

Tel Aviv-Yafo: Old-New Metropolis

 <p>עמותת אדריכלים מאוחדים בישראל</p>	 <p>שגרירות צ'כיה Embassy of the Czech Republic</p>	 <p>שנקר ב"ס גבוה להנדסה ולעיצוב</p>			
<div data-bbox="617 472 1023 556" data-label="Image"> </div> <p data-bbox="462 577 1177 735">The Embassy of the Czech Republic, cultural representatives of the European Union, the Department of Interior - Building and Environment Design, Shenkar College of Engineering and Design, and the Israel Association of United Architects</p> <p data-bbox="673 756 958 798">are honored to host you</p> <p data-bbox="479 819 1153 892">at a Cultural and Architectural Symposium entitled Tel Aviv-Yafo: Old-New Metropolis</p> <p data-bbox="722 924 909 966">June 9, 2009</p> <p data-bbox="609 966 1015 997">Eretz Israel Museum, Tel Aviv-Yafo</p> <p data-bbox="365 997 1258 1165">The symposium is being held in homage to the centennial celebration of the city of Tel Aviv-Yafo, and offers an opportunity to rethink the meaning of the foundational concept of "Alt-Neu" (Old-New). An array of European architects in concert with theoreticians and artists from Israel together will raise and discuss important questions concerning memory, materiality, technology and culture in the contemporary urban environment.</p>					
 <p>INSTITUTUL CULTURAL ROMÂN</p>	 <p>Embajada de España</p>	 <p>FORNIN-FINLAND FI EMBASSY OF FINLAND TEL AVIV</p>	 <p>www.gdi.org.il 112011 - ירושלים - Deutschland - Israel</p>	 <p>Ambassade de France en Israël</p>	 <p>INSTITUT FRANÇAIS</p>

The Premise of the Symposium

With great enthusiasm, the symposium embraces the multi-layered complexity particular to Tel Aviv-Yafo aiming to inspire a new dialogue by convening a select yet diverse group of international and local architects, intellectuals, and artists whose individual expertise will serve as the foundations for reexamining the cultural-spatial dynamics of this city with an eye toward the next 100 years. Tel Aviv-Yafo, as home to multiple and distinct communities representing a wide array of ethnic, religious, social, and political backgrounds, is a unique metropolis. Typically, the modern metropolis has been the vortex of both progressive and reactionary forces responding to the varied developments faced by modern societies.

One central theme of urban transformation in the modern era is the putative democratization of the city and the dissolution of traditional patterns of social, economic, and cultural segregation that went hand in hand with the modernization and improvement of sanitary conditions in densely populated urban cores of large European cities. Drawing on the theme of Jewish ghetto space and the encounter with modernity as demonstrated by numerous urban modernization projects from the late nineteenth and early twentieth century—Josefov in Prague, the Jüdenstrasse in Frankfurt a/Main, the ghetto in Rome, among others—the symposium will build on this historical model as a means of exploring contemporary spatial practices and issues of cultural identity in the existing urban context of Tel Aviv-Yafo.

A close multicultural research, seen as a contemporary interpretation of Theodor Herzl's neologism "Altneuland" will serve as an affirmative homage and point of critical embarkation in this centennial anniversary year aiming to better categorize existing problems and explore future strategies for promoting both cultural diversity and a coherent urban identity in the Tel Aviv-Yafo metropolitan region.

Intellectual Spirit of the Symposium

- **Innovative Structures-New Materiality: New Systems, Social Responsibility and Sustainability.** Exploring examples of design strategies employing new technologies and cutting-edge materials that take into consideration ethnic, cultural, and economic differences; focusing on heterogeneity and the promotion of cultural diversity as a progressive and democratic model for contemporary urban development and social integration.
- **Classic Materials-Modern Language: Contemporary Memory and the Relation between Identity and Culture in the Urban Context.** Assessing the ever-shifting roles of history and tradition in other cities as a vehicle for reexamining the deployment of the past in contemporary Tel Aviv-Yafo; through the critical lens of existing spatial practices, seeking to provide durable paradigms for future growth, development, and multicultural cooperation as well as strategies for fostering a progressive and cohesive urban identity.

- **Environment as a Growing System: Spectrum of Potentialities.** Responding to concerns about natural resources and social responsibility by incorporating emerging technologies with innovative paradigms aimed at integrating sustainable architectural and urban design with broader sociopolitical goals.

