



# COMMUNITY NOW? THE POLITICS OF PARTICIPATORY DESIGN

19. – 21.02.2015

Jewish Museum Berlin

Our symposium focuses on bottom-up movements in an international context, especially in relation to current social developments in Germany and Israel.

Recently, questions concerning collaboration, alternative forms of political action, self-organization and participation – at local and global levels – have garnered much attention and are relevant for the academic environment, politics, the media, and for the general public.

During the symposium we will explore how to foster processes of active participation and support

sustainable community development, as well as the impact of these processes on policy making and our everyday life.

Addressing these issues in an international context, the event aims to translate current discourses and make them accessible to a broad public, raising awareness for current socio-cultural developments in which the engagement of citizens is a central aspect. With this gathering, we intend to stimulate a public debate, create a network for knowledge exchange, and promote exploration of creative approaches to strengthen civil society.

# THURSDAY 19-2

## 12:00–17:00 – PRELIMINARY NEIGHBORHOOD WORKSHOPS

“De/Stabilization” by Michelle Christensen, Florian Conradi & Malte Bergmann (DGTF)

“Street Rights Map – Charting social microcosms, personal kingdoms, nature states and power structures down the street” by Myriel Milicevic & Henrik Lebuhn (Neighbourhood Satellites/HU Berlin)

## 19:00 – OPENING CEREMONY

Panel discussion with:

**Daniela Schadt** (Board member of the German-Israeli Future Forum Foundation DIZF and Germany's First Lady)

**Thomas Krüger** (President of the German Federal Agency for Civic Education bpb)

**Michal Eitan** (Head of the MDes Program at the Bezalel Academy Jerusalem)

**Ezri Tarazi** (Curator and Professor at the Bezalel Academy Jerusalem)

**Cilly Kugelmann** (Program Director of the Jewish Museum Berlin)

**Moderator: Gesche Joost** (Professor for Design Research, Head of the Design Research Lab at the Berlin University of the Arts)

## EVENING TALK

Hanno Rauterberg, Author and Journalist (ZEIT) and Jesko Fezer (DGTF board member, Professor at HfBK Hamburg)

## LIVE CONCERT

Tal Balshai Trio featuring Sibel Eğilmez

# FRIDAY 20-2

## 9:30 REGISTRATION & COFFEE

## 10:00 – OPENING TALK AND KEYNOTE

“Community Now?” by Bianca Herlo (DGTF/DRLab, Berlin) & Sarah Auslander (Bezalel Academy, Jerusalem)

“Redefining the relationship between social and artistic activities” by Avi Sabag (Musrara Nagar School of Art, Jerusalem)

## 11:30 – COFFEE BREAK

## 12:00 – TALKS & PRESENTATIONS

“Hand in Hand Community and School” by Efrat Meyer (Yad Be Yad/Hand in Hand Joint Arab-Jewish Community, Jerusalem)

“Empowerment: Die Globale e.V.” by Karin Lücker-Aleman (MadaMe/Die Globale e.V., Berlin)

**12:30 – NEIGHBORHOOD WALKS** from the Jewish Museum to the Living Lab at Mehringplatz  
Three different, technology-based possibilities to get a notion about the neighborhood

## **13:30 – LUNCH**

## **15:00-18:00 – PARALLEL WORKSHOPS**

**“Community Then? Mapping Future Scenarios in the Community”** by Julian Hanna & Mara Dionisio (M-ITI/Future Fabulators, Madeira)

**“Empowering citizens to shape their hybrid space”** by Panayotis Antoniadis & Ileana Apostol (ETH Zurich)

**“Strategies for Involvement – How to Trigger and Sustain Local Engagement”** by Jennifer Schubert (DRLab Berlin)

## **18:30 – WRAP UP WORKSHOPS (PLENUM)**

# **SATURDAY 21-2**

## **9:30 COFFEE**

## **10:00 – 11:30 KEYNOTES**

**“How to turn a vision into form and bundle esthetic and civic education”** by Barbara Meyer (Schlesische27 cultural center, Berlin)

