

Urban Transcripts

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Rome, the accidental city

Urban Transcripts 2011

visual arts
theory and research
architecture and urban design



call for projects

opening 09.05.2011

deadline for registrations of interest 30.09.2011

deadline for the reception of project submissions 07.10.2011



Urban Transcripts

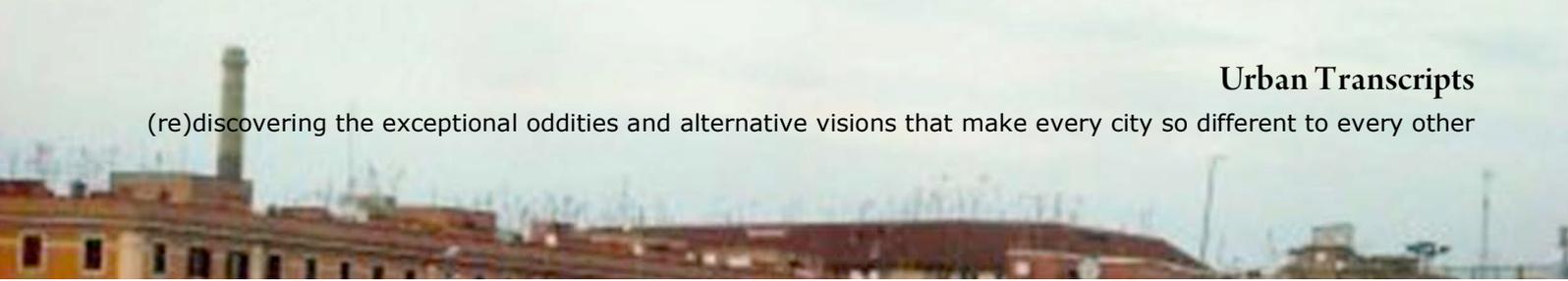
Urban Transcripts was borne out of an interest to create a new tool through which to explore cities in a participatory and cross-disciplinary way. It was initiated in 2010 as a series of annual events, such as exhibitions, conferences, workshops, and publications, centred around a specific agenda every year, addressing issues in a particular city, or transversal themes common to a number of different cities.

Through an annual call-for-projects open to the wider public, Urban Transcripts solicits projects in a range of disciplines, from architecture and urban design to film and social research, in a variety of critical and creative media. Our series of events and actions is composed of an extensive selection of the projects submitted, curated by a designated committee. In this way, we are creating a unique platform for the advancement of a body of work and knowledge dealing with the urban phenomenon.

theme of Urban Transcripts 2011

Beyond an imagery of the unchanged and unchangeable old town, the realities of the city of Rome finely weave themselves through an everlasting conflict between the remote past, the recent yesterday, and the present. An exploration of Rome as an emergent territory reveals a vibrant congregation of "incidental" urban products: informal neighbourhoods resulting from spontaneous development, modernist experiments in (re)housing society, ruins of a history that tourism has forgotten, bold transportation infrastructure piercing through the city's residential fabric, urban voids or even unspoilt countryside that escaped 'development', all strikingly interlaced between the threads of time, in the junctures and overlaps between planned form and plan-resistant city. They appear like parts of an accidental city: a city of the unexpected contrasts in built forms and urban landscapes, a city continuously redefined by its citizens' spontaneous appropriation of space, a city of the unpredictable play between people, space and time.

We invite you to explore the accident(al) in the city of Rome: the accident(al) which happens over time and transforms the 'essence' of the city that would otherwise remain unchanged, the accident(al) which adds surprise and complexity to our reality and challenges our understanding of the city, the accident(al) which generates the energy to recreate and reshape the city. Urban Transcripts 2011 is calling for projects in the visual arts, theory and research, architecture and urban design, which engage in critical and creative approaches with this theme and the problematics it evokes.



General Guidelines for Participants

Urban Transcripts aims to create an interactive and multidisciplinary narrative of the city of Rome through a combination of projects that *read* the city (projects that record, investigate, represent, analyse, the *context* of the city) as well as projects that *write* the city (project *proposals*, to shape, to make, to reform, to intervene in the city).