Symposium Schedule

Tel Aviv-Yafo: Old-New Metropolis		
<u>Greetings & Thematic Introduction</u>	9:00	Registration
	9:30	Opening <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <u>Michael Žantovský</u>, Ambassador of the Czech Republic (Presidency of the European Union) • <u>Batia Svirsky-Melloul</u>, Israel Assoc. of United Architects (Chairperson-Tel Aviv & central Israel Branch/Treasurer) • <u>Shraga Kirshner</u>, architect, Shenkar College (Chair, Department of Building & Environment Design, Shenkar)
	10:00	Presenter <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <u>Prof. Yigal Elam</u>, Historian [IL] <i>"The Centenary of Tel Aviv: Some Reflections"</i>
<u>Session I</u> Innovative Structures-New Materiality	10:30	Presenter <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <u>Tamar Berger</u>, writer [IL] <i>"Dunes, Vineyards and Ghosts"</i>
	11:00	Panel <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <u>Benedetta Tagliabue</u>, architect [ES] <i>to be announced</i>
	11:45	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <u>Dorin Stefan</u>, architect [RO] <i>"Flocking Over Bucharest"</i>
	12:30 – 13:30	Lunch Break

Keynote Address Classic Materials Modern Language	13:30 13:50 14:20	<p>Presenter</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Robert Oxman, architect [IL] <i>"What Time is This Place?"</i> <p>Panel</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Michal Rovner, artist [IL] <i>"Time Lines"</i> • Eva Jiřičná, architect [CZ] <i>"Reconstruction and New Construction"</i>
Musical Interlude Between East & West	15:05 – 15:20 – 15:30	<p><i>Coffee Break</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Yair Dalal, Worldwide Musician <i>"Sunset Eyes" – Music in between the desert and the sea</i>
Session II Memory: Identity & Culture	15:30 16:00 16:40 17:10	<p>Presenter</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Omar Rais, Shazeli Sufi Order [IL] <i>"Architecture and Spiritual Symbols"</i> <p>Panel</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Rainer Mahlamäki, architect [FI] <i>"Architecture and Identity"</i> • Roland Castro, architect [FR] <i>"The Future Metropolis—Topology and Politics"</i> • Christophe Barlieb, architect [DE] <i>"Architecture with Architects"</i>
	17:40	<i>Coffee Break</i>
Session III Environment as a Cultural Growing System	18:00 18:30	<p>Presenter</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Larry Abramson, artist [IL] <i>"On the Ruins of Utopia – Towards a New Tel Aviv"</i> <p>Panel</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • François Roche, architect [FR] <i>"BIO[re]BO[o]T: Ecosophical apparatus & skizoïd machines"</i>
Closing Remarks	19:15	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • David Snyder, architect [IL] <i>(Senior Lecturer, Shenkar College of Engineering and Design)</i> • Paola Liani, architect [IT] <i>(Senior Lecturer, Shenkar College of Engineering and Design)</i>

Guest Lecturers

Yigal Elam IL

Yigal Elam, historian and cultural researcher, is the founder of the department of Liberal Arts and Sciences at Sapir College and of the Sapir Forum of Culture Research. He initiated various social and political movements, including the "Israeli Congress", which attempted to formulate a new Israeli agenda. His numerous writings positioned him in a special status among researchers of Zionism and Jewish history.

Robert Oxman IL

Robert Oxman is Professor and Dean Emeritus at the Faculty of Architecture and Town Planning, Technion Israel Institute of Technology. His research field is the history and theory of contemporary architecture and design, and his writing and research have been published internationally. At the Technion, he held the Gerhard and Gertrude Karplus Chair in Architecture and Environmental Design. In the past he has held the Chairs of Design Methodology and CAAD at the Faculty of Architecture, Building and Planning of the Technical University Eindhoven (TUE), the Netherlands. He is currently Dean of Graduate Studies and Professor of Design History and Theory at the Shenkar College of Engineering and Design.

Michal Rovner IL

Michal Rovner studied cinema, television, and philosophy at Tel-Aviv University and received a B.F.A. in photography and art at the Bezalel Academy. In 1978, she co-founded Tel Aviv's Camera Obscura Art School for studies in photography, video, cinema, and computer art. Ten years later, she moved to New York City. Rovner's work revolves around the visual arts: photography, cinema, video installation. Her work using digital technology allows her to express her sensitive vision of the world aesthetically, politically, and poetically. Among other things, her art touches upon issues of memory, writing, identity, existence, and time.

Eva Jiříčná CZ

Eva Jiříčná, CBE, is a renowned Czech-born architect whose practice Eva Jiříčná Architects is based in London for over 30 years. The work of EJA is at the innovative forefront of form and technology, with highly crafted and detailed designs employing classic materials – glass, steel and stone – in a thoroughly modern language. The work aspires to find harmony between architecture and engineering, owing much to Jiříčná's original training in chemistry and mathematics, through lightness, transparency and truthfulness to materials. Jiříčná's dramatic staircases, for example, are delicately fashioned but sturdily engineered with glass treads and steel cables which are central features of both retail and residential schemes and possess sculptural qualities that add to the fluidity of the interior spaces.

Tamar Berger IL

Tamar Berger, a writer, was among the pioneers of the mythological Sheinkin Street cultural scene in Tel Aviv during the 1980s. During this period she opened "Twentieth Century", a bookstore that was unique in terms of its forward tempo and focus on the

subjects of art, cinema, architecture, design, and theory. In her work, *Dionysius in the Center* (1998), Berger explores the notion of Israeli or even Tel Avivian space through a unique expedition through historical documents and innovative narration. Her more recent book entitled, *"In the Space Between World and Playing"* maps out a promenade through the Israeli experience through a collection of disparate texts that coalesce into a critical, unified whole, both loving and painful, about Israeli identity.

