

Invitation to join the research network:

An Urban Landscape of possibilities!

The contemporary urban situation is subject to an increasing interest among scholars as well as planners and architects. By initiating this new network we therefore invite you to participate in the ongoing debate and to share your knowledge regarding the contemporary urban situation. The network is aiming to gather PhD fellows and researchers working within the field of urbanism, architecture and landscape or other related topics. All professions are welcome. We INSIST on diversity!

BACKGROUND

The technological developments, increased mobility and improved communication networks have resulted in increased globalization and caused a new state of temporality and changeability. The virtual interferes with the physical, and formerly fixed concepts like: time, space and scale dissolve.

The global irreversible diffusion of the urban territory challenges the classic idea of the physical environment as an ordered whole. Urban functions and traditional landscapes penetrate each other and the original dichotomy between city and the open landscape is slowly dissolving. The traditional city, concentrically constructed around a historical and functional centre is an illusion as an image of the whole city. The city no longer reflects a static figure but a polycentric and rhizomatic territory. Localities, spaces and objects are inscribed in a larger coherence than previously – and the integration across virtual, administrative and natural borders invites to a revision of the traditional practice, its methods and vocabulary.

In this context, landscape has become the flexible medium that connects seemingly autonomous urban components and processes as comprehensive media. In this matter landscape is both the representation of the present urban condition and the material of which the urban surface is constructed. The landscape represents an underlying structure that organizes - not only objects and spaces, but also the flow of urban activities.



It is the ambition to establish an academic and social network between PhD fellows and researchers, and to create a platform for exchanging knowledge and ideas by arranging e.g. study groups, seminars and PhD courses.

The topics to be discussed within the network depend on the participants and their respective research and can cover a wide field from aesthetics, landscape, mobility, communication, infrastructure, theories, and physical planning to research methods etc.

Furthermore we hope that invitations to other related arrangements held outside the network by the different universities and institutions will be distributed to the network members.

Since the network is in preparation there are no scheduled arrangements yet. But we recommend these two related events:

PhD seminar:

Suburban is urban: exploring the agency of landscape architecture in territorial design strategies
24. and 26. November 2010

Refolana Research School, Faculty of Life Sciences, University of Copenhagen,
Centre for Forest and Landscape, Dpt. of Urban Planning and Dpt. of Landscape Architecture
See attached PDF for more information

Conference:

Ecology and Urbanism
25. November 2010

The Royal Danish Academy of Fine Arts, School of Architecture,
Institute for Planning, Centre for Urbanism
See attached PDF for more information



The network is organized by:

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To show an interest in the network and to subscribe to our upcoming newsletters please email tina.roden@karch.dk and give the following information:

1. name and position
2. university/institution
3. headline of PhD/research project
4. 200 word abstract of research topic

When we have an overview of the interests both in number and research fields we will find a suitable frame and form for our first gathering and mail an invitation to our first arrangement.

If you have any questions, ideas, inputs or upcoming arrangements at your institution please feel free to write us or meet us at *Suburban is urban* and *Ecology and Urbanism*.

Kind regards

Tina Roden & Martin Odgaard

