

Conflictual Democracy and Institutional Production of Space

Staffan Schmidt, artistic researcher, phd, school of photography, univ of Gothenburg - presentation of participants, followed by a discussion on conflictual democracy, the all overriding belief in images of growth and heterogeneity in city planning.

Invited speaker: Mark Purcell, associate professor of urban design and planning, univ of Washington - Following the critique of anarchism/autonomia, do we really seek, as a political agenda, a /new/ hegemony? Or do we seek the elimination of hegemony altogether? Although I tend to favor the former, I take very seriously this anarchist challenge. Second, if a counter-hegemonic alternative were successful, should we be thinking in terms of concrete institutions at this point, before the fact? Can those institutions be imagined a priori, or must they necessarily emerge as an outcome of struggle?

Maria Hellström Reimer, senior lecturer, dpt of landscape architecture, SLU - on the politics of defeatism and other democratic ends to the claim to a space in common: Victoria Park, Malmö

Lina Olsson, planning architect, city of Helsingborg, phd - the frustrations of a city planner

Catharina Thörn, urban sociologist, univ of Gothenburg - what was the "consultation process" initiated by the planning office in Gothenburg ahead of developing Södra Älvstranden all about?

Meira Ahmemulic/Signe Vad, artists/writers, Berlin/Copenhagen - a presentation of a film about a park, just south of Jaffa's old port.

Vesna Tomse, sociologist/political scientist, researcher at the Jan van Eyck Academy (Maastricht / the Netherlands): How institutions implement the neoliberal model of urban development in St. Petersburg Since the fall of the Iron Curtain the institutions of central planning have been replaced by new institutions implementing the neoliberal model of urban development in St. Petersburg. Advised by international "experts" and institutions - above all the WTO, the World Bank, the OECD and the EU - the city administration of St. Petersburg set up the institutional superstructure for (globalised) capital. That's why, in order to be successful, the struggle for a more participative urban development has to address not only the local and national, but also the supranational level.

Gunnar Sandin, associate professor, architecture and built environment, Lund university - users' and citizens' possibilities in contemporary environments to choose, order and alter design solutions, here exemplified by a contemporary, more or less "unnoticed" everyday urban planning case in Malmö, Sweden