**“No Yin Without Yang: Community Work Needs Civic Intelligence to be Complete”** by Doug Schuler (The Evergreen State College, Olympia and The Public Sphere Project, Seattle)

## **11:30 – COFFEE BREAK**

## **12:00-14:00 – TALKS & PRESENTATIONS**

### **CITY MAKING TRACK**

**“Ministry of Space: Self-organization in the City”** by Iva Cukic & Marko Aksentijevic (Ministry of Space, Belgrad)

**“Invisible Spaces & Hidden Places – Exploring the Spatial Capital of Cities”** by Michael Smyth (UrbanxD Network, Edinburgh)

**“Community Politics - Between Urban Fragmentation and Circulation”** by Malte Bergmann (DGTF, Berlin)

### **DESIGN & TECHNOLOGY TRACK**

**“Design, Technology and Civic Infrastructures”** by Andreas Unteidig (DRLab/UdK, Berlin)

**“NetHood: Being together in the hybrid city”** by Panayotis Antoniadis & Ileana Apostol (ETH Zurich)

### **COMMUNITY & NARRATION TRACK**

**“Where is my Community? – On Empathy, Knowledge, and Ethics of participatory Design”**  
by Ido Bruno (Bezalel Academy, Jerusalem)

**“Yasemin’s Adventure: A Narrative Walk”** by Valentina Nisi (M-ITI, Madeira)

### **ART & PARTICIPATION**

**“The Un-Archivable: Registering Socially Engaged Art”** by Leah Abir (Living as Form, NYC/Haifa)

**“On the dawn of gentrification – The Nordbahnhof Area in Stuttgart and its involvement in the Gloicals-Project”** by Sylvia Winkler & Stephen Koeper (Glocal Neighbourhoods, Stuttgart-Holon)

# OPENING CONCERT



Sibel Eğilmez - Vocals  
Tal Balshai - Keyboards  
Fuasi Abdul Khaliq - Sax  
Adreas Weiser - Percussion

## KEYNOTES

### **NO YIN WITHOUT YANG: COMMUNITY WORK NEEDS CIVIC INTELLIGENCE TO BE COMPLETE**

**Douglas Schuler**

The conversations about “community” and “civic intelligence” have often been separate, both in terms of who is involved in the conversations and in what words are considered central. But is this wise? In my talk I argue that thinking about them as two distinct phenomena diminishes both the scholarly and the practice-based pursuits of both perspectives. For one thing, focusing on “community” leads us to prioritize the convivial nature of “community” using ideas such as social capital, for example. It also seems to highlight inclusion criteria through which we can determine whether a person is “in” or not in a given community. But focusing solely on civic intelligence and privileging the idea of problem solving could lead to a joyless, instrumental, high-pressure — and ultimately inhuman — undertaking. In this talk I’ll explore some of the benefits of integrating the two perspectives and offer some practical steps that can be taken, including, hopefully, some related to socio-technological support.

### **HOW TO GIVE A VISION FORM AND BUNDLE AESTHETIC AND CIVIC EDUCATION**

**Barbara Meyer**

The different processes of social transformation are calling for accessibility on a physical and visual level. The architecture and configuration of public space is bearing the traces of ever-changing social life and of a new consciousness. In high-density areas of urban space as well as in local microstructures, new ideas can be tested and one can aim for new social utopias, for which no appropriate “image” has been found yet in order to further their transformation into reality. The Schlesische27 cultural center, located in Berlin-Kreuzberg, is experimenting in the field of aesthetic education by generating “structural infections” and

creating new and lively “images” to support necessary social change and innovations; these “images,” like bodies by being tested in an experimental environment, can be carried into the sphere of social reality. Two examples for this practice are CUCULA – Refugees Company for Crafts and Design and the urban laboratory Junipark.

