

Invitation to

Nordic Urban Laboratory

22, 23, 24 March 2018

Hanasaari / Hanaholmen,
Helsinki / Espoo, Finland



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Updated program and final call for participants

This will be the third and final open **Nordic gathering** of cultural managers and cultural strategists, urbanists and city planners, architects, visual and performance artists, researchers and academics, students, community organisers, urban activists, environmentalists, and city councillors, to look at alternative culturally based urban strategies and practice. The international keynote speakers include Charles Landry, Hans Kiiib, Franco Bianchini, Nancy Duxbury, Lucy Bullivant, and we are also pleased that the artist collective Assemble, London, will be present.

With a transdisciplinary approach, with an agenda promoting a new role for artists as agents for creative communities, and by seeking to engage communities in the process of urban transformation, the Lab hopes to make a difference to existing practice, where cities are understood as complex and ever-changing social, cultural, psychological, material and communicative entities.

We have invited experts who are both doers, teachers, thinkers, strategists, makers, storytellers, and builders to contribute to this uniquely competent forum of knowledge to inspire, inform and debate the many cases and the many experiences made under the very broad “cultural planning” headline, which covers a diverse menu of approaches.

Themes of the Nordic Urban Lab will explore some of the key aspects of taking a cultural perspective on the city and on urban strategies and will include:

cultural mapping, from temporary to permanent, citizen led initiatives, activism and artivism, pop-up and performative architecture, place making, do-it-yourself urbanism, linking urban and cultural strategies, gaming and urbanism, microtopias for visioning, urban toolkits, engaging and empowering citizens, public space as the key, new directions for public art, informal and formal processes – and naturally sessions on the methodology of cultural planning.

This intense two and a half day Laboratory based at the beautiful **Hanasaari - Hanaholmen Cultural Centre** will give an overview of both current European and Nordic trends and experience as well as focusing on issues, practices and cases in Finland.

One of the overall aims of the three **Nordic Urban Labs** (Copenhagen Metropolis Lab 2014 – Borås/Gothenburg 2016 – Helsinki 2018) is to develop a **cultural planning toolkit**, which can inform and support cities, communities, artists and cultural NGO's to develop their own practice.

Eight keynotes will provide the fixed points of the Lab on all three days, and we will offer **12 thematic workshops/breakouts and 12 urban case studies** from Nordic cities, so you can plan your own route in this urban maze. There will be pop-up events and excursions to museums, neighbourhoods and hubs to immerse you in other realities and to give you other perspectives.

Program DAY 1 Thursday March 22

09.00 **Welcome** by **Tiina Kasvi**, Cultural Man., Espoo City and **Riitta Heinämaa**, Swedish-Finnish Cultural Foundation.

09.15 **Introduction to NUL** by Trevor Davies

09.30 – 12.30 **Three international keynotes** putting cultural planning into a context.

-**Hans Kiib (DK)** Prof. Aalborg University, author of a series of books on alternative urbanism/planning a.o.. “Performative Urban Design”

-**Panu Lehtovuori (FI)** Professor of Planning Theory, Tampere Uni. of Tech. “Towards Experiential Urbanism”

-**Nancy Duxbury (PT/CA)** Senior Researcher, University of Coimbra, “Cultural Mapping as Cultural Enquiry”

12.30-13.30 Lunch

13.30-14.00 **Panel - Why Cultural Planning?**

Nordic experts: Dir. Jaana Simula (F) artist/arch. Maija Kovari (F) Erika Månsson (S) Lia Ghilardi (UK) Trevor Davies (DK) Matti Lucie Arentz (N) Helka Kalliomäki (F)

14.15-18.00 **12 breakouts/workshops**

See detailed program and book breakouts here:

<https://goo.gl/forms/79viRrHc1qNbCKMd2>

Policies and Strategies

- Integrating Urban and Cultural Strategies in cities, Dorte Skot-Hansen (DK)

- Cultural Mapping is the Key to Cultural Planning, Lia Ghilardi (UK)

-The Experience of Cultural Planning in Swedish Towns & Cities, Erika Månsson (S)

Participation, Engagement and Activism

- Breaking Cities, Peter Schultz Jørgensen (DK) and Mari Vaattovaara (FI)

