

PROG

12.02
MEXICO
12.03
BEIRUT

09.04
JOHANNESBURG

14.05
BELGRADE

PLACE

STATION
BRUSSELS-
CONGRES

Recyclart Congrès
Boulevard Pachéco 40
1000 Brussels

Doors — 19:30

Lecture — 20:30

The lectures will mainly
be held in English,
if not, French or Dutch.

Entry — 3 euro

FOCUS
ON PHOTOGRAPHY

13.02
13.03
10.04
15.05

On the occasion of these
architecture lectures, we show
the following day at **Recyclart
Chapelle** (on thursday!) photo
series and videos by young and
upcoming artists from these
countries.

In a format of digital projections
on live sound scapes, you'll get
the opportunity to discover
new photographers from
Mexico, Lebanon, South Africa
and Serbia.

FOOD
AT RECYCLART
BAR RESTO

Our kitchen gets inspired by
the countries that figure in
this programme and will serve
a national dish during these
weeks.

Open from Tuesday till Friday,
from 12 to 3pm.



INFO
CONTACT

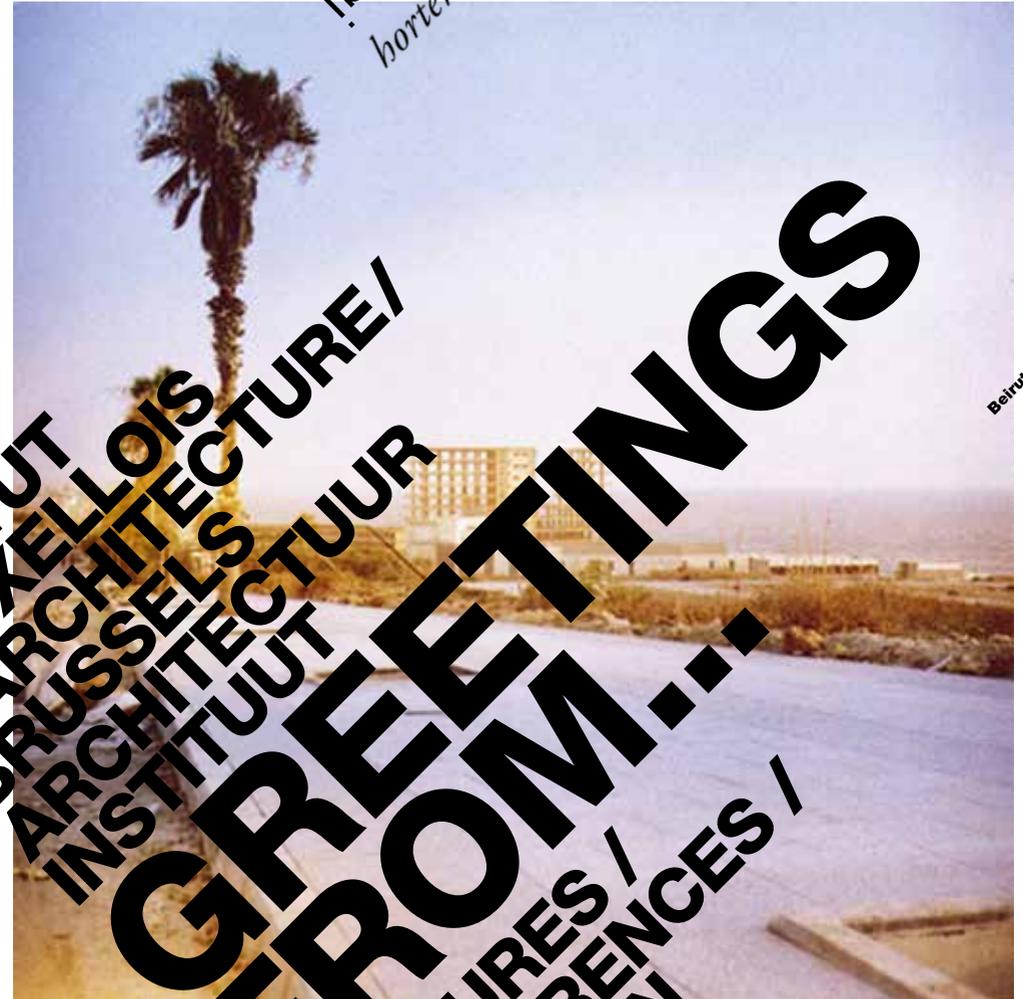
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GREETINGS
FROM...
LECTURES /
CONFERENCES /
LEZINGEN /
2014



Beirut

© Ziad Antar



Belgrade

© Stealth

**GREETINGS FROM...
LECTURE SERIES
2014**

In 2014, our new series of lectures on architecture and urbanism will continue its journey to different cities from the four corners of the world. This time we're interested in cities we have little previous knowledge of; known for a past and present that is marked by social, ethno-nationalist and symbolic tensions, even armed conflicts. So, what views can be taken on cities like Beirut, Johannesburg, Mexico City or Belgrade? Willing to go beyond a one-dimensional outlook on urban conflict situations, the thread of our story will be a multidisciplinary approach. Every month from February on, we'll invite a speaker to present his/her narrative about one of these complex cities, from various disciplines like cinema, literature, sociology, architecture or urbanism.

