

Spring Academy

Spaces of Valuation and Authenticity

PROGRAMME

Erkner / Potsdam 16-19 June 2025







Dear participants of the Spring Academy,



On behalf of the Leibniz Institute for Research on Society and Space I'd like to welcome you to the eighth edition of our series of successive IRS Spring Academies on 'Investigating Space(s): Current Theoretical and Methodological Approaches' entitled 'Spaces of Valuation and Authenticity'. With this series, we seek to advance current concepts and metho-

dologies for the interdisciplinary analysis of space and to make the most recent state of the art accessible to junior researchers.

Valuation is a pervasive social practice. It happens in a prosaic form as part of everyday practices, e.g. when 'good' work is rightly appreciated by co-workers in a workshop environment, but is oftentimes also staged prominently in what can be called 'moments of truth', think of the finals of the football world championship as an example. Valuation can be experienced as supportive (positive feedback) or detrimental (caustic critique), it refers to different registers of valuation (like authenticity, originality, truth or novelty). It sometimes uses standardized metrics, like hundredths of seconds in a 100-meter sprint, while in other situations it refers to highly subjective and uncertain criteria, like a fresh scent in the nose of the perfumer.

Geographers have become interested in valuation processes during the past two decades as spatial categories are frequently mobilized in valuation practices. First, spatial entities become objects of valuation, as is the case with city branding or regional marketing. Second, references to spatial entities can make claims of value more robust, e.g. the sparkling wine is original (from the region of) Champaign. Third, valuation takes place in socio-spatial settings, the premier is staged in a theatre while the wine testing session might be arranged in a neutral laboratory environment. Fourth, valuation is spatially differentiated, the meaning conveyed can change, depending on the socio-cultural context.

Valuation is not only contingent upon space, but also upon history. Over time, value claims may change their meaning. The 'Made in Germany' label, for instance, was introduced to the English market in the 19th century to stigmatise low quality foreign products. Through history it has turned into a valuable brand, which nowadays back up claims of superior quality in all kinds of markets. Moreover, value claims are oftentimes supported with reference to historical pasts too, e.g. the coffee roaster who used to be 'royal supplier' in former days. And historical epochs are objects of valuation, they might appear worthwhile to be restored and remembered, or they are denied value and therefore material legacies can be left for demolition.

Combining historical and geographical analyses of valuation processes is an innovative effort that this group aims to poineer. Together with this year's local partner, the Leibniz Center for Contemporary History (ZZF) in Potsdam, I am delighted to welcome internationally renowned scholars, such as our keynote speakers Patrik Aspers (University of St. Gallen) and Rebecca Madgin (University of Glasgow) as well as our external lecturers. Furthermore, we are proud to welcome 25 international early-stage researchers from diverse disciplinary backgrounds including Architecture, Art, Urban Planning and Heritage Studies.

Our programme combines classic formats, such as lectures, with less common formats, such as doing-research workshops and paper pitches. It is designed to offer manifold opportunities to engage in critical, yet constructive, supportive dialogue, and above all, of course, networking.

I am looking forward to four days of lively and fruitful exchange!

Prof Dr Oliver Ibert

Director

Leibniz Institute for Research on Society and Space

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Venues

The Spring Academy 2025 will take place at 2 venues: on 16 and 17 June at IRS in Erkner, on 18 and 19 June at ZZF in Potsdam. Both venues are a 10-15 minute walk from Erkner railway station or Potsdam main station.

In Potsdam, the group will have dinner together in the restaurant ,Lewy' on the evening of 18 June.