- Re-Engaging Citizens with their Cities, Aleksandra Szymanska and Natalia Brylowska (PL)

- Civic Activism as Resources for The Metropolis, Maija Faehnle and Pasi Mäenpää (F)

Artistic Practice and Urban Transformation

-Cities Are Ours - The Public Space, Maija Kovari (Fi) & Jadwiga Charznska (PL)

- On The Edge, Kenneth Balfelt (DK)

-The Experience City, Gitte Marling (DK)

The Temporary and Instant City

-Do It Yourself Urbanism, Bureau Detours, Christian Juul Wendell (DK)

-Instant Urbanism, David Pinder (UK) and Marco Canevacci (IT)

-Playing Games in The Public Space, Jekaterina Lavrinec (LT)

18.00-21.00 **Visit to Espoo Museum of Modern Art EMMA** with presentation of relevant art-based urban projects in Espoo, reception with drinks and food. Welcome speech by **Tuula Antola**, Director for Economic and Business Development, City of Espoo/Urban Development

Program DAY 2 Friday March 23

09.00-10.15 **Overview and reactions** from Day 1 followed by **Keynote Creative Cities Network: Sarah Douglas-Murray & Ali Sabourin (CA)**.

10.30-13.00 & 15.30-16.45 **12 breakouts with case studies**.

See detailed program and book breakouts here:

<https://goo.gl/forms/79viRrHc1qNbCKMd2>

Policies and Strategies

-Cultural Mapping and Planning in Pori, Jaana Simula & Maunu Häyrynen a.o. (FI)

-Cultural Mapping and Planning in Skien and Tjørn, Laurie Smith Vestæl (N) and Tinna Harling (S)

-Urban Planning Toolkit, Creative City Network of Canada, Sarah Douglas-Murray & Ali Sabourin (CA)

Participation, Engagement and Activism

-Nikkilä Memories, digital memory mapping, Eveliina Harsia and Pilvi Nummi (FI), Maarit Kahila (FI)

-From Popular Protest to Citizens Driven Communities, Mikko Särelä (FI) Kirsten Sydendal (DK)

-What is a Truly Playful City - engaging children in the future of the city, Billund, Christian Pagh (DK)

Artistic Practice and Urban Transformation

-Performative Landscapes,

Sara Erlingsdotter (S), Joanne Leighton (AUS/BE)

-Life Mapping in The Arctic, Luba Kuzovnikova (N)

-Co-designing in The Public Space, Raivio & Bumann (FI)

The Temporary and Instant City

-Exploring Urban Space with Anti Festival, Johanna Tuukkanen (FI)

-A decade of Alternative Urban Living, Institut for X (DK)

-Activism as Strategy, Free Riga and Alte Mu, Kiel, Kaspars Lielgalvis (LV) & Liva Kreislere (LV) Friederike Kopp (DE)

13.00-14.00 Lunch

14.00-15.15 **Panel - Cultural planning in the Finnish context as a potential strategic tool:** Kirsi Kaunisharju, Kirsi Korhonen, Jaana Simula, Timo Cantell, Kai Lehikoinen

15.30-16.45 Breakouts with case studies (see above)

17.00-18.00 **Keynote** by **Franco Bianchini (UK)**: “From cultural planning to urban activism”

18.30-21.30 An informal evening programme at Hanaholmen, featuring a presentation of the artist collective **Assemble (UK)**, winners of the Turner Prize 2015 at 19.30 hrs.

Program DAY 3 Saturday March 24

Focus on **the perspective of the citizen** with city trips, meetings and city walks with instant mappings.

9.00-11.00 at Hanasaari/Hanaholmen

Keynote by **Lucy Bullivant (UK)**, PhD Hon FRIBA place vision strategist, curator, director Urbanizta.org. editor "Hyperlocal: A Cultural Toolkit for Open Source City", co-author "Recoded City - co-creating urban futures", 2017 – on participatory placemaking visions.

Keynote by **Charles Landry (UK)**, the renowned cultural urbanist and inventor of the Creative City concept helps us to navigate the evolving urban landscapes and its potential. The perfect start to explore any city is Charles' new book "The Civic City in Nomadic World"

Helsinki Mobile Lab

11.30-13.00 The bus becomes our mobile lab with commentaries in route, visiting Aalto University/Group X. They are remounting the **exhibition "Human Cities: Challenging the City Scale"** and showcasing projects made throughout Europe by participating cities, including versatile approaches to contemporary collaborative design, where active urbanism shows its diverse character. Aalto University contributes with School as Service project where the possibilities for children to access and participate in the city is presented.

