

# P A R K I N G \_

A scrutiny on temporary usage  
of (un)public grounds in Berlin

By Keynan Dietrich and Mercedes Peinemann, urban dialogues, berlin



# Berlin\_

Berlin is the second biggest city in Europe but in comparison to all other metropolises the density of people melted together is quite low. Berlin is space-wise amazing big and there are a lot of green gardens, parks or unused spaces inside the city that are working as air-polution filters and also as social relaxation zones.

Parks are used in many different ways from many different groups of people:

Immigrants from Turkey are using huge Tiergarten Park right in the heart of the city as their weekend domain to do BBQ-sessions.

Wromänner-Park in the deep west is used from Vietnamese and Chinese immigrants for an illegal but tolerated food market.

Grunewald forest in the south of Berlin is to be used from thousands of inline skaters every weekend.

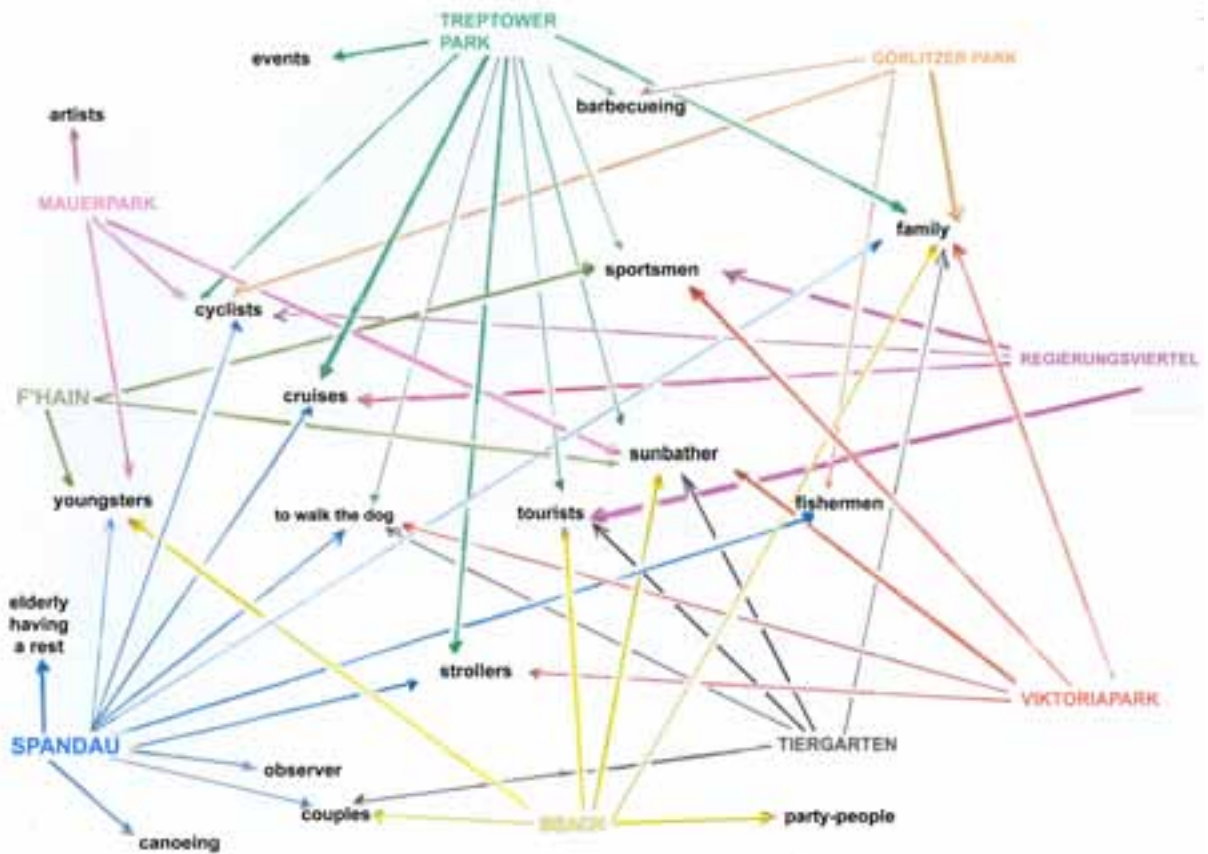
The younger generation is doing its gathering before nightclubbing at the Mauerpark, where the borderline between East and West splitted the city in two pieces from 1961–1989.

Other gardens and parks are also used to dwell homeless people, to host drug traffickers or to be used as cruising areas for the gay community.

This kind of usage is of course comparable to other European cities, but it is much more extensive. It could be seen as a sign showing the remarkable „free space“ that is still available in Berlin. „Free space“ in two ways – on the one side the liberal mood of the city that is not comparable to other cities in Germany and on the other side the spatial conotation with Berlin as a metropolis with low prices for housing and lots of grounds that are still used publically or still not developped for any kind of business use.

The photographic research by Keynan Dietrich and Mercedes Peinemann is showing different „free-zones“ all over Berlin and try to find the particular structure of theirs temporal usage.

Stefan Horn  
\_artistic director  
urban dialogues, berlin



An overview about several bigger parks in Berlin and the different sorts of activities that can take place there.