Leibniz Institute for Research on Society and Space

Flakenstrasse 29-31 15537 Erkner





Leibniz Centre for Contemporary History Potsdam

Am Neuen Markt 1 14467 Potsdam





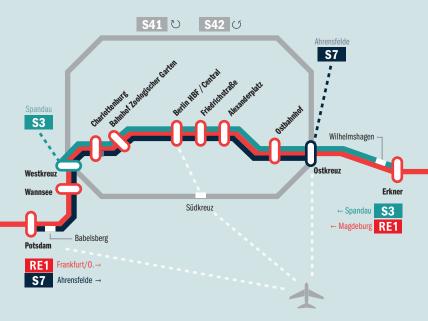
Restaurant "Lewy"

Karl-Liebknecht-Straße 16 14482 Potsdam-Babelsberg



Travel information

Berlin/Potsdam Metro Train Services



RE1

ca. 1hr travel time Potsdam/Erkner, 10 stops (2x/hr)

S7 S3

ca. 1,45hr travel time Potsdam/Erkner, 28 stops (3x/hr)

The S-Bahn use requires to change lines between Westkreuz and Ostkreuz.



to /

S9 Spandau S45 Südkreuz FEX HBF RE22 Potsdam

BER2
Potsdam

plus more..

Further information







Tickets

Choose zone **Berlin ABC** to travel between Erkner and Potsdam or the airport (S and RE) Choose zone **Berlin AB** if you travel between Wannsee and Wilhelmshagen.

Tickets purchased at ticket machines at stations need validation after purchase.

Ticket types

- Single fare ticket Berlin ABC 4,70€
- · 24-hour ticket Berlin ABC 12,30€
- . 4-trip ticket single fare ticket Berlin ABC 16,00€

Monday 16 June

12:00	Arrival & Registration
13:00	Welcome and Getting to Know Each Other
13:45	Opening Address
14:15	Break
14:30	Paper Pitch Session I
16:00	Coffee Break
16:30	Keynote Spatial Arenas of Value Making Patrik Aspers
18:00	Get Together with buffet (until about 20:00)

Spatial Arenas of Value Making



Patrik Aspers, University of St. Gallen

This talk addresses the question of value making: How does value come into being? The main thesis is that spatial arenas are important for value making. The idea put forward here goes beyond the simple observation that human co-presence in physical space matters. The focus is on certain arenas, which are integrated elements in value-making and value-sustaining processes. Value is a general issue, not restricted to the economy. The talk will present ideas about relational thinking and explore how this approach can enhance our understanding of value. The notion of status will also be discussed - offering a concrete tool for the analysis of value arenas. The first empirical case focuses on value-making in the field of performance art. Performance centers on the bodily presence of the artist and their interaction with spatial possibilities. Value is established by onlookers and by peers who are co-present and assess how the artist engages with the physical space. The second case focuses around the value creation of craft products presented at fairs. Fairs are physical arenas where craftspersons and consumers come together and devote time to one another, thereby imbuing the crafted object with value and making it 'unique'.

Tuesday 17 June

09:30	Welcome Back
09:45	Doing Research Workshops
	Workshop 1 Researching Urban Authenticity Daniel Hadwiger Christoph Bernhardt
	Workshop 2 How to Manage a Research Plan Going Off the Rails Melanie Fasche
11:15	Break
11:30	Danay Ditab Cassian II
11.50	Paper Pitch Session II
13:00	Lunch
13:00	Lunch

Researching Urban Authenticity





Christoph Bernhardt, Daniel Hadwiger, **IRS**

Documentation Centre for Displacement. Expulsion, Reconilliation

This workshop discusses the social construction of notions of authenticity in European cities after World War II from an urban and cultural history perspective. Along the analyses and experiences in the project 'Urban Authenticity: Creating, Contesting, and Visualising the Built Heritage in European Cities Since the 1970s' (UrbAuth, 2020-2024) theoretical and methodological problems of conceptualising authenticity and creating a coherent research design will be reflected. Along case studies on several European cities the debates of contemporary urban societies, heritage and tourist agencies and other actors are retraced and the challenges of working in a transdisciplinary research environment will be discussed.

Using Marseille as a case study, various authentication processes since the 1950s will be presented, including revaluation, devaluation, nostalgia and commodification. With its mosaic of identities - as a Mediterranean city, an ancient city, a modern business metropolis of Western Europe and a 'gateway to the Orient' with post-colonial elements - Marseille is of particular interest. Which affiliations were considered as ,authentic' at which point in time? The workshop will demonstrate the empirical procedures of identifying authentication processes in modern urban history and the ways to generate new insights in this field of research.

