects in Rotterdam. After moving to Amsterdam, he worked for the municipal housing service as a cost engineer and policy advisor. Later he became project manager of several housing projects, both renovation and new construction. From 2000-2007 he worked at the IJburg project, a new extension of the city on reclaimed land. Here there was space for projects like floating housing and inhabitants' initiatives (both collective and individual projects). The last years the accent of the project management activities has shifted to projects in the sector of infrastructure and public works (urban glassfibre network, the renovated Central Station, traffic management). Arie is a long time member of the International Network for Urban Research and Action and organized several conferences.





Andreas Wirz, studied architecture at the ETH Zurich. He is a member of the International Network for Urban Research and Action (INURA) and a co-founder and board member of Building and Housing Association KraftWerk1, responsible for project development from 1994. to 2003. Since 2010. Board member Wohnbaugenossenschaften Zürich, responsible for real estate development and acquisition.



Michael Edwards - University College London, Senior Lecturer, Economics of Planning at UCL Bartlett School. Senior Lecturer in the economics of planning. His research interests centre on rent theory and the interplay of urban planning with property development processes, mainly in London and other European cities. He is active in the International Network for Urban Research and Action, of which he was a founder member.





Urban Development and Civic Struggles

Transition from the old system to the capitalistic democracy created significant changes in all countries of the former Yugoslavia. The new paradigm boosted by undefined public interest and a lack of development principles, illustrates itself very vividly in urban development: inappropriate construction projects, megalomaniac waterfront developments, lack of housing policy, recreation of history through urban renewal, commodification of public space, privatization of public services, etc. Citizens' reactions to all this vary from symbolic gestures to mass protests and from opposing the trend to articulating desired changes.

On this panel, we will hear from representatives of these initiatives coming from Macedonia, Montenegro, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Croatia and Serbia. We will explore what are the characteristics of local developments, how is it tackled in public discourse, what are the strategies of local officials and investors and what those of the initiatives.

Tomislav Tomašević currently works as Ecology Programme Coordinator in Croatian office of Heinrich Boell Foundation. Tomislav has BA and MA in political science from University of Zagreb with dissertation on critique of a neoliberal city and MPhil in sustainable development from University of Cambridge with dissertation on potential of urban commons. He was involved in youth, environmental and urban activism as executive president of Croatian Youth Network, executive president of Zelena akcija / Friends of the Earth Croatia and co-founder of Right to the City initiative in Zagreb. Tomislav also has extensive international experience and has participated at dozens of UN conferences on sustainability and was Youth Advisor for Europe of United Nations Environment Programme.



Tatjana Rajić is an architect working in Expeditio - Center for Sustainable Spatial Development since its establishing (1997). She is also one of Expeditio founders. Tatjana is currently working as program manager and her field of interest are public spaces, green building and urban planning. EXPEDITIO is a non-governmental organization whose mission is to encourage sustainable spatial development in Montenegro and SEE region through activity in the fields of sustainable architecture, cultural heritage, urban planning and through projects that encourage overall development of the civil society. Expeditio was established in 1997.



Ivana Dragšić is city operator practicing her sociological background and artistic inclination, often doing the job that local public administration should. She is professionally and voluntarily dedicated to good governance and responsible spatial planning. Her individual and collaborative work thrives on protection and recontextualization of public/social space, but as of recently, it is much more focused on public policy regarding urban greenery and the environment in cities. Apart from cultural/artistic production, political activism, with her colleagues, they are counting and measuring trees in the city of Skopje.





New Media Center_kuda.org is an independent organization from Detelinara, Novi Sad which brings together researchers, activists, artists and the wider public in the field of new cultural relations and new technologies, with a special emphasis on local social issues. In the last 13 years, kuda.org has been established as the only cultural public space in Detelinara, offering free Internet, library and public cultural events.

Group for Conceptual Politics is citizens association established in 2011 also in Detelinara. It started as an initiative of presidents of the tenants assemblies and as an initiative of sociologists interested for research of local communities, housing issues and their political aspects.



Darjan Bilić got his diploma in economy at the Faculty of Economy, then later a MA degree in "Managing the State and Non-Governmental Sector", University of Sarajevo. During his studies he has worked as a researcher for several marketing agencies. He has worked for United Nations Development Programme in Bosnia and Herzegovina as a project assistant for the "e-legislation" project. For the last 9 years he is working for the German International humanitarian organization "Help" as a grant officer and project manager. As an activist,

he was one of the organisers of the movement "Dosta", Sarajevo protest in 2008, JMBG protest in 2013, Citizen plenums in February 2014, poplave.ba, as well as organization "Akcija Gradjana" from Sarajevo. I write articles that are published on the internet portals protest.ba, radioSarajevo.ba, akcija.gradjana.org.ba, among others.



Marko Aksentijević is a member of Ministry of space. He is a student of the Faculty of Political Sciences and is active in the civil sector for over 10 years. Since 2009, he is actively involved in issues of development of the city and citizens' participation in the process of urban development.

