Culture in Urban Space 2020
Malmö, Sweden & Copenhagen, Denmark, 3-7 February 2020

Note: All presentations are held in the large meeting room at Comfort Hotel Malmö (Carlsgatan 10c).

3 February 2020
10:00-15:00: Tour of historic Malmö and Västra Hamnen. Meet in lobby of Comfort Hotel Malmö.
17:30: Dinner at Thap Thim Thai Isaan (Västergatan 9). Meet in lobby of Comfort Hotel Malmö.
        Dinner starts at 18:00.

4 February 2020
09:30-15:00: Tour of Rosengård and central Malmö. Meet in lobby of Comfort Hotel Malmö.
17:30: Dinner at Pivo (Västergatan 6c). Meet in lobby of Comfort Hotel Malmö. Dinner starts at 18:00.

5 February 2020
09:15-11:30
Introduction & Session 1: What is the meaning of the city?
Chair: Karina Landman (University of Pretoria, South Africa)
09:15-09:30: Adam Grydehøj (University of Prince Edward Island, Canada) Introduction.
09:30-09:50: Lior Galili (City College of NYC at CUNY, USA) Times Square re-transformed.
09:50-10:10: Cheng Hsien-hsin (National Chung Kung University, Taiwan) Regenerating traditions and heritage in transitional areas: Assessing developmental and non-market values.
10:10-10:30: Shira Stav (Ben-Gurion University of the Negev, Israel) New York City in contemporary Israeli literary imagination.
10:30-10:50: Lee Szuwei (National Taipei University of Arts, Taiwan) Exhibiting Taipei: The musealization process in the urban context.
10:50-11:10: Simona-Luiza Țigriș (University of Bucharest, Romania) Perception of cities in Esmeralda Santiago’s When I was Puerto Rican.
11:10-11:30: Adam Grydehøj (University of Prince Edward Island, Canada) Urbanising Inuit culture in Nuuk, Greenland.

11:30-12:30: Lunch break.

12:30-14:30
Session 2: Using the city
Chair: Liana Psarologaki (University of Suffolk, UK)
12:30-12:50: Misagh Mottaghi (Lund University, Sweden & Sweden Water Research, Sweden), Maria Kylin (Swedish University of Agricultural Sciences – Alnarp, Sweden), Catharina Sternudd (Lund University, Sweden), & Sandra Kopljar (Lund University, Sweden). Children’s places in stormwater spaces.
13:50-14:10: Reyya Kalay Yuzen (Yıldız Technical University, Turkey) An example of urban form in Istanbul: Construction of urban footprint through human practices.
14:10-14:30: Abdalhakim Almakkas (Nottingham Trent University, UK) The role of activity in shaping place identity: The Lace Market, Nottingham.

14:30-15:00: Break

15:00-17:00 Session 3: Cities in transition
Chair: Lior Galili (City College of NYC at CUNY, USA)
15:00-15:20: Mahesh Madhav (Kyoto University, Japan) Changing sacred waterscape: Drying up of the temple tanks and ponds of Varanasi, India.
15:20-15:40: Yaşar Selman Gültekin (Düzce University, Turkey) A spatial statistical analysis of post-earthquake changes in mass housing in Düzce, Turkey.
15:40-16:00: Chen Cheng-che (Nanhua University, Taiwan) Conversion mechanisms involving the support of shrinking society by architectural assets.
16:00-16:20: Pınar Gültekin (Düzce University, Turkey) Middle-class mass housing site selection using GIS in Düzce, Turkey.
16:20-16:40: Lovemore Chipungu (University of Kwazulu-Natal, South Africa), Hangwelani Hope Magidimisha (University of Kwazulu-Natal, South Africa), & Noxolo Msimang (University of Kwazulu-Natal, South Africa) Reflecting on inherited culture in post-apartheid communal residential units in South Africa: A case study of Umlazi in Durban.
16:40-17:00: Adell Salem Emhemed Awaj (Cardiff University, UK) The role of physical quality in enhancing cultural values of public space in Tripoli, Libya.


6 February 2020

09:30-11:30 Session 4: Art in the city, the city as art
Chair: Simona-Luiza Tişiriş (University of Bucharest, Romania)
09:30-09:50: Prabhdip Brar (Panjab University, Chandigarh, India) Rock Garden: Rubbish redesigned.
09:50-10:10: Laura Dudley (University of Leicester, UK) The model for urban spaces in contemporary museums, with specific reference to Palle Nielsen’s The Model, 1968, 2014.
10:10-10:30: Liana Psarologaki (University of Suffolk, UK) Urban sensoma: Redefining affect in public spatial practice.
10:30-10:50: Elaine Harrington (University College Cork, Ireland) & John Hough (University College Cork, Ireland) Capturing a city’s sonic fingerprint: The experiences of The Sonic Histories of Cork City Project.

11:10-11:30: Kátia da Costa Bezerra (University of Arizona, USA) A cidade é uma só: Social justice and urban interventions in Brazil.

11:30-12:30: Lunch break

12:30-14:45
Session 5 & Conclusion: Spaces of unity, spaces of division
Chair: Kátia da Costa Bezerra (University of Arizona, USA)
12:30-12:50: Igor Guatelli (Mackenzie University, São Paulo, Brazil & Gerphau-Paris 8, France) Reflections on the fullness and the insufficiency of urban public spaces: The Elevado João Goulart (São Paulo) and the High Line (New York City).
13:30-13:50: Eric Nay (OCAD University, Canada) Following the Truth and Reconciliation Commission: Indigeneity, urban space and reverberation within the contemporary Canadian city.
13:50-14:10: João Rosmaninho (University of Minho, Portugal & Lab2PT, Portugal) The wall as an urban liminality: On fictional Manhattan and Cambridge.
14:10-14:30: Karina Landman (University of Pretoria, South Africa) Decolonisation of public space in South Africa: From revolution to evolution.
14:30-14:45: Adam Grydehøj (University of Prince Edward Island, Canada) Conclusion.

14:45-15:15: Break

15:15-16:15
Session 6: Film screening: Infrastructural Catastrophes: of other urban aesthetics
A 40-minute visual essay on contextuality and intertextuality, and, in a ‘Lefebvrenian’ approach, a question about spaces of representation and representation of spaces. Followed by a question and answer session with filmmaker Igor Guatelli (Mackenzie University, São Paulo, Brazil).

18:00: Dinner at Siesta Bar & Restaurang (Hjorttackegatan 1). Meet in lobby of Comfort Hotel Malmö.
Dinner starts at 18:30.

