

Stories from Naturecultural Places

Urban Transformation ETH Zürich NEWROPE The Design in Dialogue Lab

Symposium
26-27 May 2025
ETH Zürich



Stories from Naturecultural Places

The symposium brings together voices from urban spaces where cultural production and ecological processes unfold side by side. Through shared stories and conversations, practitioners and activists involved in the projects will elaborate on how such places come into being, how they transform, and what they can teach about working with complexity, vulnerability, and change.

Contributions come from five places across Europe:

Floating University, Berlin

De Ceutel, Amsterdam

ASIAT Park, Vilvoorde

Krater, Ljubljana

Stadionbrache Hardturm, Zürich

26-27 May 2025

Design in Dialogue Lab

Neunbrunnenstrasse 50, 8093 Zürich

Symposium curated by Michele Porcelluzzi and Dr. Seppe De Blust
NEWROPE Chair of Architecture and Urban Transformation

Funded by the Swiss National Science Foundation



Day 1

26 May 2025

13:00-13:30

Welcome and Introduction

Michele Porcelluzzi, Dr. Seppe De Blust (NEWROPE Chair of Architecture and Urban Transformation)

13:30-14:30

Floating University, Berlin

Hannah Lu Verse (Raumlaborberlin, Floating e.V.)

Sabine Zahn (Space for Practice, Floating e.V.)

Kristin Lazarova (Urbane Praxis, Floating e.V.)

14:30-15:30

De Ceuvel, Amsterdam

Thijs De Zeeuw (Zoöconomic Institute)

Lidia Egorova (Space & Matter)

15:30-15:45

Coffee break

15:45-16:45

Stadionbrache Hardturm, Zürich

Christof Studer (Verein Stadionbrache)

Sabrina Stallone (University of Bern)

16:45-17:30

Collective discussion 1

“Trans-scalar networks and communities”



Day 2

27 May 2025

9:30-10:30

ASIAT Park, Vilvoorde

Mattias Staelens (ONKRUID, Horst Arts & Music)

Aymeric Bey, Jeroen Deseyn (Plant & Houtgoed)

in dialogue with Prof. Freek Persyn (51N4E, NEWROPE
Chair of Architecture and Urban Transformation)

10:30-11:30

Krater, Ljubljana

Danica Sretenović (Krater Collective)

Amadeja Smrekar (Trajna, Krater Collective)

11:30-11:45

Coffee break

11:45-12:30

Collective discussion 2

"Rituals of cohabitation"

12:30-13:45

Final workshop

"Mapping common challenges and potentials: mutual learning
and possible alliances"

13:45-14:00

Closing remarks

Michele Porcelluzzi, Prof. Freek Persyn (NEWROPE Chair of
Architecture and Urban Transformation)

