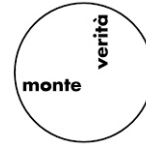


Intergenerational Cities Navigating Urban Lifeworlds between Past and Future

The intergenerational city of the future needs to be accessible, understandable and safe for everybody - including children, youth, the elderly or people with impaired bodily or cognitive abilities. By connecting what we know about the structure and history of cities to insights on how humans of all age groups and skill sets experience and navigate their everyday lifeworld, this symposium contributes to the urgent shift towards walkable and easily navigable, intergenerational environments.

Program Draft, version 02.12. 2025

Please note that this provisional program might be subject to change!



The intergenerational city emerges as a topical challenge as cities need to shift paradigms towards accessible, walkable and easily navigable neighborhoods. The urbanization of the past century has left us with increasingly complex and technology-laden environments and was relying on an unsustainable growth in mobility. Geared towards able and technologically skillful adults, the city of transportation impaired and even excluded many others. In contrast, the intergenerational city of the future will need to be accessible, understandable and safe for everybody - including children, youth, the elderly or people with impaired bodily or cognitive abilities. So far, much of the research on sustainability, smart growth or walkable neighborhoods has centered on the needs of a selected demographic segment such as the elderly. In contrast, the Intergenerational City considers the needs of all age groups and ability profiles. Furthermore, current approaches tend to focus either on global indicators of sustainability and inclusiveness, or on the micro-scale of projects for intergenerational buildings, leaving aside crucial questions at the meso-scale of neighborhood urban design.

This transdisciplinary workshop addresses the challenge of connecting our knowledge of the spatial structure and history of urban environments to insights on how humans of all age groups and skill sets experience and navigate their everyday lifeworld. While planning disciplines such as urban design and architecture have accumulated operational knowledge on the historical formation, present structure and future potentials of urban environments, fields such as phenomenology, embodied cognition or ecological psychology have investigated the structure and properties of lived human experience. These two strands of research have established similar and overlapping concepts, centering around notions such as “place”, “situation” or “type” and taking a processual view on the historical evolution of interrelations between habituality and spatial structure. Until recently, this important potential of common ground regarding our understanding of intergenerational environments has remained largely unexplored. The symposium addresses the resulting gap between research and practice by bringing together theorists and practitioners from the fields of urban morphology, heritage studies, applied phenomenology, embodied cognition, ecological psychology and affordance theory with protagonists of neighborhood and community projects as well as urban planners and architects involved in the conception of inclusive and sustainable intergenerational environments.

The three-day symposium forms part of the renowned international Congressi Stefano Franscini series and takes place at Monte Verità, a wonderful venue with a rich history of scientific and cultural exchange, situated high above Ascona and the Lago Maggiore.

Wednesday, February 25th, 2025

15:00 *Arrivals and Welcome Drink*

Introduction by the Organizers

16:30 – 17:15 Prof. Dr. Stefan Kurath, Prof. Dr. Thiemo Breyer, Prof. Dr. Luca Lanini,
Dr. Daria Belova, Dr. Erik Norman Dzwiza-Ohlsen, Sylvain Malfroy, Urs
Primas

Keynote

17:30 Prof. Dr. Thomas Fuchs, University of Heidelberg

19:30 *Dinner*

Thursday, February 26th, 2025

Designing for Whom questions assumptions about human needs and human nature underlying architectural and urban design interventions in the light of recent insights from phenomenology, embodied cognition and affordance theory

09:00 – 09:45 Prof. Dr. Gernot Weckherlin (Hochschule Anhalt, Dessau)

09:45 – 10:30 Prof. Dr. Rasmus Dyring (Aarhus University)

Coffee

11:00 – 11:45 Dr. Niels Hendriks (LUCA School of Arts, Leuven)

11:45 – 12:30 Poster Presentations and Round Table

12:30 *Lunch*

The Scale of the Neighborhood addresses lifeworld interactions at the crucial scale level of the urban fabric: neighborhood streets, public spaces and building patterns.

14:30 – 15:15 Prof. Dr. Lesley Palmer (University of Stirling)

15:15 – 16:00 Dr. Daria Belova, Dr. Erik N. Dzwiza-Ohlsen (Husserl Archiv Köln)

Coffee

16:30 – 17:15 Ilaria Geddes (University of Cyprus, Nicosia)

17:15 – 18:00 Poster Presentations and Round Table

19:30 *Dinner*

Friday, February 27th, 2025

Urban Space Across Generations investigates ways in which memory is embodied within urban space and explores the readability of urban configurations across generations.

09:00 – 09:45	Prof. Dr. John Schofield (University of York)
09:45 – 10:30	Prof. Dr. Gabriella Cianciolo Cosentino (Universität zu Köln) <i>Coffee</i>
11:00 – 11:45	Alessandra Basti, Daniel Gallano (Universität zu Köln)
11:45 – 12:30	Poster Presentations and Round Table
12:30	<i>Lunch</i>

Guided Visit to Monte Verità

Future Research on Intergenerational Cities

17:00 – 18:00	Plenum Discussion (all participants)
19:30	<i>Social Dinner</i>

Saturday, February 28th, 2025

Health Inducing Environments gathers recent insights on the relationships between the properties of architectural and urban space and human well-being and health.

09:00 – 09:45	Prof. Dr. Ola Söderström (Université de Neuchâtel)
09:45 – 10:30	Prof. Dr. Julian Kiverstein, David Habets (University of Amsterdam) <i>Coffee</i>
11:00 – 11:45	Prof. Stamatina Kousidi (Politecnico di Milano)
11:45 – 12:30	Poster Presentations and Concluding Round Table
12:30	<i>Lunch</i>
14:00	<i>Farewell and Departure</i>