



**Exkursion mal anders: Vorträge und Gespräche über Stadtentwicklung in Rumänien und Serbien**  
***Urban Development in Romania and Serbia: Talks and Discussions***

28 – 30 September 2020 @ FG Stadtmanagement / *Chair of Urban Management*

<https://www.b-tu.de/fg-stadtmanagement/>

Außergewöhnliche Umstände erfordern außergewöhnliche Lösungen! Im Sommersemester 2020 plante das Fachgebiet Stadtmanagement der BTU Cottbus-Senftenberg eine Exkursion für die Masterstudierenden der Stadtplanung und Architektur in die Region auf beiden Seiten der Grenze zwischen Rumänien und Serbien. Da in diesen Zeiten die Exkursionen mit Bahn und Bus nicht mehr möglich sind, haben wir das Format neu erfunden: An drei Tagen werden wir die lokalen Experten der verschiedenen fachlichen Hintergründe online treffen, um über die urbanen Räume in Rumänien und Serbien zu diskutieren. Wir werden untersuchen, wie die Dynamik sich verändernder physischer und sozialer Grenzen die Stadtentwicklung in einer Spannung zwischen Zentralität und Peripherie prägt. Da Novi Sad und Timișoara sich in 2021 den Titel der europäischen Kulturhauptstadt teilen werden, werden wir uns auch mit dem Paradigmenwechsel in der Stadtplanung befassen, welcher den Fokus auf die Kultur und die Bürgerbeteiligung legt, und Hoffnung in Flaggschiff-Kulturprogrammen setzt, um positive urbane Entwicklungen auszulösen. Dabei wollen wir die Stadtentwicklung als einen komplexen Prozess beleuchten, der eine Vielfalt von geopolitischen Veränderungen, engagierten Akteuren, Interessen, Perspektiven, hoffnungsvollen Ansätzen und Instrumenten umfasst.

*Extraordinary circumstances call for extraordinary solutions! In the summer term 2020 the Chair of Urban Management, BTU Cottbus-Senftenberg, planned an excursion for Master students of planning and architecture to the region on both sides of the border between Romania and Serbia. As group excursions in these times are no longer possible, we have reinvented the excursion format: over three days we will meet online with local experts of various professional backgrounds to engage in discussion on urban space. We will explore how the dynamics of changing physical and social boundaries shape urban territories in a tension between centrality and periphery. In light of Timișoara and Novi Sad carrying the title of 2021 European Capitals of Culture, we will also engage with the paradigm shift in planning centred on culture and people's participation, as well as anticipations from flagship culture schemes to trigger positive urban changes. In so doing we aim to illuminate urban development as a complex process which involves a plurality of geopolitical shifts, engaged actors, interests, perspectives, hope-filled approaches and instruments.*

Concept and organization: Tihomir Viderman and Silke Weidner

Wenn Sie an diesem Diskussionsforum teilnehmen möchten, kontaktieren Sie uns bitte über [AlexandraCarolin.Hessmann@b-tu.de](mailto:AlexandraCarolin.Hessmann@b-tu.de) und teilen Sie uns mit, an welchen Tagen Sie teilnehmen.

*Please register by sending an email to [AlexandraCarolin.Hessmann@b-tu.de](mailto:AlexandraCarolin.Hessmann@b-tu.de) and specifying which days you wish to participate.*

**MONTAG MONDAY, 28 SEPTEMBER 2020**

08:30 – 09:00	Einwahl der Teilnehmenden und Begrüßung <i>Get Together and Welcome Note</i>
09:00 – 10:00	<b>Maja Lalić</b> <i>creative director of Belgrade's Misker Festival</i> Misker House: Challenges of instituting creative industries in Serbia
10:00 – 11:00	<b>Rudolf Gräf</b> <i>founding partner at Vitamin Architects, Timisoara</i> Transforming Urban Planning Culture in Romania
11:00 – 12:00	<b>Students' session: <i>Processes of urban transformation</i></b>
12:00 – 15:00	<b>Raluca Davidel</b> <i>BUUR, Leuven</i> Rapporteurin/ Discussant Maxi Vivien Mielcarek Timișoara: Urbane Transformationen nach der Revolution 1989 Albina Perets Novi Beograd: vom gedachten zum gelebten Raum Anna Rosch Urban activism in Timisoara
15:00 – 16:00	<b>Students' session: <i>Studying built urban fabric</i></b>
16:00 – 17:00	<b>Rudolf Gräf</b> <i>founding partner at Vitamin Architects, Timisoara</i> Rapporteur/ Discussant Jonathan Thomas Hertling Timișoara: Stadtmorphologie und Stadtplanung Thanh Hai Tran Novi Sad: Stadtmorphologie und Debatten Arne Markuske Beograd – a modernist city: Changes of paradigm and cultural breaks
	<b>Darko Polić</b> <i>Institute for Urban Planning, Research and Design "Urbanizam", Novi Sad</i> Novi Sad – city of new planning practices?