## **REDEFINING THE RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN SOCIAL AND ARTISTIC ACTIVITIES**

**Avi Sabag**

The talk will center on the Musrara Nagar School of Art. Located in its namesake neighborhood on the seam between east and west Jerusalem, the school redefines the relationship between social and artistic activities, with a strong emphasis on discourse between the differing populations in the area it occupies. Musrara’s ideology is that art and artists have the power to generate significant social change, bridge gaps and empower the disempowered. This stems from the neighborhood’s own background as an impoverished one, which, although it originally housed upper class Arabs, was later inhabited by immigrants from North Africa.

# WORKSHOPS

## **PRELIMINARY WORKSHOPS ON THURSDAY 19-02, 12:00-17:00**

### **STREET RIGHTS MAP – CHARTING SOCIAL MICROCOSMS, PERSONAL KINGDOMS, NATURE STATES AND POWER STRUCTURES**

**Myriel Milicevic and Henrik Lebuhn**

Charting social microcosms, personal kingdoms, nature states and power structures down the street.

Pedestrians, pigeons, diplomats, demonstrators, motorists, policemen, dogs, trees, bikers, tourists, vendors, street artists ... everyone claims their right to the street and changes its meaning. This can last for generations or for the blink of an eye. How are the rights for passage, resting, populating ... continually negotiated? How does urban architecture affect behaviors? How do people’s reactions reflect the power plays in the street? Who owns street air rights? Who can access public resources? How does economic trade shape people’s interactions? What are nature’s rights and is there a people’s right to urban nature?

In this workshop we will survey streets and public spaces around Mehringplatz in Berlin, map the rights of urbanites and how they relate to each other. Based on our observations, we will develop ideas for imaginative initiatives that visualize conflicting rights and provide an entry point for rethinking the public realm of our cities.

## **DE/STABILISATION**

**Michelle Christensen, Florian Conradi and Malte Bergmann**

Within a research context where we tend to find ourselves in a position between expert and apprentice, outsider and insider, composer and companion, the question arises: How much should we rely on

ourselves as a stable social instance? We would like to invite participants to join a co-design workshop in which we will attempt to positively destabilize the personal foothold of the researcher within the context of participatory design research. Through a series of experiments, we will develop tools for intentional fragility, methodologically challenging ourselves and our own positions to raise the question: When and how is it constructive to stand on uncertain ground?

## **PARALLEL WORKSHOPS ON FRIDAY 20-02, 15:00-18:00**

### **EMPOWERING CITIZENS TO SHAPE THEIR HYBRID SPACE**

**Panayotis Antoniadis and Ileana Apostol**

In this workshop, we explore a variety of methods for empowering citizens to build understandings of the fast evolving hybrid space of their cities, in order to participate more actively in city formation, and to use it for (self-)representation and engagement in local interactions. Our goal is to increase the possibilities for claiming our right to the (hybrid) city from profit-driven development and tech corporations. Hence we make an effort to integrate elements from urban studies, anthropology, urban interaction design, and computer science, as well as recent experiences with urban struggles, to provide tools and knowledge toward shaping more tolerant, convivial and self-organized communities.

### **STRATEGIES FOR INVOLVEMENT – HOW TO TRIGGER AND SUSTAIN LOCAL ENGAGEMENT**

**Jennifer Schubert**

In this workshop, we will discuss different strategies for triggering involvement of diverse participants in socially and politically aimed projects. Based on Jennifer's experience in several neighborhood projects in Berlin, she will offer a broad range of empirical knowledge as a basis for discussion. The goal of the workshop is a practice-based collection of different ways to deal with non-participation, spontaneous dropouts or loss of motivation over time.

### **COMMUNITY THEN? – MAPPING FUTURE SCENARIOS IN THE COMMUNITY**

**Valentina Nisi, Mara Dionisio and Julian Hanna**

In this workshop we will challenge participants to explore and create alternative futures for the community by following different arcs, moods, and other variables through a collaborative design game. The outcome of the game will be a series of location-based future scenarios mapped onto specific features of the neighborhood around Mehringplatz.



