SPACES Conference: Speakers, Respondents, Moderation

Michele Bee, researcher and co-founder of the cultural center "Manifatture Knos", Lecce.
He studied economics and holds a PhD in philosophy. Recently Michele Bee teaches History of
Political Thought at the University of Lausanne (Switzerland). "Manifatture Knos" (IT), an old public
engineering workers' training school, was restored 2006 by citizens, artists and professionals. The
centre's activities include research, training and supporting productions on artistic freedom and
organizational autonomy. He collaborates with the municipality of Lecce and several associations and
artists in a project based on the direct involvement of citizens in the restoration and change of a
quarter of the town. He is interested in the idea of "Third landscape and third place", a practical
research on "undecided" public spaces developed/transformed directly by the citizens, without the
support of facilitators. www.manifattureknos.org

Nataša Bodrožić, curator and cultural worker, Zagreb. Co-founder of slobodne veze/loose
associations, a contemporary art platform founded in 2009 in Croatia. Her special interests lay in
'non- institutionalized' cultural practices in post-Socialist Europe with focus on self- organization and
collective creativity. As a member of the SPACES curatorial team, she edited the SPACES Cultural
Policy Paper focusing on newly emerging cultural actors in Chisinau, Kyiv, Tbilisi and Yerevan, and,
together with Nini Palavandishvili, edited the publication "SPACES: Cultural Public Sphere: Armenia,
Georgia,   Moldova,   Ukraine."   (Verlag   Bibliothek   der   Provinz,   2014)
www.slobodneveze.wordpress.com

**Kateryna Botanova, art critic, curator, contemporary culture researcher and cultural producer,
Kyiv.** Since 2009 she is director of CSM-Foundation Center for Contemporary Art (Kyiv, Ukraine) and
founder and chief editor of the online journal on contemporary culture KORYDOR. Her focus is on
social engagement of arts and the role of art in transformative societal processes. Since March 2014
she is leading a group of experts working with the Ministry of Culture in Ukraine on a programme
developing a long-term strategy for reforms in cultural policy in the country. www.korydor.in.ua
www.csmart.org.ua

Heidi Dumreicher, researcher and founding director of Oikodrom, Vienna. She is a linguist, co-
coordinator of SPACES, and pioneer in integrated sustainability research as well as initiator and
coordinator of numerous interdisciplinary European Research Grants ("Sustainable City
Implantation", SUCCESS, HAMMAM, MIGRAPASS). She has disseminated sustainability research
information through various arts projects such as demonstrated in the Cannes 2003 nominated film
"In the Beginning was the Eye" (Bady Minck). Her forthcoming publication on the SPACES projects
scientific output will be published in The Arts in Society Journal. Her main research interests are the
future of societies in transformation, taking into account the interaction between spatial and socio-
cultural aspects. www.oikodrom.org

Galila El Kadi, architect planner and researcher, Paris/Cairo. She is research director at the IRD -
Institut de recherche pour le développement. She is responsible for a research project aiming at
regenerating public space in downtown Cairo. Research fields: Heritage conservation and
management, urban planning and policies, spontaneous urbanization, public space transformation
and regeneration in Mediterranean cities. www.ird.fr

Simonetta Ferfoglia, artist and designer, Vienna. Co-founder of gangart, an artistic group with
expertise in art and architecture, curation, design, exhibition-making and artistic research with
several commissions by Austrian and international museums and institutions. She teaches at the
Academy of Fine Arts Vienna and at the University of Applied Arts Vienna. www.gangart.org

Angelika Fitz (Moderation), cultural theorist, author and curator, Vienna. She develops artistic projects at the interface of architecture, urbanism and arts for international museum, ministries and cultural institutions. Most of her projects produce platforms for knowledge transfer between arts, science and society and cultures. In 2003 and 2005 she was a commissioner for the Austrian contribution to the Architecture Biennial in Sao Paolo. Furthermore she curated the exhibitions "Generationenstadt" and "Realstadt" as well as two interational platforms "We-Traders.Swapping Crisis for City" and "Weltstadt.Who creates the city?" http://www.angelikafitz.at/

