

CREATIVETIME

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2013 CREATIVE TIME SUMMIT EXAMINES THE ROLE OF ART IN URBAN DEVELOPMENT ACROSS THE GLOBE

*Titled **Art, Place, and Dislocation in the 21st Century City**, the fifth annual Summit tackles issues including the relationship between art and gentrification, and explores what artists can do about it.*

Neil Brenner, Lucy Lippard, and Rebecca Solnit to deliver keynote addresses; presenters include artists, architects, curators, critics, and others.



2012 Creative Time Summit. Photograph by Casey Kelbaugh.

September 12, 2013—New York, NY— Advancing its mission to expand the role of the artist in public life, Creative Time—the leading presenter of innovative public art—will host the **fifth annual Creative Time Summit** on **October 25 and 26**, at NYU’s Skirball Center for the Performing Arts. Titled ***Art, Place, and Dislocation in the 21st Century City***, the 2013 Summit will bring together a diverse group of artists, architects, planners, politicians, activists, and theorists from across the globe to examine the positive and negative consequences of the widespread belief that the arts are a necessary ingredient in the making and re-making of cities.

Creative Time Chief Curator Nato Thompson notes, “The stunningly rapid pace of global migration from rural to urban areas highlights the urgency of the topic of the 2013 Summit. Creative Time believes passionately in the importance of a public role for artists, and the participants in this year’s Summit will take an honest look at what that role is and what it should be when it comes to urban planning in our time.”

Keynote speakers at the 2013 Summit are **Neil Brenner**, Professor of Urban Theory and Director of the Urban Theory Lab at the Harvard Graduate School of Design; **Lucy Lippard**, writer, art critic, curator, and activist; and **Rebecca Solnit**, who has written extensively on such topics as the environment, politics, place, and art. They will be joined by more than thirty distinguished presenters who will describe their work related to the Summit topic and look at the ways in which artists and others might address such issues as gentrification, racialized urbanism, environmental catastrophe, and bottom-up urban planning. Presenters range from artist **Vito Acconci**; to filmmaker **Kelly Anderson**, director of the documentary *My Brooklyn*; architect **Alfredo Brillembourg**; Mayor **John Fetterman**, of Braddock, Pennsylvania; and the former mayor of Bogotá, Colombia, **Antanas Mockus Šivickas**.

Laura Raicovich, Creative Time's Director of Global Initiatives, says, "Each year, the Summit brings artists, thinkers, and activists together to discuss the innovative ways they are tackling the world's most pressing social and political issues. We are thrilled to expand the 2013 Summit to two full days of inspiring, fast-paced presentations, on-stage conversations, short films, curatorial reports, and plenty of extra social space to encourage exchange and collaboration, a central goal of the Summit. And to have offered for the very first time pay-what-you-choose ticket pricing to make the conference that much more economically accessible."

The annual Summit, which is the preeminent conference devoted to exploring the intersection of art-making and social justice, advances Creative Time's ongoing efforts to provide meaningful opportunities for artists to explore new ideas, develop their practice, and participate in shaping a more just world. As in prior years, the 2013 Summit features rapid TED-style presentations, which, in the words of a past attendee, are the "perfect" format: "Each project [is presented] as if it were an art project, allowing for lots of comparisons and patterns." This year's Summit programming has been greatly expanded and is by far the most ambitious to date, with presentations, screenings, and talks taking place over the course of two full days. In addition, a series of related events at Judson Church and other offsite locations include an original interactive artwork by artist Paul Ramírez Jonas, a "Shadow Summit" organized by Works Progress Administration, intimate dinners with Summit presenters, tours of New York City planned by artists and arts organizations, and many other activities designed to foster the free exchange of ideas and experimental thinking around diverse practices. This year's Summit has also significantly increased the number of schools and cultural organizations arranging remote screenings of the conference, enabling people to gather and watch live from places around the world, from India and Nepal to Ireland and South Korea and beyond.