**DIENSTAG TUESDAY, 29 SEPTEMBER 2020**

08:30 – 09:00	Einwahl der Teilnehmenden und Begrüßung <i>Get Together and Welcome Note</i>
09:00 – 10:00	<b>Miodrag Kuč</b> <i>Zentrum für Kunst und Urbanistik, Berlin</i> Telling a story about a transnational professional identity
10:00 – 11:00	<b>Aleksandar Bede</b> <i>Association of Novi Sad Architects</i> Novi Sad as a Non-Project: Spaces and Agents of European Capital of Culture
11:00 – 12:00	<b>Students' session: <i>Dialectics between urban culture and spectacle</i></b>
12:00 – 13:30	<b>Aleksandar Bede</b> <i>Association of Novi Sad Architects</i> Rapporteur/ Discussant Stephanie Scheu EXIT Novi Sad: Festivalisation of a city Janina Alexandra Jungblut European Capital of Culture: Timisoara's new city image Karla Blauert Belgrade Waterfront [Beograd na vodi] – A major urban project mobilizing civil society and the need for new planning processes! Katarina Zlatic Belgrade: Building a city on their own
13:30 – 14:30	<b>Iva Čukić</b> <i>Ministarstvo prostora, Beograd</i> Rethinking and Commoning the City: The case of Belgrade

**MITTWOCH WEDNESDAY, 30 SEPTEMBER 2020**

09:30 – 10:00	Einwahl der Teilnehmenden und Begrüßung <i>Get Together and Welcome Note</i>
10:00 – 11:00	<b>Florentina Popescu and Remus Creţan</b> <i>Department of Geography, West University of Timisoara</i> Timisoara's urban transformations within the European Capital of Culture (ECoC) Framework
11:00 – 12:00	<i>Students' session: <b>Architecture and planning practice</b></i>
	<b>Adria Daraban</b> <i>Fachgebiet Architekturtheorie, BTU Cottbus-Senftenberg</i> Rapporteurin/ Discussant
	Alina Polzin Art and Urban Change - Romanian pavilion at the architecture biennale in Venice
	Nicklas Dean Heseltine Two sides of Romanian Modernism.
	Yasmin Jouni Brutalismus und Betonutopie, die Gegenwartsperspektive
	Magdalena Waury Serbien an der Architekturbieniale Venedig
12:00 – 13:00	<b>Tiberiu Busca</b> <i>Faculty of Architecture and Urban Planning, Politehnica University of Timisoara</i> 4 projects and their stories

**ABSTRACTS INVITED LECTURES**

MAJA LALIĆ creative director of Belgrade's Misker Festival

**MIKSER HOUSE: CHALLENGES OF INSTITUTING CREATIVE INDUSTRIES IN SERBIA**

The Mikser House, the headquarters of the namesake festival, has developed into an important urban gesture from which innovation and positive urban change have been spreading into the neighbourhood of Savamala. While professionals and enthusiasts gathered around this initiative deliver substantial international programmes, sustaining this kind of culture production and activist practices is coupled with continuous struggle in overcoming multiple institutional and financial challenges.

RUDOLF GRÄF Founding partner at Vitamin Architects, Timisoara

**TRANSFORMING URBAN PLANNING CULTURE IN ROMANIA.**

The impact of international cooperation and integrated, decentralized planning approaches on the highly centralized spatial planning structures of Romania and Ukraine is unfolding right now. The professional practice moved from State actors to private market initiative with relatively low regulations but very high expectations. Cities take over responsibility formerly placed at national level, investors are the new decision makers, a market for services is still forming on both ends of demand and offer, municipalities struggle to adapt. The outcome is highly interesting, debatable and not entirely unexpected. We try to uncover a storyline that can make sense and deliver some insights into the connection between politics, urban planning and realities on the ground looking at examples from Romania and Ukraine.

