EXPLORING EXPERIMENTAL CITIES

21-23 Sept 2017

Visit http://experimentalcities.com/ for more information
Welcome to the Exploring Experimental Cities conference

Our cities these days are largely dominated by institutions that articulate limited ideas of an official future, leaving very little space for alternatives. With an increasingly urbanized global population faced with critical sustainability and liveability challenges, it is vital to uncover new ways of developing, managing and living in cities.

The calling question of this conference is: How can we create more liveable and sustainable cities through experimental urban development?

Experimental urban development offers an opportunity to challenge our contemporary practices though enactment and experience of many different possible futures. Experiments have the potential to expand what we think of as normal urban life through interventions in our cities – presenting new imaginaries and enacting new socio-technical realities. In the words of Henri Lefebvre:

“In order to extend the possible, it is necessary to proclaim and desire the impossible. Action and strategy consists in making possible tomorrow what is impossible today.”

With this conference we want to support and stimulate experimental urban development strategies. We have chosen not only to invite scholars and practitioners to talk about and discuss urban experimentation, but also artists, architects and activists to present and enact new futures. From this meeting between theory and practice we hope to create the fertile ground for a new programme for experimental urban development.

Peter Munthe-Kaas
Center for Design, Innovation and Sustainable Transition
Aalborg University
INTRODUCTION AND KEYNOTES
@ Auditorium, Aalborg University, AC Meyers Vænge 15

08.30-09.00: Check-in and breakfast
09.00-09.30: Introduction
Introduction to the conference and to the neighborhood of Sydhavnen.
- Camilla Gøhler Ryberg, Head of Integrated Urban Renewal South Harbor
- Søren Tegen, Chief of planning, Copenhagen Municipality

09.30-10.15: Keynote - “Framing the experimental city”
Andrew Karvonen frames “the experimental city” and what it means for urban development.

10.15-11.00: Keynote- “How to make communities blossom”
Jason Roberts, Founder of the Better Block Project which brings neighbors together to rapidly transform their built environments.

zURBS tour + sandwich
11.15-13.00, departure from Aalborg University
Explore the development of Sydhavnen from a distant future. zURBS invite on an audio tour with a unique possibility to experience how radical urban visions and plans have materialized and developed in some of the many possible futures.

Build a wiki block
14.00-18.00 @ Karens Minde
A furniture building workshop with Better Block USA, creating a new neighbourhood space for Karens Minde and Sydhavn using the Wikiblock process.
Walk-in session

Urban Matters Hub
14.00-18.00 @ Karens Minde
A site-specific inflatable hub, based on the ideas of the Instant City – a radical architectural experiment from the 1970s exploring emergency pop-up housing.
Walk-in session

Move the neighborhood
14.00-15.00 @ Pios Plæne
Conversation salon about co-design methods. After the salon you can visit the apple bar, take a rest in the gigantic hammocks and test out the boxing ring.
Walk-in session

Epistemic Rationales and urban change
13.30-15.15 @ AAU, Room 2.0.004
This session explores examples of real-world experiments with alternative ways of rendering urban systems visible as governable components of the urban fabric.

Move the neighborhood
16.00-17.00 @ Karens Minde
Conversation salon about prototyping as strategic urban tool. After the salon you can balance on the rocking bench, shoot balls with the mega slingshot and try out a different kind of tetherball.

Urban strategies and energy district South Harbor
15.30-17.00 @ AAU, Room 2.0.004
Introducing projects and partnerships concerned with the energy transition in the Sydhavn district and how these relate to the overall energy transition of Copenhagen and Denmark.

Art as urban transformation
13.30-14.30 @ AAU, auditorium
An introduction and discussion on art and performance as tools of urban transformation.

Between apocalypse and utopia
14.45-15.45 @ AAU, auditorium
Exploring the roles of experimental utopias and interventions.

The good city
13.30-15.00 @ Karens Minde, loftet
Givrum presents their new platform for urban development and opens up a discussion about the good city.

Move the neighborhood
16.00-17.00 @ Karens Minde
Conversation salon about prototyping as strategic urban tool. After the salon you can balance on the rocking bench, shoot balls with the mega slingshot and try out a different kind of tetherball.

Fostering Urban Futures
16.00-18.00 @ AAU, auditorium
Activists and researchers present and reflect on protests, art projects and cultural spaces from Hamburg.

Memory, Mindfulness and Place Awareness
15.15-18.00 @ Karens Minde, loftet
Understand how mind & body work together to create an embodied experience of architectural space.

Local Hour
16.00-17.00 @ Posthuset
During the Local Hour you’ll hear how a citizen, an entrepreneur and an expert work to co-create a coherent, creative and sustainable South Harbour.

Drift
19.30-22.00, departure from Karens Minde
Drifting is a playful walk without destination, wherein participants take turns leading each other through the urban landscape.
INTRODUCTION AND KEYNOTES
@ Stødpudelageret, Carlsberg Byen, Pasteursvej 28

08.30-09.00: Check-in and breakfast

09.00-09.30: Introduction
Introduction to the conference and to the urban development of Carlsberg Byen

09.30-10.15: Keynote - “Democratizing cities”
Indy Johar challenges the language we use about the cities we live in and opens new urban imaginaries.

