

Press Release, May 24, 2018

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*Berlin is a vibrant metropolis comprised of many liveable neighbourhoods, which - as a growing city, face major infrastructural and socio-political challenges. MakeCity Festival, with its diverse formats, makes a valuable contribution to the discussion of how our own city should develop, and how cities everywhere should evolve in the future.*

Michael Müller, Governing Mayor of Berlin and Patron of MakeCity 2018

## MakeCity 2018: Programme online

### On June 14th, 2018, the Berlin Festival for Architecture and Urban Alternatives opens, with 250 events throughout the city

The process of discovering unique and unusual sites, with more than 80 guided tours and walks across Berlin, marks just one of the many highlights of MakeCity 2018: navigating the towers of the Tempelhof Airport, investigating the Oberschönevide industrial site and the abandoned Spree Park, or exploring the acoustic gallery of the reconstructed Staatsoper Unter den Linden by HG Merz and the beehives of Sauerbruch Hutton at the Academy of Arts. From presentations of new development plans for a wholesale flower market, to the city's inner and outer peripheries, from pioneering timber architecture to co-housing models, the Festival finally ends in the water with the 4th Berlin 'Flussbad Cup' – a swimming competition held between the Bodemuseum and Schlossbrücke.

Over 80 **MakeCity Open Tours** with largely free admission can be booked online from May 24. These make up just one of the four formats of the extensive programme, made possible by more than 100 founding Festival partners. Functioning as central nodes, 25 **urban HUBs** can be found throughout the city. Cultural centres, galleries, embassies, universities, architecture and design studios are opened as offices, and rooftops become spaces for exhibitions, workshops, and actions, with more than 50 **Studio Talks**. The **Festival Centre** – installed in the Czech Centre Berlin – offers a special programme over the course of 9 days, with comprehensive events, panels and workshops addressing the **three core themes** of the festival.



Lina Bo Bardi, SESC Pompéia (São Paulo, SP), © SESC: Paulisson Miura

### **Berlin Remixing**

is the motto that grounds MakeCity 2018. It is based on an ideal image of the 'Berliner Mischung' – that is, planning founded on the equal coexistence of residences, working, and street life. This concept dates back to the 1860s and urban planner James Hobrecht, but it reframes the 21st century city as an open and adaptable system. Urban spaces, architectures and landscapes, building materials, typologies, and concepts of use are being rediscovered, reinterpreted, renegotiated, and remixed. Over the course of 18 days, MakeCity 2018 expects more than 20,000 visitors: not only expert specialists, but also interested Berliners and visitors to the city to participate and discuss. This reflects the desire of Governing Mayor Michael Müller, the Festival's patron – a sentiment also summed up by journalist and author Wolf Lotter as a leitmotif: "It is high time for a new discourse [...] At any rate, alimentionation is clearly no solution! Instead, cooperatives: cooperation, networks, more independence!"

### **MakeCity is Germany's biggest trans-sectoral festival for architecture and urban alternatives.**

**Why trans-sectoral?** The festival reaches across disciplines and sectors, which in the sense of an intelligent city – a *smart city* – should think holistically and interdepartmentally. This refers both to policies and administration, culture and economy, urban development and landscape planning, architecture and engineering, as well as design and material production.

The programme of MakeCity 2018 is comprised of **three core themes**:

**Structures / Processes** pursues the notion of the *Circular City* – a circular economy for cities. How might resource flows be shaped in the future? What can be (re-)used, and which flexible forms of urban spaces and architectures are necessary for this? New, more social approaches to urban design are articulated: models of sharing, or alternative forms of cooperation. A 'Berlin Model' is evolving to actively engage further with urban initiatives and allow greater participation.

**Architecture / Space** targets Berlin's growing population, which requires not just new affordable housing, but also new housing models with mixed typologies. Can architects develop structures that allow for fundamentally different concepts of collective, community-based spaces, which are flexible enough for a variety of uses? Here, materials, design methods and financing models need to be reconsidered and remixed.

**City / Nature** focuses on the discourse of urban communities and urban landscapes. Effects of climate change on the design of public spaces are as much a topic as the conversion of public areas to agricultural use. Cultivation and urban infrastructure, indoor

and outdoor, work and recreation – these are merging into new units, as vertical gardens thrive on facades and urban jungles reclaim industrial wastelands.

**MakeCity 2018 brings international aspects and perspectives to all festival topics and formats.**

Examples from Los Angeles, Oslo, and Kleiburg (NL) highlight projects that have transformed poverty-stricken urban districts by means of joint social responsibility. The use of new resources in urban planning will be presented on the basis of an example from Amsterdam, in which building facades are produced from plastic waste. Copenhagen has reacted to flooding consequences of climate change with the construction of "cloudburst boulevards". Inputs on how to build in hot climates come from Ahmedabad (IND). Finland is currently implementing one of the most ambitious school redesign projects in Europe, while initiatives in Barcelona and Rome are securing access to cultural activities through cooperatively funded and self-managed projects. Many more examples and themes can be found in the festival newspaper.



Pretty Plastic Plant © bureau SLA: Jeroen Van der Wielen

**PRESS RESOURCES AND EVENTS**

**Festival Newspaper:** The Festival Newspaper (German / English) offers an overview via expert interviews and short, informative texts showcasing the Festival's topics, presenting numerous exciting project examples. A circulation of 40,000 printed copies will be distributed at the Festival Centre and other Festival venues – and on June 9<sup>th</sup>, it will appear as an insert in the daily TAZ newspaper. A preview of the Festival Newspaper can be viewed [here](#).

**Factsheet (pdf):** The most important facts and figures at a glance are available [here](#).

**Programme overview (pdf):** The extensive programme and an overview map of the 103 venues are available in one document [here](#). Press recommendations are highlighted in yellow.

**Programme overview (online):** Please check [here](#).

**Press Accreditation Festival Programme**

Due to a limited number of places, many events are subject to registration, therefore we kindly ask for a mandatory press e-mail registration at the following address: [registration@make-shift.info](mailto:registration@make-shift.info)

**Save-the-Date****Press Conference MakeCity 2018**

Tuesday, June 12, 2018, 11:00 am

MakeCity Festival Centre

c/o Czech Centre Berlin, Wilhelmstr. 44, 10117 Berlin

**Special press tour (MakeCity Open Tours)**

Tuesday, June 12, 2018, from 12.30 pm

Start: MakeCity Festival Centre

A separate invitation will follow on 28.05.2018. Press accreditation [here](#).

**Press contact MakeCity 2018**

Celia Solf & Damaris Schmitz

ARTEFAKT Kulturkonzepte

Marienburger Str. 16, D - 10405 Berlin

Tel .: ++ 49 (0) 30 440 10 723/721

[press@make-shift.info](mailto:press@make-shift.info)

**Press photos and information**

<http://makecity.berlin/en/press/>

<https://www.artefakt-berlin.de/en/current-projects/makecity-berlin/>

**Production MakeCity 2018**

Make\_Shift gGmbH

Oderberger Str. 9, D - 10435 Berlin

**Main Festival Partners MakeCity 2018**

Stiftung Deutsche Klassenlotterie Berlin, Senat für Stadtentwicklung und Wohnen, Creative Industries Fund NL, Architektenkammer Berlin, VHW Bundesverband für Wohnen und Stadtentwicklung, Dan Pearlman Group.

**Please note**

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