Br. 4



Art and Culture Strategies in City Development

Serbian privatization of land and urban structures, badly implemented government decentralization, and an abundance of urban stakeholders with blurred individual interests, resulted in gradual disappearance of public spaces and places for non-profit activities. In such circumstances, the culture is perceived as a mere expense on one side, but also as a potential for future economic development and job and capital creator on the other.

In this panel, we want to tackle what are possible interpretations of role of the culture in city development. What is its role in urban renewal and regeneration? What are the potentials to the local environment and how does its change local identities? Are these usages of culture anyhow connected to city strategies? What is the role of artists in urban renewal and capitalistic production?

Ana Vilenica is a researcher, theorist and activist. Graduated at Faculty of Philosophy in Belgrade at the Department of Art History and received her Ph.D. at the Department of Theory of Art and Media, University of Arts in Belgrade with a thesis entitled *Theory and Practice of Activism in Art in the second half of XX century*. Worked as researcher in Academy of Arts in Novi Sad (2012-2014) investigating relations between urban regenerations, art and culture in local and regional context. She is co-editor of the book *On the Ruins of the Creative City* (kuda.org, Novi Sad, 2013) and the chief editor of (uz)bu(na))) journal for art, politics, theory and activism. Regularly publishes texts on social issues, art and culture in anthologies, journals, catalogs and web portals.



Radomir Lazović is a graphic designer. He was art director in several architectural magazines, chief editor of the "Info" magazine and photo editor of the magazine "Travel". In addition, he has worked as a scenery designer for Italian Film Company De Angelis groups. In the past 7 years he established or was actively involved in creation of several cultural and common goods initiatives such as Mikro Art, Street Gallery, Expedition Inex film and Mikro Festival of Amateur Films. He is a member of Ministry of space collective, and steering committee of Association Independent Culture Scene of Serbia. Association Independent Culture Scene of Serbia is a joint platform of organisations, initiatives and individuals in the fields of culture and arts in Serbia. By implementation and exchange of programmes in Serbia and abroad, by activities that build capacities of the Association as well as its members, and by dialogue with decision makers at all levels, the Association aspires to promote the development of innovative and critical art practices, impact cultural policy and other related public policies, contribute to decentralisation of culture in Serbia and establish regional cooperation in Southeast Europe.



Philipp Klaus PhD, is a social and economic geographer. He has rich experience in empirical research. He was assistant in a programme for technology assessment at the Swiss Federal Polytechnic ETH and senior assistant at the ETH Planning Institute ORL for social and economic aspects of planning. At the University of Zurich he investigated the situation of Zurich's industrial sector, later the cultural economy and its impact on urban development. His main research interest is the competition among cities. Recent research focuses on temporary uses and their social, cultural and economic relevance. Further fields of interest are migration, polarization, housing which he pursues in a private consulting bureau. He teaches urban sociology at the ETH Zurich and urban geography at the University of Zurich.





MIKSER is a multidisciplinary, multicultural platform that aims to affirm the cultural industry of the region and organize the largest regional festival of creativity.

Maja Lalić / program director

Graduated at University of Belgrade, Faculty of Architecture. After graduating, she pursued parallel careers in interior design and architecture, as well as TV journalism. She moved to New York in 1999, where she received a Master degree in architecture and urban design from Columbia University. She founded Mikser and Maja is a founder of the creative studio reMiks, dedicated to multi-disciplinary attitude to architecture, design and branding, with innovative projects such as Telenor's flagship store and conceptual store Supermarket, both situated in Belgrade. Maja is the author of annual talent exhibition Ghost project. She is the initiator and co-organizer of the regional initiative Young Balkan Designers. Maja is a co-founder of the Mikser festival.