How to Manage a Research Plan Going Off the Rails



Melanie Fasche, Sotheby's Institute of Art London

The goal of the workshop is to learn from each other, to think outside the box, and to build a repertoire of problem-solving strategies when encountering challenges during fieldwork. The workshop will consist of two parts. To kick things off, I will share how I managed an array of challenges during the collection and interpretation of data for my PhD project 'Making Value: Contemporary Visual Art, Careers, and Place'. The challenges ranged from conflict of interest to difficulties with access to interviewees resulting in a sample bias, unexpected outcomes and difficulties interpreting the empirical findings with existing concepts and theory. In part two we will take these experiences as a starting point for a discussion about challenges and opportunities of doing field work and their implications for the research design. Main points of our discussion will be collecting and handling data, following ethical standards, staying focussed on the object of analysis, managing at times fuzzy variables, and dealing with unexpected events and outcomes. Participants are invited to share their own challenges, past or current, and provide feedback to each other's research strategies.

Beyond Market Value: Concepts of Urban Worth





Stefanie Brünenberg, Björn Kurzrock, **IRS**

RPTU University Kaiserslautern

Urban space is valued in many ways — some tangible, some elusive. Real estate valuation is typically based on financial metrics such as cost, revenue potential, yield and market comparisons. In this workshop, we will discuss valuation approaches and rethink concepts of urban value: How can valuation methods take into account cultural identity, aesthetic perception and historical significance? The workshop aims to shed light on the intersection of economic and emotional valuation in urban environments. We will consider real-world cases ranging from new landmark buildings - sometimes referred to as trophy properties - to vacant properties that diminish urban value. Through interactive discussions, we will challenge established valuation paradigms and consider alternative perspectives. How do economic and emotional values interact, conflict or reinforce each other? And how can developers, policy makers, and communities ultimately manage these tensions?

Recommendations

Audiowalks

'IBA Old, Cautious Urban Renewal in Kreuzberg'

Start: Admiralbrücke 10967 Berlin (75:00 min to walk)



'Berlin since'89. History on the Go' Interactive map

across Berlin



'Original, echt, authentisch? Eine Spurensuche in Berlin-Prenzlauer Berg' (only in German)



'Der Mauerbau 1961. Eine Spurensuche in Berlins Mitte'

Start: Potsdamer Platz 10785 Berlin (75:00 min to walk, only in German)



Exhibitions

'Plans and Dreams - Drawn in the GDR' Tchoban Foundation / Museum for

Architectural Drawing



'Akademie der Künste / Pariser Platz 4'

Multimedia Presentation on the history of the Akademie der Künste building at Pariser Platz 4.



'Dekoloniale - what remains?!'

Decentralized exhibition at Various Locations in Berlin-Mitte



'BerlinZEIT - The city makes history!'

Museum Ephraim-Palais



'Aus der Zeit - Eine Kreuzberger Postkartensammlung 1890-1945'

FHXB Friedrichshain-Kreuzberg Museum (only in German)

Wednesday 18 June

09:30	Welcome at ZZF Paper Pitch Session III
10:00	Paper Pitch Session III Recap of all Paper Pitches
12:30	Lunch
13:15	Doing Research Workshops Workshop 3 What are we trying to achieve here? Reflections of the 'OpenHeritage' project John Pendlebury Workshop 4 Porous Walls of Retail: Seeking Traces of Place in Brand Experiences
14:45	Cecilia Pasquinelli Break
15:15	The Value of the Past in Potsdam: Visit of Garnisonkirche and Rechenzentrum
17:30	Individual Consultations (until 18:30)
19:00	Dinner at Restaurant ,Lewy' in Potsdam (until 21:00)

What are we trying to achieve here? Reflections of the OpenHeritage project



John Pendlebury, Newcastle University

This workshop will primarily draw from the EU Horizon 2020 project 'Open-Heritage', which sought to identify and test best practices of adaptive heritage re-use in Europe. From this, it aimed to develop inclusive governance and management models for marginalised, non-touristic heritage sites and test them in selected Cooperative Heritage Labs. It worked with communities, local businesses, local and municipal administrationby trying out new forms of engagement.