7 February 2020
10:12-19:00: Tour of Copenhagen. Take 10:12 train from Malmö Central Station to Copenhagen Central Station. Meet guide Paul Hartvigson by escalators at train arrival platform in Copenhagen Central Station at 10:49. Tour ends with dinner at KOPAN Rice (Linnésågade 24) at 18:00. You will then be directed to the train back to Malmö if this is necessary. Train tickets are not included in the tour: if you are travelling from Malmö and back again, we recommend buying a return ticket. You must bring your passport with you on this trip.
Abstracts

Abdalthakim Almakkas (Nottingham Trent University, UK) The role of activity in shaping place identity: The Lace Market, Nottingham. Urban identity is influenced by the cultures that occupy urban spaces, which are in turn constructed from meanings embedded in existing social activities and lifestyles. Thus, emotional meanings that embedded in physical elements of the urban environment are at least as important as spatial structures and physical aspects. This study examines the effects of urban activity on place identity by examining the process of identity change of the Lace Market area in the city of Nottingham, UK over the past two centuries, with reference to the impacts on the user’s perception of place identity. It identifies ‘physical setting’, ‘activity’ and ‘meaning’ as observable components of this concept, and it examines the change in these components through study of the Lace Market’s historical development, in-depth interviews, and cognitive maps with two different user groups (before and after the area’s regeneration). The results indicate that urban activity has a significant role in the Lace Market’s identity. It can be inferred that activities enhance development and maintenance of relationships between users and place, which develop into perceptions of place identity.

Biography: I got Bachelor of Science in Architecture and Urban Engineering, University of Misurata 2001. After a period of work in the field of planning and architecture, as well as through my work as a director for one of the state institutions responsible to build educational buildings in Misrata Libya, I recognise urban identity is influenced by the cultures that occupy them that constructed meanings embedded in the existing social and cultural settings. Thus, I realized that there are various aspects of architectural and urban transformation perspectives that need to be developed which will have a positive impact on maintaining the identity of a place. That was the bottom line in urging me towards furthering my PhD studies. Soon after obtaining my master’s degree: Living Space Inside the Arabic Libyan House, Almargeb University 2007. I was assigned as a teaching staff member at the faculty of engineering at Misrata University in 2000. Later, I have been recently granted a scholarship from the Libyan Ministry of higher education and scientific research to pursue my study abroad. I started my PhD research at Nottingham Trent University in 2016. Title: The role of activity in shaping place identity. abdalhakim.almakkas2015@my.ntu.ac.uk

Abdulaziz Alzahrani (Al-Baha University, Saudi Arabia) Classification of public spaces in small cities. This study provides an in-depth evaluation of the factors that help to deliver better public spaces in small cities. It contributes to filling the gap of knowledge on the public spaces’ types in the city center to help the government and others understand the typology of the current public spaces and some of the factors leading to their success or failure. The main aim is to examine the impact of the trends of public spaces on the quality of contemporary public spaces. This study will explore the deterioration of public space quality and assess public space with the inevitable development of associated management practices. It also argues the typologies of public spaces in order to establish a new typology of public space based on how public space is managed and examines how such a typology might relate to the way real public spaces are managed today. The study is an in-depth analysis of Al-Baha central area as a case study for this study. In this case study, GIS map will be generated for the study site, and data will be analyzed. The findings will demonstrate the classification of public spaces in the study site. The finding will elaborate how objectives and principles of urban design are abstract and must be articulated by more detailed guidelines regarding the definition of these public spaces and their tangible and physical benefits for them to be beneficial for public places and to have an impact on people’s lives.
Biography: Dr. Abdulaziz Alzahrani is an assistant professor of urban design in Al-Baha University, Al-Baha, Saudi Arabia. He is interested in evaluating the social value of public spaces, seeking the development of urban spaces in cities and its tangible benefits to users and community. Azahran@bu.edu.sa

Adell Salem Emhemed Awaj (Cardiff University, UK) The role of physical quality in enhancing cultural values of public space in Tripoli, Libya. This study examines how the qualities of urban public space contribute to creating successful cultural urban spaces in Tripoli, Libya. Specifically, this study focuses on defining the physical qualities of streetscapes that in enhance socio-cultural qualities of urban spaces. In order to do so, the study examines how residents perceive the physical qualities that support their socio-cultural desires. Sixteen attributes have been chosen on the basis of a literature review. This study utilizes a mixed approach and data collection and analysis. The literature review and questionnaire surveys were adopted to answer the research questions. The results of this study suggest that there are five key features of public space when it comes to enhancing the cultural values of Libyan society. This study adds to the knowledge concerning the potential of the physical qualities to support the cultural values of public spaces.

Biography: I have previously worked in the Ministry of Housing Humanities back home in Libya. While in the this position I was lucky enough to oversee several residential project in term of design, such as the U.S.A., Chinese, and German companies in the field build residential units. Also Deputy manger of ADWA Zletin Company for General Contracting and Real-estate investment. From 13/03/2010 up to 18/12/2012. Therefore, Execution project engineer. Project of 126 Housing Units. Amamra area, Almerghib province for following up and approving the architectural layouts, samples laboratory tests and materials related to the project, from 02/06/2005 up to 25/04/2017. Member in supervising committee, project of 5000 housing units. Swaw a area, Misurata city. This work experience confirmed that I was on the right path with my career plan and helped me to view the real business world and learn how to integrate with colleagues and management alike. I was studied at School of Architecture, Design and the Build Environment Nottingham Trent University (Master Degree) and then continue as a student of Welsh School of Architecture in Cardiff University (PHD degree) and I still studying until now. Adell.awaj01@yahoo.com

Kátia da Costa Bezerra (University of Arizona, USA) A cidade é uma só: Social justice and urban interventions in Brazil. Inaugurated in 1960 to serve as the capital, Brasilia is formed by a pilot plan and around 30 satellite urban municipalities. The relationship between the satellite cities and the pilot plan has been marked by disparities and segregation. Created in 1971, Ceilândia is one of the most populous satellite cities. It has an HDI of 0.784 with serious public safety, health and education problems. A cidade é uma só (2011), directed by Adirley Queiroz, interconnects the history of Ceilândia to the construction of the new capital, Brasília. Unlike other films that celebrate the modernist image of the city, A cidade é uma só brings to the fore the social disaster of the utopian project. The film provides a point of departure to explore the relationship between memory, urban space and the myth of modernity. It allows us to examine the interplay between the displacement of people, urban interventions and social justice - issues that are not restricted to Brazil but are part of the everyday life of many cities in our globalized world.

Biography: Professor at the Department of Spanish and Portuguese, University of Arizona. Her primary areas of research are urban space, gender and race. Author of the book Postcards from Rio: Favelas and the Contested Geographies of Citizenship, Prof. Bezerra has published in major journals in the area. Her articles discuss the issue of gender in a time of nation-building, cinema and the re-mapping of the city, the intricate relation between gender, memory and national identity, and
interrogate the interconnection between national celebration/monuments and citizenship.

