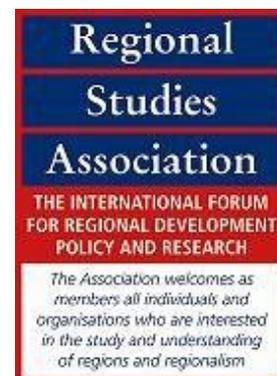


# RESEARCH SEMINAR

## Mega-Events, Regional Development & Regeneration

Regional Studies Association Research Network on Mega-Events



### *Mega Events & Culture*

*Arts/Artists engagement in event-based regeneration, resistance and research*

**17 June 2014 10am – 4.00pm (9.30a.m arrival, tea/coffee)**

**Venue: Timber Lodge Café, Olympic Park, London [see map below]**

### **Regional Studies Mega-Events Panel:**

**Chair/Conveners: Prof Graeme Evans, Middlesex University; Dr Philip Lawton Maastricht University**

### **Presenters:**

#### **Dr Beatriz Garcia** Liverpool University – *Cultural Olympiad Evaluation*

Beatriz is Head of Research at the Institute of Cultural Capital and Senior Research Fellow in Sociology at the University of Liverpool. She has been at the forefront of debates about culture-led regeneration since 1998. High profile research by Beatriz include a review of all available evidence on the European Capital of Culture (ECOC) programme since 1985 for the European Parliament; the pioneering Impacts 08 programme on the multiple impacts of Liverpool as ECOC 2008; the first holistic assessment of a four-year Cultural Olympiad for the London 2012 Olympic Organising Committee; and the first comprehensive study of the 20-year legacy of bidding and hosting an ECOC, focusing on Glasgow 1990. Beatriz has conducted fieldwork on the cultural dimension of every Olympic Summer and Winter Games since Sydney 2000 and most ECOCs since Liverpool 2008. Funders for her work include the European Parliament, European Commission, International Olympic Committee, Research Councils UK, British Academy, Arts Council England, English Heritage and Creative Scotland. She is Editor of the magazine *Culture @ the Olympics* and author of numerous publications on the cultural dimensions of mega-events, including: 'The Olympics. The Basics' and 'The Olympic Games and Cultural Policy' (Routledge, 2012). [www.beatrizgarcia.net](http://www.beatrizgarcia.net); [www.impactso8.net](http://www.impactso8.net); [www.iccliverpool.ac.uk](http://www.iccliverpool.ac.uk); [www.culturalolympics.org.uk](http://www.culturalolympics.org.uk)

#### **Dr Susan Lok** Middlesex University – *Faster, Higher*

*Faster, Higher* (2008) was originally commissioned to coincide with the Beijing Olympics. This five-screen work includes montages of Olympic archive material and rarely-seen Chinese documentary footage spanning the last century, interwoven with filmed sequences shot by the artist in the areas around the London 2012 Olympics site. Despite China's voluntary self-exclusion from the Olympics between 1948 and 1980, and the avowed apolitical idealism of the Games as a global brand, *Faster, Higher* finds commonalities in the visual and cultural rhetoric of distinct bodies of archival material, and resonances between notions of nation, sport, patriotism and physical endeavour. The work explores questions of spectacle and its construction, and tensions between collective identity and solitary commitment. Opening with the rituals and symbols of national ceremony and international unity, flags jostle along a succession of parades, and processions are punctuated by the release of doves and balloons. Colour bars and countdowns signal a different kind of 'standard' or 'universal' language, implicating the entwined histories of the Olympics and the moving image, as well as archival points of entry. The Olympic rings are echoed through clocks, archers' targets, lassoes, and gymnasts' hoops, while the ascent of pole-vaulters, mountaineers, balloons and lanterns invoke the movement's motto: *citius, altius, fortius*. *Faster, Higher* (2008) was commissioned by Film and Video Umbrella and the British Film Institute. Supported by Arts Council England. *Citius, Altius* (2012) is a single-screen version of the work, commissioned for the Samsung Olympics Media Art Collection. <http://adri.mdx.ac.uk/contentcurator.net/lok-pui-san-dr-susan>

**Dr Patricia Aelbrecht** University College London - *The multiple legacies of the World Expo' 98 model*  
Patricia Simões Aelbrecht is an architect, urban designer and researcher based in London. Her main research interests are Urban Design Theory and Practice, Public Space Design, Masterplanning, Urban Design of Mega-events, Modernist Architecture and Planning, and Environmental-behaviour Studies. Her work has been presented in several international conferences and published in edited books and peer reviewed journals of urban studies. Her most recent publication was a chapter in 'Meet Me at the Fair: A World's Fair Reader' by Carnegie Mellon University's ETC Press. She holds a PhD in Urban Studies from University College London and is now completing a postdoc at the same institution, which deals with the rehabilitation of postwar modernist masterplanning in the UK.

