



Privacy Matters. How Interiors make and break our Cities

This conference is a joint venture of the Centre for Privacy Studies, University of Copenhagen and the Royal Danish Academy - Center for Interior Studies, the Royal Danish Academy - Spatial Design (MA programme) and the Royal Danish Academy - Urbanism & Societal Change (MA programme).

And has the generous support of the

**CARLSBERG
FOUNDATION**

CONFERENCE PROGRAM

Privacy Matters. How Interiors make and break our Cities

At The Royal Danish Academy,
Auditorium 2.

Copenhagen, Denmark,
20 and 21 April 2023

Thursday, April 20, 2023

REGISTRATION

9h30 – 9h50

WELCOME AND OPENING REMARKS

Mette Birkedal Brunn and Nuno Grancho, Centre for Privacy Studies, University of Copenhagen

9h50 – 10h15

OPENING LECTURE (10h15 – 11h10)

News From the Living Room: How Racialized Migrants Make Urban Cultures

Esra Akcan (Cornell University, Department of Architecture, USA)

10h15 - 11h00

Discussion, 10 min

Break (20 min)

SESSION 1 (11h30 – 13h00)

CONTEXTUALIZING will explore the idea of privacy as a sentient, living being while shedding light on how urbanism can be utilised as a forensic tool.

Session Chair Lars Cyril Nørgaard (Centre for Privacy Studies, University of Copenhagen)

The Privacy of the Non – Human in Public Space, 11h30 – 11h50

Jonna Majgaard Krarup, The Royal Danish Academy,

Institute of Architecture, Urbanism and Landscape.

On Thresholds, Boundaries, Filters and Privacy: An Anthropological Perspective, 11h50 – 12h10

Kirsten Marie Raahauge, The Royal Danish Academy,

Institute of Architecture and Design and Center for Interior Studies.

In Search of a Soul, 12h10 – 12h30

Kristine Annabell Torp, The Royal Danish Academy,

Institute of Architecture, Urbanism and Landscape.

Urban Interiorities, 12h30 – 12h50

Suzie Attiwill, School of Architecture and Urban Design, RMIT University, Melbourne, Australia.

Discussion, 10 min

Break (45 min)

SESSION 2 (13h45 – 15h15)

NARRATING will present a historical overview of humanity's ties to privacy and the intricacies of illuminating today's city's threats.

Session Chair Peter Thule Kristensen (The Royal Danish Academy, Institute of Architecture and Design and Center for Interior Studies, and Centre for Privacy Studies, University of Copenhagen)

Things of Modernity, 13h45 – 14h05

Matthew Wells, University of Manchester, UK and Laurent Stalder, ETH Zurich, Switzerland.

Poché Parisienne: The Interior Urbanity of Nineteenth-Century Paris, 14h05 – 14h25

Sudipto Ghosh, School of Planning and Architecture, New Delhi, India.

Safe Inside? The Surveillance Landscapes of Domestic Spaces, 14h25 – 14h45

Pollyanna Rhee, University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign, USA.

Windows of opportunity? Interiors, facades and the streets or how practices of early modern domestic life in Eurasia may help us to imagine the cities of the future, 14h45 – 15h05

Danielle van den Heuvel, University of Amsterdam, Netherlands.

Discussion, 10 min

Break (20 min)

SESSION 3 (15h35 – 17h05)

CONCEPTUALIZING is a dive into a new conceptualisation of the interior as a part of the urban landscape in order to explore approaches to its spatial organisation and to a critical discourse on urbanism.

Session Chair Nuno Grancho (Centre for Privacy Studies, University of Copenhagen and The Royal Danish Academy, Institute of Architecture and Design and Center for Interior Studies)

Interiority: Examining the interiorisation

of external space in contemporary UK housing development, 15h35 – 15h55

Hazel Cowie, Newcastle University and University for the Creative Arts, UK.

Scoping Privacy in Parisian Social Housing Projects and their Public Grounds, 15h55 – 16h15

Pari Riahi, University of Massachusetts Amherst, USA.

Domestic privacy and publicity in the age of electricity, 16h15 – 16h35

Alican Taylan, Cornell University, USA.