DARKO POLIC Institute for Urban Planning, Research and Design "Urbanizam", Novi Sad

**NOVI SAD – CITY OF NEW PLANNING PRACTICES?**

Urban planning in Serbia has been passing through a complex process of transition to neoliberal democracy, which was influenced by post - conflict experiences in the Balkans. While the continuity of some old planning practices has been maintained, Serbia's urban planning legal framework has been changing, to embrace new political, economic and social realities, such as influx of refugees, emerging real estate market, economic disruptions, citizens' engagement or a new culture-focused paradigm in planning.

MIODRAG KUČ                      Zentrum für Kunst und Urbanistik,, Berlin

**TELLING A STORY ABOUT A TRANSNATIONAL PROFESSIONAL IDENTITY**

This reflection draws on experiences from the student movements of the late 1990s, from which the Exit festival emerged, as well as difficulties and insecurities inscribed in urban space produced in the period of an extended uncertainty, which rendered emigration as the sole path to professional development.

ALEKSANDAR BEDE                Association of Novi Sad Architects

**NOVI SAD AS A NON-PROJECT: SPACES AND AGENTS OF EUROPEAN CAPITAL OF CULTURE**

The case of the city of Novi Sad and its preparation for the European Capital of Culture 2021 title offers an opportunity to examine the links between urban space and the local cultural agents, since many of the cultural initiatives in the city's recent history were at first mobilized around spatial issues. Namely, many spatial qualities of Novi Sad can be attributed to locations without or with very little official use, ranging from underused parks and landmarks to abandoned military barracks and industrial structures. We can mark these locations as "voids". This doesn't mean that they are necessarily empty, but rather that their use is often informal or invisible from an official point of view. The most famous recent example is probably the case of Exit Festival, whose core identity stems from its location in the unused corners of the Petrovaradin Fortress. The ever more commercialized Exit Festival has grown into a prime cultural factor in the city, to the point of initiating, winning, and managing the European Capital of Culture title for the city, while being in an open conflict with the independent cultural scene due to their privileged partnership with the City. The condition of conflict and mistrust between local cultural actors continued to be one of major marks of culture in Novi Sad in the dawn of the grand title in 2021.

IVA ČUKIĆ                            Ministarstvo prostora, Beograd

**RETHINKING AND COMMONING THE CITY: THE CASE OF BELGRADE**

Since the cities became sites of neoliberal exploitation, the urban space became the space of struggles, social actions and mobilisations focused on discourse of commons as articulated demands for radically different production relations, (re)new(ed) democratic institutions and models of social organization. In this respect, the presentation will give an overview of the current practices of urban commoning in Belgrade, with the focus on civic engagement, democratic governance and impact on the production of urban space.

FLORENTINA POPESCU

AND REMUS CRETAN              Department of Geography, West University of Timisoara

**TIMISOARA'S URBAN TRANSFORMATIONS WITHIN THE EUROPEAN CAPITAL OF CULTURE (ECOC) FRAMEWORK**

The lecture will provide a general introduction about urban development issues in Timisoara as well as debates and recent developments pertaining to the scheme of European Capital of Culture, putting focus on transformation processes, governance structures, cultural strategies and the importance of architecture for visitors.

TIBERIU BUSCA                    Faculty of Architecture and Urban Planning, Politehnica University of Timisoara

**4 PROJECTS AND THEIR STORIES**

21 gypsum dogs for the chamber of architects / an elaborated failed attempt on public consultation / 150 small dioramas for a lost armenian community / dolls and toys for the venice biennale / a story of a hollyday inn and some ways european funds can influence the built environment

## ABSTRACTS STUDENTS' SESSIONS

### PROCESSES OF URBAN TRANSFORMATION

MAXI VIVIEN MIELCAREK

#### **TIMIȘOARA: URBANE TRANSFORMATIONEN NACH DER REVOLUTION 1989**

Timișoara, als sogenannte West-Gate-Stadt, wird oft als „Eighth province of veneto“ bezeichnet, da nahezu die Hälfte aller in Timișoara ansässigen Unternehmen aus dem Industriedistrikt in Ventien kommen. Die Stadt war der Schauplatz des Beginns der Rumänischen Revolution 1989. Bekannt ist sie heute vor allem für ihre Schuh- und Textilindustrie, die sich hauptsächlich seit den 1990er Jahren entwickelte. Zeitgleich kamen auch grundlegende Veränderungen auf dem Wohnungsmarkt auf, womit die Wohnungen schnell an Wert verloren.

