

Local Perception of Diversity within the Politics of Place-Making in a Multiethnic Neighborhood

Paper Presentation

RC21 Annual Conference 2019, Delhi, India, 21.09.2019

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1) Introduction

- Policy Strategies and Culture-led Urban Redevelopment
 - Localized and Pluralized Policies in a Diverse, and Disadvantaged, Neighborhood.
 - Local Perception of Urban Diversity and Their Changing Social Surroundings
 - Semi-structured Interviews with 9 ‘Natives’ and 9 Migrants/ Informal Interviews in semipublic (bars, cafes, kiosks, stores) and public spaces (square) / 4 Expert Interviews (planners – city/local, initiatives)

2) Researching ‘Living-Together’

- Sociodemographic Complexity

- Tyler K (2017) **The suburban paradox of conviviality and racism in postcolonial Britain.** *Journal of Ethnic and Migration Studies* 43(11): 1890–1906.
- Wessendorf S (2014) **‘Being open, but sometimes closed’. Conviviality in a super-diverse London neighbourhood.** *European Journal of Cultural Studies* 17(4): 392–405.
- Wise A and Velayutham S (2014) **Conviviality in everyday multiculturalism: Some brief comparisons between Singapore and Sydney.** *European Journal of Cultural Studies* 17(4): 406–430.

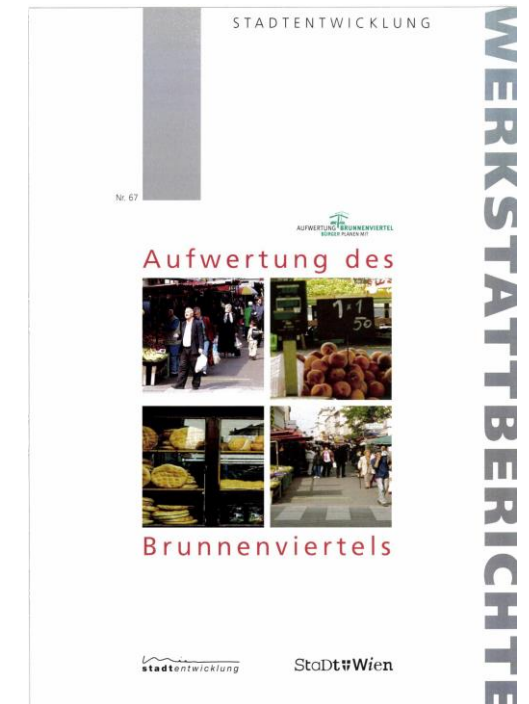
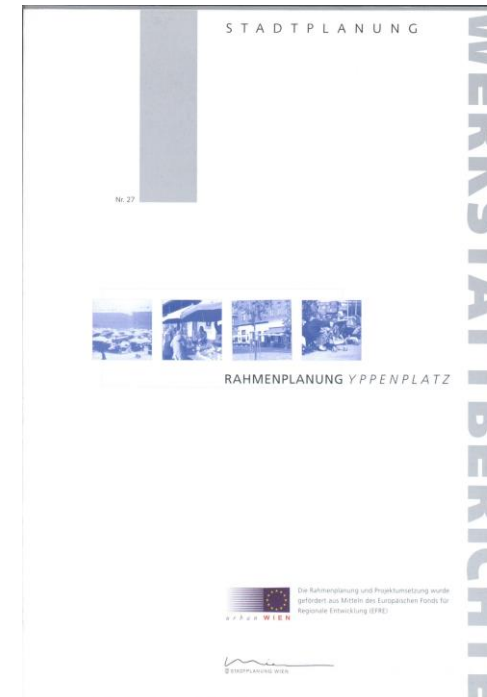
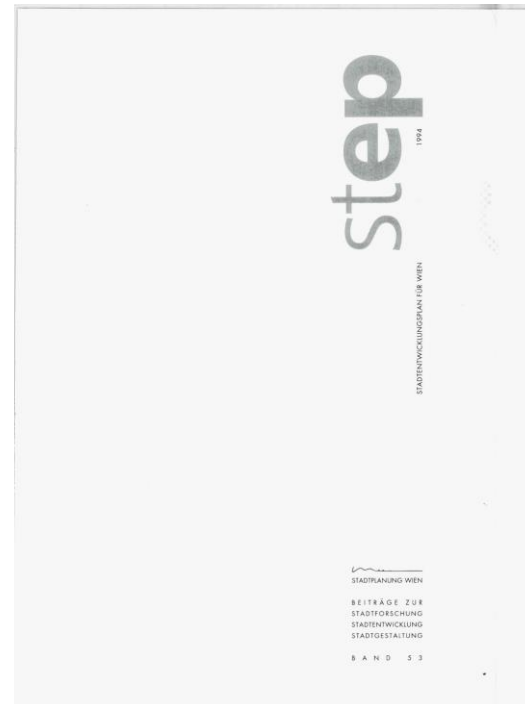
- Spatial Materiality

