

Prague – Heritages

Past and Present - Built and Social

A Conference on Culture, History, Art and Design

June 2023 - Intangible heritage, art and architectural history, communities, design and cultural traditions

Event Date: June 28-30, 2023

Abstract Date: July 10, 2022

Call

2023 marks the twentieth anniversary of the UNESCO Convention on Cultural Heritage. It established culture as a concept to be safeguarded. That event came three decades after the World Heritage Convention. Through that, UNESCO had set up its World Heritage List of protect sites and buildings. The intervening years have seen multiple shifts in how we define heritage – as both material objects and social traditions. Today more than ever before, the distinction is blurred. The streets on which we live, the edifices we design and the monuments we protect are all connected to the lifestyles, traditions and social groupings we celebrate and safeguard.

What we mean by heritage today then, is an open and diverse question. Our buildings and environments, our cities and neighborhoods, our memorials and our artworks, our cultures and communities are all component parts of what we understand as ‘preservable’ history. The dynamics at play are however complex. Conserving architectural heritage can conflict with development models. Community traditions are threatened by globalization. Monuments are often focal points for cultural contestation. Archeological sites are valued in themselves and simultaneously erased by both the forces of conflict and ‘progress’.

However, the past and the present also overlap and mutually support. Placemaking sees built and cultural heritage as key to urban practice. Contextualization is central to planning laws. Museums are sites for communities and display. Heritage organisations preserve buildings and

educate the public. Galleries present historical art while debating meanings in contemporary terms.

Reflecting this scenario, this conference seeks papers on heritage from various standpoints: art and architecture historians concerned with preservation; architects and urban planners engaged with placemaking; cultural theorists and social historians documenting objects, places, people and events. Artists working with community and place. It welcomes case studies that are specific and place-based. It embraces theoretical frameworks that function globally. It is interested in variegated methods of research and analysis.

Although the event is international in its reach, it is also interested in the specifics of the Czech Republic. It stems from the Prague based project **Then, Now and Always** and uses its themes of museums and communities as a key strand. Other strands and themes are listed below and aim to bring in contributions from multiple fields.

Formats

- In-person: Delegates can visit Prague and present live at the conference venue. In-person: (15-20 mins)
- Zoom: We welcome live presentations via Zoom. Presenters are recommended to download the Zoom app. Zoom: (15-20 mins)
- Pre-recorded: Pre-recorded presentations or films will be available permanently on the [AMPS Academic YouTube channel](#). Pre-recorded video: (15-20 mins)
- Lightning Talks: For delegates wishing to present shorter presentations of their work. Subject to the level of interest. Lightning Talk: (5-6 mins)
- Written papers: In all cases, delegates can present full written papers for inclusion in all associated conference publications. Written Papers: (3000 words)

Publications

The publishers that AMPS works with include UCL Press, Routledge Taylor & Francis, Cambridge Scholars Publishing, Vernon Press, Libri Publishing and Intellect Books.

Conference outputs include the [AMPS Proceedings Series](#), ISSN 2398-9467; Special Issue Publications of the academic journal *Architecture_MPS* ISSN 2020-9006; [Books](#) from this event will be developed by Intellect Books and Cambridge Scholars Publishing, with short films available on the [AMPS Academic YouTube Channel](#).

Written papers are optional. If submitted they should be 3,000 word length. Formatting instructions to follow after the conference. All papers are double-blind peer reviewed for the AMPS Conference Proceedings Series. Subject to review, selected authors will be invited to develop longer versions as articles in the academic journal *Architecture_MPS* or in specially produced conference books.

Submissions & Registration:

Registration Delegate Fee: \$390 USD | Audience Fee: \$190 USD
Queries: team@amps-research.com

Click to **submit your abstract**.