Prabhdip Brar (Panjab University, Chandigarh, India) **Rock Garden: Rubbish redesigned.**

Creative Adaptive Reuse is the use of buildings, materials and products for purposes other than originally intended. Although adaptive reuse has a long tradition in arts and crafts, more recently environmental awareness and schemes for sustainability have refreshed the role of litter to treasures approach, providing a wide array of contemporary urban intention, craft and art which are important part of today's cities. Supported by a significant photographic documentation of examples, this paper explores some of the roles of adaptive reuse in craft, design and art in the urban environment, particularly in the City of Chandigarh with special focus on Nek Chand’s ‘Rock Garden’ focusing on repurposed objects. An initial background discusses the relationships of crafts and design in the rural and urban contexts, in order to define the city since the inception of the Rock Garden. The concepts of cultural identity and sustainability and their relationship to crafts and design are also discussed. Subsequently diverse examples from architecture, crafts, design and urban arts illustrate diverse modes of adaptive reuse at the urban, human or hand scale, mainly focusing on adaptive reuse of flora and Fauna made with the junk collected from the city. Main conclusions discuss the different motifs in a repetitive role of adaptive reuse, craft and design in the contemporary gardens built environment through a categorization based on physical scale, context and use, namely within the types of repurposed items here illustrated and mainly within 4 categories, as follows: 1) Motifs, 2) material used, 3) handmade & 2 dimensional 4) Scale of work.

**Biography:** Prabhdip Brar, Ph.D., Chairperson of the University Institute of Fashion Technology & Vocational Development, Panjab University. She obtained her Ph.D in philosophy from faculty of Fine Arts, department of Art History & Visual Arts, Panjab University (2007), collocating the subject along with the prestigious MDes (Masters in design) specializing in Knitwear design & technology programme from the National Institute of Fashion technology, New Delhi, India. She has published internationally on, Historic Indian Textiles, Mughal Apparel & erotic Indian art, Textiles & indigenous craft and Fashion management & Journalism. Her recent researches focus on contemporary and historical avant-gardes in art design and fashion. [daphybrar@gmail.com](mailto:daphybrar@gmail.com) & [drpbrar@pu.ac.in](mailto:drpbrar@pu.ac.in)

Sibel Bulay (EKOİQ Journal, Turkey) **Gezi Park and the awakening of local governance.**

In 2013 the AKP government in Turkey decided that a shopping mall would be built in Taksim’s Gezi Park. This being the last green space in the area, local citizens opposed the project, stating that the city needed more green space, NOT more shopping malls. (Turkey has more shopping malls than most cities in Europe.) The three-week standoff resulted in hundreds of people, including myself, occupying the park. It attracted international attention, and spread throughout Turkey. 2.5 million people protested in 79 of the 81 provinces in Turkey. Eight young men died and dozens were injured. One of the most memorable moments was during a forum in the park. A young woman told us she had never paid attention to local elections, but the threat of losing the park made her realize the importance of decision-making at the local level. Since Gezi, we are seeing more NGOs forming, focusing on local issues, local government; the beginning of a culture democracy from the bottom up. As political power is increasingly concentrated in the hands of one man, the fight for democracy is taking place at the local level; a legacy of the Gezi Protest.

**Biography:** Sibel Bulay is a retired mechanical engineer. whose interest in sustainable development began while working at Ford Motor Company. In 2005 Ford sent Bulay to Istanbul where, in a joint initiative with World Resources Institute, she founded the urban transport NGO EMBARQ.
Turkey. During those 7 years, the focus of Bulay’s work shifted from vehicles to urban transport to cities. Following retirement, Bulay began writing a column “Livable Cities” for the Turkish journal EKOIQ and her interest expanded to the UN’s 2030 Agenda. She is also co-producer, co-host of a web-based news program “The City Belong to Us.” sibelbulay@gmail.com

Chen Cheng-che (Nanhua University, Taiwan) **Conversion mechanisms involving the support of shrinking society by architectural assets.** This study aims to uncover means of shifting urban planning from its previous focus on growth and expansion to one based around resource utilization and urban regeneration. With the emergence of a shrinking society and the transformation of urban spatial structures, the full utilization of urban architectural assets should be achieved by establishing circulation mechanisms and supporting the needs of community revival and urban functions. With this concept in mind, planners can utilize geographic information systems to assess the distribution of architectural assets. However, given demand trends linked to the dynamic changes in the social structure, it is not possible to gain a proper understanding the trends merely by observing statistical data. The study examined an old neighborhood clustered with architectural assets located in the southern section of a city, as well as the surrounding urban area that falls within the neighborhood's environment. Analyzing the conversion trends for architectural assets, thereby allowing for the study to examine the strategies and mechanisms that may have promoted or led to the formation of the architectural conversion trends as mentioned previously. 

*Biography:* I graduated from the department of architecture, university of Tokyo, Japan. Currently teaching at the department of architecture and landscape design, Nanhua University, as an assistant professor. Always discusses urban history with a focus on the renovated future and an understanding of the urban fabric. chengche@nhu.edu.tw

Cheng Hsien-hsin (National Chung Kung University, Taiwan) **Regenerating traditions and heritage in transitional areas: Assessing developmental and non-market values.** Preserving traditions and cultural heritage to regenerate transitional areas has gradually come to be regarded as an important element in the development of urban characteristics worldwide. This study assumes that every transitional area has some special historical and cultural features and is waiting for the right time and incentives to transform. This transformation process attaches importance to neighborhood social relations, industrial characteristics, and historical and cultural attributes. Transitional area regeneration can be achieved through the formation of catalysts, links, and networks of tradition and cultural heritage regeneration. I seek to analyze the relevant research data to assess whether significant growth in real estate prices result from such cultural consumption patterns and whether non-market value benefits arise as a result of restoration of old buildings in transitional areas.

*Biography:* I graduated from the Department of Architecture, University of Tokyo, Japan. Currently teaching at the Department of Urban Planning, National Chung Kung University, as an associate professor. Lab. of Cheng's discusses dynamic urban development with a focus on the urban fabric and an understanding of the urban rhythms that either change or remain constant. With respect to the urban fabric, morphological analyses are conducted to examine such rhythms which are closely linked to the historical fabric, and these are discussed with in reference to the aforementioned system. janeshin@mail.ncku.edu.tw
Lovemore Chipungu (University of KwaZulu-Natal, South Africa), Hangwelani Hope Magidimisha (University of KwaZulu-Natal, South Africa), & Noxolo Msimang (University of KwaZulu-Natal, South Africa) Reflecting on inherited culture in post-apartheid communal residential units in South Africa: A case study of Umlazi in Durban. South Africa’s post-1994 era saw a transformation of culture and cultural practices within the built environment of communal residential units (CRUs). During the apartheid era, black people were exposed to two types of housing typology: one which allowed them to practice their culture freely, and the other which limited them in all aspects. Housing in rural areas allowed black people to practice their culture freely through its house form layout, whereas housing in urban areas presented limitations and restricted all forms of cultural practices. The study aims at establishing and assessing whether communal residential units (CRUs) are responsive to cultural needs, norms and practices. To achieve this mandate, information was gathered through primary and secondary data collection methods. Quantitative information was gathered through household surveys and focus group discussions conducted in Wema (Umlazi Unit 17) as well as with key informants from eThekwini Municipality. The study used Durkheim’s human behavioural theory as an analytical framework for establishing the linkage between culture and housing in CRUs. This research revealed that post-1994 housing, especially the CRUs, do not take into account households’ cultural values. This is reflected in the nature of housing which is not free-standing while certain facilities within and outside the units are shared, thereby depriving households of privacy. However, the study also established that there are people who value the ease and convenience of single living and temporary housing depending on economy and their family’s financial need. The study recommended that the government should incorporate an environment that is supportive of culture and family living while also supportive of those who seek housing on short-term tenure.