Presentations by **Prof Antti Ahlava**, Vice President Aalto University, **Anssi Joutsiniemi**, Adjunct Professor, Head of Urban Studies & Planning master's programme

13.30-14.30 The second stop will be a visit to the **Kalasadama/Fiskehamnen neighbourhood** where cultural planning is practiced, to meet artists, strategists, communities and activists including the "More City to Helsinki" group. Snacks provided by Home Bakery Pulla Pulla. Host **Stuba Nikula**.

14.45-16.00 The final stop will be The **Museum of Finnish Architecture**, where we will meet young urbanists who have just formed the **Cultural Planning Finland**. Their first event! An informal discussion on their perspectives and visions. **Eveliina Harsia** and **Pilvi Nummi** are our guides.

The Nordic Urban Lab ends with drinks, snacks and an informal panel session.

Nordic Urban Lab has received funding from:

**NORDISK
KULTURFOND**

Registration

Please register via the form:

<https://goo.gl/forms/HfefFv6v7cyqck6Z2>

Breakouts booking for registered participants:

<https://goo.gl/forms/79viRrHc1qNbCKMd2>

Final workshop/breakout program

Individual booking for your choice of workshops – only for registered participants – **Deadline 11 March.**

Contact & Questions

Please contact Metropolis – Københavns Internationale Teater for further questions: Stine Dalby, Project Coordinator: sed@kit.dk / (+45) 3315 1564

Conference Fee

EUR 350 for professionals and EUR 150 for students and independent artists. This includes the full conference programme, documentation, lunches on all three days plus tea/coffee/snacks. One day participation fee 200 /100 Euros.

Accommodation

Hanaholmen is offering accommodation for out of town participants at reduced rates. Rooms can be booked via email reception@hanaholmen.fi or phone +358 (0)9 435 020 with reference to Nordic Urban Lab. www.hanaholmen.fi

Organisation

Metropolis by Københavns Internationale Teater

Metropolis is an artistic platform focusing on site-specific creation. Københavns Internationale Teater is the organisation behind Metropolis and is supported by The Danish Arts Foundation and the City of Copenhagen. www.metropolis.dk

Nordic Urban Lab 2018 is organised in collaboration with Espoo, Pori, Sipoo Cultural Dpts., University of Turku, Aalto University and Hanaholmen.

Programme responsible:

Trevor Davies (Metropolis) - td@kit.dk / (+45) 2940 4489 & Maunu Häyrynen (Uni. of Turku) - mauhay@utu.fi / (+358) 40 864 940

Breakout sessions Workshops



Breakout sessions / Workshops

- Please select **ONE** workshop (A,B,C or D) for each session (1-6) on March 22 and March 23.
- Each SESSION is 60-70 mins.
- **Overall Themes:**
 A: Policies, Strategies and Mapping
 B: Participation, Engagement and Activism
 C: Artistic Action and Urban Transformation
 D: The Temporary City and Instant Urbanism
- You are free to select workshops from the same theme OR from different themes. **But only ONE in each session/time slot.**
- There is limited space in each session, so please reserve, if possible: <https://goo.gl/forms/hKsJPHzklbKumFYL2>

