



## International Conference

# “The Distinctiveness of Cities | Modes of Re-Production”

15th-17th of June 2011, Darmstadt, Germany

Keynote lectures by Helmuth Berking, Friedrich Lenger, Sujata Patel and Kurt W. Foster. Film and Talk with Ulrike Ottinger. Panels on body, space, power, infrastructure, knowledge and heritage with Gabriele Klein, Fran Tonkiss, Trutz von Trotha, Loïc Wacquant, Stephen Graham, Olivier Coutard, Ulf Matthiesen, Brenda S.A. Yeoh and many more.

Venice is different from London and in Mumbai we will expect to have radically other experiences than in Paris. The simple mentioning of city names calls up mental images in us, positive or negative, exotic or banal. Cities appear to be dynamic or progressive, cosmopolitan or sentimental, but what is the origin of such images and associations?

The question of the international conference “The Distinctiveness of Cities | Modes of Re-Production” is the intrinsic logic of cities. Six thematic fields will serve to structure the approach taken to these questions at the conference on “The Distinctiveness of Cities | Modes of Reproduction”: Body, Space, Power, Infrastructure, Knowledge and Heritage.

**Conference Fees:** 110€ regular fee | 50€ research assistants, low-income earners | 25€ students  
**Registration:** For online registration please click [here](#).

For further information please visit our website: [www.distinctiveness-of-cities.de](http://www.distinctiveness-of-cities.de).

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### 15<sup>th</sup> June | Day 1

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10:00      **Opening Session**

10:30      **Keynote | Helmuth Berking (D):  
“Eigenlogik” of Cities**

**Panel “Power”**

11:30      **Rob Atkinson (UK)  
The Discursive Dimension of Power in Cities: The Role of Partnerships in Urban  
Regeneration**

12:20      Lunch Break

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- 13:30 **Ersin Yilmaz (D):**  
**Europeanization of Local Decision Making Process: A Comparison of Turkish Cities [working title]**
- 14:20 **Talja Blokland (NL):**  
**Social Inequality in the City**
- 15:10 **Trutz von Trotha (D):**  
**The City and the Rise of Heterarchy**
- 16:00 **Raika Espahangizi (D):**  
**Migration and Urban Transformations – Cologne and Frankfurt/Main in the 1960s and 70s**
- 16:50 **Kevin R. Cox (USA):**  
**Logics of Accumulation and Urban Difference**

### **Panel “Space”**

- 11:30 **Laura Vaughan (UK):**  
**The Role of the City in Structuring Diversity**
- 12:20 Lunch Break
- 13:30 **Kevin Ward (UK):**  
**Comparing Cities: Challenges for the Twenty First Century**
- 14:20 **Fran Tonkiss (UK):**  
**Indistinct Cities**
- 15:10 **Silke Steets (D):**  
**Making Sense of Architecture: City, Space and the Built Environment**
- 16:00 **Michael Crang (UK):**  
**Augmented Urbanism or Attenuated Spaces? The Street as Platform and City as Venue for Mediated Communication**
- 16:50 **Gunter Weidenhaus (D):**  
**Spacing Urban Lifetimes**
- 18:00 **Keynote | Friedrich Lenger (D):**  
**The Intrinsic Logic of Cities: A Historian`s Doubts and Questions**
- 20:00 **Conference Party (603 qm)**

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## **16<sup>th</sup> June | Day 2**

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### **Panel “Body”**

- 09:00 **Martyn Lee (UK):**  
**European Dreamscapes: The City Habitus in Context**
- 09:50 **Franz Bockrath (D):**  
**Cities through the Body**
- 10:40 **Gabriele Klein (D):**  
**Urban Choreographies. The Logic of Movement**
- 11:30 **Phil Hubbard (UK):**  
**Cities and Sexualities**
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- 12:20 Lunch Break
- 13:30 **Marc Ries** (D):  
**Housing Problems and Issues in Dismembered Cities**
- 14:20 **Steve Pile** (UK):  
**The City as a State of Mind: A Distributed Sense of Urban Subjectivity**
- 15:10 **Loïc Wacquant** (USA)  
(requested)
- 16:00 **Michael Zinganel** (A):  
**No Fear! No Thrill! Imagination and Encounter of Crime in the Big City**