Biography: Dr. Chipungu holds a PhD in Town and Regional Planning, a Master’s Degree in Rural and Urban Planning as well as a Bachelor of Science Degree (Honours) in Rural and Urban Planning. He is an active member of the Zimbabwe Institute of Regional and Urban Planners as well as a Corporate Member of the South African Planning Institute. He is currently a Senior lecturer in the School of the Built Environment and Development Studies, at the University of KwaZulu-Natal. He has published widely in peer-reviewed journals and books; and his areas of interest are in housing policy, urban land and housing and urban design. chipungu@ukzn.ac.za

Laura Dudley (University of Leicester, UK) The model for urban spaces in contemporary museums, with specific reference to Palle Nielsen’s The Model, 1968, 2014. This presentation will explore the rationale for creating spaces for urban play and social activism inside contemporary art museums, with specific reference to the 2014 reconstruction of Palle Nielsen’s The Model at Arken, Copenhagen. By analyzing the motivations behind reconstructing this exhibition which originally took place at Moderna Museet, Stockholm in 1968, I will question why these spaces are being created inside museums, and what the lasting impacts are of this on urban public spaces, specifically playgrounds and areas designed for children and families. As Nielsen originally designed and created playgrounds in Denmark before he moved to art practice, I feel his work plays a key role in the research concerning culture in urban spaces and the relationship between the museum and outdoor cultural environments. By discussing The Model in the context of mutual exchanges I will consider the findings and discussions from both the original exhibition and the reconstruction in my presentation. By doing this I plan to compare these and reflect on their impacts on social interactions, learning in museums and exhibition design. This will specifically reference archive material from Arken and MACBA which detail how the public engaged with the space through notes, drawings, photographs and ‘time capsules’.
Biography: Laura Dudley is a Postgraduate Researcher at the School of Museum Studies, University of Leicester who is currently researching restaged and co-produced participatory art exhibitions, and how these engage with the theme of artistic authorship. Her research interests include archives, artist’s studios and community engagement with contemporary art. Laura is also Editor-in-Chief for the Museological Review, Museum Studies Journal and works at Derby Museums. Led25@le.ac.uk

Lior Galili (City College of NYC at CUNY, USA) Times Square re-transformed. Since its inception in 1904, Times Square in New York City has served as a national and an international site attuned to the arrival of new media. In the equation of media and public space, Times Square is an example, not only for the accommodation of new modes of communication, but also, and more importantly, of the shaping of public space in relation to the transformation of those media into an urban fabric. By the mid-1990s, a redevelopment plan called the 42nd Development Project had dramatically changed the shape and characteristic of Times Square’s public space. This plan came in response to the crime that had governed the streets of Times Square from approximately its 4th to its 8th decades and sought to clean up the afflicted site and improve its image. While aiming to get rid of the ‘old’ and construct a ‘new’ Times Square, some of the 42nd DP’s major planning decisions reveal a subconscious persistence of the ‘original’ Times Square within the design process. This presentation will explore the inscription of the historical image of Times Square in collective memory and its effect on the emergence of the specific formal language that transformed and informs the nature of the site.

Biography: Lior Galili is an Israeli artist-architect, editor and educator based in the USA. Her work explores the politics of space in relation to media and radical imagination. Her academic experience includes teaching at Cornell University, Carleton University, The Technion—Israel Institute of Technology, Syracuse University and CCNY. Her professional experience includes working for several NYC firms including the offices of DMA + Shigeru Ban Architects and Michael Sorkin’s Terreform, center for advanced urban research. Galili holds a Master’s degree in Architecture from the Harvard Graduate School of Design and a B.Arch. degree from the Cooper Union School of Architecture. lgalili@ccny.cuny.edu

Igor Guatelli (Mackenzie University, São Paulo, Brazil) Reflections on the fullness and the insufficiency of urban public spaces: The Elevado João Goulart (São Paulo) and the High Line (New York City). In today’s world, discontentment with reality is sometimes forcefully manifested in the construction of suggestive and seductive idealities. Reality, perceived as inadequate, becomes a presupposition for other suppositions regarding landscapes and social public places, effective in their new semantics, sometimes ready-to-use, sometimes places of unpredictabilities in their new onto-teleological being. The histories and destinies of two elevated infrastructural lanes allow us to reflect on the movement of transmuted return of that which no longer seems to have a place in history and in reality. The High Line in New York City and the Elevado João Goulart in São Paulo are two elevated infrastructural lanes (a railroad and a highway respectively) that were superimposed onto cities and tore apart the ‘tissue’ of those cities. With distinct physical and urban characteristics, and despite their evident similarities, both of them were born of a functionalist approach to the city, with the goal of connecting distant areas so as to ensure a better flow of goods and people in the city. Now, distant from their original conditions, they became [dd]other places in the city, either on account of their new design[ation] (High Line) or lack of it (Elevado). Today, they present themselves as alternatives to public life.

Pınar Gültekin (Düzce University, Turkey) **Middle-class mass housing site selection using GIS in Düzce, Turkey.** This study aims to determine the most suitable areas for middle-class mass housing for the future planning of Düzce, Turkey through use of Geographical Information Systems (GIS). Natural and cultural landscape elements have been gathered into thematic maps (topography, geology, soil, land cover, transportation, settlement, hydrology) using the ArcGIS 10.1 program, which is GIS software. Selection criteria for middle-class mass housing were then developed. Then suitability and sensitivity analyses were conducted. User profile, proximity to public institutions and work spaces, mass housing outdoor use, etc. data were also included in the analysis. As a result of the analyses, three classes of mass-housing locations in the study area were defined as very suitable, suitable, and unsuitable.