	MARCH 22 SESSION 1: 14.15-15.00 Select one of these 1A,1B,1C,1D	MARCH 22 SESSION 2: 15.15-16.30 Select one of these 2A,2B,2C,2D	MARCH 22 SESSION 3: 16.45-18.00 Select one of these 3A,3B,3C,3D
POLICIES, STRATEGIES AND MAPPING	Workshop 1A Integrating Urban and Cultural Strategies in cities Placing cultural planning at the heart of local authorities integrated strategies, where culture, urbanism, social and environmental and economic perspectives are linked. Dorte Skot-Hansen (DK) (former Dir. Danish Cultural Policy Research Institute) is a leading voice in Nordic cultural policy-making and new urbanism with a.o.her publication "The City as a Stage and the Stage as the City" 2007. How cultural planning can translate into innovative strategies.	Workshop 2A Cultural Mapping is the key to Cultural Planning Key to any alternative and human based approach to urban transformation is our knowledge and understanding of communities, places, resources, values, memory, social interaction, esthetics. The practice of cultural and urban-participatory mapping is key to a cultural planning approach. Lia Ghilardi, cultural planner (UK) is a leading authority in this field, and presents key methodologies and approaches from Nordic and European examples and cases.	Workshop 3A The Experience of Cultural Planning in Swedish Towns and Cities Sweden has taken Cultural Planning into the mainstream planning arena and we look at the results. Erika Månsson (S) Swedish Cultural Planning Association, will introduce key projects, which can act as inspirational reference points. She will be looking at key strategic aspects of how Cultural Planning can be adopted by local councils, and finally at how to manage and implement participatory- and open processes with formal local government structures.
	Workshop 1B Breaking Cities A call for a new engagement in our cities and new models of participation, co-ownership is key to building more open, cohesive and inclusive societies. Peter Schultz Jørgensen (DK) has worked with local cultural planning projects in Denmark, but throws in global references from cities to inspire the discourse as presented in his latest book "Byer i opbrud". Peter Szhultz sees cities between the anti-commons and the commons and focusses of how cities could rebalance power and reintegrate citizens. Mari Vaattovaara (FI) is professor of Planning and focuses on diversity as a key element of urban society and the challenge of creating open, inter-cultural, inclusive and balanced societies. Can we create a visionary alternative to cities "segregating and breaking"?	Workshop 2B Re-engaging Citizens with their City The third focus on participation is from the city of Gdansk, where a strong tradition of civic engagement in the 'City of Solidarity' has had to re-address many years of non-participation and now redefines models of "citizenships". The Gdansk Urban Art Institute is a European model of best practice stimulating culturally driven participatory programs in the city, from memory gatherings, environmental awareness and public space use. Their toolkit offers insight into how to work and connect the spatial, the social and the cultural. Their unique position allows them to promote culturally driven urban transformation. Aleksandra Szymanska & Natalia Brylowska from the C.K.I. will lead the workshop. Gdansk Culture Institute.	Workshop 3B Civic Activism as Resources for the Metropolis We take a trip to the Self Organizing City of the future with Maija Faehnle/Pasi Mäenpää (FI) from Uni. Helsinki have major mapping of different models and trends of participation formats in the Helsinki region gives us a unique insight into visioning alternative futures for the metropolis, underpinning Helsinki's commitment to engaging citizens. Crowdfunding, co-creation, sharing-economies, social media are changing and strengthening civil society and communities are becoming far more resilient and active. Citizens are more liberated and empow-ered and we must look at the potential for a new kind of participatory model, that of the "self organising city". We map the potential of civic activism.
PARTICIPATION, ENGAGEMENT & ACTIVISM			

MARCH 22**SESSION 1: 14.15-15.00**Select one of these **1A,1B,1C,1D****MARCH 22****SESSION 2: 15.15-16.30**Select one of these **2A,2B,2C,2D****MARCH 22****SESSION 3: 16.45-18.00**Select one of these **3A,3B,3C,3D****Workshop 1C****Cities Are Ours / The Public Space**

Maija Kovari is an urban designer with an architectural and artistic background. Her practice develops design led processes with a strong focus on the key role of public space and the role of innovative and participatory public art as a key part of the urban **planning process**.

Art Activating the Public Space

Contemporary art in public space can lead to a stronger civil voice and public discourse in the public realm. We follow

Jadwiga Charznska (PL), Dir. of Laznia Arts Centre, who has taken her contemporary art gallery into the urban spaces of Gdansk to question, highlight and activate empty in-between, marginal and contested spaces in a city, where “conflicts” are always at play and where new forms of democratic processes are influx, in a series of international experimental programs

Workshop 2C**On The Edge**

Kenneth Balfelt (DK) visual artist and community strategist, works with cities and people from an artistic base. With his team, they create socio-cultural infrastructures for human development. Over the last 10 years, Kenneth Balfelt has worked in some of the most deprived and conflicted neighborhoods in Copenhagen, but also in Rio and Berlin.

His latest book “Art as Social Practice” is one of the best guides on how to work creatively, inclusive and hands on in situations which are often “on the edge”. As he says, we work with the pen and the power drill.