Benedetta Tagliabue ES.

Benedetta Tagliabue, an architect, was born in Milan and graduated from the University of Venice in 1989. In 1991 she joined Enric Miralles' studio where she eventually became a partner. Their architectural philosophy dedicates special attention to context. Today, under the direction of Tagliabue, the Miralles-Tagliabue Studio [EMBT] works with architectural projects, open spaces, urbanism, rehabilitation and exhibitions, trying to conserve the spirit of the Spanish and Italian artisan architectural studio tradition whose aim is not specialization.

Dorin Stefan RO.

Dorin Stefan, is one of the most important representatives of Romanian architecture. Since 1990, Stefan operates his own design office DSBA (Dorin Stefan Architecture Office), and received his Ph.D. in Architecture with the thesis entitled, "City view – a poststructuralist perspective." He was a Commissioner for Romania at the Venice Architecture Biennale in 2002 and in the same year became professor and vice president of the Order of Architects of Romania.

Yair Dalal IL.

Yair Dalal, is a composer, violinist, oud player and singer. He is probably the most prolific Israeli ethnic musician and plays an important role in shaping the global world music scene. In addition to his musical endeavors, Dalal is also a peace activist, devoting much of his time and energy to helping to remove ideological barriers between different cultures and in particular between Jews and Arabs. Dalal performed at the Nobel Peace Prize gala concert in 1994 honoring the Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin, Foreign Minister Shimon Peres and Palestinian Chairman Yasser Arafat.

Rainer Mahlamäki FI.

Rainer Mahlamäki, Professor of Contemporary Architecture, served as the head of the Department of Architecture between 1997-2000 at Oulu University, Finland. His practice, Lahdelma & Mahlamäki Architects is active in a wide range of architectural projects including new construction, design-renovation or reuse of old buildings, urban planning and detailed interior design. The practice takes an active part in competitions, both national and international, and has been very successful with many of its recent projects having come through competitions, including the Museum of the History of Polish Jews in Warsaw, Poland.

Roland Castro FR.

Roland Castro is a prominent French architect and urban planner known for harmoniously integrating politics with the importance of society as a whole into urban

architecture. His signature revolutionary approach to design demonstrates his belief that the landscape and not simply the building should be the focus of urban design. This stance is evidenced in numerous works, where project housing inhabited mainly by immigrants and the socially disadvantaged in the suburbs was renovated. Roland Castro also ran for President of France in the 2007 elections. He is currently one of the three leading architects in the firm Atelier Castro Denissof Casi.

Christophe Barlieb DE.

Christophe DM Barlieb founded the studio CDMB Architects to collaborate with artists, architects and institutions in solving design and construction matters and to pursue the research and development of conceptual architectures with computational design & performance-based tools. CDMB Architects is an award winning design practice at the vanguard of architecture focusing on sustainable & performance-driven spatial, social and ecological architectures.

Larry Abramson IL.

Larry Abramson, born in South Africa and immigrated to Israel in 1961, is an artist who has exhibited extensively both in Israel and abroad. Over the past 25 years he has participated in many exhibitions and art projects in opposition to the occupation and in support of peaceful and equal coexistence between Israelis and Palestinians. He is a founding member of Artists without Walls, a dialogue group of Israeli and Palestinian artists. Larry Abramson was Chairman of the Bezalel Academy's Fine Art department, and the founding director of the Bezalel Program for Young Artists (MFA). In recent years he has been guest lecturer at the San Francisco Art Institute and the School of the Museum of Fine Arts, Boston, and since 2002 is Professor of Art at the Department of Multidisciplinary Art at the Shenkar College, Ramat Gan.

François Roche FR.

François Roche, a native of Paris, originally was trained and worked as a mathematician. Later, he graduated from the School of Architecture at Versailles in 1987, and in 1989 he founded R&Sie(n) architecture studio. The studio focuses on developing technological experiments from which they can create architectural 'scenarios'. These experiments are designed as forms of cartographic distortions or territorial mutations, transforming nature into a dynamic element of the design. This organic approach is concerned with linking the context with the building and human relations. R&Sie(n) has exhibited their work at institutions around the world, including the Tate Modern, London; Columbia University, New York; the Pompidou Center, Paris; and at the Media Laboratory at MIT. François Roche has been a guest lecturer and professor at a number of prestigious universities and is currently teaching an advanced research studio at New York's Columbia University.

Symposium organizers:

Shraga Kirshner, Prof. Arch., Chair, Department of Interior-Building and Environment Design, Shenkar College of Engineering and Design

Robert Rehak, Dr., Cultural Attaché of the Embassy of the Czech Republic

Paola Liani, Ph.D., Arch. – Senior Lecturer, Shenkar College of Engineering and Design

David Snyder, Ph.D., Arch. – Senior Lecturer, Shenkar College of Engineering and Design

Symposium committee:

Robert Oxman, Prof. D.Sc. – Shenkar College of Engineering and Design

Ayelet Karmon, Arch. Lecturer, Shenkar College of Engineering and Design

Batya Svirsky-Melloul, Arch., Chair, Tel Aviv-Yafo branch of the Israel Association of United Architects