

# OPEN CALL

## WORKSHOP

21 May–9 June 2022, Belgrade, Serbia

# ***NEW URBAN LIVING ROOMS.***



Image: Fritz Haeg & Nils Norman: 'Proposals for a plaza' México DF 2019

Workshop is open for students.

The number of participants is limited. We encourage interested parties to apply early through email [info@strand.rs](mailto:info@strand.rs) with short information about the current studies and interests.

## **Brief**

After almost two years in pandemic confinement, experiencing our domestic spaces intensely, we have discovered new spatial categories and places to relate to each other. For example, during the liberation parentheses, wherein many cities we were allowed to meet with few people and only in open spaces, our living rooms have gone out the streets. This way businesses such as cafes or bars have taken their tables to the outside massively, to allow that extension of our houses and their lounges in public spaces. But there has been no thought concerning the design of these new meeting spaces and thus several questions are raised:

## **Moderator**

Manuel Collado Arpia is an architect and lecturer in architecture at University of Alcalá de Henares (UAH) in Madrid. Since 2018 principal and founder of the design studio [manholo.com](http://manholo.com)

**What are their new needs?**

**How can they offer us welcoming and healthy environments at the same time?**

**How do we understand the new communication technologies applied to these spaces?**

**How are these new living rooms integrated into the urban space?**

**How do they incorporate nature?**

**What type of gathering rituals can be triggered?**

The goal of this workshop will be to rethink and design this new type of urban lounge that has emerged after the pandemic, going beyond a place for consumption or commercial exploitation such as cafes with tables and chairs. The design will surely have to consider a type of furniture but now it becomes a new design opportunity that generates an urban totem or attractor defining or symbolizing this hybrid space between the living room and the street.

The design will contemplate the following related topics and keywords:

- sustainability related to the principles of the Gaia hypothesis (Lovelock, 1972/2000) -Biophilic design
- self-sufficiency considering clean energies
- 100% recyclability
- it will promote relationships with other species like animals, or insects
- it will incorporate to the Internet of Things (5G) (with a critical approach)
- it will promote new urban rituals (for instance Yoga, Chi Kung, meditation)

#SUSTAINABILITY #SELSUCIECIENCY #INTERNETOFTHINTGS

#MUTIPLESPECIES #RECYCLABILITY #ENERGY #SOCIALENERGY

#URBANTOTEM #INTERACTION #URBANRITUALS

## Structure

The Workshop begins with two Online Sessions starting 2 weeks prior to Face-to-Face Sessions to be held in Belgrade, Serbia.

The Online Sessions provide guidance about the topic and opportunity to start the work through research on similar spaces, their new needs, and urban conditions for these “new urban living rooms”.

The Face-to-Face Sessions will be focused on design process and creating drawings and first collages and finishing with simulation/performance of the design proposals in class using recycled domestic objects.

In between Morning and Afternoon Face-to-Face Session an informal open-air holistic exercise will be organized for interested participants as a way of promotion of new urban rituals.

Production work will be divided in teams 2-3 people.

Prior to the start of the Program the teams will be formed, and sites chosen.

Workshop outputs will include:

- 1 DIN A1 poster (presentation with graphic info about the designs and images/collages)
- short 2-minute video (simulation of the interactions in each team proposal for the new urban living rooms, using recycled and adapted common domestic objects).

# Schedule

## 21 May, Saturday, Online Session 1

(duration 2-3 hours)

- . Theoretical presentation
- . Discussion with Q&A on the Sites and Intentions.