Biography: I’m Pınar Gültekin. I’m working at Duzce University Forestry Faculty Department of Landscape Architecture as Asst. Prof. I’m from Turkey and I live in Turkey. My research areas are landscape planning, cultural landscapes, ecotourism planning, urban open spaces, participatory planning, rural and urban planning, rural and urban identity, GIS. I have publications about these topics. pinargultekin@duzce.edu.tr

Elaine Harrington (University College Cork, Ireland) & John Hough (University College Cork, Ireland) **Capturing a city’s sonic fingerprint: The experiences of The Sonic Histories of Cork City Project.** The Sonic Histories of Cork City (SHOCC) Project is an interdisciplinary research project between members of the library’s Special Collections and the Department of Music, University College Cork, Ireland. The SHOCC Project explores relationships between sound, space and history. By using archival and historical sources the team investigates what locations in Cork City might have sounded like in the city’s past creating audio and virtual reality soundscapes. We explore how a city’s particular experiences contribute to that city’s sonic fingerprint: Cork’s history is intrinsically linked to its waterscapes and landscapes as ‘Cork’ is from the Irish ‘corcaigh’ meaning ‘marsh’. However, capturing a city’s sonic fingerprint is best completed as part of a community, therefore the SHOCC Project developed SoundCatcher, an online collection tool, so anyone may contribute to the city’s contemporary sonic histories. Through SoundCatcher and soundscape engagement we aim for people to learn about Cork City’s fascinating past and present, and also to encourage people to think critically about changing docklands, streets and buildings. In this presentation we will explore immersive environments considering cultural, social, economic, political, and historical factors to show how Cork City and its soundscapes have been altered in significant ways.

Biographies: Elaine Harrington and John Hough, with Dr Jillian Rogers, are co-founders of The Sonic Histories of Cork City Project. Facebook, Twitter, Instagram: @SHOCCProjectUCC. Elaine Harrington, BA, MA, PG Dip. LIS, is the Special Collections Assistant Librarian in UCC Library, University College Cork, Ireland. She has over ten years’ experience connecting people with information and teaching them to think critically about such information. Elaine collaborates
with 30 academics in UCC to develop innovative research-led undergraduate and postgraduate modules based on primary sources held in UCC Library’s Special Collections. Elaine is open to how emerging technologies in a Special Collections’ context may provide different collaborative opportunities. e.harrington@ucc.ie

John Hough, BSc and MA in Post Production Sound Design, is Senior Technical Officer in the Department of Music, University College Cork, Ireland. His research interests include production and postproduction sound for screen media, in particular the use of ambient sound design in film. John is a content producer for IndieCork Film Festival and was a producer for Balcony TV Cork (2011-2017). John has been a sound designer or sound recordist for various standalone projects including Museum of Doubts (2014), Crash Bang Wallop, Cork Film Festival (2016), Global Water Dances and Homespace, MidSummer Festival (2017). j.hough@ucc.ie

Reyya Kalay Yuzen (Yıldız Technical University, Turkey) An example of urban form in Istanbul: Construction of urban footprint through human practices. Planned cities and urban spaces propose a spatial order that organizes a designed unity of possibilities and relationships, but this is like using a word in the language in its own literal sense. Just as language is transforming between individuals and cultures by revealing their own meanings and metaphors through human practices, the city is transformed with similar practices without being bound to order and norms. Lefebvre states that the place does not contain physical elements in itself, it is shaped and perceived according to the values of the society. In this context, the study focuses on thresholds that create fractures within the urban space like example of language. Because these thresholds are assumed to be the precursors of potential spaces. The social practices occurring at these thresholds will be permanent in urban form and may refer to the spatialities formed by different social relations at such thresholds. Stravrides argues that such thresholds are liberating spaces. The place that focused on this study is Mecidiyeköy in Istanbul. Mecidiyeköy, in fact, serves as a threshold with a huge gap in its center. This place is in a chaos with the pedestrian density, the vehicle traffic provided by a viaduct, multi-storey office towers and an example of urban transformation, but this huge chaos becomes different forms with human practices. At this point, the urban form manifests itself as a kind of footprint of human practices. In this study, how urban footprint is shaped with the lifestyle of society and the impact of unpredictable human practices in urban form will be explained. 

Biography: Born in 1990 in Mugla, graduatated from Uludag University Department of Architecture. After her graduation, she worked as architect in several architectural offices in Turkey. She was accepted to take a Msc degree in Building Research and Planning Programme at Yıldız Technical University in 2015 and was completed in 2018, with the thesis entitled ‘Transformativity of Body and Space: The Flesh Of Space’ was supervised by Assoc. Prof. Dr. Senem Kaymaz Koca. She has been working in the Department of Architecture at Yıldız Technical University as a research assistant since 2016 and continues to PhD education. reyyakalay@gmail.com

Junekyung Kang (Kumoh National Institute of Technology, South Korea) Complexity and order in biomimicry façade design patterns. Biomimicry is a term described in Janine Benyus’ book Biomimicry, which means to get innovative ideas by mimicking the principles of living organisms. Many architects have practiced this method to design aesthetic building façades. This research has studied cases of Biomimicry façade designs to understand how architects analyzed and applied principles from nature to façade designs. The purpose of this research is to establish a systematic design method for designing Biomimicry façades by studying related cases. Complexity and order patterns coexist in the designs of studied cases. This design characteristic relates to two factors: the form of organisms and the structure of buildings. Case studies were preformed based on
the understanding of these factors. Principles of organisms that were abstracted to design buildings and design elements that show complexity and order were studied. Through this process, design methods used in each case were identified and classified. Future Biomimicry architects can use results of this research as a guideline for designing Biomimicry façades. Acknowledgement: This research was supported by Basic Science Research Program through the National Research Foundation of Korea (NRF) funded by the Ministry of Education (NRF-2017R1D1A1B03035621).

Biography: Junekyung Kang is a professor at Kumoh National Institute of Technology in Korea and received her Ph.D. from Seoul National University. After writing a dissertation on Biomimicry architecture, her research interests continually focus on this field. jkang@kumoh.ac.kr

Karina Landman (University of Pretoria, South Africa) Decolonisation of public space in South Africa: From revolution to evolution. Cities are changing and so is public space. Given the strong influence of colonialism on urban transformation in the past, there are many questions about the nature of public space in post-colonial cities. This paper focuses on the decolonisation of public space in South Africa and the role of changing cultural landscapes and urban lives in shaping the form of these public spaces. Drawing from seven years of in-depth research on public space, the discussion firstly explores the concept of decolonisation and then proceeds to investigate its implication for spatial practice, or in other words how to move from conceptualisation to actualisation. The paper argues that such a process of decolonisation should not involve violence, but rather focus on potential; thus, not through revolution but through the co-evolution of humans and nature within public space to initiate regeneration through co-production and co-responsibility. It shows that radical spatial transformation also necessitates a radical mental transition, but that this can be achieved through co-operation and co-mutualism. The discussion is situated within larger debates on the decolonial turn in philosophy but extends this to investigate its meaning for spatial transformation in changing post-colonial cities through Regenerative Development and Design.