**Avi Sabag** is Founder and Director of the Nagar School of Arts in Jerusalem. Since its foundation, the Nagar School of Arts, which recently celebrated its 25th anniversary, has promoted a connection between the arts and social advocacy and the involvement of artists in their political, social and ethnic surroundings. A big part of the school's activities are through immersion in its surrounding in the Musrara neighborhood and creating art at the seams between east and west, Arab and Jewish, private and public.



**Andreas Unteidig** is interested in the relationship of design, technology and the political. He works as a researcher, lecturer and PhD candidate at the Design Research Lab/Berlin University of the Arts, where he co-founded the research group Civic Infrastructures. Within the projects Neighborhood Labs and Community Now?, this transdisciplinary team researches the designability of sociomaterial infrastructures that seek to foster political participation in Germany and abroad. Latest technological outputs of the group were the Hybrid Letter Box and the De:Routing Application.



**Barbara Meyer** is Director of the cultural center Schlesische27. She grew up in Switzerland and studied painting at the Munich Academy of Fine Arts, later art in context at the HDK (now UdK) in Berlin. In 2006 on behalf of the Rat für die Künste, she organized the cultural education campaign Offensive Kulturelle Bildung. Until 2009 she managed the Berlin Fund for Cultural Education. Barbara Meyer is a member of the Berlin Refugee Council and executive board member of the Berlin Center for the Treatment of Torture Victims (bzfo).



**Bianca Herlo** is a design researcher who focuses on social design, narrative design strategies and collective acting. She is member of the research group Civic Infrastructures and lecturer in design theory, design research and media studies. Bianca is the project manager and head curator of the German-Israeli design research project Community Now? Conflicts, Interventions, New Publics. Since 2014 she has been a Board Member of the German Society for Design Theory and Research (DGTF).



**Douglas Schuler** has focused on society and technology for 30 years. His books include *Participatory Design*, *New Community Networks*, and *Liberating Voices*. He's a former chair of Computer Professionals for Social Responsibility and co-founder of the Seattle Community Network, a public computer network. He teaches at The Evergreen State College, an alternative college, where he runs the Civic Intelligence Research and Action Laboratory where undergraduate students develop their own collaborative projects. His training is in computer science and software engineering.



**Efrat Meyer** is Community Organizer for the Hand in Hand Joint Arab-Jewish community in Jerusalem, based out of the Max Rayne Bilingual School. Efrat has worked as an art teacher at the Hand in Hand school for the past eight years, where she is currently the A-level teacher and a mentor. Efrat taught both in the United States and England. She holds a master's degree in art education from the University of London's Institute of Education and a bachelor's degree in political science from Tel Aviv University.



**Florian Conradi** studied communications design (Diplom, FH) at the University of Applied Sciences Mainz and Bezalel Academy. He obtained an MFA in design from the Sandberg Institute (Rietveld Academy) in Amsterdam, and an MA in integrated design from the Köln International School of Design. He has worked as an academic assistant at the university in Mainz, and as a lecturer in Cologne and at the Berlin University of the Arts (UdK). He has carried out field research in Uganda, Israel and Palestine. Currently, he is based in Berlin, where he works as a researcher and is a PhD candidate at the UdK.



**Gesche Joost** is Professor for Design Research at the University of the Arts Berlin and Chairwoman of the German Society for Design Theory and Research (DGTF). Since 2005 she has been head of the Design Research Lab, where she develops research and teaching projects in the areas of human-computer interaction, gender and diversity aspects in technological development, as well as social sustainability and participation. In 2009 she received the young talent award for science from the mayor of Berlin. Since 2014 she has been Germany's Digital Champion for the European Commission.



**Hanno Rauterberg** is Feuilleton Editor for the German newspaper Die ZEIT and writes mainly about art, architecture and urban development. He holds a PhD in art history and graduated from the Henri-Nannen-Journalisten-Schule. Since 2007 he has been a member of the Freien Akademie der Künste in Hamburg. His latest books are entitled: *Wir sind die Stadt! Urbanes Leben in der Digitalmoderne* (Suhrkamp), *Und das ist Kunst?! Eine Qualitätsprüfung* (S.Fischer) and *Worauf wir bauen – Begegnungen mit Architekten* (Prestel).