## 1 June, Monday, Online Session 2

(duration 2-3 hours)

- . Presentation of first ideas and Discussions
- . Instructions for the Belgrade work sessions

## 7 June, Tuesday, Day 1

(duration of each Session up to 4 hours)

Morning Session, starting from 10 am at IFDT

Afternoon Session, starting from 3.30 pm at Mejkers spejs

Lecture On the Second Analog Space by Snezana Vesnic and Marko Ristic

- . Quick presentation of the first graphic works on paper DIN A1
- . Production and strategies on the transformation of recycled objects and needs to simulate/perform the new urban living room

## 8 June, Wednesday, Day 2

(duration of each Session up to 4 hours)

Morning Session, starting from 10 am at IFDT

Afternoon Session, starting from 3.30 pm at Mejkers spejs

Lecture Ethnography for Design by Sara Nikolic

- . Production Day with tutorials
- . Rehearsals

## 9 June, Thursday, Day 3

(duration of each Session up to 4 hours)

Morning Session, starting from 10 am at IFDT

Afternoon Session, starting from 3.30 pm at Mejkers spejs

Lecture Spatial Cosiness by Sanja Iguman

- . Rehearsals and Final Presentations with guest experts and scholars

## ORGANIZATION

### STRAND

– Sustainable Urban Society Association  
www.strand.rs

## SUPPORT

IFDT - Institute for Philosophy and Social Theory, Belgrade  
ifdt.bg.ac.rs

## TECHNICAL SUPPORT

CPN - Center for the Promotion of Science  
www.cpn.edu.rs

## VENUES

IFDT - Institute for Philosophy and Social Theory, University of Belgrade  
Kraljice Natalije 45, Belgrade, Serbia

Mejkers spejs, CPN - Center for the  
Promotion of Science

Kralja Petra 46, Belgrade, Serbia

Note:

Final graphic work will be updated after the workshop for further presentations in form of a Poster at the International Exhibition ON ARCHITECTURE 2022 that will be held in December 2022 in Belgrade, Serbia.

# Lecture Abstracts

Lectures by members of Perspect Lab, Institute for Philosophy and Social Theory, University of Belgrade, Serbia

**Snežana Vesnić and Marko Ristić**

## **On the Second Analog Space**

The aim of this lecture is to problematize the experience of the (urban) analog space in post-pandemic conditions. Starting from Lyotard's concept of analog thought (*Can Thought Go on Without a Body?*), we will try to reconstruct the workshop's topic through the question of structural changes of physical space after, hypothetically, the disappearance of its authentically analog qualities. This question will be employed to define the concept of *the second analog (space)* within the current experience of the "return to the analog." The difference covered by this concept would refer to a certain addition – the digital as an instrumental extension of analog space. In this way, the architectural problem of situation, which always belongs to the analog, could be translated into the question of a protocol within "the second analog," which develops into the conceptual intentionality of the subject of architectural creation. The second analog space thus becomes an instrument that transforms the problem of predictability in the digital into the – inevitably analog – subjective.

**Sara Nikolic**

## **Ethnography for Design**

The aim of this lecture is to present basic ethnographic techniques, tools and methods to architects and designers, in order to recognize and through their work respect the knowledge of local communities about their own culture and everyday practices. By noting basic terms, practices, emotions and cognitive patterns, architects can directly respond to the needs of space users with spatial interventions or interpret them creatively and critically. Introducing the participants to ethnographic, ethnosemantic and sensobiographical techniques, the aim of the lecture is to help designers and architects to improve their professional responsibility towards users, without limiting their creative expression.

**Sanja Iguman**

## **Spatial Cosiness**

The aim of this panel discussion is to present the ongoing research on the importance of the space in which we live for a sense of well-being and happiness. The context in which we find ourselves, in the material and immaterial sense, significantly determines our psycho-physical condition. We were especially convinced of that during the pandemic and lockdown, when, mostly for the first time, we found ourselves in a situation of very limited space. Also, the meaning and significance of public, open space has taken on a new meaning for many of us. Moving through different disciplines, from philosophy, through psychology, cultural studies, all the way to urbanism and architecture, we will consider the importance of arranging an open, public space in which people feel good to the level of comfort of a living room. We will also discuss the importance of views and landscapes, using the example of Belgrade, where they are often endangered or destroyed.