Our guests are narrators in the literal or figurative sense, each telling a story in a unique way, about his/her city. Not only about its tensions, contradictions, difficulties, territory and buildings, but also about the hopes and initiatives of the people living there. Indeed, we think that these particular stories, whether they're fictional or descriptive, can question self-evident truths and common assumptions in order to open up new ways for unexpected, motivated action. For this lecture series, Recyclart collaborates with the think tank 'hortence' (Laboratoire d'Histoire, Théorie & Critique de la Faculté d'architecture de l'ULB). hortence will also take care of visual teasers before the lecture and lively discussions to follow.

www.recyclart.be
www.hortence.be



Mexico

© Liz

12.02

**GREETINGS FROM MEXICO (DISTRICTO FEDERAL)
FELIX MADRAZO**

Mexico City behaves like a horizontal skyscraper still waiting for an envelope. Dense, intense, diverse and yet boringly flat, the city is made out of millions of private compact plots and the collective culture that has emerged with them. Slowly the megacity is revealing a timid manifesto on the beauty of flatness and evenness. Its culture of horizontality has become so pervasive that key differences of class and power are becoming blurred as the city matures. The lecture will test the urban theorems that emerge from these observations using the peripheral case study of the city of Nezahualcoyotl and its relation with the city center.

Felix Madrazo is an architect trained in Mexico City and Rotterdam. After receiving his master from the Berlage Institute he co-founded the collective think tank Supersudaca. In 2007 he opens his own practice IND [Inter National Design] in partnership with Arman Akdogan. In parallel Felix lectures at TU Delft/The Why Factory and has been a director of studio at Strelka Institute.

12.03

**GREETINGS FROM BEIRUT
RASHA SALT**

To the image of its political, social and cultural scapes, Beirut's urban landscape still bears markers, scars and vestiges of its seventeen-year long civil war, more than fifteen years after the cessation of violence. Peppered through the city's fabric are buildings, unfinished, often in their

bare concrete shell. Today, these bare-faced concrete edifices, sometimes guarded by rusted fences, stand bereft, at once encasing sorrow, destitution and abandonment, surly evidence of failures, nagging reminders of what is systematically cast away from sight, representation and narrative.

Beirut Bereft, Architecture of the Forsaken and Map of the Derelict is collaboration between photographer Ziad Antar and writer Rasha Salti, which includes an exhibition of photographs and publication of a book. The project was produced by the Sharjah Biennial 9, in 2009.

Rasha Salti is an independent curator, film programmer and writer, living in Beirut (Lebanon). Salti writes about artistic practice in the Arab world, film, and general social and political commentary, in Arabic and English. She has collaborated with a number of organizations and festivals and worked as a programmer for several film festivals (Toronto, Abu Dhabi,...).

09.04

**GREETINGS FROM JOHANNESBURG
LAUREN BEUKES**

Johannesburg is a mash-up of a city, of glossy shopping malls and gated communities in leafy suburbs contrasted with sprawling shacklands and a vibrant inner city of immigrants from smaller towns or other parts of Africa. It's developed and developing, third world and first, high-tech and also steeped in traditional beliefs about the spirits of the ancestors and the potency of ritual and muti. It's the city of gold, the city of dreams - but dreams can turn bad too. It's the clash of culture and class. It's the sparking nerves, the guts, the pounding heart of South Africa. It lends itself to stories, to reinvention, to reimagining. As Lauren Beukes

said in her Arthur C Clarke Award acceptance speech, "Johannesburg is science fiction."

Lauren Beukes writes novels, comics, kids TV shows, screenplays and occasionally still gets her hands dirty with journalism and documentary-making. Her novels use fantastical high concepts, from time travel, to a black magic Johannesburg to a corporate apartheid state where we're all controlled by our cell phones, as a way of exploring big issues and who we are in the world right now allegorically. Her black magic Johannesburg noir, Zoo City won the Arthur C Clarke Award and The Shining Girls is an international best-seller. She lives in Cape Town with her family.

14.05

**GREETINGS FROM BELGRADE
STEALTH**

When mentioning Belgrade to many a sort of assumed post-catastrophic urban landscape comes to mind. And indeed, according to popular mythology, the city has risen from its ashes at least 44 times. However, unlike what one might expect the latest conflict was not the NATO bombing of 1999 (which left only incidental scars in the city), but the struggle over land and real-estate ownership that is continuously impacting Belgrade for its two post-socialist decades. This talk will take you from the construction of the new socialist society on the marshlands of New Belgrade, via the 'wild' 1990's through its current moment of suspense, eagerly awaiting a 'big capital boom' from the upcoming makeover of its eroded downtown riverbank areas.

STEALTH.unlimited (Rotterdam / Belgrade) was set up in 2000 by architects Ana Dzokic and Marc Neelen. For fifteen years they have been investigating the urban development's of post-Yugoslavia, starting from their "Wild City" research on the massive unplanned transformation of the city of Belgrade. Since 2009 with the "Cities Log", they track the roles of different players in the development of cities

across the region. In 2010 STEALTH co-initiated the platform "Who Builds the City?" in Belgrade. Parallel to this they have explored wider contemporary urban issues in curatorial projects at a/o the Venice Architecture Biennial, Tirana Biannual, Evento Bordeaux and spatial interventions in a/o Rotterdam, Gothenburg and Medellin.



Johannesburg



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