

THE NEW SCIENCE OF STREETS AND THE FORM OF THE FUTURE CITY

re:street

APRIL 5th-6th 2013
METRO BOARDROOM, LOS ANGELES

INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE BY
BAUHAUS UNIVERSITY WEIMAR &
CALIFORNIA STATE POLYTECHNIC UNIVERSITY, POMONA
ART PROGRAM BY GOETHE-INSTITUT LOS ANGELES

Bauhaus-
Universität
Weimar



Daimler und
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re:street is a public conference that can serve both as an introduction to the new science of streets and a base for a discussion about the form of the future city. The conference is jointly organized and hosted by Bauhaus Universität Weimar in Germany and California State Polytechnic University in Pomona. Students of both universities will conduct a hybrid workshop lead by faculty members of the Departments of Architecture, Urban and Regional Planning and Landscape Architecture. The results will be presented at the conference. The Goethe Institute in Los Angeles will organize and curate an art program that brings artistic positions on the subject matter into the conference.

In Europe and the USA, new approaches to personal mobility are emerging. This is indicated by a revival of traditional forms of city structures, which are beginning to eclipse almost a century of predominance of suburbia. In the USA, downtown areas in Chicago or Los Angeles are experiencing an urban revival that has created a stable real estate market and brought an increasing influx of high-income households. Simultaneously, in Germany former military sites are being transformed into vital urban quarters such as the prize-winning development of the "Südstadt" in Tübingen demonstrates.

Currently evident in urban developments on both sides of the Atlantic is the fundamental and structural transformation of the street; The street is gradually freeing itself from the shackles of prescriptive norms that defined the functions and formal culture of the industrial age: the street is changing from a piece of technical infrastructure into an urban space, from a place of transit into a place to be, from a mechanism that segregated into a medium that integrates. The growing openness towards the new and sometimes contradictory requirements of the 21st century is shifting focus back to the street as a central aspect of architectural, urban, economic, technical and socio-cultural developments.

Urbanization is the mega-trend of the 21st century. Today's city no longer bears much resemblance to the compact city model of the past, situated in the midst of an open landscape: a planned, cultivated place with clearly delineated contours that defined what is inside and outside the city. Wherever one looks, the modern city is becoming an increasingly boundaryless meta-urban phenomenon. It has become a ubiquitous artificial form of nature.

In Europe, ever more people now live in cities, metropolitan regions and urban corridors. From a global perspective, the mega-city development is clearly dominated by Asia, Africa and America. Cities grow exponentially, weaving their way across entire continents. In complete contrast to the period after World War II, which was dominated by decentralization in the USA.

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THURSDAY APRIL 4TH - GOETHE INSTITUT LOS ANGELES

OPENING RECEPTION (7.30 pm)

Film: Reyner Banham Loves Los Angeles (BBC, 1972)

FRIDAY APRIL 5TH - METRO BOARDROOM, LOS ANGELES

RE: EXPERIENCING THE STREET (9:30am-12:30pm)

This first session looks at the urban street as a living environment, that when viewed from various angles can identify the social, cultural, and economic behavior of its users, its occupants, and its transients. These observations include congregational behavior, new social conditioning based on environmental preservation strategies, and a full sensory experience in a place of social and cultural interaction.

Anna Rose, Director, Space Syntax London
Doug Suisman, Principal, Suisman Urban Design
Gerti Theis, Director, IBA Hamburg
Sarah Lorenzen, Chair, Department of Architecture, Cal Poly Pomona

Keynote/Introduction (9:00am): Michael Woo, Dean, College of Environmental Design, Cal Poly Pomona & Wolfgang Christ, Chair, Urban Planning & Urban Design, Bauhaus University Weimar, Conference Chair & Fareed Majari, Director, Goethe-Institut Los Angeles

RE: ENGINEERING THE STREET (2:00pm-5:00pm)

re:engineering the street will address the technical environment of the thoroughfare. This involves aspects of developing an infrastructure with regard to various disciplines and local politics. The session, therefore, investigates the interplay between policies, urban engineering, vehicular infrastructures, and the occupants. Discussions will revolve around transportation models, policy making, advocacy structures, and their environmental impact.