Biography: The author is an Associate Professor at the University of Pretoria and has a background in architecture and urban planning, with a PhD in urban design from Newcastle University (UK). Her research areas include sustainable development, focusing on neighbourhoods and public space, as well as resilient and regenerative cities. She has published widely on issues related to public space, including a book entitled “Evolving Public Space in South Africa”, published by Routledge. karina.landman@up.ac.za

Lee Szuwei (National Taipei University of Arts, Taiwan) Exhibiting Taipei: The musealization process in the urban context. Through the lens of museology, this presentation intends to create a different frame of reference for understanding the urban landscape in Taipei, the capital city of Taiwan. Taiwan, an island country, was colonized by Japanese for 50 years, and was taken over by the Nationalist Government after World War II. Since late 19th century, Taipei has gone through changes, especially a rapid economic growth in the 1970s, followed by the first wave of investment in cultural infrastructure in the 1980s, and the rising of civic awareness in the 1990s. Entering the 21st century, we also faced with the issue of transitional justice, regarding the political suppression in the White Terror period. From National Taiwan Museum (since 1908), National Palace Museum (since 1965), as to National Human Rights Museum (since 2019), there are nearly a hundred museums in Taipei City including new build and historical sites. This city’s political history is fully represented as a spectrum of museum development embedded in urban landscape, that is, what I conceive as the musealization process in the urban context. This presentation exhibits
Taipei in a museal and spatial dimension, by means of identifying and interpreting the diverse agents, ideology, as well as architectural forms of museums in this city.

Biography: Lee Szuwei received her undergraduate training in architecture, and a master degree of Graduate Institute of Building and Planning, NTU and now is a PhD. Student in National Taipei University of Arts, Taiwan. She worked in National Taiwan Museum, and the Building and Planning Research Foundation, NTU in the past ten years, mainly in charge of projects of research or planning projects about cultural heritage. Her current research interests include museum, cultural heritage, and city studies. r90544004@g.ntu.edu.tw

Mahesh Madhav (Kyoto University, Japan) Changing sacred waterscape: Drying up of the temple tanks and ponds of Varanasi, India. Varanasi, one of the ancient pilgrim cities in India, was once dominated by an interconnected network of natural and man-made water bodies such as temple tanks, lakes, streams and wells. Since the nineteenth century, however, the city has been witnessing a dramatic and sustained elimination and degradation of its sacred water bodies. After the complete annexation of Varanasi in 1794 initially by the British East India Company and later by the British colonial authorities, urban planning was dominated mainly by three discourses: sanitation, hygiene and modernity. This paper argues that the notion of the ‘dry city’ compelled the colonial rulers to treat these sacred and revered temple tanks as profane, contaminated and disgusting for the modern city. This paper explores how early urban modernization efforts under colonial conditions such as the expansion of roads and building of public parks transformed cultural landscapes. The study refers to historical maps and satellite imagery.

Biography: I have completed my Master’s Degree Program from the Graduate School of Asian and African Area Studies at Kyoto University, Japan and at present a PhD research fellow at the same university. My research is about the steady decline of the sacred temple tanks and ponds of Varanasi city and how the rapid urban growth is making an impact on the ecology of the cities. I use the GIS tools and study the historical maps and satellite imagery to understand how the shape and size of temple tanks and ponds are transforming and also the ecology of the urban cities. mimawork@gmail.com

Misagh Mottaghi (Lund University, Sweden & Sweden Water Research, Sweden), Maria Kylin (Swedish University of Agricultural Sciences – Alnarp, Sweden), Catharina Sternudd (Lund University, Sweden), & Sandra Kopljär (Lund University, Sweden). Children’s places in stormwater spaces. Sustainable stormwater management has been introduced as a practice of nature-based solutions in order to improve resilience to urban flooding and at the same time achieve urban sustainability. However, cities have rarely reached sustainability of urban environments, as regards to people’s health, wellbeing and liveability, through improved resilience. The gap is even more pronounced when it comes to children and their needs. Children’s spaces are rapidly diminishing while ‘compact city’ is a predominant trend in current planning ideology. The present paper explores the possibilities for nature-based stormwater facilities to be used as children’s playscapes and tries to gain knowledge by studying implemented facilities and their offered possibilities for action. The researchers have studied two urban housing areas to investigate how ecological and social values can reinforce each other. These areas have been analysed with a reviewed method for assessing children’s playscapes, developed by previous researchers, together with on-sit observations. This study shows that a space that is efficient for stormwater management is not necessarily a good space for children’s play. Furthermore, the paper discusses the results in terms of how the design process could be used to adjust and enhance both stormwater management and children’s everyday use and play.
Biographies: Misagh Mottaghi is an architect and urban designer. She is doing her between departments of Water and environmental engineering and Architecture. Her research focus is on how blue-green urban water techniques effect the quality of urban environments in relation to everyday life. Misagh.Mottaghi@atkitektur.lth.se

Maria Kylin is a senior lecturer in Landscape architecture and urban design. Her research focus is on how children’s experience and use of outdoor urban environments can be used by professionals in urban planning. Maria.Kylin@slu.se

Sandra Kopljnar is an architect and associate senior lecturer. Her research interest revolves around urban development and design processes connected to design professionals’ methodology and pedagogy. These themes are investigated through development of affordance theory in relation to design, in artistic research that explores the role of architecture photography methodology and in research themes about the handling of everyday actions and strategies in relation to the built environment as a co-producer of climate ethics as well as the role of architecture in the making of science and scientific cultures. Sandra.Kopljar@atkitektur.lth.se

Catharina Sternudd is a senior lecturer in architecture and urban design. Her research focuses on human environment interaction especially on how the planning and design of urban environments can support or hinder sustainable everyday practices such as walking. Catharina.Sternudd@atkitektur.lth.se

Eric Nay (OCAD University, Canada) Following the Truth and Reconciliation Commission: Indigeneity, urban space and reverberation within the contemporary Canadian city. Urban theorists have chosen to re-imagine the city as a text, amongst a myriad of other methods. Understanding the city as the manifestation of its own internal social practices and spatial rituals has allowed researchers to focus on the social production of space using more complete methods of analysis of urban form. In Canada, Indigenous epistemologies of place have begun to be incorporated into urban place-making practices following the landmark Truth and Reconciliation Commission (TRC) Report (2015). However, in spite of numerous efforts to decolonize institutions, the Canadian socio-political landscape, relative to the TRC, has shown a lack of theoretical investment in the overall project of decolonization as defined by the TRC. I will analyze how Indigenous notions of place, land and belonging are being taken up within the contemporary Canadian city by looking more closely at how the city appears within the Truth and Reconciliation Commission report, how course descriptions in Canadian post-secondary architecture and design curricula have been re-framed following the TRC and by critiquing a number of recent built projects in Toronto including an urban park, a transit station and a university building – all positioned as having been shaped ideologically by the requirements of the TRC.