**Henrik Lebuhn** is Assistant Professor for Urban and Regional Sociology at Humboldt University Berlin and Co-Editor for the Journal PROKLA. His areas of interest include urban citizenship, borders and migration, urban social movements and participatory politics.



**Ido Bruno** is Professor at the Bezalel Academy of Art and Design, Jerusalem. Ido, who lives and works from Jerusalem, is an industrial designer and owner of IDBruno design studio. The studio covers a variety of complementary design territories: museum exhibition design; design for special needs – physical and mental handicaps, young adult and elderly; product design – medical, DfD (design for disaster); experimental design – a body of work relating to social, political and cultural issues, using design in a public setting to raise and discuss relevant issues.



**Ileana Apostol** (PhD in Planning, University of Southern California, Los Angeles) is a researcher of spatial production in the information age, and co-founder of the nonprofit organization [nethood.org](http://nethood.org). Before undertaking research on a full-time basis, initially in Paris (Project NETHOOD) and currently in Zurich (Projects PORTA, COMPARE), Ileana has taught urban planning and design in the USA at the College of Environmental Design, California Polytechnic University, at the University of Southern California and in Romania at the University of Architecture and Urbanism, Bucharest.



**Iva Čukić** graduated as an architect and is a PhD candidate at the Faculty of Architecture, University of Belgrade. The areas of her research include public space, public art, self-organization and urban-cultural discourse. She co-launched one of the first initiatives aimed at fostering citizens' participation in urban development, initiating dialogue between citizens, social activists, urban developers, architects and city officials about development of the city, entitled *Ministarstvo prostora* (Ministry of Space).



**Jennifer Schubert** studied at Köln International School of Design and Parsons New School for Design New York with the focus on communication design and qualitative design research. Currently she is an academic researcher and PhD candidate at the Design Research Lab at the Berlin University of the Arts. In her research she is interested in analyzing and providing new “civic tools” for urban neighborhoods. She is also part of the research cluster Civic Infrastructures.



**Jesko Fezer** is Professor for experimental design at the Hochschule für bildende Künste Hamburg, Co-Owner of the specialist bookshop Pro qm and Board Member of the DGTF. As a designer and author Jesko Fezer deals with the societal relevance of designerly practice in various constellations. His work tackles the political and social contexts of design problems and thereby he examines the potential for participation and action processes.



**Julian Hanna** is Assistant Professor at the Madeira Interactive Technologies Institute in Portugal (M-ITI). He has written on modernism and the avant-garde for such publications as *Modernism/Modernity*, the *Journal of Wyndham Lewis Studies*, the *Journal of Modern Literature*, the *European Journal of English Studies*, the *Atlantic*, and *3:AM Magazine*, and in a book, *Key Concepts in Modernist Literature* (Palgrave, 2009). Since 2013 his research has expanded to include interactive digital storytelling and other forms of human-computer interaction. He currently teaches graduate seminars in creative writing and futures studies.



**Karin Lücker-Aleman**, Political Scientist, Director and Board Member of Globale e.V., she has carried out various projects in Germany and South America with a focus on empowerment. She founded the umbrella organization for Berlin daycare and after school care facilities, Dachverband Berliner Kinder- und Schülerläden DaKS. In Uruguay, she founded and built up the Comercio Justo, a national fair trade organization. Since 2011 she's worked on various social initiatives around Mehringplatz in Berlin.



**Leah Abir** is a Haifa- and Tel Aviv-based, independent curator and writer in the field of contemporary art. Leah is the former Curator of The Haifa Museum of Art (2014), Artistic Director of The Artists' Studios in Jerusalem (2012–2014), Curatorial Fellow at Creative Time, NYC (2011), and Head of Programming at MoBY, Museums of Bat Yam (2007–2010). She is currently working independently worldwide at various galleries, museums and alternative spaces. She attended postgraduate studies in art history and museology, and teaches history and theory of art and curating in various academic programs.



