

BIP Programme: Spring Academy 'Art, Space & the Public(s)'

Spring 2025, Catholic Private University Linz (Austria)

The BIP-Spring Academy is part of the research focus ['Discourses of the Public Sphere'](#).

About I: What is public art? What kind of art is 'public'? What does art for the public(s) mean? Public art – or art in public spaces – ranges from monuments in historical places and façade art to street art, community art, and artistic interventions – and much more. Public spaces, seen as meeting points for and with art, have been continuously changing, especially since postmodernism. Art (genres) in and for the public as well. The BIP Programme provides an introductory overview of historical developments and discusses the theoretical framework of Art, Space and the Public(s) in an online symposium. These impulses serve as a foundation for exploring art in public spaces through field trips, guest lectures, and selected best practices. Thus, the focus is on contemporary forms and recent developments. Work-in-group sessions are dedicated to reflection and interdisciplinary exchange.

About II: The department of Art History (Catholic Private University Linz) is the host and coordinator of the BIP Programme. Four cooperating partner universities (West University of Timisoara // Faculty of Arts and Design; University of Applied Sciences and Arts Antwerpen (Belgium); Károli Gáspár, University of the Reformed Church in Budapest (Hungary); and the Faculty of Philosophy, University of Osijek (Croatia)) are participating in the BIP by sending one (accompanying) teacher/staff member and five students (up to six).

Structure: The BIP Programme is open to BA (from the 2nd year) and MA students (and optional PhD) in the field of Art, Art History, Art Education, Design, and Cultural Studies (and similar). In total, the programme comprises online units, a block on site (in Linz), and self-learning sessions.

The BIP Programme is divided into three parts:

- 1st Virtual Phase:** Introduction / theoretical framework/ (European) best practices (participating countries)
(2 days, 17 and 18 of March 2025, 9:00 –12:00, 14:00–17:00)
- **On-Site (Linz):** Lectures on specific issues/genres of public art /field trips / work-in-groups
(5 full days, 7:00 until 11 April 2025, 9:00–open ended)
The 'Linz Days' are dedicated to lectures on specific topics and genres of public art, in which field trips are also part of all units. During the sessions on Monday, Wednesday, and Friday, the students will work in groups on projects. Group work and projects will be elaborated together with the partner universities.
- **2nd Virtual Phase:** Final presentation of the group projects & reflection
(Half day, 5 of May, 10:00–approx. 13:00)

1st Virtual Phase

In the first online phase (Monday, 9:00–12:30), the topic of the programme is introduced, and all participants will present their university/study programme.

Symposium 'Art, Space & the Public(s) – What about Democracy?'

As a prelude to the BIP Spring Academy 'Art, Space & Public(s)', this online symposium provides an introduction to key terms relating to democracy.

Welcome & Opening

Monday, 17 March 2025, 14:00–14:15

Block A // Focus: What is the Public, and Why Does It Matter for Democracy?

Monday, 17 March 2025, 14:15–17:00 // Moderation: Lukas Kaelin

14:15–15:00	Lukas Kaelin: The Democratic Significance of the Public Sphere
15:00–15:45	Agustin Rodriguez: The Public Sphere in a Multiverse of Reason
16:00–16:45	Remmon Barbaza: Mobility and the Role of the Public in the City
16:45–17:00	Final Discussion

Block B // Focus: Public Art – In Specific (Anti-)Democratic Contexts

Tuesday, 18 March 2025, 9:00–12:30 // Moderation: Siglinde Lang

9:00–9:45	Barbara Balen: Changes in Street Names of the City of Osijek during the 20th Century: Historical and Ideological Re-naming and Its Impact on Public Space
9:45–10:30	Gabriella Uhl: Hungarian Biennials and Festivals: Possibilities for Public Memory
10:30–11:15	Ann Laenen: Social Practices in Arts and Design – Sint Lucas Antwerpen as a Public Institution
11:15–12:00	Cezara Carla Pădurean: Experiencing Urban Space Through All Your Senses: A Multisensory Cartography of Timișoara
12:00–12:30	Final Discussion

Block C // Focus: Art in Public Spaces – Fostering Democracy?