- Piekut A and Valentine G (2017) **Spaces of encounter and attitudes towards difference: A comparative study of two European cities.** *Social science research* 62: 175–188.
- Valentine G (2008) **Living with difference: reflections on geographies of encounter.** *Progress in Human Geography* 32(3): 323–337.
- Willson H F (2011) **Passing propinquities in the multicultural city: the everyday encounters of bus passengering.** *Environment and Planning A* 43(3): 634–649.

3) Institutional Context of ‘Living-Together’

- “What is less clear are **the conditions that underpin the articulation of social imaginaries**, how such imaginaries come into being in specific geographical contexts, and how they are produced and with what effects” (150)
 - Racó M (2018) Living with diversity: Local social imaginaries and the politics of intersectionality in a super-diverse city. *Political Geography* 62: 149–159
- “...it remains unclear **what the mechanisms or principles are that enable people to negotiate** the boundaries of diversity through everyday encounters” (1036)
 - Ye J (2017) Managing urban diversity through differential inclusion in Singapore. *Environment and Planning D* 35(6): 1033-1052.
- “...call for rebalancing discourse and practice by attending to **the significance of cultural policy at the local level**, and in residential places where people live” (23)
 - Warren S and Jones P (2018) Cultural Policy, Governance and Urban Diversity: Resident Perspectives from Birmingham, UK. *Tijdschrift voor economische en sociale geografie* 109(1): 22–35.

4) Soft Urban Renewal in Vienna



From Urban Renewal Act to 'Soft' Redevelopment of Brunnenviertel

5) Brunnenviertel: From a Problem Zone to the City's 'Multicultural Heart'



A Weekend Afternoon on Brunnenmarkt, Brunnenviertel, 04.2018

SPAZIERGANG DURCHS BRUNNENVIERTEL

DIE BÜRGERVERTRETERINNEN DES AUFWERTUNGSPROZESSES BRUNNENVIERTEL LADEN ALLE INTERESSIERTEN ANRAINER UND ANRAINERINNEN HERZLICH ZU EINEM SPAZIERGANG DURCHS VIERTEL EIN

**SAMSTAG, 15. FEBRUAR 2003
UM 15 UHR**

BP-TANKSTELLE AM LERCHENFELDER GURTEL

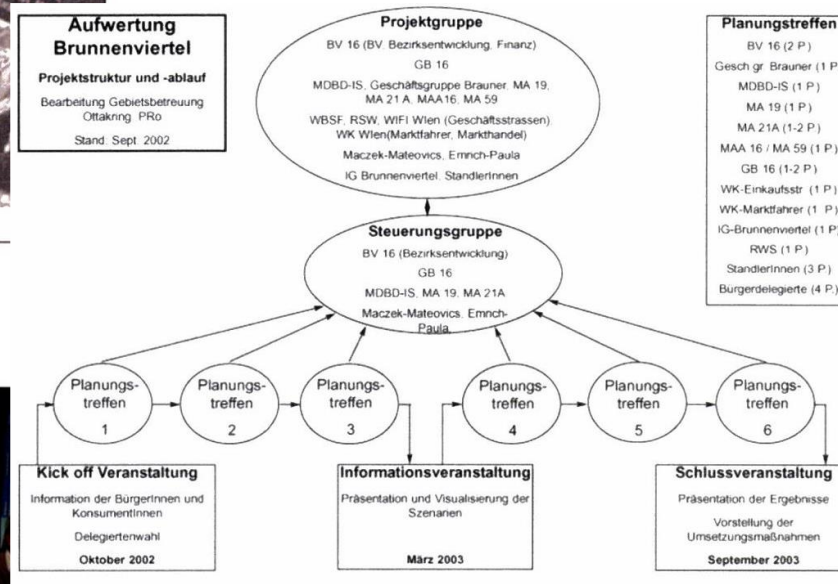
ENDE CA. 17 UHR STAUD-STANDL AM YPPENPLATZ