Can Gülcü, art director, curator and lecturer, Vienna. Part of the directorial team of WIENWOCHE, Gülcü teaches at the Karl-Franzens-University in Graz, has taught at the Academy of Fine Arts in Vienna and was part of the curatorial team of the Shedhalle in Zurich. His creative work is considered a bridge between the fine arts and cultural work on a participatory political level. Focal points of his work relate to societal, political, and social balance of power. Author (together with Lorenz Aggermann and Eduard Freudmann) of "Beograd Gazela – Travel Guide for a Slum". www.wienwoche.org

Ina Ivanceanu, film maker and cultural worker, Vienna. She works at the interface of science, culture and art with a focus on the transformative potential of art and culture. She also developed and led culture and science projects from Sub-Sahara Africa to China and the Arabic region. As a movie editor she directed cinema documentaries on challenges faced by post-Soviet societies in China and Romania ("Bunica", "Every Seventh Person"). She accompanies the SPACES project with videos for the SPACES WEB TV and directs a feature length documentary on the project. http://spacestv.utopiana.am/, www.amourfoufilm.com

Alevtina Kakhidze, artist, Kyiv. She works with performance, installation, drawings, texts and design objects and co-founded and runs a private residency for international artists in the village Muzychi near Kyiv. She participated in numerous international and Ukrainian art projects including "Drawing Class for Collectors" within the 7th Berlin Biennial, "You are at Home" of Vladimir Alevtina Suzi Penelopa at Ya Gallery, Kyiv, "I'm late for a plane that's impossible to be late for", Якщо/Если/IF (Perm, Museum for Contemporary Art PERMM), 1989–2009: Turbulent World – Telling Time (Berlin, Art Academy, Kiev, National Art Museum of Ukraine, Moscow, National Center of Contemporary Art etc.). www.alevtinakakhidze.com

Sabine Knierbein, researcher, Vienna. She is Assistance Professor at the Technical University of Vienna for Urban Culture and Public Space (Tenure Track). Her work focuses on transdisciplinary epistemologies of public space, and is settled in critical urban studies related to European and Latin American Cities. She understands teaching public spaces as a plea for (conceptual) openness, and teaching urban culture as a call for (critical recognition of) difference and currently develops a relational pedagogy for architecture and planning schools. www.skuor.tuwien.ac.at

Margarethe Makovec & Anton Lederer, directors of <rotor>, Graz. They founded < rotor > Center for Contemporary Art in Graz, 1999. Their programme concentrates on socially and politically relevant art production and they have developed a focus on co-operations with the art scenes of Central, Eastern and South Eastern Europe. The public and social realm plays an important role to reach an audience that does not cross the threshold into the art space and to negotiate subjects of social transformation. www.rotor.mur.at

Sophia Lapiashvili, GeoAir, Tbilisi. Since 2003 she teaches decorative arts at the Technical University Tbilisi and contributes as a photographer to the "Anabjdi" journal. As a curator and speaker Sophia Lapiashvili received a fellowship for getting active at "Künstlerhaus Bethanien" in Berlin. Since 2010 she works as a national and international coordinator for artistic residence programs. Her focus is on

challenges for contemporary Georgian arts and societal questions in the private and public sphere. www.geoair.ge

Richard S. Levine, architect, urban designer, author and emeritus professor, Lexington. He promotes sustainability driven architecture and urban design. In the sustainable city, participation of citizens in democratic decision-making, particularly in the development and use of public space animated by art and performance activities are a key dynamic and the linkage of his activities to the SPACES program. http://www.cscdesignstudio.com/

