

PROGRAMME

C-MUS  
Conference  
2016

# Material Mobilities

November 29-30  
Aalborg, Denmark

[www.c-mus.aau.dk/conference/](http://www.c-mus.aau.dk/conference/)  
registration and details



AALBORG UNIVERSITY  
DENMARK

[vej-eu.dk](http://vej-eu.dk)



## PROGRAMME OVERVIEW

### MONDAY NOVEMBER 28

19:00-21:00 Opening reception

### TUESDAY NOVEMBER 29

09:00-10:00 Registration

10:00-10:30 Official Welcome

10:30-11:45 **Keynote 1: Ole B. Jensen**

11:45-12:15 Refreshments

12:15-13:15 Paper Sessions I

13:15-14:15 Lunch

14:15-15:15 Paper Session II

15:15-15:45 Coffee

15:45-16:45 Paper Session III

19:00-21:00 Conference Dinner

### WEDNESDAY NOVEMBER 30

09:00-10:15 **Keynote 2: Albena Yaneva**

10:15-10:45 Refreshments

10:45-11:45 Paper Session IV

11:45-13:15 **Interface – Commemorating John Urry**

13:15-14:15 Lunch

14:15-15:15 Paper Session V

15:15-15:45 Coffee

15:45-17:00 **Keynote 3: Monika Büscher**

17:00-17:15 Closing Event

### THURSDAY DECEMBER 1

Post-conference PhD Course: Material Mobilities

# "Theories & Concepts"



# C-MUS 2016 CONFERENCE: MATERIAL MOBILITIES

## MATERIAL MOBILITIES

During the last decade of research affiliated to the 'new mobilities turn' the societal repercussions of intensive mobilities has been in focus. The 'turn' has documented the social, environmental, economic, and cultural effects of the contemporary patterns of movement of people, vehicles, goods, data and information. In parallel with this work new ideas and concepts about the human/non-human and the 'material dimension' of the social world has surfaced within a wide array of fields such as philosophy, anthropology, and cultural studies. The 'turn to the material' opens up a new set of research questions related to how artefacts and technologies facilitating and affording mobilities are being designed, constructed, and instituted? The new material interest furthermore point at new ways of comprehending the political and the power-dimensions of mobilities and infrastructural landscapes. The turn to the material furthermore problematizes the Modern binary distinctions between humans and non-humans, subjects and objects, culture and nature. The 2016 C-MUS conference has this intellectual shift as its focus and asks how the new turn towards the material may effect insights within the mobilities turn research communities? The conference shed light on this emerging research agenda by reflecting the multidisciplinary nature of the hosting center and is an open invitation to mobilities scholars across the humanities, the social sciences and the technical sciences. Furthermore, we invite informed and reflective practitioners as for example civil servants and policy- and strategy-makers as well as we include the arts and the artistic communities from performance arts over architecture and design to media and technology.



## "Everyday life & The mundane"

**MONDAY NOVEMBER 28**

19:00-21:00 Opening reception at the Utzon Center, Aalborg Harbor front

**TUESDAY NOVEMBER 29**

09:00-10:00 Registration + coffee/tea/water (Aalborg University Foyer &amp; Cantina, Rendsburggade 14, ground floor)

10:00-10:15 Official Welcome by C-MUS Director Claus Lassen (Aud. 3.107)

10:15-10:30 Practical information concerning the program by C-MUS Board Member Ida Lange (Aud. 3.107)

10:30-11:30 Keynote 1: Ole B. Jensen, Aalborg University, DK: Material Mobilities and the Turn to Design in Mobilities Research (Aud. 3.107)

11:30-11:45 Keynote Q&amp;A (Aud. 3.107)

11:45-12:15 Refreshments and short break to find session venues: TOP FLOOR

12:15-13:15 Paper Sessions I: TOP FLOOR

<b>METHODS AND APPROACHES (2.1)</b> Chair: Ida Lange Room: The Airport Terminal (3.563) Session helper: Steffen Aaberg Andreassen	<b>EVERYDAY LIFE (3.1)</b> Chair: Lea Holst Laursen Room: The Parking Lot (4.513) Session helper: Irina Teodora Comănită
Gunvor Riber Larsen: Visualising Mobilities challenges and solutions	Paul McIlvenny & Pirkko Raudaskoski: Encountering and making the 'natural world'
Ida Wentzel Winther: Going beyond representational anthropology	Cecilie Breinholm Christensen: Dwelling on the move
-	Aga Skorupka: The power of 'they'