### **Panel "Infrastructure"**

- 09:00 **Stephen Graham** (UK):  
**Disrupted Cities: Infrastructure Failure and the Logic of Cities**
- 09:50 **Dieter Schott** (D):  
**Urban Electrification and the Intrinsic Logic of Cities**
- 10:40 **Jochen Monstadt** (D):  
**Infrastructure Regimes and the Distinctiveness of Cities: Insights from Urban Studies of Energy Systems**
- 11:30 **Matthew Gandy** (UK):  
**Landscape and Infrastructure in the Late-Modern Metropolis**
- 12:20 Lunch Break
- 13:30 **Anique Hommels** (NL):  
**Dealing with Disasters. How Disrupted Urban Routines Provide Insight into the Distinctiveness of Cities**
- 14:20 **Elizabeth Shove** (UK):  
**The Weather, Inside and Out: A Discussion of Diversity and Convergence in City Climates**
- 15:10 **Govind Gopakumar** (CDN):  
**Decongesting Infrastructure: The Role of Urban Renewal and Policy Reform in India**
- 16:00 **Olivier Coutard** (F) / **Jonathan Rutherford** (F):  
**Ecologies and Sociotechnologies of Post-Networked Cities**
- 17:00 **Keynote | Sujata Patel** (India):  
**Theorising Urbanism: A Southern Perspective [working title]**
- 18:00 **Film and Talk | Ulrike Ottinger** (D)

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**17<sup>th</sup> June | Day 3**

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### **Panel "Knowledge"**

- 09:00 **Bas van Heur** (NL):  
**Mapping the Geographies of Policy Change: Creative Industries in the Netherlands**
- 09:50 **Ulf Matthiesen** (D):  
**Knowledge as a Catalyst of Urban Distinctiveness**

- 10:40 **Meg Holden** (CDN):  
**Site-Specific and Relational Social Learning in Ecologically Modernizing Melbourne and Vancouver**
- 11:30 **Regine Henn** (D):  
**Why "Lahn" was not a "City". Questioning the Failed Amalgamation of Two Cities**
- 12:20 Lunch Break
- 13:30 **Peter Wehling** (D):  
**Knowledge Politics and Knowledge Regimes in Urban Contexts**
- 14:20 **Karsten Zimmermann** (D) / **Holger Straßheim** (D):  
**The Re-Production of Local Knowledge and the Distinctiveness of Cities**

### Panel "Heritage"

- 09:00 **Gregory J. Ashworth** (NL):  
**Do, Can and Should Urban Pasts be Used to Create Urban Presents and Shape Urban Futures?**
- 09:50 **Gabi Dolff-Bonekämper** (D):  
**A Question of Styles. Architecture, Heritage and Identity-Constructions in Timisoara/Temesvar in Romania**
- 10:40 **Gerhard Vinken** (D):  
**Reproducing the City? Heritage and Eigenlogik**
- 11:30 **Brenda S. A. Yeoh** (SGP):  
**Singapore's Chinatown: Heritage, Tourism and Multiculturalism in a Postcolonial City-State**
- 12:20 Lunch Break
- 13:30 **Sybille Frank** (D):  
**Heritage in a Postcolonial Age**
- 14:20 **Mike Robinson** (UK):  
**Fluid Times and Shared Spaces: Street Level Heritage**
- 15:30 **Keynote | Kurt W. Forster** (USA/Italy):  
**There is no Eiffel Tower in this Town, But We Have Tramways. Territory Eclipsing Urban Symbols in Collective Memory**

The International Conference "The Distinctiveness of Cities | Modes of Re-Production" is organized by LOEWE Research Focus "Eigenlogik der Städte" at Technische Universität Darmstadt.