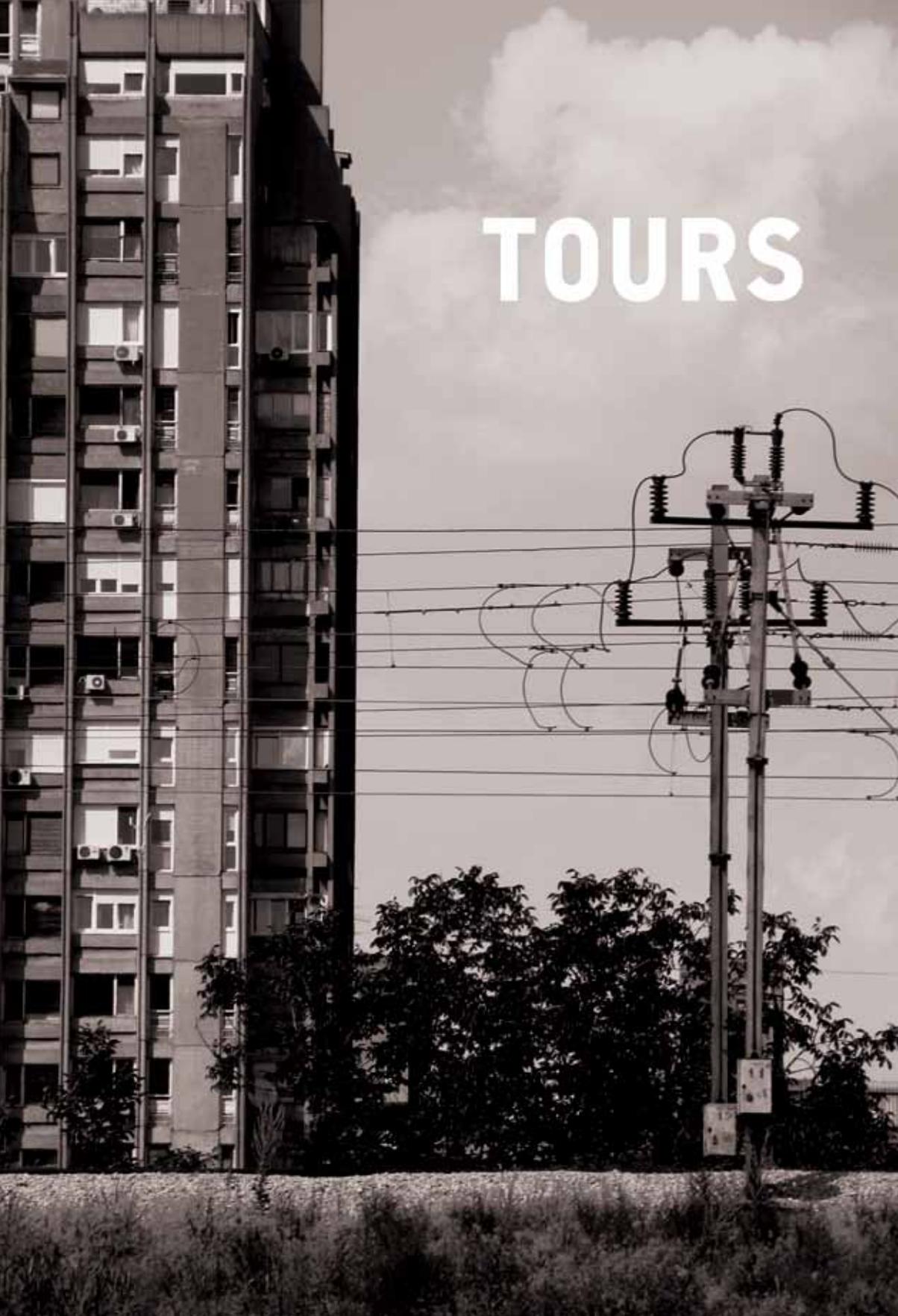


Katarina Živanović, PhD candidate at the University of Foggia (Foggia, Italy) department for the Pedagogy and Education Science. Holds a MA degree in Media and Communication. Employed at the REX Cultural centre (Belgrade) in 1995, from October '97 REX Executive Manager, in 2004 appointed Director of the Fund B92, Belgrade. Was the Director at the Museum of Yugoslav History (Belgrade, Serbia, 2008-2012), head of the Department for Culture of the City of Belgrade (2012/2013). Founder of the Free Zone - project promoting Human Rights through film; founder of the Centre of the Visual History at the Faculty of Media and Communication, Belgrade.



Milica Pekić, art historian and curator from Belgrade. Co founder of KIOSK platform for contemporary art, and since 2002 till present actively engaged in creating and developing curatorial and art projects. As a curator she runs art program of the Gallery12HUB in Belgrade since 2013. Her essays are published in numerous magazines and publications. She also holds the position of president of the steering committee of Association Independent cultural scene of Serbia and president of the steering committee of KOOPERATIVA regional platform for culture.

TOURS

A black and white photograph of a tall apartment building on the left and a utility pole with power lines on the right. The word 'TOURS' is written in large white letters in the upper right sky area. The foreground shows some grass and trees.



General Belgrade Tours

Sunday, June 22nd

OPEN-TOP BUS SIGHTSEEING TOUR Get to know Belgrade by cruising its city streets and enjoy the ride while listening to an interesting story about the history of the city, its architecture and the lives of its citizens. This 90 minutes guided tour, will introduce you to the inner core of the city and some parts of New Belgrade. Route: Assembly of the City of Belgrade, National Assembly, Terazije, Republic Square, Students' Square, Belgrade Fortress, City Gate, New Belgrade, Topčider Hill, Dedinje, Liberation Square, Slavija Square, Nikola Pašić Square

SIGHTSEEING BY FOOT Take a walking tour through downtown streets and enjoy interesting stories about city history, architecture and life in Belgrade. This two hour tour will take you through the inner city center, the Belgrade Fortress, as well as the largest green belt of Belgrade: the Kalemegdan park. Route: Albania Palace, Republic Square, Knez Mihailova Street, Kralja Petra Street (National bank of Serbia, Kafana "??"), The Cathedral Church, Residence of Princess Ljubica, Paris Street, Kalemegdan Park, Belgrade Fortress, "Cvijeta Zuzorić" Art Pavilion.

BIKE TOUR Without too much effort and hard terrain, this tour, which lasts for two hours, will be a great opportunity to see the city from a bit different perspective, unusual even for many residents of Belgrade where bicycle is not a common means of transportation. The tour will go along the river banks and through the city center.



