

Dear colleagues,

Please see CFP for our session [Can urban design contribute to foster global urban justice?](#) in the forthcoming RC21 Conference (11-13 September, Leeds, UK)

Abstracts should be sent by e-mail to [RC21@leeds.ac.uk](mailto:RC21@leeds.ac.uk) AND to [catalina.ortiz@ucl.ac.uk](mailto:catalina.ortiz@ucl.ac.uk) and [nvilla22@uic.edu](mailto:nvilla22@uic.edu).

Please follow the abstract guidelines defined by RC21 <https://rc21leeds2017.wordpress.com/>

**Deadline for Paper Abstract Submission Friday 10th March 2017**

For details, consult the conference web site <http://www.rc21.org/en/conferences/conference-2017/>

For details about our session see below

With all best wishes,

Catalina Ortiz, University College London

Natalia Villamizar-Duarte, University of Illinois at Chicago

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**Can urban design contribute to foster global urban justice?**

<https://rc21leeds2017.wordpress.com/28-can-urban-design-contribute-to-foster-global-urban-justice/>

Urban design has traditionally been a tool for the spatial distribution of privilege. Its practice shapes the spatial fix for financial capital and the commodification of urban spaces. Increasingly, though, scholars, activists and practitioners across the globe are advocating for recalibrating the basics of the discipline, exploring different ways to foster more emancipatory spatial critical practices.

To explore its capacity to dismantle inequalities and to shape a more negotiated co-production of space, this workshop proposes to collectively produce manifesto as a platform to rethink urban design's role in fostering spatial justice at many scales and to share and discuss ideas and experiences of a more engaged urban design practice. Understanding that discourse is formed by text as much as by images, the production of a manifesto as a methodology will allow us to also explore the capacity of graphic representation to work through the tension between the traditional practice of urban design and more enfranchise theories and practices.

This two-hour workshop will be divided in two parts:

The first one-hour part will include 5 to 10 short presentations that should last between 5 and 8 minutes each. Each presenter will be asked to follow a similar format and to address, from their presentation, the guiding questions aiming to examine the possible transformative role of urban design. Thus, whether the presentation is about a research, a policy, a project, an experience, or any other form of practice each presenter will contribute to the collective product.

The second half will be a workshop format where the organizers will address the guiding questions together with the presenters to create a manifesto, in a form of a collage, containing alternatives, strategies, ideas, and any other declarations the intent to answer or contribute to the topics debated by the presenters. In this part of the session audience will be invited to participate in the creation of such manifesto.

By creating a collective manifesto, we intent not only to pose different opinions about capacity of urban design to contribute to global urban justice but also start shaping possible strategies for practice.

Participants are asked to address one or more of the following guiding questions during their presentation:

- How to contribute to make visible different forms of knowledge, globally, while shaping more emancipatory practices locally?
- How to share lessons between cities to foster global understandings of difference?
- How to enact trans-local communities of progressive praxis?
- How to weave new scales of solidarity among emerging collectives?

We also request to accompany the presentation with graphic elements, such as images, slogans, short texts, typography, drawings, renders, collages, paintings, photographs, etc., to give visual form to the ideas they are presenting.

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