Lynley Sambourne, post-spatial privacy, and planetary urban futures, 16h35 – 16h55

David Ellison and Samid Suliman, Griffith University, Australia.

Discussion, 10 min

Friday, April 21, 2023

LECTURE (09h30 – 10h25)

Planting inside-out: Window Gardening and Civil Rights in Twentieth-Century Philadelphia

Sonja Dümpelmann (University of Pennsylvania, Stuart Weitzman School of Design, USA)

09h30 – 10h15

Discussion, 10 min

Break (20 min)

SESSION 4 (10h45 – 12h15)

DESIGNING will investigate the potential of design, which is set to reveal the work of architects, curators, and designers attempting to redefine the bonds between privacy, interiors and cities.

Session Chair Kirsten Marie Raahauge (The Royal Danish Academy, Institute of Architecture and Design and Center for Interior Studies)

The role of privacy in Mies van der Rohe's interior views:

Georg Simmel's theory of secrecy and architectural representations, 10h45 – 11h05

Marianna Charitonidou, Faculty of Art Theory and History Athens School of Fine Arts, Greece.

The not-so-open open plan – a feminist critique of the typical Danish interior, 11h05 – 11h25

Mette Johanne Hübschmann, The Royal Danish Academy, Institute of Architecture and Design.

Flat Bubbles: bi-scalar interventions in apartment dwelling in Mumbai, 11h25 – 11h45

Neelakantan Keshavan, Department of Design, Indian Institute of Technology Hyderabad, India.

Spaces in movement. Sensing Value Systems Through Interiors, 11h45 – 12h05

Christine Bjerke, The Royal Danish Academy, Institute of Architecture and Design.

Discussion, 10 min

Break (45 min)

SESSION 5 (13h00 – 14h30)

INHABITING will dive into sensory mediums used to experience privacy, as well as a study of the anatomy of cities and the complexities of designing for an urban scale.

Session Chair Deane Alan Simpson, The Royal Danish Academy, Institute of Architecture, Urbanism and Landscape.

Between passion and possession: women architects and the houses they built for family, love and work, 13h00 – 13h20

Henriette Steiner, Landscape Architecture and Planning, University of Copenhagen.

A viral emptiness. Lockdown, surveillance, and (in)visible bodies at the times of COVID-19, 13h20 – 13h40

Christina Tente, University of Gothenburg in collaboration with the Hasselblad Foundation, Sweden.

Urban Interiority. Or the Quest for Communitas in the post-pandemic City, 13h40-14h00

Stefano Corbo, TU Delft – Delft University of Technology, Netherlands.

Looking out, taken in. The practice of viewing in new Danish High-rise dwellings, 14h00 – 14h20

Mette Mechlenborg, Dep of the Built Environment, Faculty of Engineering and Science, Aalborg University.

Discussion, 10 min

Break (20 min)

“PRIVACY MATTERS. How Interiors make and break our Cities.”

a film by Nuno Cera (www.nunocera.com), 14h50-15h00

KEYNOTE LECTURE (15h00-16h00)

Privacy Gradient: Soft Thresholds and the Space Within

Rahul Mehrotra (Harvard University, Graduate School of Design, USA)

15h00 – 15h45

Discussion, 15 min

CONCLUDING REMARKS AND DISCUSSION, Nuno Grancho

16h00

SHORT BIOGRAPHIES

Rahul Mehrotra

Architect and Urbanist, Professor and Chair of the Department of Urban Planning and Design and the John T. Dunlop Professor in Housing and Urbanization at Harvard University Graduate School of Design, Cambridge, Massachusetts, USA. Mehrotra is the founder and principal of RMA Architects. He divides his time between working in Mumbai and Boston and teaching at the Graduate School of Design at Harvard University where he is a Professor of Urban Design and Planning and the John T. Dunlop Professor in Housing and Urbanization.