The 2013 Summit will also feature the presentation of the annual **Leonore Annenberg Prize for Art and Social Change** to artists **Khaled Hourani** and **Laurie Jo Reynolds**. According to Prize founder Elizabeth K. Sorenson, Leonore Annenberg's granddaughter, these very different artists "exemplify Creative Time's commitment to artists whose work advances the cause of equity and justice, reflecting as well my grandmother's commitment to working for the public good." This year's award presentation will feature extended conversations with Hourani and Reynolds.

PROGRAM

In addition to a series of brief, dynamic presentations providing overviews of specific projects, the 2013 Summit will include extended keynote talks, two "In Conversation" sessions, a series of "Regional Reports," a live musical performance by Detroit-based rapper and activist **Invincible**, and a series of short films that deal with issues of place-making and gentrification around the world. Highlights include the following:

Project Presentations

Presentations are grouped into thematic sections. Topics include:

- "Making a Place," examining the recent ubiquity of the term "place-making" and considering various practical models for using culture to create new public environments and

economies. Moderated by artist and activist **Gregory Sholette**, with presentations by **Roberto Bedoya**, executive director of the Tucson Pima Arts Council in Tucson, Arizona; **John Fetterman**, mayor of Braddock, Pennsylvania; **Anne Gadwa Nicodemus**, an urban planning consultant from Allentown, Pennsylvania; and **Jenenne Whitfield**, executive director of the Heidelberg Project, in Detroit, Michigan.

- “My Brooklyn,” using Brooklyn as a lens through which to consider the ongoing, highly contentious debate over development and gentrification in New York City, including the use of culture in the transformation of places many call home. Moderated by **Rise Wilson**, founder of **The Laundromat Project**, with presentations by *My Brooklyn* director **Kelly Anderson**; New York-based artist **Lize Mogel**; artist and Occupy activist **Michael Premo**; and **Rylee Eterginoso**, Public Programs Director at the Weeksville Heritage Center in Brooklyn.
- “Built from the Ground Up,” an examination of grassroots models for development, including alternative forms of economy and social actions that originate in local planning. Moderated by curator and critic **Joshua Decter** with presentations by architect **Alfredo Brillembourg**, representing Caracas-based artist collective **Urban Think Tank**; **Kenneth Bailey**, founder and strategy lead at the Design Studio for Social Intervention, in Boston; **Chido Govera**, founder of Chido’s Mushrooms and a farmer and educator from a village near Mutare, Zimbabwe; and **Christoph Schäfer**, an artist and architect from Hamburg, Germany, representing artist collective **Park Fiction**.
- “Flâneurs,” engaging the idea that cities often act as muses to their citizens. Moderated by curator **Mary Jane Jacob** with presentations by **Vito Acconci**; **Tony Chakar**, an artist and architect from Beirut; and **Althea Thauberger**, an artist from Vancouver.
- “Accessing the Green City,” focusing on questions of sustainability in urban environments, including the need to take class into consideration. Moderated by artist **Mel Chin**, with presentations by Rotterdam-based artist **Lara Almarcegui**; **Raúl Cárdenas Osuna**, representing the **Torolab** collective, in Tijuana; **Lucy Orta**, an artist based in London; and **Emmanuel Pratt**, an architect and Executive Director of the Sweet Water Foundation, in Detroit and Chicago.
- “Resistors,” devoted to effective local strategies for resisting the tide of urban development and methods of transforming metropolitan areas on a global scale. Moderated by **Ivet Curlin**, of Croatian artist collective **What How and For Whom**. Presenters are **Levan Asabashvili**, artist, architect, and educator representing collective **Urban Reactor** in Tbilisi, Georgia; **Rachel LaForest**, executive director of Right to the City, in New York City; **Jimmy McMillan**, perennial New York City mayoral candidate and founder of The Rent is Too Damn High Party; New York-based artist **Ann Messner**; and artist **Chen Shaoxiong**, representing the collective **Xijing Men**, based in Guangzhou, China.