ALBINA PERETS

#### **NOVI BEOGRAD: VOM GEDACHTEN ZUM GELEBTEN RAUM**

Ausgehend von der sozialistischen Ideologie sollte eine neue Gesellschaft im Belgrad der Nachkriegszeit entstehen, in der alle ein Recht auf Mitbestimmung haben. Im Mittelpunkt der damaligen Stadtentwicklung, besonders bei neuen Stadtteilen, standen lokale Selbstverwaltungen, die Mesna zajednica und autarke Wohngemeinschaften, die die dezentralen, eigenständigen Verwaltungen unterstützen sollten. Der Gedanke von Bürgerengagement und die Planung der Modellstadt Novi Beograd waren eng verbunden, doch führte dies zu Konflikten, die teilweise noch heute sichtbar sind.

ANNA ROSCH

#### **URBAN ACTIVISM IN TIMISOARA, ROMANIA**

Processes of public participation in urban planning in Timisoara face many challenges. This has triggered urban activism on a broad political spectrum and many different levels of society. There are even certain forms of activism happening on the institutional level to support the government's specific ideology. The question for the city's future is, whether urban activism can produce positive changes or is it merely a self-referential practice.

### STUDYING BUILT URBAN FABRIC

JONATHAN THOMAS HERTLING

#### **TIMIȘOARA: STADTMORPHOLOGIE UND STADTPLANUNG**

Das heterogene Stadtbild Timisoaras zeugt von der vielfältigen Geschichte der Stadt im Banat. Unterschiedliche Zugehörigkeiten zu verschiedenen Reichen und damit einhergehend sich ändernde kulturelle Prägungen und Bevölkerungsmehrheiten haben ebenso ihre Spuren hinterlassen wie die verschiedenen Epochen von Architektur und Städtebau. Das Ergebnis ist eine stadtplanerisch interessante, multikulturelle Stadt, in der sich der eine Stadtteil in seiner Gestalt gänzlich vom Anderen unterscheiden kann.

THANH HAI TRAN

#### **NOVI SAD: STADTMORPHOLOGIE UND DEBATTEN**

Osteuropa erlebte im Zuge des Postsozialismus Osteuropa im Ende des 20. Jahrhunderts einen gesellschaftlichen Strukturwandel, welcher sich auf den Urbanismus Serbiens auswirkte und ein Umdenken in der Stadtplanung mit sich führte. Als zweitgrößte Stadt Serbiens und Hauptstadt der autonomen Provinz Vojvodina, folgte Novi Sad dem Prinzip und fokussierte dabei ihre Entwicklungsschwerpunkte auf den zentralen Bereichen, bestehend aus kulturellem Erbe und historisch bedeutende Gebäude. Anhand dieses Textes sollen die heterogene Struktur der Stadt Novi Sad mithilfe der historischen und politischen Hintergründe sowie den daraus entstehenden Konflikten erläutert werden.

ARNE MARKUSKE

#### **BEOGRAD – A MODERNIST CITY: CHANGES OF PARADIGM AND CULTURAL BREAKS**

Belgrade or in Serbian Beograd – the white city – located at the confluence of Sava and Danube rivers in the north-western Balkans was forged by a history of changing emperors and political systems, which each came along with a shift in town planning paradigms. From annihilating the Ottoman city layout after Serbia's Independence over the socialist era after World War II to the transition phase of the 1990s, each new phase aimed at overcoming the one before.

## DIALECTICS BETWEEN URBAN CULTURE AND SPECTACLE

STEPHANIE SCHEU

### **EXIT NOVI SAD: FESTIVALISATION OF A CITY**

JANINA ALEXANDRA JUNGBLUT

### **EUROPEAN CAPITAL OF CULTURE: TIMISOARA'S NEW CITY IMAGE**

In 2021 Timisoara will be named "European Capital of Culture". With this title Timisoara's governance structures hope not only to grasp attention in the international inter-urban competition, but also create a new image which would trigger positive economic change and resolve existing grievances within the city. However, this vision for a city is facing increasing criticism because of its perception as the strengthening of the narrowly institutional influence on the development of the city's image.