*INTERNATIONAL TRADE FAIR, Lagos, Nigeria - areal view
architect Zoran Bojović, built by Energoprojekt in 1977*

Energoprojekt Tour

Monday, June 23rd

Energoprojekt was founded in 1951 in Belgrade, capital of the former SFRY, as a public company for consulting and design in the fields of energy and water management (hydro and thermal plants, power plants, irrigation systems, hydro melioration systems, water processing plants... etc.).

During its long and successful history Energoprojekt has broadened its activities to include the following fields: production, transmission and distribution of electricity, urbanism, building engineering and construction, infrastructure, water management and environmental protection, industry and information technologies. In its 60 years of operations Energoprojekt has developed into a complex business system, which today integrates 10 internationally active and sophisticated companies in Serbia, and more than 20 dependent and joint companies around the world, offering a wide specter of services including consulting, engineering, construction and equipping.

Currently, Energoprojekt operates in more than 20 countries around the world, and has the average yearly revenue of cca USD 300 million and the yearly worth of contracted projects of more than USD 500 million. Energoprojekt is today the biggest contracting company, capable of realizing most complex projects. Energoprojekt is also the only company in the region which is on the list of the renowned American magazine „Engineering News Report“ among the 220 best international design and 225 best international contracting companies.

During its six decades of existence ENERGOPROJEKT has designed and realized complex projects in more than 70 countries around the world.



New Belgrade Tours

Monday, June 23rd

NEW BELGRADE: FROM PLAN TO REALITY Initially planned as an administrative capital of the new socialist nation and directed by the realities of postwar life, New Belgrade is undergoing many transformations which form an actual urban agglomeration so different from its original concepts. Key words: Tabula rasa, new national capital, administrative and representational city, residential crises, real socialism versus modernism, symbolism versus functionalism, adapting and transformation, plan and reality. Route: Ušće Business Tower (former Palace of the Central Committee of the League of Communists of Yugoslavia - panoramic view of New Belgrade and introduction lecture; New Belgrade Municipal Hall – internal visit; Block no.1 – external visit; “Fontana” Community Center – external visit and tour end. ► **Guided by Miodrag Ninić.**

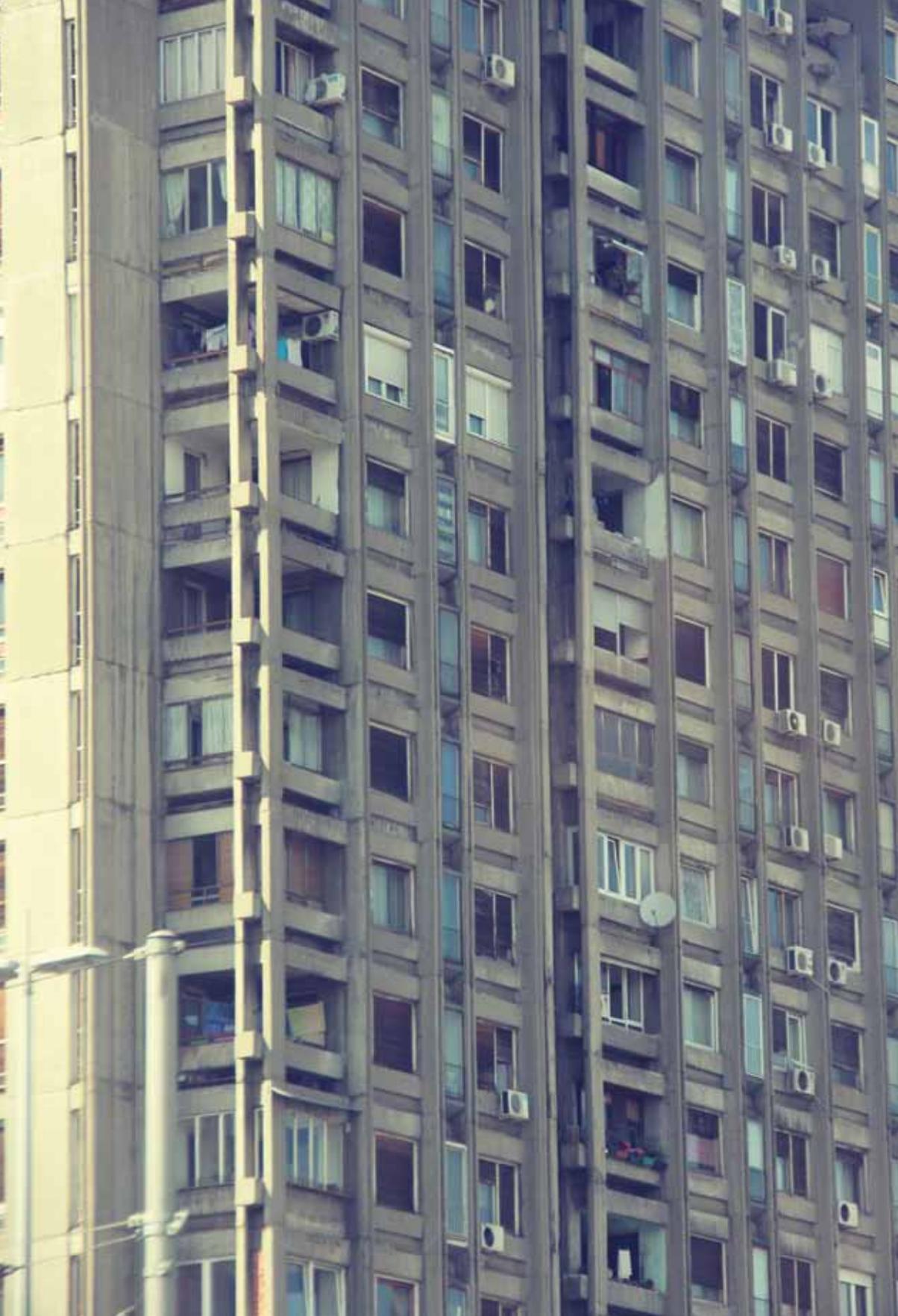
IN THE SHADOW OF SKYSCRAPERS The group will meet with two underprivileged groups of New Belgrade residents: workers awaiting eviction and Roma whose neighbors were already evicted while they were left to wait for new accommodation. Although their problems have somewhat different genesis, they both vividly illustrate the position of “societal losers” in Serbian transition to capitalistic democracy. Mass eviction of Roma from their informal settlement took place in 2012 as preparation for University Games hosted by Belgrade and as part of The Gazela Bridge Rehabilitation project financed by the European Bank for Reconstruction and Development and the European Investment Bank. Those families that remained are awaiting homes granted through this project, but deadlines keep postponing. Workers still living in a so called solitary hotel lost their right for indefinite lease and purchase of homes through privatization of the company which kicked out 500 workers on the street and left those who remained in the constant fear of eviction. The next eviction is scheduled for June 24th. ► **Guided by Andrija Raković and Borka Vasić.**