**Malte Bergmann** is an urban researcher and has been involved in grassroots community projects. With a background in sociology his doctoral research is on understanding how contemporary urban community formations may be defined in the face of a fluidity and mobility and how possible bottom up development trajectories may be co-designed. He is part of the Community Now? research team and is the coordinator of the German Society for Design Theory and Research (DGTF).



**Mara Dionisio** obtained a BA and MA in informatics engineering from University of Madeira and a MA of entertainment technology in a joint program between Carnegie Mellon University and the University of Madeira. Nowadays Mara is working as a research assistant at the Madeira Interactive Technologies Institute (M-ITI) in the Future Fabulators research project. There Mara is working on building, crafting and developing location aware experiences.



**Marko Aksentijević** is a student at the Faculty of Political Science, University of Belgrade. He has been active in the Serbian civil sector for over 10 years. Since 2009 he has actively been involved in issues of urban development and citizens' participation in the process. Initiator and a member of several collectives in the field: Ministarstvo prostora (Ministry of Space), Ko grad grad (Who Builds the City), Ekspedicija Inex Film...



**Michael Smyth** is Reader at the Centre for Interaction Design at Edinburgh Napier University. He was Coordinator of the recent UrbanxD project. Michael has worked in the fields of human computer interaction and interaction design since 1987 and during that period published over 60 academic papers in refereed journals, books and conferences. In addition he has had interactive installations exhibited at both UK and international conferences and arts & design festivals. He is co-editor of the book entitled Digital Blur: creative practice at the boundaries of architecture, design and art, Libri Publishing.



**Michelle Christensen** studied social and political science at Roskilde University in Denmark (BA), conflict studies at Utrecht University (MA), gender studies at the University of Amsterdam (MSc) and integrated design at the Köln International School of Design (MA). She has worked at the Crisis Department of Amnesty International USA, was a Humanity in Action Fellow in Copenhagen and Amsterdam, and Congressional Fellow in the US Congress. She worked as a lecturer in Utrecht, Amsterdam, Cologne and Berlin, and is currently working on her doctoral research at the Berlin University of the Arts (UdK).



**Myriel Milicevic** is an artist, researcher and interaction designer based in Berlin. With her Neighbourhood Satellites she explores the hidden connections between people and their natural, social and technical environments. These explorations are mostly of a playful and participatory nature, emerging from collaborations with other artists, practitioners and scientists, in the context of workshops, classrooms, exhibitions, residencies and out in the field.



**Panayotis Antoniadis** is a senior researcher at ETH Zurich. He has an interdisciplinary profile with background on the design and implementation of distributed systems (Computer Science Department, University of Crete), PhD on the economics of peer-to-peer networks (Athens University of Economics and Business), post-doc on policies for the federation of shared virtualized infrastructures (UPMC, Sorbonne Universités), and participates in an ongoing collaboration with urban planners on the role of ICTs for bridging the virtual with the physical space in cities (project nethood.org).



**Sarah Auslander** is a researcher and lecturer in the industrial design master's program at Bezalel Academy, teaching creative design research and service design. As the Israeli lead for the Community Now? project in Israel, her research focuses on designing with and to empower communities. Outside academia, Sarah works as a service designer for companies in the private and public sector. In the past, Sarah was a partner in the design firm Stella and her work was shown internationally. She holds a BFA in industrial design from the Rhode Island School of Design and an MDes in design management from the Bezalel Academy of Art and Design.



**Sylvia Winkler** and **Stephan Koeperl** got their degrees from the State Academy of Fine Arts Stuttgart. Since 1997 they have been working and living together as an artist couple. The main part of their artistic activities focuses on site- and context specific interventions, which they are realizing in various places around the globe.