In Conversation

Artist **Pedro Reyes** and **Antanas Mockus Šivickas**, the former mayor of Bogotá, Colombia, will discuss Šivickas's work in Bogotá and examine the ways in which governments can use creative strategies to improve cities. In the second conversation, Creative Time Chief Curator **Nato Thompson** and artist **Rick Lowe**, founder of *Project Row Houses* in Houston, Texas, will discuss the advantages and pitfalls of creative place-making, addressing such issues as what it means to invest in people instead of place, and how to build a project from the ground up instead of the top down.

Regional Reports

“Regional Reports” are dispatches from around the world on local cultural and political climates. Presenters include **Ana Maria Millan**, artist and curator, representing the nonprofit collective **Helena Producciones**, based in Cali, Colombia; **Marcus Neustetter**, an artist, cultural activist, and producer from Johannesburg, South Africa; and **Fulya Erdemci**, a curator based in Amsterdam and Istanbul.

JUDSON CHURCH PROGRAMMING

Creative Time has secured Judson Church for additional Summit programming. Throughout Days One and Two, the Church’s meeting room will be transformed into an indoor town square, complete with “grass” and benches, that is open to all Summit attendees and presenters as a place for conversation. Creative Time is grateful to board member Cristina Grajales, owner of Cristina Grajales Gallery, who visualized and brought the transformation of the room to life.

Summit Kick-Off Event

Featuring a special interactive project by artist Paul Ramírez Jonas

Thursday 10/24, 7-9PM

The Summit kick-off event will provide an opportunity for attendees and presenters to meet each other before the Summit begins at a lively evening of music, drinks, and city-building, using everyone’s favorite building material—Legos! Thanks to a specially created work by artist Paul Ramírez Jonas that includes thousands of the colorful blocks, participants will be able to collectively realize a temporary city, which can be deconstructed and rebuilt over the course of the Summit.

Summit Roundtable Lunch: “The Sixth Borough”

Friday 10/25, 1PM

This special lunch, created especially for the 2013 Summit by media artist Stefani Bardin and chef Mihir Desai, will take diners on an edible tour of New York City’s five boroughs, taking a close—and at times critical—look at the shifting cultural landscapes found in each. For example, diners will be asked to consider the promises and failures of urban rooftop gardening in “Brooklyn,” while those in “Staten Island” will participate in a traditional Sri Lankan wedding feast, and guests seated in “Queens” will get to examine food-truck culture and so-called “fusion” foods. The culinary and social intersections highlighted at the lunch will form a conceptual “sixth borough”: food. Tickets to the Summit Lunch may be purchased at www.creativetime.org/summit/lunch-and-dinner.

“Shadow Summit” by Works Progress

Friday 10/25, 7-9PM and Saturday 10/26, 6-8PM

Following each day of Summit programming at Skirball, the Church will be the site of a “Shadow Summit,” a space for conversation in a relaxed social environment. Conceived and designed by the Minneapolis-based, artist-led public art and design studio Works Progress, the Shadow Summit will utilize open-space presentation technology, enabling Summit attendees to pose their own questions, share resources and information, and organize small-group discussions. Beer will be provided to ensure lively conversation.

OTHER PROGRAMMING

Summit Dinner Conversations

Friday 10/25, 7-9PM

For the first time, Summit attendees will have an opportunity to continue the main-stage conversations with each other and presenters at intimate dinners, held in the homes of local members of the Creative Time community. Dinner hosts to date include **Tom Finkelppearl**, Executive Director of Queens Museum of Art; **Storefront for Art and Architecture**; artist and activist **Pablo Helguera**; artists Steve Lambert and Steve Duncombe, representing the **Center for Art and Activism**; and Long Island City-based arts organization **Flux Factory**, among others. (*List in formation*).

Sunday Walks and Workshops

Sunday 10/27, times TBD

In another first, Creative Time is partnering with a host of organizations throughout New York City to offer a series of walking tours and workshops on the Sunday following the Summit. Information and tickets will be available at www.creativetime.org/summit.