Kenneth Balfelt will present examples from Nørrebro, Copenhagen incl. “Folkets Park”.

Workshop 3C**The Experience City**

The “experience economy” wave radically changes the notion of cities with “experience architecture” and investment in cities as “performative and experience landscapes”. This is one clear “adaptation” of cultural planning which certainly has transformed many cities – from many perspectives.

Gitte Marling (DK), Architect, Prof. Aalborg University focuses on the relationship between architecture, culture, people and the city. Based on her book “Experience City.dk.” 2009.

14 cases highlight important aspects of this theme and include cultural centers, performative public spaces and events in DK. What are the typologies, what can we learn and how can this trend be adapted to future situations

Workshop 1D**Do It Yourself Urbanism**

Bureau Detours (DK), based in Aarhus, is a self-organised network of more than 150 urban activists (architects, artists, carpenters, designers, builders, eco-activists, gamers) who have developed multiple mobile, pop up and participatory urban projects for more than ten years in many different situations.

Their direct involvement, informal processes, often playful approach, multi skilled teams and sometimes quite spectacular architectural interventions are extremely affective antidote to drab and standardized places.

The essential guide to micro-topias with the leading alternative urban platform in the Nordic countries.

Christian Juul Wendell (DK), Institut for X, present Bureau Detours’ keys methods and experiences where fun and functionality are combined.

Workshop 2D**Instant Urbanism**

David Pinder (UK/DK), Ass. Prof / Researcher at Roskilde Uni. sets out this key perspective of instant/contemporary urbanism, so integral in a cultural planning approach. Temporary uses, temporary situations where legacies and theories of the Situationists meet digital media, increased mobility and the need for constantly adaptable infrastructure, which all demand new approaches to constantly fluid urban life.

Architect Marco Canevacci (IT), **Plastique Fantastique’s** wonderful, inflatable structures can create micro life systems and soft, transitional spaces between the private and public. How to practice instant urbanism and play with the city. Plastique Fantastique is based in Berlin, a platform for temporary architecture, which samples performative possibilities of urban environments.

Workshop 3D**Playing Games in The Public Space**

The creative and participatory use of the public space in cities is a key element in urban strategies.

Jekaterina Lavrinec (LT), Ph.D. Assoc. Prof. at Vilnius University, is a leading Baltic urban researcher, participatory artist, curator of Co-urbanism Forum and co-founder of Laimikis. It – urban games and research lab that serves as an interdisciplinary platform for cultural innovations and participatory urban culture by launching creative communities’ initiatives in underused urban spaces I regeneration processes.

JL looks closely at how “playing games” and temporary actions create and strengthen relationships. Support collective knowledge exchange and form stronger identity in neighborhoods. What are the keys to participatory processes and how can these be continued and maintained.

MARCH 23**SESSION 4: 10.30-11.45****Select one of these 4A,4B,4C,4D****MARCH 23****SESSION 5: 12.00-13.00****Select one of these 5A,5B,5C,5D****MARCH 23****SESSION 6: 15.30-16.45****Select one of these 6A,6B,6C,6D****Workshop 4A****Cultural Mapping and Planning in Pori**

The City of Pori has carried out pioneer work in cultural mappings and planning.

Pori is now planning a new green and blue strategy to the Kokemäki River delta area, the largest river delta in Norden with both natural and cultural values. Much of the area is incorporated in the green infrastructure of Pori by a National Urban Park founded in 2001. It is also linked to the nearby Selkämeri National Park in the archipelago of Bothnian Sea. The area is characterized by micro-communities of full- or part-time residents. Both sides of the delta are growth corridors. Pori is targeting the area by cultural planning, which has been used in the city since 2013. Its current phase is the cultural mapping of micro-communities by the University of Turku Landscape Planning, to be followed by an artistic intervention programme. **Jaana Simula (FI)**, Head of Cultural Unit, Pori City Council & **Maunu Häyrynen (FI)**, Prof. University of Turku, researcher **Vuokko Kemppi-Vienola** and artist **Marjo Heino**.

Workshop 5A**Cultural Mapping and Planning in Skien and Tjørn**

We have asked **Tinna Harling (S)** and **Laurie Smith Vestæl (N)**, to present two Nordic Cultural Planning projects which successfully integrates the methodologies into existing planning frameworks.