Nini Palavandishvili, curator, Tbilisi. She is a member of the GeoAIR art initiative team, which is active in curating international collaborative projects, and runs an international art residency and a growing contemporary art archive in Tbilisi, Georgia. Nini Palavandishvili is interested in artistic practices that give innovative forms to and find a language with which it is possible to speak about political and social matters. She researches on social and political contexts and their interpretation in the frame of cultural production and contemporary art. With GeoAIR she develops socially-engaged art practices, aiming at increasing influence on existing reality. Her activities are directed towards the active involvement of a wider public into art processes. www.geoair.ge

Markian Prokopovych, researcher, Vienna. He is Assistant Professor at the Institute for East European History, University of Vienna. He habilitated at the University of Vienna (2012) and holds a PhD from Central European University (2004) including degrees in nationalism studies, art history, urban planning and heritage preservation. He is the author of "In the Public Eye: The Budapest Opera House, the Audience and the Press, 1884-1918" (2014) and "Habsburg Lemberg: Architecture, Public Space and Politics in the Galician Capital, 1772-1914" (2009). www.iog.univie.ac.at

Ángela Ramírez, artist, Santiago de Chile. She holds a degree in visual arts from the Universidad de Chile, Santiago, Chile and studied in Germany at the Dusseldorf Visual Arts Academy. Since 1997 she lives and works in Santiago de Chile, where she started to develop specific works related to specific places within the city. These works are ephemeral and are related with political, social, legal and emotional places and formal links with architecture. http://www.gf.org/fellows/16673-angela-ramirez

Oliver Ressler, **artist and film maker, Vienna.** Studied at the University for Applied Arts in Vienna. He produces installations, projects in public space and films on the topics from economy, democracy, global warming, forms of resistance and social alternatives. Over the years, he collaborated with the artists Zanny Begg (Sydney), Ines Doujak (Vienna), Martin Krenn (Vienna), Carlos Motta (New York), Gregory Sholette (New York), David Thorne (Los Angeles) and the political scientist Dario Azzellini (Caracas/Berlin). www.ressler.at

Olga Shparaga, researcher, Minsk. She is a research associate at the Center for European Studies in Minsk (CES), lecturer and head of "Modern Society, Ethics and Politics" at the European College of Liberal Arts in Belarus. Moreover, she is the editor of the WebJournal "Neues Europa". Her working field is political philosophy with a focus on the theories of community and phenomenology. She is also a scientific editor and co-publisher of six monographs and publications on contemporary art. www.eclab.by/en

Vitalie Sprinceana, activist, sociologist and philosopher, Chisinau. His interests are: sociology of public sphere, art and activism, sociology of religion. He is co-editor at Platzforma.md, a web platform for critical thinking in Moldova. www.platzforma.md

Taguhi Torosyan, cultural practitioner and curator, Yerevan. She is a member of AJZ curatorial collective and currently holds the position of curator at Nest artist residency program at the Institute

for Contemporary Art, Armenia. Her activities focus on contemporary art practices that deal with the issues on public sphere, social memory, urban and communication studies, as well as audiovisual industry. Her artistic work was featured at "Schwankhalle", Bremen and ACCEA, Yerevan, among others. www.utopiana.am

Vladimir Us, artist and curator, Chisinau. He is founding member of Oberliht: Young Artists Association. He studied art, curating, cultural management and cultural policy in Chisinau, Grenoble and Belgrade. Amongst others he produced and coordinates the "Flat Space", a permanent installation and space for art and culture in the form of a socialist flat, placed on a square in the city centre of Chisinau. Through his recent works and projects he examines the processes of transformation of the public space in post-Soviet cities along with the need for conceptualization for an alternative network of public spaces in Chisinau. www.oberliht.com

Tihomir Viderman, researcher, Vienna. He is affiliated to the Interdisciplinary Centre for Urban Culture and Public Space of Vienna University of Technology as a university assistant. Having an engineering degree in architecture and a Master's degree in European urban studies, he is involved in research and teaching on the topic of public space seen as relational space, as well as on emerging cultural practices. His main research interests pertain to spatial practices and strategies of mental production of meaning as a means of making places and shaping urban cultures. www.skuor.tuwien.ac.at