**Alberto Numan** Middlesex University - *Art as aesthetic dividend: Spaces for Urban re-imagining in times of urban convergence'*

Alberto is an artist, lecturer and independent researcher whose core interests are located in the urban and the everyday. Across the last 15 years his work has expanded into a broad spatial critical practice, encompassing sculptural, photographic, installation and print, writing about urban development, collaborating with other practitioners across disciplines, presenting at conferences, guiding urban walks and teaching/lecturing across art, architecture, planning and sociology departments. He has had exhibitions and taught in UK and abroad, published in book, journals and magazines and presented events and he's currently running a BA Fine Art module at Middlesex University called Art Practice in the Community. In 2012 he contributed to the publication 'Art of Dissent' co-edited by Hilary Powell and Isaac Marrero-Guillamon, with the photo essay 'AdiZones: rewriting the 2012 Olympic legacy as permanent branding', and led the event 'Regeneration Games' at the FreeWord Centre in London. Between 2012 and 2014 he published papers and articles in: 'The Wick' Newspaper, The Occupied Times, City: analysis of urban trends, culture, theory, policy, action, the UCL UrbanLab Pamphleteer, Architectural Review and a forthcoming article on the Journal of Visual Arts. In 2013 he led the Bartlett DPU Summerlab 'Localising Legacies', seeking to 'explore emergent urbanisms that are now facing the re-development of East London in the shade of the mega-event impact.' A publication from the whole series of UCL Summerlab containing an article on East London can be read here: <http://www.bartlett.ucl.ac.uk/dpu/programmes/summerlab/2013-series/london> In September 2014 he will be running the forthcoming Bartlett DPU 2014 Summerlab again in East London and in July, the CSM Summer Course 'Urbanism in the Changing City: Learning from East London'. [www.albertoduman.me.uk](http://www.albertoduman.me.uk) [www.albertoduman.me.uk/photography](http://www.albertoduman.me.uk/photography) <http://boxesforgold.blogspot.co.uk/> [www.onehundredpoundshop.com](http://www.onehundredpoundshop.com)

**Prof Graeme Evans** Maastricht/Mdx Universities - *Maastricht Euregional Capital of Culture: Art & the Public sphere*

Graeme is Professor of Urban Culture & Design at Middlesex University and Special Professor of Culture & Urban Development at Maastricht University where he founded the Centre for Urban & Euregional Studies (CUES). There he led a research programme alongside the shortlisted Via2018 European Capital of Culture bid which focused on the Euregional dimension of this transborder (Netherlands, Belgium, Germany) area. Art & the Public Sphere was an arts-research led programme which developed interventions to support the Via2018 programming and bid visioning, in response to key problematics of emancipation articulated thematically as: *Bridging Spaces, New Urbanities and Strategies of representation*. This research-led approach applied these themes to an arts programming framework, exemplified through art and design projects Artengineering and Utopian Projections in Urban Space. <http://adri.mdx.ac.uk/contentcurator.net/graeme-evans>

**Andreas Lang** Publicworks - *R-Urban: Art & Environment* [www.publicworksgroup.net](http://www.publicworksgroup.net)

Andreas was born in Germany, educated there and in Switzerland. He studied at Central Saint Martins School of Art and Design and at the Architectural Association and has taught in the intermediate school at the AA from 2000 to 2007. He is a Co-founder and director of public works. **R-urban** in Hackney Wick is a two-phased pilot project with the aim to create collective and participatory process leading to the creation of a new public re-use facility centered around ecological and eco-construction principles while exploring issues around mobile urbanism and reversible use of vacant urban sites. **R-urban** is a bottom-up strategy that explores the possibilities of enhancing the capacity of urban resilience by introducing a network of user-run facilities. It initiates locally closed ecological cycles that will support the emergence of alternative models of living, producing and consuming. R-urban is supported by the EU Life+ Programme of environmental governance. The project partners are AAA, Paris (coordinator), the City of Colombes and public works, London. [www.r-urban.net](http://www.r-urban.net)