13:15-14:15 Lunch: Cantina, ground floor

14:15-15:15 Paper Sessions II: TOP FLOOR

<b>POLITICS AND PLANNING (4.1)</b> Chair: Claus Lassen Room: The Train Station (3.529) Session helper: Jacob Bjerre Mikkelsen	<b>DESIGN &amp; ART (5.1)</b> Chair: Elias Christiansen Room: The Airport Terminal (3.563) Session helper: Steffen Aaberg Andreassen	<b>POWER AND RESISTANCE (6.1)</b> Chair: Gunvor Riber Larsen Room: The Parking Lot (4.513) Session helper: Irina Teodora Comănită
Yamil Hasbun: A review of Costa Rica's long-shot to carbon neutrality 2021	Elisa Diogo, Simon Wind & Ditte Lanng: Mapping unknown knowns	S. Otto Khera: Critical Mobilities for an alternative curriculum
Enza Lissandrello: Stories about 'elicit actors' in the politics of planning	Jørgen-Ole Bærenholdt & Anita Schou Kjølback: Designing places for experiences	Ida Lange: The relations between global flows and local places
-	Richard Randell: The cathedrals of automobility	-

15:15-15:45 Coffee/tea/water and cake: TOP FLOOR

15:45-16:45 Paper Sessions III: TOP FLOOR

<b>THEORIES AND CONCEPTS (1.2)</b> Chair: Ditte Lanng Room: The Train Station (3.529) Session helper: Cristina-Roxana Lazar	<b>METHODS AND APPROACHES (2.2)</b> Chair: Ole B. Jensen Room: The Airport Terminal (3.563) Session helper: Steffen Aaberg Andreassen	<b>EVERYDAY LIFE (3.2)</b> Chair: Simon Wind Room: The Parking Lot (4.513) Session helper: Irina Teodora Comănită
Andrey Kuznetsov: From immutable mobilities to material semiotics of mobilities	Peter Cox: Mobile methods, materiality and representation	Martin Trandberg Jensen: A stroller ethnography of mobilities design
Nikita Kharlamov: Society Returns through the backdoor	Aga Skorupka: Participatory design	Apoorva Rathod: Children and everyday immobilities
Doerte Weig: The ontogenetic diversities and socio-cultural materialities of walking	Alexandra Witte: Mobile ethnography in practice	Ida Wentzel Winther: Doing mobility in small scale

19:00-21:00 Conference Dinner, Den Grønne Café, Nordkraft

**WEDNESDAY NOVEMBER 30**

08:30-09:00 Coffee/tea/water: cantina, ground floor

09:00-10:00 Keynote 2: Albenya Yaneva, University of Manchester, UK: Design and Mobility: Five Ways to Make them Political (Aud. 3.107)

10:00-10:15 Keynote Q&amp;A (Aud. 3.107)

10:15-10:45 Refreshments and short break to find session venues: TOP FLOOR

10:45-11:45 Paper Sessions IV: TOP FLOOR

<b>DESIGN AND ART (5.2)</b> Chair: Martin Trandberg Jensen Room: The Train Station (3.529) Session helper: Cristina-Roxana Lazar	<b>METHODS AND APPROACHES (2.3)</b> Chair: Paul McIlveny Room: The Airport Terminal (3.563) Session helper: Steffen Aaberg Andreassen	<b>EVERYDAY LIFE (3.3)</b> Chair: Hans Kiib Room: The Parking Lot (4.513) Session helper: Irina Teodora Comănită
Ditte Lanng, Simon Wind, Michael Thorø & Hannah Nielsen: How can urban mobilities design imaginaries articulate 'matters of concern'?	M. J. Brüggemann & P. D. Robinson: Mirrors, collusion and collision	Tobias Röhl: Chatty Infrastructures
Elias Christiansen, Marie Frier Hvejsel & Lea H. Laursen: Designing the bike scape	Zofia Bednarowska & Jamie O'Brien: Relating movement to information in consumer journeys	Hanne Vesala: The opportunities for creativity and identity construction in mobile work

11:45-13:15 Interface – Commemorating John Urry: Round Table with the Keynotes and Claus Lassen as mediator (Aud. 3.107)

13:15-14:15 Lunch: Cantina, ground floor

14:15-15:15 Paper Sessions V: TOP FLOOR

<b>EVERYDAY LIFE (3.4)</b> Chair: Tina Vesterman Olesen Room: The Airport Terminal (3.563) Session helper: Steffen Aaberg Andreassen	<b>DESIGN AND ART (5.3)</b> Chair: Jacob Bjerre Mikkelsen Room: The Parking Lot (4.513) Session helper: Irina Teodora Comănită
Lea Holst Laursen: Local place enhancement by app-generated mobility in rural areas	Andrea V. Hernandez & Ditte Lanng: Mobilities Design Campaign
Daniel Muñoz: Transporting the 'sudaca' into Modernity	Hans Kiib: Bridging Architecture
Tobias Röhl: From structure to infrastructure	Jen Southern & Samuel Thulin: Fragmented relations