'OpenHeritage' was a 'research and innovation' project, meaning there was less focus on 'pure' research and more on good practice and dissemination with a wider range of core participants than a traditional research project. As a researcher, I was very positive about this, as research can feel extractive and parasitic. However, each partner inevitably brought different goals to the shared mission, whether it was the need for scientific publication, for scientific publication, societal impact or organisational goals. Further layerings of complexity came from working transnationally and across disciplines. The workshop will focus on these competing aims and their negotiation.

Porous Walls of Retail: Seeking Traces of Place in Brand Experiences



Cecilia Pasquinelli, University of Naples Parthenope

This workshop explores empirical research methodologies applied to the relationship between retail spaces and the scalarity of place images. Drawing from case studies on luxury and gastronomy retail, we will discuss methodological approaches to exploring how brand experiences are shaped by spatial embeddedness and the interplay between authenticity and standardization. Particular attention will be given to digital content collection and analysis in giving insights into key moments of value creation in the retail experience. Through a discussion of methodological challenges, including data collection, case study design, and the handling of constraints, participants will gain insights into studying retail as a porous entity in the urban context, where the hosting city brand, the retail brand and product brands' place of origin merge into a single experiential landscape. We will reflect on the opportunities and complexities of integrating digital and physical data sources, from customer reviews and social media narratives to face-to-face interviews and in-store observations. Participants are encouraged to critically examine limitations and future directions to further this research inquiry, reflecting on feasible research design and practical constraints in empirical research development.

The Value of the Past in Potsdam 15:15 - 17:15

Visit of Garnisonkirche and Rechenzentrum

Participants are given an insight into the history of the baroque church 'Garnisonkirche', reconstructed between 2017 and 2024. Afterwards, they visit the 'Rechenzentrum' administration building, which was built on the former church site during the GDR era and now serves as a socio-cultural centre. The reconstruction of the church and the preservation of the 'Rechenzentrum' are still being fought over in Potsdam's urban society today.

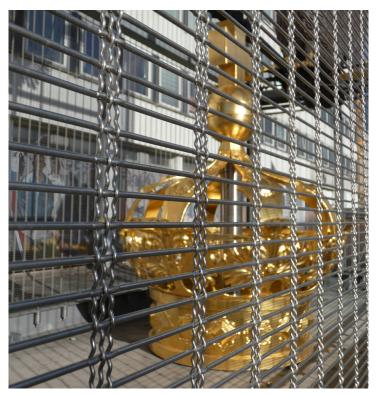


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Thursday 19 June

10:00	Welcome back
10:15	Welcome back Keynote Why Historic Places Matter Emotionally? Urban heritage and values in British towns and cities since 1975 Rebecca Madgin
11:45	Coffee Break
12:15	Panel Discussion Meet the Editors (and Reviewers) Panelists: Patrik Aspers, Manfred Kühn, Rebecca Madgin, Cecilia Pasquinelli Moderation: Oliver Ibert
13:15	Wrap-up & Farewell The IRS Spring Academay ends at 14:00

Why Historic Places Matter Emotionally? Urban heritage and values in British towns and cities since 1975



Rebecca Madgin, University of Glasgow

This talk explores why historic urban places matter emotionally. To achieve I will outline a conceptual framework which breaks down the broad category of 'emotion' into three interrelated parts: 1. emotional responses, 2. emotional attachments, and 3. emotional communities. I will use case study examples from British towns and cities to open up lines of enquiry around why certain emotional responses such as pride and fear are provoked by historic urban places; the complex interplay of the physical environment and everyday experiences in informing emotional attachments, as well as the reasons why emotional communities coalesce in particular historic urban places. In addition, the talk will explore the ways in which emotion, in the form of responses, attachments, and communities, can be considered within heritage management and concludes with a discussion of where next for heritage theories and practices in the context of understanding the role of emotion in how we value spaces of authenticity.

Meet the Editors (and Reviewers)

Panelists: Patrik Aspers,

Manfred Kühn, Rebecca Madgin, Cecilia Pasquinelli

Moderation: Oliver Ibert

In this panel discussion editors and members of editorial boards from journals in the field of spatial analysis discuss together with senior researchers, having acted as reviewers, about criteria for selecting and revising manuscripts. They also share their experiences and insights regarding publishing processes.