Submission of project work to Urban Transcripts 2011 is open to all, either individually or as a team of a maximum of five members. Prior to submitting project work to Urban Transcripts 2011, participants are required to register their interest by 30.09.2011 using the attached electronic registration form. Following registration, a CD with the project's preview material should be submitted by post by 07.10.2011, accompanied by the project submission form and a brief synopsis/abstract of the project on one A4 page. Both of these forms are attached in this brief, available online at <http://www.urbantranscripts.org>.

Project Categories

1. visual arts

Including, but not limited to: filmmaking, photography, drawing, painting, sculpture, printmaking, design.

2. theory and research

Including, but not limited to: theory and research papers, articles, publications.

3. architecture and urban design

Including, but not limited to: architectural design projects, proposed architectural and urban design interventions, urban design strategies.

Technical Requirements

The project's preview material should be submitted as one or more digital file in a CD, using any of these file formats: PDF, JPG, MPG. The total combined size of all files should not exceed 300MB for the visual arts category, 100MB for the theory and research category, and 200MB for the architecture and urban design category. Exceptions can be granted in special cases, if you feel that your project's preview material cannot be submitted according to these requirements please contact us.



Selection of Projects, Exhibition, Conference and Publication

In order to select the projects that will participate in the Urban Transcripts 2011 Exhibition, the Urban Transcripts 2011 Project Review Committee will assess and evaluate all projects based on the submitted project preview material. In its selection the Committee will aim to include a most extensive range of projects, considering each project's ability to relate to the theme and communicate to a variety of audiences, as well as each project's critical and creative expression. Selected projects will be announced online by the end of October 2011. The Committee will also nominate the highest rated project per category for publication. Detailed feedback, including marking, comments and suggestions for further improvements, will be provided for all of the projects submitted.

The Urban Transcripts 2011 Exhibition will run for a minimum of two weeks in December 2011 in Rome. In parallel, authors of the selected projects shall be invited to present and discuss their work in a series of talks during a two-day conference. A collective presentation of the selected projects and the exhibition, as well as individual presentations of the highest rated project per category will be published in print and online in 2012. The Urban Transcripts Exhibition and Conference will be hosted in public venues in Rome and will be accessible to the public free of charge.

Urban Transcripts 2011 Project Review Committee Members

The Project Review Committee is composed of a total of ten members: four past participants in UT 2010, four external reviewers, the Rome coordinator for UT 2011, and the UT project leader. The committee's members are actively engaged in arts practice, architecture, urbanism and social research.

Angeliki Zervou
UT 2010 participant

Eugenia Fratzeskou
UT 2010 participant

Maria Michou
UT 2010 participant

Brian Rosa
external reviewer

Fabiano Micocci
UT 2010 participant

Yiorgos Papamanousakis
UT project leader

Claudia Faraone
external reviewer

Juan Carlos Santa Cruz Grau
external reviewer

Claudia Meschiari
external reviewer

Marcella Iannuzzi
UT 2011 Rome coordinator

fees

Urban Transcripts 2011 is an independent initiative by the Urban Transcripts company, itself a not-for-profit organisation, and relies primarily on the voluntary commitment of a network of members and collaborators. To enable us to provide the best possible support to the Urban Transcripts 2011 events, as well as to guarantee their high standard and their accessibility free of charge to the visiting public, the following fee structure applies:

registration of interest for project submission	free
project submission fee	£5.00 (payable following submission)
exhibition and conference fee	£25.00 (applies only on selected projects)

dates

call for projects opens	09.05.2011
deadline for registrations of interest	30.09.2011
deadline for the reception of project submissions	07.10.2011
announcement of selected projects	31.10.2011
exhibition opens*	08.12.2011
conference day 1*	17.12.2011
conference day 2*	18.12.2011
exhibition closes*	22.12.2011

* Indicative dates, to be confirmed by 31.10.2011. The final program for the exhibition, conference and parallel events shall be announced in October 2011.

further information and contacts

Our news and updates are announced online at:

<http://news.urbantranscripts.org>

as well as through our facebook page:

<http://www.facebook.com/urbantranscripts>

We will be happy to provide you with more information, hear your suggestions and answer your questions. Please do not hesitate to contact us at:

info@urbantranscripts.org

Looking forward to your participation!

the Urban Transcripts 2011 Organising Team

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