BLOCK 70 Block 70 (800 x 600 meters) was built between 1970 and 1975 in, at that time, typical social-realist style, with a lot of concrete all around. It has an original setup of 21 identical four and two-story buildings close to the river, with large playgrounds in between, and two sets of over 40 similar red brick skyscrapers. More than 10.000 people live in it. From the beginning, the population was very socio-economically mixed with military officers, intellectuals, artists, workers and academics living door by door in the same building. It was called "large dormitory" because there was nothing there expect a supermarket, a post office, a bank, a pharmacy, a barbershop and a lot of frogs on the Sava river bank. Today, it became something completely different. Your guide will be a local patriot who feels more for Blok 70 then for Serbia. He is a 39 years old journalist and filmmaker and he moved twice in his lifetime never leaving Block 70. Roma families with more than 10 members who had Tito for their best man, tubes for the garbage in the skyscrapers which get jammed with lamb and veal bones, china town, building councils, shopping malls, balconies which are a copy of the Munich Olympic Village, art in open spaces, why do we hate block 45 and much, much more in 3 hours. ► **Guided by Dušan Cavić.**

THE COMMUNE AS THE FOUNDATION OF THE SELF-MANAGEMENT SOCIETY IN SOCIALIST YUGOSLAVIA – THE CASE OF COMMUNAL UNIT BLOCK 45 IN NEW BELGRADE

Generated by the singular concept and practice of workers self-management, the politics of postwar urban development and corresponding models of territorial and political administration of a socialist society in Yugoslavia were meant to be functionally interwoven facets of a very dynamic but nevertheless highly contradictory process of the formation of a historically new type of societal and economic relations, based on the original Marxist-Leninist doctrine of withering away of the State and the idea of free and autonomous associations of producers and local communities' self-governing bodies operating within the communal self-government system. The idea and practice of citizens' direct democratic participation in exercising the real influence over the key economic and social-political processes went on through different phases, but the logic of the autonomous bottom-up self-organization has always remained the basis for revolutionizing the very foundational structure of the existing societal relations in socialist Yugoslavia. In this respect the introduction of the new organizational models of territorial and political-economic self-administration was meant to serve as the means to functionally (both horizontally and vertically) decentralize the key decision-making processes by enabling workers-producers to autonomously organize the production process in the work place within factory sites and enterprises as well as by empowering local communities' democratic capacity to shape their communal everyday life either on the level of the city quarter, a neighborhood or a housing unit without any mediation or bureaucratic influence coming from above. In retrospect, six decades later, when the rule of private property overrides all the positive effects of progressive historical heritage of Yugoslav socialist self-management project, this visionary self-governing model of socio-political and economic relations and its imprint in the domain of spatial-physical development of Yugoslav society seems quite unique and extraordinary. The guided tour includes a visit to the Center of the local community in New Belgrade's Block 45 as the symbolic remains of the Yugoslav communal system that attests not only to the very dynamic nature of workers or societal self-management itself but which in the same time opens up the space for rethinking our present situation.