Biography: Eric Nay is an architect and design theorist with more than two decades of teaching, administrative and research experience. Eric is currently an Associate Professor at OCAD University in Toronto, Canada where he teaches lecture courses, advanced design theory seminars and environmental and industrial design studios at the undergraduate level and advises graduate students within a number of interdisciplinary graduate programs at OCADU. Eric holds degrees from the University of Toronto (PhD), Cornell University (M.Arch), the University of Kentucky (B.Arch) and studied law at Hamline University. Eric’s experience includes working in architecture offices in New York City, Chicago and California. Eric’s recent academic work includes an upcoming publication, “Towards a New Arctic: Le Corbusier, UNESCO and the Northern Imaginary” forthcoming in Material Culture Review. To date, Eric has published nearly forty articles, book reviews and digital journal pieces across a wide range of media, presented papers at more than twenty conferences, and has given numerous guest lectures including a TEDtalk with a track record
of external support. Eric has also served as an Assistant Dean, an Associate Dean, a Program Director and as a Grievance Chair for his Faculty Union. enay@ocadu.ca

Taru Niskanen (Harris-Kjisik Architects, Finland & Aalto University, Finland) The use of public spaces around Helsinki Central Railway Station: Past, present and future. The area around the Central Railway Station in Helsinki is the busiest transportation hub and pedestrian area in Finland. The limited space of the streets and public spaces surrounding the station itself serve a myriad of different functions and modes of transportation. The built environment around the Railway Station, and the way people use it, have always been shaped by whichever mode of transport has been dominant at the time. The focus of planning activities and the allocation of space has changed over the years as urban culture and societal values have evolved. Currently, most people around the Railway Station are there because they need to be, not because they want to. The city of Helsinki aims to change this in the coming years and once again the area stands on the brink of transformation. The puzzle of fitting many functions and needs into the limited space is complex to solve, as conflicting interests pull the development in different directions. This makes it tempting to solve each issue separately, one by one. But does that create successful places that encourage people to linger, meet and interact? A holistic planning approach is required in order to make the area an attractive place that contributes to the overall liveability and shapes the new urban culture of downtown Helsinki.

Biography: Taru Niskanen (MSc. in Architecture) has worked extensively in architecture from land use planning to building design in Finland and abroad. She has special expertise in metro and railway station design. Niskanen is interested in the pedestrian experience and public life in the urban context. Currently she works as project architect at Harris-Kjisik Architects and is a PhD candidate and teacher at Aalto University. Recently she has worked on several design and research projects around the Helsinki Central Railway Station. taru.niskanen@h-k.fi

Daniel Przastek (University of Warsaw, Poland) & Paweł Marek Mrowiński (University of Warsaw, Poland). Political performances: Critical voice of Polish streets (2015-2019). Despite the fact that politics inhabit the walls of buildings on a daily basis, quiet the offices of the heads of state and the most important institutions, politics sometimes go to the place where it was born, and which gives it real strength – to the street. This is where the most important processes changing the face of countries, regions or even the whole world began. In our paper we wish to consider the political dimension of the streets through the example of protests and demonstrations in contestation with and in opposition to the currently (since 2015) ruling party in Poland, Law and Justice. Through selected examples (including black protests against the tightening of anti-abortion laws; protests against reform of the judiciary; the movement of Citizens RP, symbolized by white roses; eating bananas as a form of protest against censorship at the National Museum in Warsaw; etc.) we analyze the reasons why citizens take to the street, their protest strategies, and their protest methods. Particularly important in our research will be the inclusion of street contestations as part of performance studies, thus showing their performative dimension along with the specific social scenography that accompanies them. It will be equally important to look at how protesters use the existing urban tissue for their purposes.

Biographies: Prof. Daniel Przastek - PhD of Humanities in the political sciences (Theatrical community during martial law in Poland - 2004), habilitation for the thesis Cultural policy and freedom of artistic expression in Poland in 1989-2015 (2017). Lecturer and Vice-Dean of the Faculty of Political Sciences and International Studies, University of Warsaw. He deals with the history of Poland and Europe, cultural policy, and relations between theatre and politics.
Collaborator, as a dramaturgist, of many Polish theater directors. Co-founder of the Association of International Cultural Initiatives. Co-founder and artistic director of the Student Theatres Festival START. dprzastek@wp.pl

Paweł Marek Mrowiński, MA - Graduate of history and political science at the University of Warsaw. Currently a doctoral student at the Faculty of Political Science and International Studies of the University of Warsaw. He is preparing a doctoral thesis on the sociopolitical aspects of funeral ceremonies in Poland after the Second World War. Winner of the second prize in the competition for Historical Debut of the Year 2018 and distinction in the competition for the best master's thesis on theatre, spectacle and performance organized by the Zbigniew Raszewski Theater Institute in Warsaw, for the thesis “And then this dreadful Oktober set in” – public executions in Warsaw (October 1943 - February 1944). Performative conceptualization. p.m.mrowinski@gmail.com

Liana Psarologaki (University of Suffolk, UK) Urban sensoma: Redefining affect in public spatial practice. The presentation situates spatial practice as critical and architecturally concerned discipline and as praxis that redefines experiences in the public domain of the city. I will critically examine two performative installations in the SPILL Festival of Performance 2018. The first is Kopf Kino (Head Cinema) by ON/OFF; a device that captures encounters at street level and renders them on elements of the built environment through by projection and participation. The second is Clarion Call by Byron J Scullin + Supple Fox; a collaborative large-scale sonic work commemorating asynchronous wars. I suggest that such installations act as remedies for the pathologies of the city and re-enable the individual to sense and therefore to live the place with which they are called to engage. I define this living condition of embodied experience of space as urban sensoma. I will link sensoma with Paul Virilio’s concept of topographical amnesia and Bakhtin’s chronotope with theoretical underpinning that spans from Descartes to Deleuze and Guattari, with a particular focus on notions of time, space and experience. The presentation will introduce an index of neologisms that establish an agenda for spatial practice related to sensing the common in public spaces of the city.

Biography: Dr Liana Psarologaki is an artist, architect engineer and academic, based in the UK. She holds a PhD from the University of Brighton (2015) sponsored by the University for the Creative Arts, a combined Masters in Architecture from the National Technical University of Athens (2007), and practiced architecture before her MA in Fine Art at UCA Canterbury (2010). Awarded many times for academic excellence, her work is internationally presented and published contributing in the current debate on the empirical ontology of architectural space. Dr Psarologaki is a senior lecturer and the Head of Architecture at University of Suffolk, Ipswich UK. ¬¬Website: www.aylostopos.com. l.psarologaki@uos.ac.uk

João Rosmaninho (University of Minho, Portugal & Lab2PT, Portugal) The wall as an urban liminality: on fictional Manhattan and Cambridge. Walls imply war and vice-versa. Walls, for instance, are often highlighted as urban elements that both separate and capture. Although their consequences have several forms yet to analyze, one may find in recent literary dystopias a very precise and realistic representation of them. In fact, walls reveal with accuracy violent architectures that characterize part of our human and urban cultures. Hence, it comes as no surprise that narratives such as In the Country of Last Things or The Handmaid’s Tale can definitely represent liminal places (and regimes) at war with walls amongst them. Following this outcome, our communication seeks to address how these specific elements have become a display for fictional visions adapting, depicting, and assembling versions of the urban space. Through two fictional settings located in the near future (as it happens in Paul Auster’s and Margaret Atwood’s novels), we aim to investigate
urban liminalities produced by walls as relevant ones to define our present condition and its built environment. According to these authors, we may enhance multiple understandings of reality and scrutinize our collective existence using the conventions of fiction.