KARLA BLAUERT

### **BELGRADE WATERFRONT [BEOGRAD NA VODI] – A MAJOR URBAN PROJECT MOBILIZING CIVIL SOCIETY AND THE NEED FOR NEW PLANNING PROCESSES!**

Since the announcement in 2012, the large-scale construction project "Belgrade Waterfront" [Beograd na vodi] has sparked a heated discussion in Belgrade. With this mega project, the government aims to improve Belgrade's international reputation and establish an important business location in Eastern Europe. The citizens' initiative "Don't D(r)own Belgrade" [Ne da(vi)mo Beograd] was found as a response with the aim of stopping the project. This has motivated a broader discussion about the need to make planning processes in Serbia more transparent and participatory.

KATARINA ZLATIC

### **BUILDING A CITY ON THEIR OWN**

The decision on how to interpret this topic depends on how we understand and acknowledge problems, needs and struggles of different communities and groups of people in a city. This idea provokes in me the following thought: as integrated citizens we have the possibility to participate in building our cities, others have to build their city by themselves. This brings us to the question of the Roma minorities and their living space in self-built settlements.

## ARCHITECTURE AND PLANNING PRACTICE

ALINA POLZIN

### **ART AND URBAN CHANGE - ROMANIAN PAVILION AT THE ARCHITECTURE BIENNALE IN VENICE**

Romania is a country that has gone through many different phases. The history is visibly present in its urban space. The architecture biennale is an event where artists showcase special features about their (home) cities / countries. For my contribution I chose three different projects relevant for urban development in Romania and convey melancholy and emotion in a very direct way. Even though I haven't been at these exhibitions I reflect on how I sensed and grasped the emotions and urban atmospheres that the artists had aimed to create.

NICKLAS DEAN HESELTINE

### **TWO SIDES OF ROMANIAN MODERNISM.**

Modernism did not gain a foothold in Romania until the 1930s. It stood in strong conflict with neo-romanism and only found recognition among the younger generation of architects and the progressive bourgeoisie. Out of this conflict, Romania developed its own language of expression of modern architecture. This modernism, described as functionalist and experimental, was to tie in with that of the rest of Europe. The result was an elegant and moderate architecture, which respected the style principles of modernity and reflected the zeitgeist of the Romanian disputes. (vgl. Tabacu 2014: S. 52)

YASMIN JOUNI

### **BRUTALISMUS UND BETONUTOPIE, DIE GEGENWARTSPERSPEKTIVE**

Vom Rohmaterial Beton als sozialistischer Hoffnungsschimmer der osteuropäischen Länder zur weltweit populären Architekturbewegung die bis heute andauert. Der Brutalismus als doch wahrgewordenen Betonutopie?

MAGDALENA WAURY

**SERBIEN AN DER ARCHITEKTURBIENNALE Venedig**

Nach Beendigung des Studiums werden Architekten und Stadtplaner mit der Realität konfrontiert. Diese liegt oftmals abseits großer Möglichkeiten und Unterstützung. Die Installation „HEROIC: Free Shipping“, welche den serbischen Beitrag zur 15. Architekturbiennale in Venedig bildete, nimmt sich dieser Thematik an. Die Initiatoren nahmen bei ihrer Darstellung Bezug auf das Oberthema „Reporting from the Front“, indem sie den Kampf an der Front als Synonym für den Berufseinstieg von Architekten nutzten.

**THANK YOU!**

The organizers, Tihomir Viderman and Silke Weidner, thank very much for their engagement and valuable contributions prior to and during the conference:

**TEAM OF FACHGEBIET STADTMANAGEMENT:**

ALEXANDRA HESSMANN

ANNA BOTH

MAREIKE TIMPE

**INVITED SPEAKERS AND DISCUSSANTS:**

ALEKSANDAR BEDE	Association of Novi Sad Architects
TIBERIU BUSCA	Faculty of Architecture and Urban Planning, Politehnica University of Timisoara
ADRIA DARABAN	Fachgebiet Architekturtheorie, BTU Cottbus-Senftenberg
RALUCA DAVIDEL	BUUR, Leuven
REMUS CRETAN	Department of Geography, West University of Timisoara
IVA ČUKIĆ	Ministarstvo prostora, Beograd
RUDOLF GRÄF	Founding partner at Vitamin Architects, Timisoara
MIODRAG KUČ	Zentrum für Kunst und Urbanistik, Berlin
MAJA LALIĆ	creative director of Belgrade's Misker Festival
DARKO POLIC	Institute for Urban Planning, Research and Design "Urbanizam", Novi Sad
FLORENTINA POPESCU	Department of Geography, West University of Timisoara

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