



# URBAN AGRICULTURE EDIBLE ESTATES AND THE MEGA-CITIES OF TOMORROW

Seminar | Exhibition  
Aarhus School of Architecture  
Nørreport 22  
May 17th 2013 | 9.00-16.00

Urban Agriculture ranges from community-based rooftop farming using flagship high-tech green architecture and technology to informal backyard growing and subsistence peri-urban production. In recent years, multifunctional urban agriculture and systemic approaches have emerged as important topics in debates on the future of urban food systems. Its numerous different forms and divergent character makes it an issue that presents ample opportunities for contextualization and debate, such as, for instance, how to design sustainable urban structures and places.

In an international context, networks are being formed in order to define and clarify work and research in the field. By hosting this seminar the Aarhus School of Architecture wants to place the discussion in a Danish context between research, practice and education, thus, hopefully, inspiring and creating debate.

We have invited a range of speakers, who all represent current international projects artistically and/or scientifically, to talk about their work and experiences. On the basis of the presentations of small and large-scale projects, we raise the following question: 'Can food production in a Danish context create new social, aesthetic and ecologic connections and solutions in our fragmented cities, and thus contribute to sustainability and enrich our daily lives?'

# PROGRAMME

09.00 – 09.15	Arrival and coffee
09.15 – 09.30	Welcome and introduction by Marie Markman
09.30 – 10.15	<b>Hands-On Urbanism 1850 – 2012</b> by Elke Krasny
10.15 – 11.00	<b>Edible Estates – Attack on the Front Lawn</b> by Fritz Haeg
11.00 – 11.15	Coffee Break
11.15 – 12.00	<b>Prinzessinnengärten</b> by Svenja Nette
12.00 - 12.45	<b>Urban agriculture and the visions for the future sustainable city</b> by Tom Nielsen
12.45 – 13.45	Lunch
13.45 – 14.30	<b>Urban Agriculture Casablanca</b> by Undine Giseke
14.30 – 15.15	Panel discussion
15.30 – 16.00	Opening of the exhibition <b>Hands-On Urbanism 1850 – 2013</b>

PARTICIPATION 150 DKR (INCL LUNCH AND COFFEE)

SIGN UP AT **WWW.SHOP.AARCH.DK**

**The seminar addresses practitioners, researchers, students and others with an interest in the topic.**

The seminar is realized with funding from **Aarhus School of Architecture's 'Innovationspulje 2013'** (special funds set aside for innovation).

Organiser:

**Marie Markman** Stud. PhD, visual artist and landscape architect (Platform: Urbane Landskaber)

marie.markman@aarch.dk / www.phd.mariemarkman.com

Collaborators:

**Birthe Urup Nygaard** Associate professor, cand. arch.

**A N D - Center for Arkitektur, Ny Teknologi Og Design**

**Aarhus Billedkunstcenter** (Aarhus' Center for Visual Art).

# SPEAKERS

**Fritz Haeg** / [www.fritzhaeg.com](http://www.fritzhaeg.com)

Fritz Haeg's work includes a large variety of projects ranging from edible gardens, public dances, educational environments, animal architecture, domestic gatherings, urban parades, temporary encampments, documentary videos, publications, exhibitions and websites. **Edible Estates** is an ongoing initiative aimed at creating a series of regional prototype gardens that replace domestic front lawns, and other unused spaces in front of homes, with places for families to grow their own food. So far, fourteen gardens have been established in cities across the world. Each of these highly productive gardens is very different, designed to respond to the unique characteristics of the site, the needs and desires of the owner, the community and its history, and the local climate and geography.

**Svenja Nette** / [www.prinzessinnengarten.net](http://www.prinzessinnengarten.net)

**Prinzessinnengärten** (Princess gardens) was launched by Nomadisch Grün (Nomadic Green) as a pilot project in the summer of 2009 at a site at Moritzplatz in Berlin Kreuzberg, which had been a wasteland for over half a century. Along with friends, fans, activists and neighbours, the group cleared away rubbish, built transportable organic vegetable plots and reaped the first fruits of their labour.

**Undine Giseke** / [www.uac-m.org](http://www.uac-m.org)

Professor Undine Giseke, Department of Landscape Architecture and Environmental Planning / Open Space Design, TU-Berlin. Since 2005, Undine Giseke has worked with the project **Urban Agriculture Casablanca – design as an integrative factor of research (UAC)**. UAC demonstrates how agriculture can take a determining position in sustainable, climate-optimized urban development. Agriculture within urban growth centres today is more than an economic, social leftover or a niche practice. Instead it is a complex system offering multiple potentials for tomorrow's mega-cities.

**Tom Nielsen** / [www.aarch.dk](http://www.aarch.dk)

Tom Nielsen is an Architect, a PhD and an associate professor at the Aarhus School of Architecture, where he is researching and teaching in the Department of Landscape and Urbanism. Tom Nielsen's research topic is Contemporary Urban Development and Public Spaces. His PhD thesis (1997-2000) focused on Public Spaces in the Contemporary City.

**Elke Krasny** / [www.elkekrasny.at](http://www.elkekrasny.at)

Elke Krasny is senior lecturer at the Academy of Fine Arts Vienna. She has edited and authored a number of books on architecture, urbanism, and feminist historiography. In 2012 her exhibition **Hands-On Urbanism 1850-2012 - The Right to Green** was presented at the Architecture Centre Vienna. 'Hands-On Urbanism 1850 – 2012' shows a critical history of ideas about the politics of space. Urban development leads to an informal and self-organised production of a city, which, however, never operates outside the system. Self-organisation has always been both a reaction to and an incentive for urban planning. In 'Hands-On Urbanism 1850 – 2012' curator Elke Krasny introduces a different history of the city that raises pressing questions about the responsibility of architects and planners, and about how we use resources.