► **Guided by Milan Rakita.**



Second day

Tours

Tuesday, June 24th

A VIEW ON THE HISTORY OF BELGRADE SUBURBANIZATION (TWO-DAY TOUR), PART 1

Introduction to some of the dominant types of Belgrade suburbs that came into existence in different periods during the 20th century. This outline of paradigmatic and related models for solving housing problems, accompanied by an overview about the changes of housing standards and housing culture in the suburbs (in different political and economical systems) will provide an insight into the nature and the significance of the influence of general socio-political conditions on the state, societal, individual and group housing policy and practice. On the first day, the group will visit the municipality of Zvezdara where, since WW2, used to be the border between the commercial and residential area of wealthy elites and a suburb (Bulbulder) occupied by small owners and workers. Beside this still visible divide, the area experienced many developments reflecting different later tendencies in the urbanization of Belgrade, the insight of which will be useful for understanding the suburbs the group will visit the following day. If you select this tour, you should also participate in the second part. ► **Guided by Nebojša Milikić.**

A SAVAMALA HOUSE As one of the oldest parts of Belgrade, this corner of the city is a unique area from which to build a chronological cross-section of the development of various types of housing, and which is applicable on a macro level to the rest of the city. During the tour, participants will have the opportunity to appreciate the social context of different types of housing in this neighborhood, including: open courtyard housing, rented housing, socialist-era housing, improvised housing, illegal housing and the most recent residential buildings. Examples of contemporary housing go from derelict courtyards that once served for the unloading and storing of goods, river boats and warehouses to new but mostly illegal housing for a fresh generation of transient residents. A walk along Karadjordje and Gavriilo Princip streets will show the pre-war courtyards as a form of collective housing once highly popular with the city's poorest residents, as well as pre-war rented housing. The tour will pass through the unique neighborhood of Bara Venecija, renowned for the fact that whole families live in abandoned railway carriages and similar impermanent housings. Participants in the tour will also have an opportunity to see how parts of the Bristol Hotel have been converted into semi-permanent housings, home to refugees, military servicemen and others who have fallen victim to turbulent times. ► **Guided by Vladimir Dulović / production Tačka komunikacije.**

EXTRALEGALITY AS A GO-TO DEVELOPMENT STRATEGY In the first part of this walk, in the workers suburb Karaburma, we will visit the only squat in Belgrade - Inex Film. This initiative, launched in 2011, explores the possibilities of self-organization, solidarity, and do-it yourself philosophy of the XXI century. It gathers together individuals and organizations in need of a space for their creative work and cultural production, which, despite their knowledge and willingness, generally have limited or no access to necessary resources.

The second part of the walk includes an overview of the informal housing developments in Karaburma. After the collapse of Socialism—during a transitional phase between communal and private property ownership, between a lawless state and a new found regulation of the construction and real estate sectors—strategies for expanding housing space were established in Belgrade, with a particular focus on the expansion of rooftop areas. These plans were usually carried out by the residents themselves without blueprints, architects, or legal grounds. Starting in 2001, real-estate brokers, on the lookout for lucrative investment opportunities, likewise adopted this strategy. The so-called “Russian Pavilions” in Karaburma offered particularly optimal conditions for this undertaking and were thus augmented, by the developers, to up to two and a half times their original size through rooftop expansions. Not only are the pavilions not Russian, but more importantly the act of extending them in the 2000s follows particular shady negotiations between the residents, the developers and the municipal authorities, which placed the extensions beyond simple (il)legality. ► **Guided by Inex Film crew and Dubravka Sekulić.**

WORKERS' HOTEL, ITS RESIDENTS AND THEIR FIGHT The area we will visit and meet its residents started developing in the 1960s with workers' barracks and later residential buildings constructed for workers of Trudbenik. As these buildings were made by the means of the company for temporarily housing, their residents were not able to buy off the apartments as everyone else did in the 1990s, although they contributed to the solidarity fund for housing. Soon, it became obvious that they have nowhere else to go. In the typical scenario for transforming former industries into real estate development sites, in 2008 the company was privatized and 3 years later it declared bankruptcy cancelling all previous arrangements and bringing people living in workers' hotels in danger of eviction. So, as surrounding companies are slowly being turned into attractive residential and commercial complexes and as their apartments are being sold, remaining residents, without jobs and with the threat of losing homes, continue fighting against former owner, bankruptcy trustee, court and the whole corrupted and inefficient system. ► **Guided by Vladimir Novaković.**

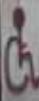




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HEMA
THEATRE



BEH 44444

Third day Tours

Wednesday, June 25th

A VIEW ON THE HISTORY OF BELGRADE SUBURBANIZATION (TWO-DAY TOUR), PART 2 On the second day of the tour we will visit two suburbs. First, we will go to Kaludjerica, which was developed during the socialist era through illegal/individual constructions, mostly by workers who were employed in building numerous state housing projects but were never entitled to them and had to resolve their housing problems individually. With its 20 000 residents, Kaludjerica is often (and uncritically) called “the largest wild settlement in the Balkans” which attracts the activists, researchers and artists interested in these type of “wild” neighborhoods. After that, we will go to Padina, a typical suburb representative of the urban development tendencies that started with the war and the collapse of the socialist system and which continued throughout further transition. And although also built on formally agricultural land, this suburb features a wider variety of residences, from refugee homes to the mansions of the new-rich. ► **Guided by Nebojša Milikić.**