- INFORMATIONEN ÜBER DEN PLANUNGSSTAND
- GEMEINSAMER ORTSAUGENSCHNITT VON POSITIVEN UND NEGATIVEN SITUATIONEN IM VIERTEL

AUF DER KARTEN FÜR DEN SPAZIERGANG SIND DIE BEZIRKSPLANUNGSGRUPPEN, DIE DIE GEBIETSGRUPPEN OTTAKRING



An Invitation for Informal Participation of the Locals



Formal Participation of the Local Representatives in the Planning Group



A Control Group Meeting between Local Authorities, Municipal Departments, and Experts

6) A Shared Urban Infrastructure of Multiple Social Identities

• *Scripted Encounters in a Shared Urban Infrastructure*

“The residents realised that they no more lived in a bad neighbourhood in a fringe district of the city. The entire city was interested in Brunnenviertel. They realised this interest...They didn’t have to hide that they lived in this neighbourhood anymore, and **they could be proud of it**”

– Otto, n.a., Planner, 05.2019

“(The City of Vienna) did a good job. All the shops you see down the market were bad. Really bad. It was always empty, and people never came here before. **But now people even travel from different districts to come here...** When the weather is nice, I go and sit on (Yppenplatz) to enjoy the sun. I don’t really care, who comes here. Anyone can come. I mean, I don’t own this place, do I?”

– Karl, 66, Pensioner, 05.2018

“I love this neighbourhood, because this is **the most exciting place in the city**. I love, how I can just sit down (on Yppenplatz) with friends and have a beer, right after I go shop on the market. I live nearby, but, more importantly, there are bars and shops, where I go regularly with friends. That’s why I come here almost everyday”

– Lukas, 32, Security Analyst, 04.2019

“I’ve been here already for many years, so I know (activists from cultural initiatives) well. We know what they do, and we also participated in some of their programmes. When there are special events, we make food for them too, and after they’re done with work, we sometimes get together...I think it’s good there are programmes that try to **bring Austrians and migrants together**”

– Vasilios, 30, Local Vendor, 02.2019

- *Places for Multiple Social Identities in a Shared Urban Infrastructure*

“Why you assume that I would have contact with migrants? I meet different people in Brunnenviertel all the time, but I don’t try to build a relationship with them. I don’t think they want to that either. **We just simply live in the same area together.** Why would we suddenly try to become friends, when we have nothing in common? Here, I’m with friends. But out on the market, for example, I buy what I want, and that’s it!”

– Ervin, 42, Activist, 11.2018

“I’m personally happy that I don’t interact with different people in Brunnenviertel. **I’m fine with them, but** they’re just some people who I would just not...Like some of the places you mentioned down the market. **Only old boring ‘natives’ go there.** Who knows? Maybe they are racist and right-wing”

– Nina, 33, Lawyer, 11.2018

“I’m too old for those – how do you say, hip? Hype? – places up there. I could get some beers, then go sit on the square, but it’s too late now...Otherwise, (bars on Yppenplatz) are too expensive for me. **Also, it’s more your kind of place, isn’t it? I don’t mind it. It’s nice to have young people** like you here. But, look at me! I’m too old for that”

– Frank, n.a., Pensioner, 04.2019

Have I ever been to the places on Yppenplatz? No. **Aren’t they supposed to be only for artists?** They never come here, but **I wouldn’t mind them...**We’re like neighbourhoods, who don’t talk to each other...Although during the day a lot of (migrants) who work on the market come. They come in, have a cup of tea, then go to work again

– Anna, 36, Barkeeper, 11.2018

7) In Conclusion

- Localized and Pluralized Governance, for What?
 - Durability and Sustainability of Living-Together
 - Positive Mode of Everyday Encounter with Urban Diversity
 - Preservation of Places for Multiple Social Identities

