

Terrestrial Cosmologies

Public Design Support Raman 2023

Erasmus - Blended Intensive Programmes (BIP)

University of Fine Arts Hamburg, Germany

Fine Arts Academy, Batman University, Turkey

Faculty of Design and Art, Free University of Bozen-Bolzano, Italy

Online + Onsite

Feb–May 2023

On Site

Istanbul / Batman

24.4.-6.5.2023

The project „Terrestrial Cosmologies“ is an experimental cooperation between art and design students from Turkey, Germany and Italy. Integrating the fields of film, experimental and social design as well as arts and urban innovation the interdisciplinary program intends to explore pedagogical methodologies and artistic approaches in the context of a practical research and design-build project in Turkey. The southeast Anatolian region of Batman by the river Tigris has not only an amazing landscape and a rich, old and mesmerized culture of Syriac, Arabic, Kurdish and Ezidi influence, worth to approach and study. It is a contested space of migration embedded and at the same time remote to the international flows of material, people and knowledge. The universities of Batman, Hamburg and Bolzano intend to experience these spaces together to learn from each other and from local practices in unknown zones and topographies.

This research part of the cooperation will be prepared with online lectures, discussions and reading seminars during 2023 and cumulate in site visits, workshops

and conversations in the Raman region that includes Hasankeyf and the surrounding villages in Batman. The practical part of the project starts from there. We intend to start a practical process of revitalizing a small Ezidi village Çizeriya in the region, which is partly depopulated, for most of the inhabitants living in Germany.

“Public Design Support Raman 2023” intends to make a practical contribution to the rural reality in cooperation with local institutions and residents. It offers support to local people to develop a perspective for their village based on their knowledge, competence and interest. Studio Experimentelles Design of the University of Fine Arts Hamburg experiments since 2011 with local design assistance as a contemporary critical design practice. The student-led program advocates a community based and cooperative approach, involving people who are usually only impacted by design or excluded from it. In 2015 Pelin Tan and Jesko Fezer could already experiment with such a format in Mardin / Mardin Artuklu University. Seçil Uğur Yavuz works with research through design, participatory design and co-design methods and her research situates in the intersection between analog and digital. Therefore, she will expand her co-design approach for that collective and local project.

“Terrestrial Cosmologies” takes the form of a two-week on-site workshop. During their stay in the main town Batman and Raman region, student teams will research, discuss, design and implement new rural infrastructures, as a collective effort to improve the daily reality as well as the cosmology of the Ezidi village Çizeriya. Through a series of workshops in the village, we will focus on the Tigris phenomenologies, on spatial interventions but also on learning the Ezidi culture, the history of these lands, the nomadic and settled lifestyles, migration between Germany and the Tigris region.

Fine Arts Academy, Batman University, Turkey

Dr. Pelin Tan

Professor of the Film Department, Head of International Center - Batman University

Senior Researcher - Center for Arts, Design and Social Research, Boston.

Researcher - Architecture Faculty, University of Thessaly, Greece

pelintan@gmail.com

University of Fine Arts Hamburg, Germany

Jesko Fezer

Professor for Experimental Design

Initiator of student led program "Public Design Support"

www.gestaltungsberatung.org, howto.gestaltungsberatung.org

jesko.fezer@hfbk-hamburg.de

Free University of Bozen-Bolzano, Faculty of Design and Art, Bolzani

Seçil Uğur Yavuz

PhD, Associate Professor

Master in Eco-Social Design

Secil.UgurYavuz@unibz.it

Introductory Presentation

By Pelin Tan, Jesko Fezer and Secil Ugur Yavuz

30th January 2023

at 10:00, Teams

Link: [https://teams.microsoft.com/l/meetup-](https://teams.microsoft.com/l/meetup-join/19%3ameeting_YjZkYmQ5MmEtZmQ1NS00ZTMxLThkMzMtMzZjMTNiYmMxYjZi%40thread.v2/0?context=%7b%22Tid%22%3a%2292513267-03e3-401a-80d4-c58ed6674e3b%22%2c%22Oid%22%3a%22a6302d98-b911-4ad0-8006-754ca0e03883%22%7d)

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