His Mumbai-based firm, RMA Architects, was founded in 1990 and has designed and executed projects including government and private institutions, corporate workplaces, private homes, and unsolicited projects driven by the firm's commitment to advocacy in the city of Mumbai. The firm has designed a software campus for Hewlett Packard in Bangalore, a campus for Magic Bus (an NGO that works with poor children), led the restoration of the Chowmahalla Palace in Hyderabad, and formulated a conservation master plan for the Taj Mahal with the Taj Mahal Conservation Collaborative. The firm also recently designed and built a social housing project for 100 elephants and their caretakers in Jaipur as well as a corporate office in Hyderabad. The firm has designed several single-family houses in different parts of India and one in Karachi, Pakistan. In 2015, RMA Architects completed the *Lab of the Future* on the Novartis Campus in Basel, Switzerland and were a finalist in an international design competition for the Museum of Modern Art in Sydney. The recent projects of the firm include a Library for the School of Architecture at CEPT, the Faculty of Arts and Sciences at Ahmedabad University and a School of Public Policy at the IIM Ahmedabad. In 2018 RMA Architects were awarded the Venice Biennale juror's 'Special Mention' for 'three projects that address issues of Intimacy and empathy, gently diffusing social boundaries and hierarchies'.

Mehrotra has written and lectured extensively on issues to do with architecture, conservation, and urban planning and design in Mumbai and India. His writings include co-authoring *Bombay: The Cities Within*, which covers the city's urban history from the 1600s to 1990; *Banganga: Sacred Tank; Public Places Bombay; Anchoring a City Line, A history of the city's commuter railway*; and *Bombay to Mumbai: Changing Perspectives*. He has also coauthored *Conserving an Image Center: The Fort Precinct in Bombay*. Based on this study and its recommendations, the historic Fort District in Mumbai was declared a conservation precinct in 1995 – a first such designation in India. In 2000, he edited a book for the Union of International Architects, which earmarks the end of the last century and is titled *The Architecture of the 20th Century in the South Asian Region*. In 2011, Mehrotra wrote *Architecture in India – Since 1990*, which is a reading of contemporary architecture in India which was extended through an exhibition he co-curated titled *The State of Architecture: Practices and Processes in India*, at the National Gallery of Modern Art in Mumbai in Jan 2016. This was followed in 2018 by a second co-curated exhibition titled: *The State of Housing: Realities, Aspirations and imaginaries in India* which showed between Jan and March 2018 and is currently travelling in India. Since 2014 Mehrotra has been a member of the CICA – the International Committee of Architecture Critics.

Mehrotra is a member of the steering committee of the Laxmi Mittal South Asia Institute at Harvard. In 2012-2015, he led a Harvard University-wide research project with Diana Eck, called *The Kumbh Mela: Mapping the Ephemeral Mega City*. This work was published as a book in 2014. This research was extended in 2017 in the form of a book titled *Does Permanence Matter?* This research was also extended into an invited exhibition at the 2016 Venice Biennale. Mehrotra co-authored a book titled *Taj Mahal: Multiple Narratives* which was published in Dec 2017. Mehrotra's most recent books are titled *Working in Mumbai* (2020) and *The Kinetic City and other essays* (2021). The former a reflection on his practice evolved through its association with the city of Bombay/Mumbai. The second book presents Mehrotra's writings over the last thirty years and illustrates his long-term engagement with and analysis of urbanism in India. This work has given rise to a new conceptualization of the city which Mehrotra calls the *Kinetic City*.

Esra Akcan

Architect and Michael A. McCarthy Professor of Architectural Theory, Cornell University, College of Architecture, Art, and Planning, USA. Her research on modern and contemporary architecture and urbanism foregrounds the intertwined histories of Europe and West Asia. Her work has been supported by the Wissenschaftskolleg in Berlin, Graham Foundation, Clark Institute, Getty Research Institute, Canadian Center for Architecture, Mellon Foundation, German Academic Exchange Service, Kress Foundation, American Academy in Berlin, Institute for Advanced Studies in Berlin, among others. She is the author of *Landfill Istanbul: Twelve Scenarios for a Global City; Architecture in Translation: Germany, Turkey and the Modern House; Turkey: Modern Architectures in History* (with Sibel Bozdoğan); *Open Architecture: Migration, Citizenship and the Urban Renewal of Berlin-Kreuzberg by IBA-1984/87*; and *Abolish Human Bans*. Currently, she is editing *Migration and Discrimination* (with Iftikhar Dadi) and writing *Right-to-Heal: Architecture in Transitions After Conflicts and Disasters*.