10.15-11.00: Keynote - “Architect as host”
Torange Khonsari explores the role of an architect or city maker as host.

11.30-12.00: 5 minute presentations.
Presentations from a practice level.

12.00-14.00: Lunch
And a tour of the machinecentral in Carlsberg Byen, for the interested.

The embassy for X
14.00-18.00 @ Carlsberg Byen
The “Institute for X” is building an embassy in Copenhagen inspired by the “finca” building model. A habitat for “curated coincidence” and a platform for temporary urbanism projects.

Walk-in session

Urban Experimentation in Carlsberg Byen
14.00-17.00 @ Kunstsalonen
A discussion and workshop on development of urban life in Carlsberg Byen. How can the permanent city of the future be influenced by the activities of today?

Community empowerment tools
14.00-17.00, departure from Frederiksholm kirke
A walk around Sydhavnen with a presentation of the core community empowerment tools developed.

An audio walk in our sho(r)es
14.30-16.00, departure from Fiskerihavnsvej 6
Copenhagen is growing. Old industrial areas turn into shiny neighbourhoods. Let’s look at this transformation!

Floating Narratives
14.30-16.00 @ Teglværkshavnen
Performative urban action meant to reinvigorate a different experience on Sydhavnen waterfront.

Activating empty buildings – The Nordic Experience
14.00-16.00 @ Posthuset
Sharing of knowledge and experience on activating empty buildings through community building in a Nordic context

Play with the city
14.00-16.00 @ departure from Stødpudelageret
In this practical workshop, we will explore the potential of play in public spaces and how it can be used as a tool for experimentation.

The container as phenomenon
16.00-18.00 @ Teglværket
A panel of urban activists discuss the many different applications of containers in urban experiments.

Prototyping a park
16.30-18.00 @ Karens Minde
An exploration of the co-designed prototypes of new urban spaces around Karens Minde.

Precarity and the Experimental City
19.30-22.00 @ Frederiksholm Kirke
This panel and workshop asks how issues of precarity influence and are influenced by experimental urban development.

EXPLORING EXPERIMENTAL CITIES
FRIDAY 22 SEPTEMBER
EXPLORING EXPERIMENTAL CITIES
SATURDAY 23 SEPTEMBER

The two first days of the conference are designed to inspire new thoughts and practices around urban development and to encourage the staging of urban experiments that point towards alternative futures. On the third day of the conference (Saturday), interested participants are invited to take part in the tentative beginnings of programme for experimental urban development.

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<tr>
<th>CO-CREATING THE EXPERIMENTAL CITIES OF THE FUTURE</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>@ Gæstekantinen, Aalborg University, AC Meyers Vænge 15</td>
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<tr>
<td>09.00-09.30: Looking forward</td>
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<td>A brief summary of the previous days and how we will spend the last day of the conference to look forward and take action.</td>
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<tr>
<th>Staging Experiments: Reflecting on Time and Space</th>
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<tr>
<td>09.30-12.00 @ Aalborg University, gastekantinen</td>
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<tr>
<td>With Andrew Karvonen. Experiments require the establishment of spatial and temporal boundaries to create manageable and realistic experimental protocols. In this workshop, we will reflect on the implications of restricting time and space in urban laboratories.</td>
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<th>How do we democratize cities?</th>
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<tr>
<td>With Indy Johar A workshop on how to move towards democratization of cities through new imaginaries of the future.</td>
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<th>Strategies for interventions in urban space</th>
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<tr>
<td>With Jason Roberts. An opportunity to discuss different strategies for creating interventions in urban space.</td>
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<th>Lunch</th>
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<th>Experimental urban development</th>
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<td>13.30-16.00 @ Aalborg University</td>
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<td>This session will be framed by open space methodology – pointing towards new opportunities for experimental urban development.</td>
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<th>POCACITO – Post-Carbon Cities of Tomorrow</th>
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<td>16.00-18.00 @ Aalborg University, gastekantinen</td>
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<td>Over two years the POCACITO crew traveled across Europe and the US, meeting with diverse communities to develop innovative approaches to the sustainability issues faced by the world's cities. From Las Vegas to Milan, Lisbon to Memphis, Detroit to Copenhagen, we found some inspiring ideas and revealing stories to share. Ecologic Institute is a center for environmental progress in Washington, DC. We believe diverse perspectives, dynamic exchanges, and innovative approaches are the keys to building a vibrant, sustainable future.</td>
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<th>Our speakers are:</th>
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<tr>
<td>Anne Jensen, Aarhus University (part of POCACITO.eu)</td>
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<td>Johanna Ekne, City of Malmö (part of POCACITO in the US) and</td>
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<td>Øystein Leonardsen, City of Copenhagen (also part of POCACITO in the US).</td>
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<td>And with Brendan O’Donnell and Max Gruenig from Ecologic Institute.</td>
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<th>End of conference</th>
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<tr>
<td>18.00-19.00 @ Aalborg University, gastekantinen</td>
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