**Biography:** Joao Rosmaninho (b.1979) holds a BA in Architecture (2004), a MSc in Communication Sciences (2009), and a PhD in Architectural Culture (2017). Currently, he is Assistant Professor at the University of Minho’s School of Architecture with a position at its R&D unit (since 2017). Joao was also researcher at University of Porto (2012-2013), visiting fellow at Harvard University (2013), and visiting research student at University College London (2014). His main field of research is focused on the links between fiction and city. jrosmaninhods@arquitetura.uminho.pt

Yaşar Selman Gültekin (Düzce University, Turkey) **A spatial statistical analysis of post-earthquake changes in mass housing in Düzce, Turkey.** This study used Average Center, Weighted Average Center, and Standard Deviation Ellipse, which are the most common tools in the application of Spatial Statistical Analysis with the help of Geographical Information Systems (GIS), to assess changes in mass housing in the city of Düzce, Turkey. The spatial distribution of mass housing between the years of 1999-2019 was created with maps at 10-year intervals. The earthquakes of 17 August and 12 November 1999 were among the biggest earthquake disasters of the century and caused great damage in Düzce. At the same time, the earthquake led to the reshaping of Düzce’s settlement system. The spatial spread and direction of movement of mass housing settlements in Düzce in the 20 years following the earthquake have been analyzed, and suggestions have been made about the future of urban planning.

**Biography:** I’m Yaşar Selman Gültekin. I’m working at Duzce University Forestry Faculty Department of Forest Engineering as Asst. Prof. I’m from Turkey and I live in Turkey. My research areas are, ecotourism planning, participatory planning, sustainable management, sustainable forest management, sustainable development, statistics, spatial statistics. I have publications about these topics. selmangultekin@duzce.edu.tr

Tomasz Sikorski (Jan Kochanowski University in Kielce, Poland) **Before street art: Art on the streets in Poland 1960–2000.** A chronological survey of pioneer, independent, individualistic and oftentimes illegal actions, performances, interventions and lasting forms of art realised / presented on the streets of Polish cities. Selected stunning photographs come from the archives of the artists and from various cultural institutions in Poland. The images present various art forms realised in public space in the era before the emergence of what is today called street art.


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Shira Stav (Ben-Gurion University of the Negev, Israel) **New York City in contemporary Israeli literary imagination.** My paper will present the city of New York as a frequently recurring urban space in contemporary Israeli literature. According to recent estimations, more than 200,000 Israeli citizens live in the area of NY. It is the largest concentration of Israelis outside the state of Israel. NYC has a strong historical past of Jewish immigration and is a center of Jewish population
to the present. The city is also a preferable tourist destination for Israelis. All of these facts make NYC into a ‘home-like’ place for Israelis, despite the great geographical distance. The prevalence and the availability of the New Yorkish experience for Israelis visibly permeate literary works by Israeli writers, as more and more of them make the city the main location of their plots, or even a kind of a figure. The rise of Modern Hebrew literature at the end of the 19th century has been strongly interwoven with the urban experience, creating an advanced consciousness which helped to highlight the individual through its alienation and isolation from the crowd and the cities he was strolling in (mostly big European cities such as Berlin, Vienna and Warsaw). It further reflected a sense of ‘no home’ bearing an obvious national significance. A century later, contemporary Israeli fiction portrays NYC – with its conception as the urban space par-excellence – as a location that is a strange “double” of the Israeli state. Surveying Israeli literary works of the past two decades, I will present the different roles NYC plays in the Israeli literary imagination. On the one hand, NYC is portrayed as a space where Israelis can keep their sense of national sovereignty and domesticity while escaping the discomfort and unease of life in the Middle East. On the other hand, playing the role of an uncanny double, NYC also becomes a location where the national desires, fears and traumas of the cultural past return to haunt the protagonists.

Biography: Dr. Shira Stav is an assistant professor in the department of Hebrew literature at Ben-Gurion University of the Negev, Israel. Her research areas are Comparative literature and Hebrew Literature, Feminist studies and Psychoanalysis. She is the author of Reconstructing Daddy: Fathers and Daughters in Modern Hebrew Poetry (2014); The Return of the Missing Father: A New Reading of a chain of Stories from the Babylonian Talmud (2018, together with Haim Weiss); and many journal articles. Stav is the editor of several books, and has been a research fellow at Katz center for advanced Judaic studies in Philadelphia, Taube center at Stanford University and the Jewish Studies program at University of California, Santa Cruz. In addition to her academic work, Stav is a poet and a regular contributor of book reviews to the literary supplement of the Israeli newspaper Haaretz. She won the 2009 Bernstein Prize for literary criticism. stavsh@bgu.ac.il

Simona-Luiza Țigriș (University of Bucharest, Romania) Perception of cities in Esmeralda Santiago’s When I was Puerto Rican. Space is highly influenced by domineering authorities and culture. Michel de Certeau (1988) depicts a theory of everyday practices though which the inhabitants, as users of space, find ways to appropriate space and use it according to their own needs. When I was Puerto Rican is an autobiography written by Esmeralda Santiago, in which she describes the various places she had lived in Puerto Rico and her move to the United States. The entire story is told through the eyes of Negi, a girl narrator. For example, in Macún plants are used as borders between houses (eggplant bushes, annatto, yucca). Santurce has neighborhoods that separate the rich from the poor and the girl can walk only with her eyes cast down in order to avoid mischievous people. Nonetheless, she walks in a way in which she can be aware of what surrounds her. She is even called ‘a jíbara’ by her classmates because of her origin. In El Mangle “sewage drifted by in a surprising variety of shapes, sizes, and colors” (1994: 78). The cultural impact is described when arriving in New York. For example, in this city ‘turfs’ are parts of a neighbourhood that belong to a gang.

Biography: Simona-Luiza Țigriș is PhD teaching assistant at the University of Bucharest. Her research areas are pragmatics, discourse analysis, culture and terminology. Her PhD thesis was written in Spanish and it is entitled “Actos de habla indirectos y modalización en el discurso político electoral” (Indirect speech acts and modality in electoral political discourse). She analyses Spanish and Latin-American discourse. simona_tigris@yahoo.es