Skien Kommune has had an extremely successful process to redesign a series of badly functioning backyard into integrated and interconnected spatial urban landscape with many different characters to attract different user groups and facilitate different activities. The process of engagement and the uses of cultural planning tools and participatory design processes were critical in the project.

Tjørn Kommune took the decision to use a fully developed cultural planning methodology in 2017 based on a series of well managed and inclusive projects and workshops carried out since 2012, which have prepared the ground the tools and methods to be used.

Workshop 6A**Urban Planning Toolkit**

The world's leading national network supporting cultural planning, **the Creative City Network of Canada** was set up in 2002 and is now working with cultural planning at community/ neighborhood and city levels in many Canadian cities.

CCNC has tested and refined methods of mapping, participation, civil engagement and collaborative design.

Sarah Douglas-Murray and **Ali Sabourin (CA)**, both Vice Chairs of the CNCC present the Cultural Planning Toolkit they have developed and ask how this might be relevant in the Nordic counties, as models or as inspiration. A crash course in how to do Cultural Planning.

CCNC produces Toolkits on Cultural Planning, cultural mapping, art in public space, creative hubs, supports research & organizes annual conferences, learning labs and workshops for professionals and communities.

Workshop 4B**Nikkilä Memories – digital memory mapping**

An innovative and exploratory project where digital tools and crowdsourcing were used to build on the principles of cultural planning in the small town of Nikkolä, which is to double in size to gather perception and experiences of the citizens.

Building on a thorough participatory analysis, Nikkilä Memories uses social media and PPGIS to collect and share people's memories.

The results were hugely encouraging and a breakthrough in participatory methodology. "Memories are an important part of history and identity of a place. We believe that appreciation of an area, its places and buildings will increase by sharing memories. Thus, place based memories can be a fruitful source for urban planning".

Eveliina Harsia (FI), Architect - City of Helsinki, **Pilvi Nummi (FI)**, Phd student - Aalto University and **Maarit Kahila (FI)**, Development Director, Mapita Ltd.

Workshop 5B**From popular protest to citizens driven communities**

We have invited two people who are passionate about civic engagement to present their experience and hopes for the future. **Mikko Särelä (FI)**, Dr. Technology, project manager for Aalto Living + platform is an expert in human centered living environments and how digitalization affects cities. He is the force behind the YIMBY - Yes In My Back Yard-movement, which has thousands of followers.

Kirsten Sydendal (DK) is the initiator of Lolland-Falster Lovestorm, a Facebook community of 25.000 people who rallied against the media stigmatization of Nakskov, one of the most deprived towns in rural Denmark (Lolland kommune). A totally surprising reaction, signaling clearly that direct action and interventions are not just for urbanists. A new era of citizens participation. How can we strengthen and renew participatory democracy in of our communities.

Workshop 6B**What is a truly playful city?**

Presenting a radical answer to this question, Urgent.Agency and Bjarke Ingels Group have fostered an urban vision that puts children squarely at the center of urban design.

While Billund is best known for being the headquarters of LEGO, the small town is now setting standards for holistic and creative urban planning, The Billund City Vision is a radical urban and cultural planning proposal that aims to create a town designed for and with children- looking at cities from a children perspective.

Christian Pagh (DK) – director of Urgent.Agency, presents one of Urgent.Agency's major cultural planning projects and opens for discussion on these important and often overlooked perspective.

MARCH 23

SESSION 4: 10.30-11.45

Select one of these 4A,4B,4C,4D

Workshop 4C**Performative landscapes**

Theatre/opera director & professor at Stockholm Academy of Art, **Sara Erlingsdotter (S)**, has been engaged in her project “performing arts and the landscape” since 2011. This aims to extend the notion of site specific work, increasing the role of the performing arts makers in the social landscape and building of communities.

Joanne Leighton, (AUS/BE), choreographer and director of WLDN has developed a practice which activates, engages but also choreographs the city, both with regards to activating the city but also with regards to aspects of symbolic identity, contemporary rituals, the performative city, memory and vision, created in open artistic processes. Her project “Les Veilleurs-The Vigil” where 720 citizens “watch in turn over the city” for a year is a conceptual meta performative act which has a meta impact on the identity of the city.