Valerie Watson, Los Angeles Department of Transportation
Tim von Winning, Head of City Planning, Tübingen
Rock Miller, Stantec Consulting
Dr. Johann Jungwirth, President, CEO Mercedes Benz R&D North America, Inc.

Keynote (1:30pm): Richard Willson, Chair, Urban and Regional Planning, Cal Poly Pomona



SATURDAY APRIL 6TH - METRO BOARDROOM, LOS ANGELES

RE: DESIGNING THE STREET (9:00am-12:15pm)

Following an interest in modalities, session three focuses on the design challenges of local urban environments. It will focus on design autonomy versus design as service, the conditional responsibilities and challenges in the creative development of urban hard- and landscapes, and architectural infrastructures. This session investigates the role of crowd-sourced design strategies, activism, and community interaction with the design environment.

Deborah Murphy, Principal, Deborah Murphy Urban Design + Planning, LA Walks
Beatrice Kamper, Head of City Planning, Duisburg
John Kaliski, Principal, John Kaliski Architects & Urban Designers
Walter Ackers, Professor Emeritus, Technical University Braunschweig

Keynote: Stefanos Polyzoides, Moule & Polyzoides Architects and Urbanists (T.B.C.)

RE: THINKING THE STREET (1:15pm-4:30pm)

Session four concludes by looking at the future of urban streets, their integration into the larger metropolis, and the roles of (social) media. Re:thinking the street invites a vision towards a networked, fully oscillating, intermodal structure, redefining the street as an infrastructure, social place, and economic resource.

Diego Cardoso, Executive Officer, Los Angeles Metropolitan Transportation Authority (Metro)
Christian von Oppen & Valentin Hadelich, Assistant Professor, Bauhaus Universität Weimar
Roger Sherman, Principal, Roger Sherman Architecture and Urban Design
Oliver Weigel, Head of Division, Federal Ministry of Transport, Building and Urban Development, Berlin

Workshop presentation:

George Proctor, Professor, Department of Architecture, & Andrew Wilcox, Associate Professor Department of Landscape Architecture & Ramzi Farhat, Assistant Professor, Department of Urban and Regional Planning, Cal Poly Pomona, & Inga Brückner, Assistant Professor, Bauhaus Universität Weimar

Keynote: Dr. Harald Bodenschatz, Urban Sociologist, Technical University Berlin

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DECLARATION (4:30pm - 5:30pm)

Summarizing the presentations and discussions of the past four sessions, the speakers are invited to participate in a final, closing panel that attempts to develop a cumulative declarations of future actions and key aspects in the development of the science of streets and the forming of the future of the city.

Moderator:

Wolfgang Christ, Chair, Urban Planning & Urban Design, Bauhaus University Weimar, Conference Chair

Axel Schmitzberger, Associate Professor, Department of Architecture, Cal Poly Pomona

SUNDAY, APRIL 7 - VILLA AURORA

Closing reception, 4 - 6 pm

ART PROGRAM

curator: Fareed Majari, Director, Goethe-Institut Los Angeles

Performances/Installations:

William Forsythe: City of Abstracts, Interactive Installation

April 5 – 11, 2013 24/7 Los Angeles Union Station (T.B.C.)

Stephan Koplowitz: Red Line Time - A Site-specific Performance for Los Angeles Metro

April 5 & 6, 2013 during rush hour (T.B.C.)

Film screenings:

Starting April 4 at public places (on Metro buses etc.)

Berlin: Symphony of a Metropolis (Berlin: Die Sinfonie der Großstadt), Germany, 1927, film by Walter Ruttmann

Reyner Banham Loves Los Angeles (BBC, 1972) at Goethe-Institut Los Angeles



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