SAVAMALA REBORN Loaded with the history of its two centuries of existence, but also with the heritage of a riverside neighborhood once inhabited by dock workers, sailors, innkeepers, artisans and traders, this unique part of Belgrade finds itself at a complicated intersection of politics, society and urban planning. The tour will draw parallels between the fundamental elements of the history of social life in Savamala (places for socializing and the social life of the community) and that of the current residents and the neighborhood’s visitors. By visiting key historical and contemporary locations, talking with locals and with those involved in cultural production we will gain an insight into crucial elements of the cultural life of this part of town, including: cultural production and creative industries, entrepreneurship, local organization, heritage and the needs of local residents. ► **Guided by Vladimir Dulović / production Tačka komunikacije.**

URBAN COMMUNITY GARDENING INITIATIVES SUPERNATURAL PARK - On Ada Huja, a peninsula on the Danube, on a former construction waste dump with 1,000 cubic meters of waste, SUPERNATURAL created a park with the top quality soil, planted trees and created gardens. The park has a classroom for environmental education, a glass house as a plant nursery, a bird watching tower, irrigation system and is powered by wind and solar energy. **BAŠTALIŠTE** - The aim of this Initiative which runs a self-organized community garden is to show that there is the need for creation of sustainable city gardens as tools for solving ecological, economic and social problems in urban communities as well as to implement this practice in to the city's urban strategies. ► **Guided by Srđan Stanković and Sabina Kerić.**

LOVE TOUR The theme of the tour is love on the streets and the ability to achieve intimacy with a stranger, a passerby. The tour will take place in Dorćol, one of the central city neighborhoods, and will consist of tales told at the prominent places of the area and a series of tasks for the participants. We will take a walk through the erotic reliefs, medallions and sculptures on the facades of buildings and houses built before WWII, combined with nasty graffiti that have a love erotic charge and which are usually in the twists between buildings, interior courtyards and half setup spaces that are also sometimes lovers places or potential sites for secret romantic meetings or voyeurism. Every place opens up a new theme, a new story or a first time told embarrassment. The second part of the tour would give participants an alibi, a reason to get to know a street drunk, a worker, a craftsman in his store or a second-hand dealer on the street. The tour will evoke the "promenade" a way of getting to know someone on the streets - habit that nowadays practically died. We will share to each other our own good and clumsy experiences on the subject over drinks at the end of the tour. ► **Guided by Miloš Tomić.**



New Metropolitan Mainstream

Exhibition - Monday, June 23rd

Under the influence of neoliberalization and globalization, a new paradigm of urban development has evolved which is called New Metropolitan Mainstream. This term brings together different processes leading towards an increasing economization of urban life: gentrification, urban regeneration, forced upgrading of neighbourhoods, luxury transformation of entire inner city areas, privatization of public goods and spaces, instrumentalization of flagship projects and international events in order to attract international investments and people with a high income. The New Metropolitan Mainstream has to be seen as a long term tendency, which started in certain places already some decades ago. Today, it is found in many variations and it affects not only world cities, but also former peripheral regions and smaller cities. The New Metropolitan Mainstream leads to a dramatic change of urban development and everyday life: At the same time, as new disparities and inequities are produced, many urban areas are turned into exclusive places for privileged people.

The New Metropolitan Mainstream (NMM) - With this project INURA wants to explore the similarities and differences between today's cities. The project started at the end of 2008. First results are presented at the 20th INURA conference in form of posters.

MAJOR WATERFRONT DEVELOPMENTS AND THEIR CONSEQUENCES IN THE CONTEXT OF THE PROJECT



BELGRADE ON WATER

Public event - Tuesday, June 24th

In Serbia, since the market economy became the heart of a new development paradigm, the country began to open up to global influences and direct foreign investments. The political elite assures citizens that ambitious, expensive and prestigious projects on valuable urban locations will bring a large and sustained profits.

Transforming neglected waterfront areas into attractive locations with multipurpose content has been the practice for a long time in the world. Belgrade, at the Sava amphitheater - a waterfront area which was left to devastation and physical deterioration, is preparing for the megalomaniac project "Belgrade on the Water." Two million of square meters of combined facilities, luxury hotels, offices and residential buildings, tower of 180m and the largest shopping mall in the region are envisioned to rise on the surface of today's main Railway station in Belgrade, port and industrial facilities, in the area of about 185ha. . The project was launched during the election campaign in 2012, but until today there are still no precise information about the project, although in the meantime it gained the status of "national importance". The information on the content, purpose and appearance can be gathered only from paid articles in local newspapers and several three-dimensional views that changed significantly from the initial idea to the latest version. What is wellknown is that the investment is coming from the United Arab Emirates in the amount of three billion euros. Laws, regulations, decisions and planning documents are rapidly being changed in order to accompany the project. However, it remains unclear how the project will effect the city and its citizens.

