Speculative Transformations
Saturday 5 April 2014
hosted by
L40 - Verein zur Förderung von Kunst und Kultur am Rosa-Luxemburg-Platz e.V.

Through the day we aim to address the question of how (or if at all) art can help us to imagine the development of cities (or their possible destruction). Here we aim to consider buildings/neighborhoods in the urban landscape that no longer function as they were intended (post-industrial trauma etc). Exploring the role of art in urban transformation.

We will also address public spaces or spaces that exist in the public sphere that are not architecture or the space defined by architecture - radio, sound, apps, outdoor projections, guides, walks/tours, night/light events, utilizing other modes of transport, (cycle events, work/performance on busses, tubes underground, use of the sky space). Here we will ask: what channels of communication - that determine/impact on urban space - are available for artists to claim and use? How might these channels of communication allow for creative and critical actions? Can different/additional groups be reached thru these more media based channels? and critical actions within an urban context?

13:00
5 minute presentations from participants

Susanne Prinz Curator (L40)
Michael Clegg / Martin Guttmann Artists
Manca Bajec Artist
Jaspar Joseph-Lester Artist/ curator
Michael Heiligemeir Artist, TEXT CITIES
Ludwig Engel Futurist / Urbanist
Stella Flatten Human geographer
Daniel Marques Sampaio Artist, TEXT/CITIES
Julie Westerman Artist
Sebastian Kretzschmar /FAMED Artist
Nayan Kulkarni Artist
Aleksander Komarov / Artist
Susanne Kriemann Artist ABA
Manon Awst Walther Artist
Olivia Reynolds LoBe
Marianne Zamecznik Curator / exhibition designer

15.00
BREAKOUT SESSIONS

Each group will address questions in light of presentations. The focus of this breakout session will be to discuss three possible areas of activity that could link to the future development of the project and to explore
why art (as discussed through the presentations) might be relevant to our current urban condition.

**Suggested themes for discussion -**
Politics of Light
Text and the City
Art and urban channels of communication (guide, moving image, apps, audio)
Performance – action, resistance, protest
Notion Space – ownership, private/public?

**16.00**

**Feedback on discussions –**
Representatives from each group feedback on main point discussed.

**19.00 –**

**TEGEL: Speculations and Propositions - screening and book launch**

What started out as a program of artists’ videos screened at Babylon cinema on June 2nd 2012 (when Tegel originally was scheduled to close) has now turned into a new publication as well as a DVD edited and curated by Jaspar Joseph-Lester, Susanne Prinz and Julie Westerman, both examining new perspectives and approaches to urban renewal, regeneration, social organisation and considering the role of art within these areas of urban transformation.

The imminent closure of Tegel airport marks a change in the way air travel is experienced. Flight in a globalized world is no longer an exclusive adventure and, quite contrary to Tegel’s modernist design, today’s airports no longer encourage an illusion of that kind. So Tegel’s time is over, literally as much as figuratively. Over a period of eighteen months a selected group of international artists and writers focused their attention on Tegel airport. They observed how it is used, reflected on Tegel’s history and speculated on how the building might function in the future.