To this end, participants are given the opportunity to gain insights into working processes of reviewing and editing. During the session, they will be able to discuss and reflect on their own publication strategies as well as those of their fellow participants.



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Web

leibniz-irs.de leibniz-irs.de/en/irsspra zzf-potsdam.de

Lecturers and Speakers

Prof PhD Patrik Aspers



Patrik Aspers is Chair of Sociology at the University of St. Gallen, having previously held a chair at Uppsala University and worked at the Max Planck Institute for the Study of Societies in Cologne. He holds a PhD (2001) from Stockholm University. His research interests include economic sociology, qualitative re-

search, sociological theory, uncertainty reduction, and organizational sociology. Aspers' work draws on phenomenology and he has published several articles and books using ethnographic methods. Empirically, he has studied the fashion industry through fieldwork in several countries. Aspers has supervised numerous doctoral students and mentored many postdocs working with ethnographic methods.

Prof Dr Christoph Bernhardt



Prof Dr Christoph Bernhardt is a Senior Fellow in the IRS Research Area 'Contemporary History and Archives' and was its Director until April 2023. He is also Associate Professor of Modern and Contemporary History at the Institute of History at Humboldt-Universität zu Berlin. Bernhardt was also a Principal

Investigator of the DFG Research Training Group 'Cultural and Technical Values of Historic Buildings' (BTU Cottbus-Senftenberg, 2015-2023) and in the Leibniz Alliance 'Value of the Past' (2020-2025). He is also co-editor of the journal 'Moderne Stadtgeschichte' (MSG) and was a member of the 'International Committee of the European Association for Urban History '(EAUH, 2018-2024). His main fields of research are European urban and environmental history since the 18th century.

Dr Stefanie Brünenberg



Stefanie Brünenberg is an architectural historian at the IRS working on the DFG project 'The Value of GDR Architecture'. Her research examines the effects of the activities of the Treuhand property company on the public perception of the GDR's building heritage. The central question here is how the changes in ow-

nership structures shaped the culture of remembrance of Germany's recent history. She studied Architecture in Weimar. Afterwards she worked as Research Assistant at the Department of History and Theory of Architecture at TU Darmstadt. There, she received her PhD in 2019 on the significance of historical city layouts in post-war modern urban design theories. Her research focuses on architectural theory as well as the architectural history of modernism and post-war modernism, especially in the GDR.

Dr Melanie Fasche



Dr Melanie Fasche is a social scientist specialising in art market studies, cultural and creative industries, and urban studies. She uses heterodox economics to understand value creation and business strategies. Melanie is a Senior Lecturer and Deputy Programme Director of the MA in Art Business at Sot-

heby's Institute of Art London. Previously she held positions at the Department of Geography at the University of Bayreuth and the Rotman School of Management at the University of Toronto. Melanie received a PhD in Urban and Regional Economic Studies from HafenCity University Hamburg. She is the author of 'Making Value and Career Building in the Creative Economy: Evidence from Contemporary Visual Art' (part of the SpringerBriefs in Geography series), published by Springer in 2017.

Dr Daniel Hadwiger



Dr Daniel Hadwiger is working as a curator at the Documentation Centre for Displacement, Expulsion, Reconciliation in Berlin. He studied History and European Literature at the Universities of Mainz, Université de Bourgogne (Dijon), University of Tübingen and at the Université Aix-Marseille. His thesis 'Nationale

Solidarität und ihre Grenzen' on welfare in Germany and France during the Second World War at the University of Tübingen was published in 2021. From 2020–2024 he was working as Research Assistent in the research project 'Urban Authenticity' on authentification processes in Marseille since the 1970s and responsible for the website 'urban-authenticity.eu' on authentification processes in Berlin and Brandenburg at the Leibniz Institute for Research on Society and Space (IRS) in Erkner.

