



IRS SEMINAR

Monday, 29 May 2017
15:00 -16:30, Pavilion
Leibniz Institute for Research
on Society and Space
Flakenstraße 29-31, 15537 Erkner

Dr. Tim Verlaan

Producing space: Post-war redevelopment as big business

This talk aims to open up new perspectives on the politics of urban redevelopment in Dutch and German cities during the 1960s and early 1970s. More specifically, it examines the post-war expansion of Bredero, a Dutch private developer that forged public-private partnerships with the city councils of Utrecht and Hannover to get local urban renewal agendas of the ground. Within the period covered by this paper, the political consensus was that the post-war economy, which was dominated by rising car ownership, business and consumerism, had to find its place and thrive in central urban areas. Developers such as Bredero were thought to dispose over the expertise and financial means to swiftly execute redevelopment schemes. This contribution investigates how and why local administrators and private developers decided to work together in the first place, and how the expertise and financial means of Bredero in particular were translated into the development and construction of Utrecht's Hoog Catharijne and Hannover's Raschplatz schemes.



GUEST LECTURER AT IRS

Tim Verlaan stays at IRS from
15 May until 16 June 2017.

During his stay he is part of the
Department for Historical Research.

Dr. Tim Verlaan Vrije Universiteit Amsterdam

Tim Verlaan is an assistant professor in Architectural and Urban History at Amsterdam's Vrije Universiteit, focusing on the urban renewal agendas of Western cities during the post-war era. After finishing his master degree in European urbanisation at the Centre for Urban History in Leicester and Berlin's Centre for Metropolitan Studies, he wrote a PhD dissertation on the politics of redevelopment in Dutch cities during the 1960s and 1970s. In the autumn of 2016, he was visiting scholar at Fordham University in New York.