**Panel Plenary and Summing Up - Future Research and Workshops**

**This is a free event but places must be booked in advance!**

Please contact [o.edizel@mdx.ac.uk](mailto:o.edizel@mdx.ac.uk) for further details and use this link to book a place:

<http://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/mega-events-culture-artists-engagement-in-event-based-regeneration-resistance-and-research-tickets-11647031585>

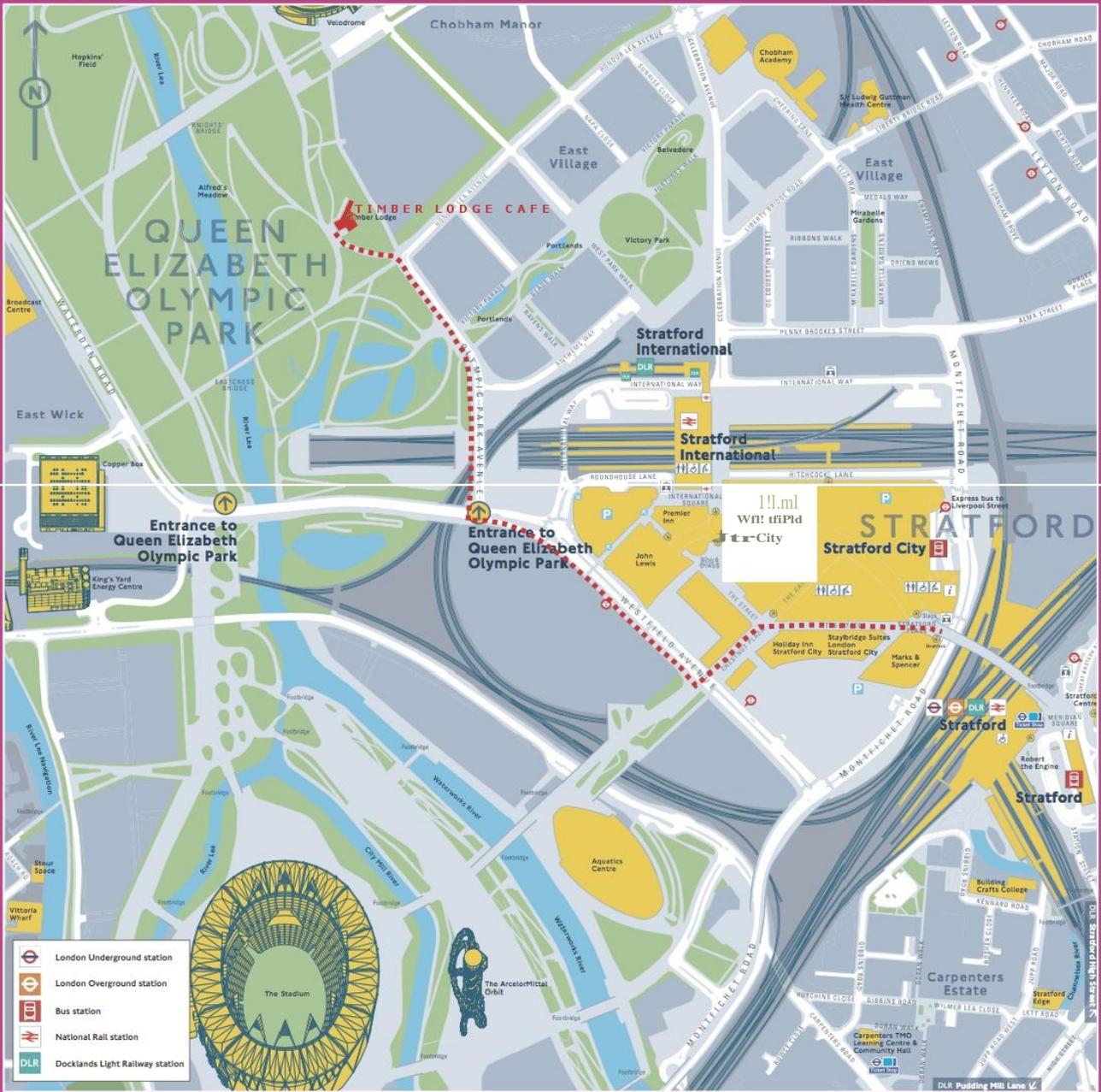
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