Dr Rebecca Madgin



Dr Rebecca Madgin is Professor of Urban Studies at the University of Glasgow and Programme Director for the Arts and Humanities Research Council's Place-Based Research Programme. Rebecca Madgin is an urban historian who works on placemaking and particularly on the emotional value of historic pla-

ces. Central to this work is an examination of the meanings of place and the processes of place attachment. She has published widely on these topics using historical and contemporary examples drawn from urban and rural places across the UK and internationally. Her latest book is titled 'Why Historic Places Matter Emotionally' (Cambridge University Press, 2025).

Dr Manfred Kühn



Manfred Kühn is a Senior Researcher in the Research Area 'Politics and Planning' at the Leibniz Institute for Research on Society and Space (IRS). He has studied City and Landscape Planning at the University Kassel and obtained a PhD in 1993. Since 2010, he has been a member of the Academy for Spatial

Development (ARL) in the Leibniz Association. He also has served as a coeditor of the journal 'Raumforschung und Raumordnung' (Spatial Research and Planning) since 2001. His fields of interest are planning theory and practice, planning conflicts and peripheralization.

Prof Dr Björn Kurzrock



Björn Kurzrock is Professor of Real Estate Studies at RPTU University in Kaiserslautern. He teaches core modules of the 'Real Estate and Facilities - Management and Technology' program and holds the position of Program Director. His research focuses on the digital transformation of real estate and fa-

cilities management, as well as the development and operation of real estate and urban environments. He is affiliated with the German Research Center for Artificial Intelligence (DFKI). Prior to his academic career, Björn was Head of Research at IPD Investment Property Databank (now MSCI) Germany and worked for international real estate companies. He was the President of the European Real Estate Society (ERES) in 2022 and 2023. Since 2023, he has been a member of the board of the German Society of Property Researchers (gif).

Dr Cecilia Pasquinelli



Cecilia Pasquinelli is an Associate Professor of Business Management at the Dept. of Management and Quantitative Studies, University of Naples Parthenope (Italy). She worked at GSSI Cities, Gran Sasso Science Institute (Italy) and the Dept. of Social and Economic Geography at Uppsala University

(Sweden). She is a Senior Fellow at the Institute of Place Management, Manchester Metropolitan University (UK) and an Affiliate Professor at the Institute of Management, Scuola Sant'Anna (Italy). Her research interests include place branding, place of origin and the geographical entanglements of brands, sustainable tourism and local development. Her work was published in various international journals, including Urban Studies, Regional Studies, Journal of Sustainable Tourism, Cities, Marketing Theory, British Food Journal, Journal of Hospitality Marketing & Management and European Planning Studies. She co-authored the recent book 'Sustainability-oriented innovation in Smart Tourism. Challenges and Pitfalls of Technology Deployment for Sustainable Destinations', published by Springer.

Dr John Pendlebury



John Pendlebury is Professor of Urban Conservation, Centre for Heritage, Newcastle University, UK. He teaches and researches on issues of heritage, conservation, development, planning and governance, focusing on the interface between contemporary cultural heritage policy and other policy processes.He

also undertakes more historical work on how conceptions of heritage have been balanced with modernising forces. Principal publications include 'Conservation in the Age of Consensus' (2009) and the edited collections 'Valuing Historic Environments' (2009 with Lisanne Gibson) and 'Alternative Visions of Post-War Reconstruction: Creating the Modern Townscape' (2015 with Erdem Erten and Peter Larkham). His most recent book, with Jules Brown, is titled 'Conserving the Historic Environment' (2021).

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13:00	Welcome and Getting to Know Each Other
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16:00	Coffee Break
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Tuesday 17 June

09:30	Welcome Back
09:45	Doing Research Workshops
	Workshop 1 Researching Urban Authenticity Daniel Hadwiger Christoph Bernhardt
	Workshop 2 How to Manage a Research Plan Going Off the Rails Melanie Fasche
11:15	Break
11:30	Paper Pitch Session II
13:00	Lunch
14:00	Co-Teaching Seminar
	Beyond Market Value: Concepts of Urban Worth Stefanie Brünenberg & Björn Kurzrock
16:00	Leisure Time Follow our exhibition and audio walk recommendations.

Wednesday 18 June

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