



WALKABILITY BETWEEN PAST AND PRESENT

A CREATIVE MAPPING WORKSHOP IN PRAGUE

11.09.2024
to
14.09.2024

Organized by

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In collaboration with Prof. Kateřina Králová, from the Research Center for Memory Studies (RCMS) at Charles University

Hosted by

Department of Urban Design - Faculty of Architecture
Czech Technical University in Prague

This workshop invites students and scholars from the fields of architecture and memory studies for an in-depth examination of walkability and slow memory within the historic center of Prague. Adopting the “Slow Memory” framework to walkability, we seek to understand concepts of “urgency, emergency, crisis, and acceleration by incorporating ‘multi-sited’, ‘eventless’, and ‘slow-moving’ phenomena, which necessitate a deceleration of research methodologies” (Wüstenberg, 2019). Valuing the essence of being present in times of uneven and accelerating change, as such, is deeply intertwined with how participants engage in practices of remembrance: unearthing and reclaiming forgotten memory pathways, which are unique to their individual experiences, collectively shared and spatially evoked.

Over the course of four days, participants will partake in a series of lectures, exploratory walks, and practical training sessions focused on creative writing and digital mapping. They will engage in a comprehensive critical analysis of the embodied sensory experience of walking in urban spaces, with particular attention to historical traces, slow urban transformations and sudden changes’ effects, enriched by Prague’s extensive urban history. Through exercises in sensory awareness and writing, participants will attune to the temporal rhythms of their walks, taking time to observe the awakening of memories and the narration of forgotten narratives. By the end of the workshop, participants will acquire firsthand experience in digital mapping, envisioning spatial correlations between memories and material surroundings, and documenting their temporal and spatial knowledge through narratives and maps. The outcomes will contribute to developing Walking as a method in times of crises, and contribute educational materials of Slow Memory COST Action (CA20105).

To apply please send an email to walkability.workshop.prague@gmail.com with a short motivation (450 words max). This workshop will provide 2 ECTS credits for CTU Prague master students.

11.09

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<p>9:00AM-9:30AM REGISTRATION</p>	<p>9:00AM-10:30AM WRITING SESSION Literary exercises to activate memory and imagination for describing spatial experience - AKSHATHA</p>	<p>9:00AM-10:30AM PRESENTATION Tools for scoring spatial qualities - DIANA</p> <p>9:30AM-10:30AM GROUP CONSULTATIONS</p>	<p>9:00AM-9:30AM pinning-up + technical check</p> <p>9:30AM-1:00PM PROJECT PRESENTATIONS 30 min per group + workshop wrap up</p>
<p>9:30AM-10:00AM OPENING PRESENTATION - DIANA + LAYLA ZIBAR, PH.D.</p>	<p>10:30AM-12:30PM DIGITAL CREATIVE MAPPING - HANDS ON SESSION Interweaving multi-modal data on an interactive digital platform - DR. NAJLA JARKAS</p>	<p>10:30AM-11:00AM go to site</p> <p>11:00AM-4:00PM WALK #3 - SELF-GUIDED GROUP WALK <i>Participants will be provided with walking pamphlets and maps marking landmarks and forgotten pasts. There will be assignments to capture the sense of walkability in their chosen sites. They will choose a path(s) and re-trace it to score multiple spatial qualities. These walks can be done as a group or divided tasks.</i> <i>Lunch break: each group on their own around their sites.</i></p>	<p>1:00PM-2:00PM lunch</p>
<p>10:00AM-11:00AM KEYNOTE LECTURE Slow Memory as a research method and approach</p>	<p>1:00PM-2:00PM lunch break + go to site</p>	<p>2:00PM-5:30PM WALK #2 - SLOW AND AIMLESS DRIFTING <i>Each participant chooses a specific site to drift and wander following their intuition, going at their own pace and choosing their own paths. A walking pamphlet will be provided with maps and writing instructions to record their walk.</i></p>	<p>1:00PM-2:00PM lunch</p>
<p>11:15AM-12:30PM KEYNOTE LECTURE Introduction to Digital Creative Writing: spatial experience and emotional mapping - DR. NAJLA JARKAS</p>	<p>2:00PM-5:30PM WALK #1 - SEMI-GUIDED TOUR with MOUNIR AFFAKI, PH.D. <i>This walk will focus on Prague’s historic core, starting at the Old Town square. The walk will be an exploration of important landmarks and sites with forgotten pasts. During the walk, we will engage in critical and somaesthetical appreciation of the historical urban fabric recording our first impressions, observations, emotions and memories; reflecting on the slow/erupt changes.</i></p>	<p>4:00PM-5:30PM LIGHTNING TALKS + consultation/work session at FA</p>	<p>2:00PM-7:00PM ORGANIZED TRIP (optional activity)</p>
<p>12:30PM-1:00PM PRESENTATION Introducing the walking pamphlet and sensory assignments - DIANA</p>	<p>7:00PM- SOCIAL EVENT</p>	<p>4:30PM-5:30PM LIGHTNING TALKS in the city to discuss and share the first lived walking experience</p>	<p>2:00PM-7:00PM ORGANIZED TRIP (optional activity)</p>