

First International forum on Urban Action

April 28 y 29 del 2014

Universidad de los Andes
Bogotá - Colombia

We invite you to participate in the First International Forum on Urban Actions organized by the Laboratorio Bogotá - **LabBog**, to be held in April 2014 at the Universidad de Los Andes, Bogotá, Colombia.

The Forum aims to convoke researchers, actors and collectives, who develop their work around the urban actions, to share the results of their work and generate an exchange of approaches, methods and that enrich the research and approach on the contemporary city.

Target audience: Architects, planners, sociologists , anthropologists, urban activists , artists , professionals , civil servants, teachers and students interested in the contemporary city, its problems and civic action on its public spaces.

Urban Actions

The contemporary city is more complex each day, richer in forms and contacts. It is not possible to be cataloged so easy, nor to the solutions proposed for their intervention. From here, the need to act on the city with different strategies and approaches, mixing scales, ways of doing things and actors.

This multiplicity of elements also invites us to raise novel intervention strategies. It is necessary to add new ways of urban planning and city construction, in the pursuit of a maximum impact with minimal intervention.

Some of these proposals can be defined as minor interventions, located in local tissues, with a minimum cost and performed by the citizens to be inhabited by them and their communities. These local-level interventions are known as Urban Actions.

In the contemporary city that contains places, communities, structures, histories, memories, paths and situations, the intervention through Urban Actions, allows the construction of social and physical tissues from the appropriation of public space. These occasional actions that are based on the work with the community and leave stamp on it, reactivating systems and giving new meanings to public space, have as a final purpose to convert the community as the protagonist.

Recent years shows significant growth worldwide of collectives, artists, architects and urban planners involved and promoting the urban actions. This growth in numbers, shows that the traditional ways to act in the city, or wait for others to act, does not satisfy the citizens. Urban actions have become a way to manifest itself, to intervene and modify patterns of behavior in the cities.

The Urban Action comes from the possibility (and the duty) to do something for the city, for having an effect on the community, to give value to an anonymous space, to improve the living conditions in a place; any person or group has the possibility to promote an action from the local, with minimal resources, but with the maximum impact.

All the urban places, from the city center up to the forgotten peripheries, are places that invite visitors to an urban action to revitalize, not only the physical aspects, but the relationships and contacts of the citizens; through them we are called to work with these voids, anonymous places or anodyne corners.



Are invited to participate

Researchers who want to make a presentation of their works. If the abstracts are accepted by the Committee, shall send a paper for publication.

Actors or groups that perform actions on public space and want to present their work: If the abstracts are accepted by the Committee, shall send a poster for an exhibition.

The Forum invites researchers, actors and groups to participate in any of the topics of the seminar with a presentation on any of the two methods described (Researcher or Collective).

Topics

1. Civic Art

Urban performances with an artistic approach through intervention of the public space, having as a purpose, the temporary transformation. It should be possible to measure the consequences of the action, its impact.

- Urban temporary actions
- Performances, installations, plays, among others.

2. Civic Culture and Education

Educational campaigns, game design, sharing tasks, among others, made for the children or the general population, that raise awareness of “civility “ and invite to participate in the city construction. Programs or campaigns aiming for the better use or transformation of an identified area. It can be testimonies and stories which highlight a lost space, a specific need or a memory of a place.

- The city and children (campaigns, games, participation, among others)
- Educational campaigns (meetings, posters, pamphlets)
- Memory and Heritage

3. Spatial Transformations

Design and construction of temporary or permanent public space, furniture or equipment, which promote the transformation of a space and can be an example about its use and appropriation. When the problem identified is limited and the final solution, the urban action, can be documented for further conclusions and discussions.

- Actions ephemeral or permanent
- Interventions on the public space, urban furniture, urban painting, among others.

4. Urban Sustainability

Programs and projects with an emphasis on environmental recovery and in the spaces of the ecological structure of the territory, through sustainable practices and good approach in the use of resources.

- Urban gardens.
- Recovery of the ecological structure.
- Environmental awareness.

5. Mobility and public space

Creative interventions in the public space for the mobility, searching for a safe places to walk, move your bike and carry out various social activities, but also to react to the effects of the car in urban everyday life.

- Shares streets to play, move your bike, among others.
- Steps zebra pedestrian priority.
- Ephemeral pedestrianization.
- New uses for empty areas in the road system.

How to apply

From the themes identified, each proposer must identify the scope of its intervention. You must include the premise, scope and some text that should be clear to the reader. For this, you must include the following information:

For presentations of Researchers

- Title of the paper (abstract.t)
- An abstract of 300 words.
- Speaker's name and organization to which it belongs.
- E-mail address and mailing address.
- Brief curriculum (maximum 100 words) with three images of the work referred.

For presentations or Collective Actors

- Name of the program or collective action.
- An abstract of maximum 300 words.
- Name of Presenter.
- Digital Portfolio of the work (text and image). It can be a webpage.

Abstracts should be sent in PDF format labbog@uniandes.edu.co, before January 13, 2014. The seminar committee will review and evaluate the proposals. Accepted papers will be notified on Monday January 20, 2014.

Submissions will be evaluated by the committee and an external peer. Those accepted will be included in the magazine deArq, Department of Architecture of the Universidad de Los Andes, indexed in Category B, or in a specialized publication on the subject, as memories of the seminar.

Important dates

| | |
|--|--------------------------|
| Opening call for proposal | Friday November 08, 2013 |
| Abstract submission deadline | Friday January 17, 2014 |
| Acceptance of proposals | Friday January 24, 2014 |
| Submission deadline for research papers and posters for individual or collective actions | Friday March 21, 2014 |
| Forum program post | Friday March 28, 2014 |
| Sending digital presentations | Friday April 11, 2014 |
| Forum | April 28 and 29, 2014 |

<http://labbog.uniandes.edu.co/apertura-de-la-convocatoria/>