Akcan has also exhibited her work at venues including the Istanbul Design Biennale and the Istanbul Architecture Festival. Among other subjects, her research raised the concept of open architecture applied to urban renewal and weaves stories of architects and residents, professionals and immigrants, policymakers and refugees, and social workers and guest workers whose paths crossed Berlin. "Giving voice not only to architects and policymakers, but also to residents," Akcan says, "the overarching theme of noncitizen rights to the city allows for a joint discussion of the history of 20th-century public housing, the participatory, postmodernist, and poststructuralist architectural debates, and the contradictory relation between international immigration laws and housing."

Sonja Dümpelmann

Landscape Architect. Professor and landscape historian, University of Pennsylvania Stuart Weitzman School of Design, Philadelphia, USA. Her research and writing sit squarely within the environmental and urban humanities and focus on nineteenth- and twentieth-century urban environments in the Western world. Of special importance to her work are the relationships between the inside and the outside, i.e. the relationships between architecture and landscape, center and periphery, theory and practice; those in power and those subjected to that power; intent and contingency; and the relationships between social and political processes and landscape transformation.

Dümpelmann is the author of *Seeing Trees: A History of Street Trees in New York City and Berlin* (Yale University Press, 2019; 2022 Elisabeth Blair MacDougall Book Award; 2019 John Brinkerhoff Jackson Book Prize), *Flights of Imagination: Aviation, Landscape, Design* (University of Virginia Press, 2014; 2015 John Brinkerhoff Jackson Book Prize), and of a book on the Italian landscape architect Maria Teresa Parpagliolo Shephard (VDG Weimar, 2004). Her edited volumes include *Landscapes for Sport: Histories of Physical Exercise and Health* (Dumbarton Oaks Research Library and Collection, 2022), *Airport Landscape: Urban Ecologies in the Aerial Age* (Harvard GSD, 2016), *Women, Modernity, and Landscape Architecture* (Routledge, 2015), *A Cultural History of Gardens in the Age of Empire* (Bloomsbury, 2013), *Greening the City: Urban Landscapes in the Twentieth Century* (University of Virginia Press, 2011), and *Pückler and America* (German Historical Institute Washington DC, 2007). Dümpelmann has guest-edited special journal issues and has published numerous book chapters, and articles in scholarly and professional journals.

She lectures internationally and has held research fellowships at the German Historical Institute, and at Dumbarton Oaks, Washington DC. She was a 2020–21 fellow at the Berlin Institute for Advanced Study (Wissenschaftskolleg zu Berlin). Her work has also been supported through grants from the Graham Foundation and the Foundation for Landscape Studies. She was a 2015 August-Wilhelm Scheer Visiting Professor at the Technical University Munich.

Dümpelmann has served as Senior Fellow of Garden and Landscape Studies at the Dumbarton Oaks Research Library and Collection, Washington D.C. (2014-20), and as President of the Landscape History Chapter of the Society of Architectural Historians (SAH) from 2013 until 2016.

Nuno Cera, Photographer and video artist, Lisbon, Portugal.

Lives and works in Lisbon. In his work, Lisbon based photographer and video artist Nuno Cera addresses spatial conditions, architecture and urban situations through poetic and documentary forms. His work has been internationally published, commissioned and exhibited by cultural institutions, curators and exhibition platforms. It is represented in several public and private collections.

Cera was resident artist in Berlin (Künstlerhaus Bethanien), New York (ISCP International Studios and Curatorial Program), Paris (Recollet) and Macau (Fundação Oriente). In 2003 he published, with architect Diogo Seixas Lopes, the book *Cimêncio*, a survey of suburban landscapes. Between 2007 and 2010 he carried out the *Futureland* project, an artistic investigation on urban growth in nine metropolises. In 2012 he received the grant in the XX edition of the Fundación Marcelino Botín, Santander, with the project *Symphony of the Unknown I*. In 2019 he received support from the Portuguese Ministry of Culture for the video installation *Symphony of the Unknown II*.

Cera was one of the invited artists in the official Portuguese representation at the Venice Architecture Biennale Public without rhetoric (2018) and Metaflux (2004).

www.nunocera.com