MARCH 23

SESSION 5: 12.00-13.00

Select one of these 5A,5B,5C,5D

Workshop 5C**Life Mapping in the Arctic**

Kirkenes (N) lies a few kilometers from the Russian and Finnish borders with only 8 houses left standing after WW2 and a fierce Arctic environment, survival is material, but also certainly emotional and cultural. A test of innovation and resilience. **Pikene På Broen** is a collective of curator, set up in 1996 and 20 years of realizing large and small scale ‘border-crossing exercises’ provide new perspectives on the north.

Winners of the Eckbos Legaters Culture Prize, the jury states: «Pikene På Broen have contributed significantly to making Kirkenes one of the most important towns in Norway and through their art projects, they have challenged understanding of geopolitics, centre and periphery».

We learn how to strengthen the collective in the extreme, and **Luba Kuzovnikova (N)**, artistic director of Pikene På Broen is invited to make the presentation.

MARCH 23

SESSION 6: 15.30-16.45

Select one of these 6A,6B,6C,6D

Workshop 6C**Co-Designing in The Public Space**

“We design and transform public spaces, wastelands and in-between-spaces with permanent or temporary installations. Our background and experience in public art, set design and urban gardening direct our approach. Our aim is to create and build spatial experiences, magnetic places, interactive interventions and stronger identities for places. Community involvement is often part of the creative process, generating a bond between the space and its users.”

RaivioBumann (FI) have developed a large tool kit of methods, but each place requires a specific design.

Their Nordic CO-OP City, New Nordic Neighborhood won the Nordic Built Cities challenge organized by Nordic Innovation. Based on three of their projects they RB will present three clear models of artistic led activation.

Workshop 4D**Exploring Urban Space with Anti Festival**

Artists are the ultimate urban explorers and can change our perspective of the city and our relationship with the city. Through artists-in-residence programs, participatory workshops, international co-productions and events, working in and with the public space. Artistic director **Johanna Tuukkanen (FI)** leads a workshops on how the 16 annual editions of Anti Festival, have contributed to the city and citizens of Kuopio.

Conceptually Anti is in itself a cultural planning initiative.

Anti takes its public role seriously and the festival works for the future, for cultural diversity and for alternative ecosystems and believe in and aims to re-enforce social bonds through the arts. There is a clear focus on how to engage and co-create insitu.

How does one balance artistic independence and social engagement and how does a festival change the city?

Workshop 5D**A Decade of Alternative Urban Living**

Institut for X is a unique hub for urban innovation in Aarhus. Part squat in a railway wasteland, part self-build wooden structures, part urban gardening, part startups and innovation center, part urban research, part capacity building, part workshop, part post-capitalist society model.

After 10 years, it will be relocated/cleared in 2019.

How did Institute for X become the largest laboratory for alternative urbanism in the Nordic and what is the value for the city? How does one create and maintain an open and balanced community?

Some of the answers as to how we can build alternative urban communities can be found in the story of Institut for X.

Architects / designers **Kasper Baarup Holmboe & Troels Thorbjørnson (DK)** from Spant Architects/Institut for X, lead us through the ten years to inspire discussion.

Workshop 6D**Activism as Strategy**

With many cities facing the “Shrinking Cities” phenomena, empty space is a challenge. The **Free Riga** squatter/activist movement started as a protest but is now seen as a possible solution for owners/ investors/city authorities in Riga.

Just launching a 20.000m2 venture with over 100 partners, Free Riga must develop new economic models and partnerships transforming empty spaces to vibrant alternative urban communities. **Kaspars Lielgalvis (LV)**, cultural entrepreneur, founder of Totaldobze, & architect **Liva Kreislere (LV)** Kiel Arts University.

Kiel Arts University – Muthesius Art Academy gave space for a few innovative projects in their old buildings. Soon they became many and they started their own association: ‘ALTE MU Impuls-Werk’. Form temporary creative space to a long term sustainable model is the challenge. From micro-breweries, social design studios, urban installations, ideas for future Kiel are prototyped already with over 60 projects. Can green philosophy work with market driven entrepreneurship? **Friederike Kopp (DE)**, cultural entrepreneur from the Bureau for Urban Transformation leads the workshop.