Tuesday, 18 March 2025, 14:00–17:00, Moderation: Laura Braspenning

14:00–14:45	Andrej Mirčev: The Culture Wars and the Public Sphere in Post-Socialist Europe
14:45–15:30	Siglinde Lang: Public Art Projects in Rural Areas: Spaces for Encounters
15:45–16:30	Annelys de Vet: Disarming Design: Politics of Participatory Practices
16:30–17:00	Final Discussion

On-Site Phase in Linz *(subject to change)*

The “Linz Days” of the BIP ‘Art, Space & the Public(s)’ are dedicated to lectures and workshops on specific issues and genres of public art, in which field trips are essential parts of all units. During the whole week, students will work continuously on specific tasks – individually and in groups.

Spring Academy 'Art, Space & the Public(s)' (Mon-Fri, 7–12 April)						
Date	Monday 7 April	Tuesday 8 April	Wednesday 9 April	Thursday 10 April	Friday 11 April	Saturday, 12 April
9:00–10:30	<i>(Arriving in Linz)</i>	Morning lecture Art, Participation & Space <i>Siglinde Lang</i>	Work-in-Groups <i>(BIP team)</i>	Morning lecture (Start: 9:30) Hands-on Social Design <i>Christina Schraml & Elina Kränzle</i>	Workshop Reflecting Street Art <i>Smaranda Moldovan</i>	Departure Individual time in Linz or Vienna <i>(with recommendations for Public Art in Vienna)</i>
11:00–12:30		Morning lecture Kunst am Bau / Art on Architecture <i>Siglinde Lang</i>	Morning lecture Public Art & Ecological Issues <i>Siglinde Lang</i>	Outdoor activity Micro-Interventions <i>Christina Schraml & Elina Kränzle</i>	Work-in-Groups <i>(BIP team)</i>	
12:30–14:00	<i>Welcome (13:00–13:30) Snacks, coffee, drinks</i>	<i>Lunch break: Cafeteria KU Building</i>	<i>Lunch break: Priesterseminar</i>	<i>Lunch break: University of Arts</i>	<i>Lunch break: Cafeteria KU Building</i>	
14:00–15:45	13:30–14:00 Guided tour <i>through KU University</i> 14:00–18:00 Work-in-Groups	Afternoon lecture Churches: Public Places, Sacred Spaces <i>Anna Minta</i>	Afternoon lecture & workshop Evoking a Sign (in Public Space) <i>Monika Leisch-Kiesl (until 17:30)</i>	Afternoon lecture Street Art <i>Ilaria Hoppe</i>	Work-in-Groups <i>(BIP team)</i>	
16:00–17:30	Reflection on symposium, literature mapping, tasks for the week, groupings... <i>(Siglinde & BIP team)</i>	Field trip ‘Mariendom’ in Linz <i>Anna Minta/Martina Resch</i>		Field trip Street Art in Linz <i>Ilaria Hoppe</i>	Reflection & feedback <i>(BIP team)</i>	
Until 18:00						
Evening	19:30 Joint dinner <i>(Catacombs or garden)</i>	<i>Free evening (Recommendation)</i>	18:00 Field trip Exploring the Site of NEXUS Visiting Galerie DUMAS	<i>Free evening (Recommendation)</i>	17:30 Wine, snacks & bye-bye <i>(Aula or garden)</i>	

2nd Virtual Phase: Final presentations of group projects

The students will present their final presentations.

Work in groups

The aim of group work is to accompany and support the students in reflecting on and working through the – often very dense – content of the BIP programme. At the same time, it is important that the students get to know colleagues from the partner universities and work in mixed teams. Above all, the group work should also allow room for debates, communication – and fun.

Contacts:

If you have any questions, please contact your (national) BIP staff:

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