REMOTE SCREENING SITES

Advancing its belief in the free and open exchange of ideas, Creative Time streams the Summit free-of-charge to thousands of remote viewers across the globe via Livestream. Last year, more than 40 arts organizations, universities, and museums—ranging in location from Bangkok to Nairobi to San Francisco and beyond—screened the Summit. In 2013, we are expanding the geographic reach of this growing group in order to increase opportunities for direct engagement with the live Summit. Satellite screenings can be as simple as setting up a live broadcast for a local audience, though screening sites are encouraged to use the Summit program as a springboard for their own live presentations, discussion groups, performances, and other related events. A list of Summit screening sites may be found at www.creativetime.org/summit/sites.

SUPPORT

Lead project support for the Creative Time Summit is provided by Surdna Foundation, Panta Rhea Foundation, The Shelley & Donald Rubin Foundation, Laurie M. Tisch Illumination Fund, Trust for Mutual Understanding, The Nathan Cummings Foundation, and Mark Krueger Charitable Trust. Additional support provided by The Gladys Krieble Delmas Foundation, Gabriel Catone, Andrew Ruth, and SAHA Istanbul. The Leonore Annenberg Prize for Art and Social Change is generously supported by Elizabeth K. Sorensen and the Rosenstiel Foundation.

Major programming support for Creative Time is provided by Ford Foundation, Lambent Foundation, and The Andy Warhol Foundation for the Visual Arts, as well as our generous trustees and individual donors. We also gratefully acknowledge public funding from the New York City Department of Cultural Affairs, in partnership with the City Council; and the New York State Council on the Arts with the support of Governor Andrew Cuomo and the New York State Legislature.

ABOUT THE SUMMIT

The Creative Time Summit was initiated in 2009 in response to the need for opportunities to share ideas and practices among the growing community of cultural practitioners working in the realm of social justice and socially engaged art practice. Every year, some of the most innovative artists, activists, critics, writers, and curators come together in New York to engage with one another and with a global audience about how they are attempting to change our world in unprecedented ways. Participants range from cultural luminaries to those purposefully obscure, providing a glimpse into an evolving community concerned with the political implications of socially engaged art. The annual Summit is meant to be an opportunity to not only uncover the tensions that such a global form of working presents, but also to provide opportunities for new coalitions and sympathetic affinities. To date, the Summit has featured more than 140 presentations for live audiences totaling more than 4,000, in addition to tens of thousands of online viewers at more than 40 screening sites around the world who have viewed the Summit via Creative Time's dedicated Livestream channel.

THE LEONORE ANNEBERG PRIZE FOR ART AND SOCIAL CHANGE

The Leonore Annenberg Prize for Art and Social Change is granted in the spirit of the achievements made possible by Mrs. Annenberg's generosity, passion for humanitarian causes, and devotion to the public good. It advances Creative Time's 40-year-long commitment to commissioning and presenting groundbreaking, historically important artwork and fostering a culture of experimentation and change. The Leonore Annenberg Prize for Art and Social Change is generously supported by Elizabeth K. Sorensen and the Rosenstiel Foundation.

ABOUT CREATIVE TIME

Since its founding in 1974, Creative Time has worked with thousands of artists to realize hundreds of groundbreaking art projects that have transformed public spaces both famous and less well known. These have ignited the public's imagination, explored ideas that shape society, and engaged millions of people around the globe. A nonprofit organization, Creative Time bases its work on the belief that artists—and their ideas—matter, and should play a major role in shaping public life, that public spaces are meant for creativity and free expression, and that artists need opportunities to innovate, expand their practices, and connect to the important issues of our day.

A vanguard presenter of public art in New York, Creative Time is today the only public arts organization with programs that have reached from New York to New Orleans, Haiti to Hanoi, Dubai to Denver, and now to outer space.

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The 2013 Creative Time Summit: Art, Place, and Dislocation in the 21st Century City, will take place on October 25 and 26 at Skirball Center for the Performing Arts at New York University, located at 60 Washington Square South, New York, NY 10012. More information at creativetime.org/summit.