**Valentina Nisi** is Assistant Professor at the University of Madeira and researcher at the Madeira Interactive Technologies Institute (M-ITI), working in the areas of digital art and media and HCI. Her research focuses on designing and producing digitally mediated experiences in real spaces, merging culture, context and landscapes. She holds her first degree in fine arts from Turin Albertine Academy, an MSc in multimedia systems and a PhD in location aware narrative forms from Trinity College Dublin, Ireland.

# EXHIBITION & WALKS

Three different WALKS will lead us from the Jewish Museum Berlin to the Living Lab nearby. The walks are meant to invite the participants to experience the neighborhood that was at the heart of our project.

The **NEIGHBORHOOD STORIES WALK** lets us listen to narratives of the neighbors and meet people at their favorite places. The walk features stories collected by Franka Ismer in her master's theses.

With the **DE:ROUTING APP** local surroundings can be approached in an experimental and explorative way. It takes us into experiencing the neighborhood by serendipity. The collected impressions will be mapped and projected at the symposium venue at the Jewish Museum Berlin, 2nd floor.

**YASEMIN'S ADVENTURE** will take you into the discovery of special places from the perspective of a naughty girl that lives in the neighborhood. The animated story, done by the Future Fabulators team (M-ITI, Madeira) is based on the data that was collected during our Pinpointing Mehringplatz workshops and activities, and is a collaboration with the Civic Infrastructures team.

## EXHIBITION:

At the conference venue, at the Living Lab at Mehringplatz and at the Kiez Kantine, we present several results of the bilateral project Community Now? – Pinpointing Mehringplatz, Cultural Probes and the Hybrid Letter Box as well as the interactive installation Site Seeing, plus two student interventions JuteStory and Kiez Cuisine.

## **SITE SEEING BY OMTA BY TAL & OMER GOLAN**

The interactive installation invites visitors to hop on a bicycle at Mehringplatz and ride through Jerusalem's Yad Be Yad neighborhood. Experience the link between our two Community Now? cases!

## **JUTESTORY: STORIES FROM MEHRINGPLATZ BY FRANKA ISMER**

Starting from objects with a very special meaning for their possessors, Franka Ismer collected related stories. Simple things became gates to life stories and their very different relations to the Mehringplatz. The stories found their way back to the neighborhood, being placed on different objects. And this story collection is an ongoing process.

## **KIEZ CUISINE BY ELISA-JOSEPHINE AMMARELL**

Elisa collected recipes in the neighborhood and developed strategies of incorporating them in the Kiez Kantine, a community canteen. Food may be a universal point of communication between differing people. While having your lunch, you will get to know more about the menu you are eating, including the stories behind somebody's favorite meal. Be part of it by telling us your favorite recipe and food story!

# PARTNERS

## A PROJECT BY:

Design Research Lab | Berlin University of the Arts  
Bezalel Academy of Art and Design Jerusalem

## FUNDED BY:

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## PARTNERS:

Jewish Museum Berlin

## OUR LOCAL PARTNERS FOR THE LIVING LAB:

MadaMe am Mehringplatz (Berlin)



UdK Berlin



# VENUES

## **SYMPOSIUM / WORKSHOPS FRIDAY**

Jewish Museum Berlin, Lindenstraße 9–14, 10969 Berlin, Germany  
Old Building (Altbau), 2nd level, Great Hall

## **EXHIBITION / WORKSHOPS THURSDAY**

Community Now Neighborhood Lab, Mehringplatz 8, Berlin-Kreuzberg

[WWW.COMMUNITY-NOW.ORG](http://WWW.COMMUNITY-NOW.ORG)

# TEAM

**Research Lead:** Gesche Joost

**Project Lead & Head Curator:** Bianca Herlo

**Co-Curator:** Iohanna Nicenboim

**Walks production and media:** Tal Siano

**Student workers:** Luis Fernando Colin, Franka Ismer

**Committee:** Gesche Joost, Andreas Unteidig, Malte Bergmann, Jennifer Schubert

**Community Now? research team:** Sarah Auslander, Malte Bergmann, Michal Eitan,  
Bianca Herlo, Gesche Joost, Jennifer Schubert, David Spectre, Andreas Unteidig