This panel will put the case of „Belgrade on the Water“ in the context of similar projects and the offered dominant paradigm of urban development and justification of such projects and investments. The panelists are: prof. dr Ute Lehrer (Faculty of Environmental Studies, York University Toronto), prof. dr Kate Shaw (University of Melbourne), prof. dr Goran Milićević (Faculty of Economics, University of Belgrade) and activists Rastko Novaković. **Moderated by Vladimir Vuksanović, journalist from daily news "Politika".**

Ute Lehrer, PdD is an Associate Professor at the Faculty of Environmental Studies. She has published widely on architecture, urban design and planning. Her ongoing research interest is in cities and globalization, where she is concerned with image production in and through the built environment, as well as social and economic justice. Her earlier work includes the analysis of mega-projects, the relationship between urban form and economic restructuring as well as historic preservation. Her work is located in cities such as Berlin, Los Angeles, New York, Zurich, Frankfurt and Toronto.



Kate Shaw, PhD is a critical urban geographer at the University of Melbourne. Her research revolves around cultures of cities and the political-economic processes that shape them. She is currently thinking about the possibilities of and limits to planning and policy interventions in 'urban renewal' projects, with a specific focus on waterfront developments. She is Deputy Chair of the City of Melbourne's Creative Spaces working group, a member of the City of Sydney's live music taskforce, contributor to the Victorian State government's live music roundtable, and member of the International Network for Urban Research and Action.



Goran Milićević PhD, is Associate professor at the Faculty of Economics and at the Faculty of Architecture, University of Belgrade. Graduated from the Faculty of Economics, Belgrade, in 1975. Got the MSc degree in 1978, and the Phd degree in 1984. Teaching commitments: Urban economics and Environmental economics. Other professional activities: Member of the Serbian Association of City Planners, member of Association of the Serbian university professors and scientists. Coordinator of University Committee for democracy protection, Coordinator of Coordinate committee for the protection of Universities in Serbia.



Rastko Novaković was born in 1981. He is a cinema worker and has authored over 30 short and feature-length films. He is active as a shop steward and within the trade union movement of Great Britain. He is a member of several community groups campaigning for the right to the city and housing. He lives in London.





INURA

International Network for Urban Research and Action

INURA is a network of people involved in action and research in localities and cities, founded in 1991.

The Network consists of activists and researchers from community and environmental groups, universities, and local administrations, who wish to share experiences and to participate in common research. Examples of the issues that Network members are involved in include: major urban renewal projects, the urban periphery, community-led environmental schemes, urban traffic and transport, inner city labour markets, doityourself culture, and social housing provision. In each case, the research is closely tied to, and is a product of, local action and initiative.

Principles

- 1** Inura is a network of people involved in action and research in localities and cities. We are committed to sharing our experiences and information in order to further the understanding of the problems affecting our areas.
- 2** We are committed to the empowerment of people in their neighbourhoods, communities, cities and region.
- 3** In our work we recognize the importance of ethnic and cultural diversity, and the need to oppose racism, class and gender discrimination.
- 4** Changes in forms of work and of community and domestic life must be understood and planned in relation to each other.
- 5** We must resist and reverse the process of polarization of income and quality of environment, both in the social fragmentation of our cities and the divergence of core and periphery regions.
- 6** Our network particularly wants to broaden its links with housing, employment and environmental campaigns.
- 7** We aim to further the process of environmentally sustainable urban development.
- 8** We seek to resist centralization and the damaging effects of globalization.
- 9** We are working to create strong and diverse visions of the future urban life.
- 10** Inura will work with a variety of methods of research, communication, interaction and dissemination of information, including scholarly work, media productions, activist documents, debates and stories of urban experience. Inura invites future contributions from academics, the arts, political activists and social movements.

Ministry of Space

Ministry of Space (Ministarstvo prostora) is a do-thank that connects social activist, socially engaged artists, architects and citizens by organizing platforms aimed at researching and conducting socially engaged campaigns focused on issues of urban development and urban resources management. It also explores possibilities of art as a medium to raise public awareness and contribute to finding solutions regarding important social issues and to mobilize citizens to get involved in building a just society.

Members of Ministry of Space come from various academic backgrounds: architecture, political science, anthropology, construction engineering, etc. In our work, we very often partner with similar initiatives and academic community, for instance Faculty of Architecture, Faculty of Political Science, Faculty of media and communication.

Some of the most recognizable activities of Ministry of Space so far have been:

- **Expedition Inex Film:** do-it-yourself action of turning abandoned building into a space for work and cultural production and presentation for numerous groups and individuals.
- **Cinema: “The Written Offs Return”:** a campaign to turn public attention to dubious privatization of a large number of cinemas which have resulted in their closing and lack of cultural spaces.
- **Street Gallery:** a pioneer venture of reconstructing and reviving ruined public spaces in an open art gallery.
- **Spatial Network:** network of groups advocating for the re-use of public spaces, neglected and abandoned spaces and not properly utilized public places as prerequisite for satisfaction of local social and cultural needs.
- **Planizacija.rs:** web portal which seeks to improve accessibility of information regarding new plans of detailed regulations and construction projects and provide a space for debate among interested citizens.