Parking - The Görlitzer Park



Parking - The Görlitzer Park



Parking - The Görlitzer Park



Parking - The Görlitzer Park



Parking - Small parks in Berlin, Spandau



Parking - Small parks in Berlin, Spandau



Parking - Small parks in Berlin, Spandau



Parking - Small parks in Berlin, Spandau



Parking - Small parks in Berlin, Spandau



Parking - The Mauerpark



Parking - The Mauerpark



Parking - The Mauerpark



Parking - The Mauerpark



Parking - City beaches



Parking - The Tiergarten



Parking - The Tiergarten



Parking - The Tiergarten



Parking - The Tiergarten



Parking - The area around the Government Quarter



Parking - The area around the Government Quarter



Parking - The area around the Government Quarter



Parking - The area around the Government Quarter



Parking - The area around the Government Quarter



Parking - The area around the Government Quarter



Parking - The area around the Government Quarter



Parking - The area around the Government Quarter



Parking - The area around the Government Quarter



Parking - The Public Park Rehberge



Parking - The Public Park Rehberge



Parking - The Public Park Rehberge



Parking - The Treptower Park



Parking - The Treptower Park



Parking - The Treptower Park



Parking - The Treptower Park



Parking - The Treptower Park



Parking - The Treptower Park



Parking - The Treptower Park



Parking - The Treptower Park



Parking - The Treptower Park



Parking - The Public Park Friedrichshain



Parking - The Public Park Friedrichshain



Parking - The Public Park Friedrichshain



Parking - The Public Park Friedrichshain



Parking - The Public Park Friedrichshain



Parking - The Public Park Friedrichshain



Parking - The Public Park Friedrichshain



Parking - The viktoriapark



Parking - The viktoriapark



Parking - The viktoriapark



Parking - The viktoriapark



Parking - The viktoriapark

# Information about the artists\_

## \_Keynan Dietrich

Born: 02.10.1986  
2006: Graduated from grammar school  
2007: Attending the „Signs of the City“-project, assistance work for the art organisation „urban dialogues“, worked on a photographic project about people living in an asylum for alcoholics  
Since 2008: Applicant for photographic studies  
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## \_Mercedes Peinemann

Born: 19.02.1987  
2006: Graduated from the technical school KIM, Berlin  
2007: Start of the „Signs of the City“-project including different works as an assistant for a low budget-film production, for some television productions and for the art organisation „urban dialogues“  
Oct. 2007: Begins to study Culture and Technology at the Technical University of Cottbus  
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# The Metropolitan Art Organisation urban dialogues\_



Since 1998 the metropolitan art organisation urban dialogues has been experimenting with the urban spaces of the city of Berlin searching for interesting grounds for temporary and site-specific public art projects.

Starting point was a project entitled urban dialogues outside in 1998. The project addressed the final moments of the reconstruction of central Berlin in form of an artistic visual and performative intervention. The idea to explore a particular area within its contemporary usage as a spatial system within its own history and through its silently slumbering visions has been repeated in various areas in Berlin through a multitude of artistic approaches.

In 2004 urban dialogues presented the exhibition Non Standard Cities in the former meatpacking district Berlin. The show featured 13 international and German artists dealing with alternative architecture and city planning, e.g. Marjetica Potrc, Hans-Christian Schink, Sofie Thorsen and Matthias Müller.

The artistic principle of urban dialogues is to bring aesthetic sensitivity to the rapid changes of place and perspective within the city landscape. Since 2002 urban dialogues has worked within the social regeneration programmes in urban crisis zones, focussed on integrating youth and young adults in the production of art and culture.

The artistic projects of urban dialogues which began in the centre of Berlin as a scrutiny of the dramatically changing environment, have since then developed in a manifold artistic discourse with the phenomenon of urban spaces, urban literature and urban signs.



In 2008 urban dialogues is organising an urban research on resemblance and diversity in four European Metropolises. The youth art project Signs of the City – Metropolis Speaking, is employing digital photography and new media to explore the sign systems of London, Berlin, Barcelona and Sofia. Young people, guided by professional artists, will create a visual inventory and document their urban life at the same time. All results will be published immediately



on the Internet archive. This phase of research will take place in approximately 35 workshops in all participating cities over a period of ten months – from January to October 2008. From a large exchange programme of all participants and artists, a valuable exchange of artistic–methodical approaches and local–specific premises evolves. During the concluding presentation phase of the project in autumn 2008, several exhibitions in the participating cities will be curated.

With the international exhibition project “Islands & Ghettos” urban dialogues in co-operation with Heidelberger Kunstverein draws attention to the worldwide phenomenon of territorial isolation and social seclusion. The project aims at gathering contributions from artists, architects and urbanists that discuss the urban effects of such tendencies, which are to be found more and more frequently throughout the world. These will show the ways in which the final social utopia of the 20th century – the dream of the globalized borderless world – has been replaced by the reality of new private and economic lines of demarcation. The heart of the project will be an exhibition with 35 national and international artists, to be shown in the Heidelberger Kunstverein and other institutions in Heidelberg and the surrounding area – from June to September 2008.

The projects have run with the support of amongst others the Capital Cultural Fund Berlin, the Cultural Programme of the European Commission Culture 2007, the Senate for Urban Development Berlin, the Youth and Family Foundation Berlin, the Sociocultural Foundation Bonn, the Foundation for the Dramatic Arts Bonn, the Spanish Embassy in Berlin, the British Council Germany, Siemens AG and Allianz AG.

Urban dialogues is member of the Cultural–Political Society in Bonn.