

Part of the Game

Applied **Game** Theory in Urban **Free** Space

22 August - 27 September 2014



Contributions by:

**Angus Cameron, Brigitte Felderer, Freee,
Ellie Harrison, Folke Köbberling & Tricia Middleton,
Brandon LaBelle, Pia Lanzinger, Heinz Schütz, transparadiso,
Cecilie Ullerup Schmidt**

Being 'part of the game' demands participation in a delimited, rule-bound space. Games are simplified representations of society within which particular relationships and practices are repeatedly and competitively rehearsed. Some games are just that: games and nothing more. But other games – those played with politics, money, power, space – affect us whether we are part of the game or not. Taking the city itself as the board on which to play.

Six artistic positions will interrogate the meaning of the game itself, will enact the gamification of current issues, will ask about the possibility of not playing along, and will explore the various ways in which the city is always already a playground – a site for multiple, contrasting and conflicting games.

You are cordially invited to join us at various sites throughout the city:
Come out and play!

nGbK project group: Claudia Burbaum, Angus Cameron, Berit Fischer,
Folke Köbberling, Pia Lanzinger, Olivia Plender

Pressekontakt nGbK: Benita Piechaczek, ++49 (0)30 616 513 13, presse@ngbk.de

Programme 22 August - 27 September 2014:

transparadiso (Barbara Holub & Paul Rajakovics):

Auf die geringe Wahrscheinlichkeit / On the Slim Probability

Friday, 22 August, 16–21h (Acceptance of bets 16–19h; Proclamation of winning bets 20h)
[Trabrennbahn | Racetrack Karlshorst, Treskowallee 129](#)

Saturday, 23 August, 14–16h: realization of the winning bets
[location to be announced](#)

Betting is usually a manifestation of the desperate search for fortune. The more precarious the living conditions are, the more people tend to bet. Horseracing betting on the contrary often carries the patina of bygone glory, where poor and rich mingle. Gambling and the lack of calculability of the horses tend to juxtapose despair and short-term fortune – until the next bet. An entirely different free of charge bet is now on offer at the Karlshorst racetrack: a bet on the realization of a small situation as a break from the monotony of daily routine.

Ellie Harrison: *The Global Race*

Friday, 29 August, 16h
[sports field, In den Ministergärten 2, Berlin-Mitte](#)

The Global Race is an absurd vision of the Olympic Games of the future, in which the brilliance of human ›innovation‹ means we no longer need to break a sweat! Staged at a local sports arena, participants will be invited to compete in a series of races on Segway devices. These popular, but profoundly annoying, machines symbolise the stupidity of our species – gratuitously wasting money and resources, whilst simultaneously preventing access to the gentle exercise that all bodies need to stay healthy.

Brandon LaBelle: *Monument (to the Wild Imagination)*

Saturday, 6 September, 19h: Artist talk and performance including guest speaker Janet Merkel
[Rotes Rathaus, 3. Floor, Room 337 \(Louise-Schroeder-Saal\), Berlin-Mitte](#)

4–7 September: nightly projections performed throughout the city

The work investigates the politics of creativity in today's urban environment. This includes questioning how artists perform as part of the creative city, contributing to Berlin's cultural image, as well as processes of gentrification, precarious living, and the »westernization« of the former east. The work searches for escape routes and exits, employing group choreographies and guerrilla projections to creatively address and occupy the city.
In collaboration with: Janine Eisenächer, Hana Lee Erdman, Omar Nicolas, Steffi Weismann

Freee: Taking Sides

Saturday, 13 September, 15h

[Volkspark Hasenheide, meeting point at entrance GraefestraÙe, Berlin-Kreuzberg](#)

The Freee art collective football tournament recodes football as a platform for opinion formation and disagreement by placing slogans where footballers' names and sponsors' logos go. Teams are not selected by managers or peer pressure but by individuals choosing a slogan to wear. Fans who support a particular team, having no geographical name to shout, will chant the slogan together rivalled by the supporters of another team. The winning team of the tournament will bring honour to its slogan.

Folke Kbberling & Tricia Middleton: *Nichtverhandlung / Non-negotiation*

Saturday, 20 September, 15h, construction site of the Stadtschloss, Hochschule fr Musik
[Hanns Eisler Berlin, CharlottenstraÙe 55, Berlin-Mitte, Start and opening](#)

21–24 September, 12–17h: sculptural performance,
24 September, 17h: public exposure of the sculpture
25–27 September: sculpture in the public sphere

A one-week play about the peak of style, of the history writing and originality. A process of mutual destruction rooted in opposites is embedded in the art work, where modernist architectural elements will be coated with rotting baroque ornaments and vice-versa. An unpredictable process that manifests during the performance beginning on September 24th and that carries a foreboding of the onset of a new style.

Pia Lanzinger: *Wrfeln um Berlin. Das Gentrifizierungsspiel / Rolling Dice for Berlin. The Gentrification Game*

Saturday, 27 September, 15h

[Kottbusser Tor, Berlin-Kreuzberg, in front of the »Protest-Gecekondu, with the support of Kotti & Co.](#)

»Rolling Dice for Berlin« will be performed at three more locations:

Thursday, 4 September, 15h - [Cecilienplatz, Berlin- Hellersdorf](#)
Friday, 12 September, 15h - [Mathilde-Jacob-Platz, vor dem Rathaus, Berlin-Moabit](#)
Thursday, 18 September, 15h - [Alfred-Scholz-Platz, Berlin-Neuklln](#)

While the state is busy with saving the banks, the Berlin real estate market is transforming into an allegedly profitable industry: formerly reasonable and affordable rental flats are now objects of speculation and in short supply. »Rolling Dice for Berlin« transmits this logic into a huge board game to be played in the public sphere. The implications of the situation and the different trials to reclaim the right to the city are reconstructed as part of a global game with local particularities. This permits a different view on the rules of the game and on the spell dominating the events.

Lectures

Cecilie Ullerup Schmidt: *Nothing Left to Play*

Tuesday, 26 August, 19.30h (English)

[event space nGbK Oranienstraße 25, Berlin-Kreuzberg](#)

Heinz Schütz: *Politdesign*

Tuesday, 2 September, 19.30h (German)

[event space nGbK Oranienstraße 25, Berlin-Kreuzberg](#)

Angus Cameron: *Fooling about in public*

Saturday, 13 September, 14h (English)

[Volkspark Hasenheide, meeting point at entrance Graefestraße, Berlin-Kreuzberg](#)

From Sebastian Brant to Jón Gnarr, the Fool is both a scathing metaphor of and direct challenge to political power. The Fool works because he or she embodies paradox: playfully serious, powerlessly effective, stupidly clever, accidentally cunning. The Fool is both the essence and denial of 'real' power. Folly is not power, but it is always about power. And paradoxically, that is what makes him or her so enduring. The powerful may come and go, but: *stultorum numerus infinitus est*.

Brigitte Felderer: *Die Stadt am Spiel. Wiener Spielplätze der Nachkriegszeit / The City at Play. Vienna's Playgrounds of the Postwar Period*

Tuesday, 23 September, 19.30h (German)

[event space nGbK Oranienstraße 25, Berlin-Kreuzberg](#)