15:15-15:45 Coffee/tea/water and cake: cantina, ground floor

15:45-16:45 Keynote 3: Monika Büscher, Lancaster University, UK: Immaterial Immobilities and the Infrastructuring of Mobile Utopia (Aud. 3.107)

16:45-17:00 Keynote Q&amp;A (Aud. 3.107)

17:00-17:15 Closing Event, C-MUS Director Claus Lassen (Aud. 3.107)

In general, each session contains a 3 or 2 parallel one-hour tracks with 3 papers each (3x15 min presentation and 15 min for discussion at the session end). In case of only two papers the chair decided the distribution of time within the overall time frame. For both speakers and chair it is crucial that time is kept. The Chair will moderate the sessions and instruct about respectively 5, 2 and 0 minutes left to the speakers.



**"Power, resistances & counter practices"**

## Keynote titles and abstracts

**Albena Yaneva, Manchester University, UK**

### **Design and Mobility: Five Ways to Make them Political**

Moving beyond conventional conversations about design and politics, the lecture will show how recent developments in political philosophy can transform our understanding of the relationship between architecture and politics. In this lecture I will ask the questions: how, when, and under what circumstances can design practice generate political relations? How can architectural design become more 'political'? To answer these questions, I will draw on specific examples of how politics relates to the mundane objects of our lives, to the arrangement of a classroom or atrium, to the narrowness of the pavements, the security belt in our cars, to the height of the bridge we cross every day, to the faint shape of iconic skyscraper. The argument will be illustrated by case studies from a range of contemporary mobility situations around the world: the low bridges of Robert Moses in NYC, the New Street Train Station in Birmingham, the circulation space in the Benzie Art School in Manchester, the Marina Bay integrated resort in Singapore, among others. We will see how politics happens in architectural practice, learn how different design technologies have political effects, and follow how architects reach different publics, trigger reactions and affect communities.

**Monika Büscher, Lancaster University, UK**

### **Immaterial Immobilities and the Infrastructuring of Mobile Utopia**

The air on Manchester's Oxford Road is invisible. As I walk, a group in futuristic white coats and facemasks approaches. Their coats turn red as a bus stops, and it is not difficult to work out that they are performing artists, led by Kasia Molga, whose artwork *Human Sensor* (2016) is measuring air pollution on Britain's streets. The mobilities and immobilities of airborne particulate matter, ozone (O<sub>3</sub>) and nitrogen oxides (NO<sub>x</sub>) which these artists are measuring are normally invisible to human senses. However, they are far from immaterial. The World Health Organisation (WHO) finds that in urban areas today 'more than 80% of people are exposed to air quality levels that exceed WHO limits', and this is the world's 'greatest environmental risk to health—causing more than 3 million premature deaths' every year (WHO 2016). But Molga's *Human Sensor* exemplifies more than one 'hactivist' artist's campaign on a pressing contemporary issue. Air pollution is one of several issues where prefigurative practices of creative collective sensing, knowledge sharing, sense-making, and activism are enacting relational materiality in new ways, shaping mobile publics, and making mobile utopia. In this talk I 'mobilise' Levitas' *utopia as method* (2013) to trace how these practices are a way of 'infrastructuring' mobile utopia for abyssal intimacies and new temporalities of care (Schrader 2015).

Levitas, R. (2013). *Utopia as Method: The Imaginary Reconstitution of Society*. London: Palgrave Macmillan.

Schrader, A. (2015). Abyssal intimacies and temporalities of care: How (not) to care about deformed leaf bugs in the aftermath of Chernobyl. *Social Studies of Science*, 45(5), 665–690.

WHO. (2016). Global Urban Ambient Air Pollution Database. WHO. World Health Organization. [http://www.who.int/phe/health\\_topics/outdoorair/databases/cities/en/](http://www.who.int/phe/health_topics/outdoorair/databases/cities/en/)

**Ole B. Jensen, Aalborg University, Denmark**

### **Material Mobilities and the Turn to Design in Mobilities Research**

This talk will take point of departure in the latest material shift of attention within the 'new mobilities turn'. Notions of non-human agencies, actor-network-theories, assemblages, and post-human perspectives have drawn new and interesting boundaries up in many different research areas. At the same time there has been a turn towards design and architecture within the 'new mobilities turn'. The talk presents the contours of this new map emerging between the existing mobilities research over the new material turns toward the interest in design. In the talk the positioning of 'material pragmatism' will be explored as a viable platform for integrating these perspectives. In particular, the talk will address the 'situational' perspective of everyday life mobilities, and connect these to the micro details of material designs (curbs, asphalt, transit spaces etc.) as well to larger scales of 'systemness' (socio-technical networks, infrastructures, design protocols etc.).

