



### **REPORT: SharedSpace: Music Weather Politics - Workshop, Warsaw**

After Prague's [Zlomvaz](#) festival held May 2013 the activities of the international research and artistic project [SharedSpace: Music Weather Politics 2013 – 2016](#) changed address to Warsaw, Poland. From September 25 to 27, 2013 the country's capital hosted a scenography workshop [SharedSpace: Music Weather Politics – Workshop, Warsaw](#), organized by [Zbigniew Raszewski Theatre Institute](#) in collaboration with [Prague Quadrennial](#) and [The Swiss Arts Council ProHelvetia](#). Among the selected participants was also Architecture and Urbanism Ph.D. student at Czech Technical University in Prague **Veronika Kastlová**, who received Prague Quadrennial's scholarship to cover her expenses at the symposium.

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“I had the privilege of being selected from the stage designers, architects and theatre specialists who applied in the Czech Republic and must admit it was both incredible and fulfilling to spend three days with people from a variety of professions and a range of countries who focus on the same topic, i.e. that of SharedSpace or public space.

The workshop programme was wide-ranging. Anna Galas welcomed us on the first day at the hotel and shared all the practical information with us. Even though we were all strangers to one another, there was a great atmosphere right away as we got to know each other. We then made our way to the theatre institute. The workshop was kicked off by Joanna Warsza (curator for visual and performing arts) and Imanuel Schipper (scientist, playwright and actor).

The introduction of participants alone suggested we were in store for an interesting kind of collaboration over the three days to come. The first workshop lecture by Adam Ostolský on

the topic of *Climate Change-Social Change* sought (and ultimately found) the relationship and link between climate change and social phenomena in society. Adam presented his four dilemma themes which led us to consider the idea that the functioning of SharedSpace, i.e. public space depends on the weather, and that this dependence is significantly greater than I ever realised it would be. Standing on a square during the winter simply brings a different feel than if we swap it for a square in the winter. During the afternoon session, we delved into the secrets of SharedSpace and asked ourselves the simple questions: *How can we share space? Is there any space without people and their actions? Are we dependent on space or do we just create it?*

The presentation of our homework with examples of SharedSpace once again raised the vexed question of urbanism: *Does a city exist without people and does a city exist without a physical structure, i.e. created only by the actions of people ...?*

The following day saw Lawrence Abu Hamdan deliver a lesson on listening to the widest variety of sounds and the differences between them, ranging from comparing the sounds of a healthy and sick heart which doctors hear through a stereoscope, the first microphone sound to dubbing, at which point this topic finally developed into an interesting debate in comparing dubbing methods used in the separate countries.

The last day of the workshop was led by Joanna Ostrowska, specialist assistant at the Institute of Cultural Studies. The practical exercise of sharing space proved to be a pleasant distraction for all of us. Once again her workshop led to a great many intrusive questions: *Why create and share space through performance? To whom does public space actually belong? For what period of time can we claim public space as our own?* Unfortunately no time was left for the practical exercises after this lecture and so we set off on a walk around Warsaw. However the issue of ownership of public space in relation to the huge problem connected to homeless people in Prague was something that really grabbed the attention of our Italian colleague, Giuseppe L. Bonifati to the point that we are already sharing a virtual space and are planning a project on this topic next year.

The meeting with people sharing the topics listed above was both beneficial and inspiring. Everyone had their own point of view and the atmosphere of the whole workshop was brimming with energy - it was a privilege for me to share in it personally. The gathering didn't end merely with an exchanging of business cards, and along with the other participants, we certainly plan to not only share virtual space in the future as is the case right now a few days after the workshop, but also to share a physical space.

The workshop was and remains shared in all senses of the word...Enjoy!"

*M.Arch. BcA. Veronika Kastlová*