# Albena Yaneva

Albena Yaneva is Professor of Architectural Theory and director of the Manchester Architecture Research Centre (MARC) at the University of Manchester, United Kingdom. She has been Visiting Professor at Princeton School of Architecture and Parsons. Her research is intrinsically transdisciplinary and crosses the boundaries of science studies, cognitive anthropology, architectural theory and political philosophy. She is the author of several books: *The Making of a Building* (Oxford: Peter Lang, 2009), *Made by the OMA: An Ethnography of Design* (Rotterdam: 010 Publishers, 2009), *Mapping Controversies in Architecture* (Ashgate 2012) *Five Ways to Make Architecture Political. An Introduction to the Politics of Design Practice* (forthcoming with Bloomsbury Publishing, London), and editor (with Alejandro Zaera-Polo) of *What is Cosmopolitical Design?* (Routledge 2015). Her work has been translated into German, Italian, Spanish, French, Portuguese and Thai. Yaneva is the recipient of the RIBA President's award for outstanding university-located research (2010).



# Monika Büscher

Monika Büscher is Professor of Sociology at Lancaster University, Director of the Centre for Mobilities Research and Associate Director at the Institute for Social Futures. Her research explores the digital dimension of contemporary 'mobile lives' with a focus on IT Ethics. She combines qualitative, ethnographic studies, social theory, and design through mobile, 'inventive' methods, and stakeholder engagement. This is interdisciplinary, experimental, engaged 'public sociology' that has produced novel insights and methodologies to explore and shape socio-technical futures. She leads research on ethical, legal and social aspects of the informationalization of mobilities, exploring opportunities and challenges around sustainability, security, and public engagement in a range of different national and international projects (Catalyst, BRIDGE, SecInCoRe). Her theoretical orientation builds on mobilities research, phenomenology, ethnomethodology, science and technology studies, feminist and non-representational theory, design research. In 2011 she received an honorary doctorate for her work in interdisciplinary participatory design from Roskilde University, Denmark. She edits the book series *Changing Mobilities* (Routledge) with Peter Adey.

Lancaster University



# Ole B. Jensen

Ole B. Jensen is Professor of Urban Theory at the Department of Architecture, Design and Media Technology, Aalborg University. He holds a BA in Political Science, an MA in Sociology, a PhD in Planning and the Dr. Techn in Mobilities. He is co-founder, deputy director, and board member at the Center for Mobilities and Urban Studies (C-MUS). He is on the Editorial Board of the *Journal Applied Mobilities*. His main research interests are within Mobilities Theory, Networked Technologies, and Mobilities Design, with a special focus on embodiment and multi-sensorial experiences of mobilities. He works primarily with field studies and ethnographic methods, and is exploring pragmatic and design-oriented, experimental approaches. He received the Hedorf Foundation's Transportation Research Price in 2015. He is the co-author of *Making European Space. Mobility, Power and Territorial Identity*, Routledge, 2004 (with Tim Richardson), and author of *Staging Mobilities*, Routledge, 2013, and *Designing Mobilities*, 2014, Aalborg University Press and *Mobilities Design – Urban Designs for Mobile Situations* (with Ditte Bendix Lanng) forthcoming, Routledge, and the Editor of the four-volume reader *Mobilities*, Routledge, 2015. Homepage: <http://personprofil.aau.dk/Profil/104214>

Aalborg University



## Session theme description

### 1. Theories & Concepts

In this session papers are encouraged that entertain the theoretical and conceptual explorations of the general theme of mobilities and materialities. Entries dealing with the cross-disciplinary nature of these challenges are in particular encouraged. Also this session seeks contributions that engage the ontological and epistemological challenges related to connecting 'new materialities' research and conceptualization within the so-called 'non-representational' or 'more-than-representational' types research. The session on theories and concepts furthermore invites contributions to the establishment of a 'vocabulary' of material mobilities research that reflect the normative and esthetic underpinnings of research, as well as it welcomes contributions exploring the interaction between language-based as well as more visual and diagrammatic ways of building new insights and knowledge.

### 2. Methods & Approaches

The session invites general discussions of the nature of methods and approaches across different examples of material mobilities research. In particular entries focusing on use of multiple methodologies and approaches within concrete research projects are welcome. Discussion of adequate of research designs and approaches that connects to the questions raised around 'non-representational' and 'more-than-representational' research projects are likewise most welcome. The session seeks to provide a pragmatic discussion of relevant approaches to material mobilities research, and will therefore also welcome contributions to the on-going debate on the specific nature of 'mobile methods'. Entries that will explore the nexus between more expressive and artistic approaches may contribute here, as well as we welcome discussions of combinations of quantitative and qualitative approaches and observational, phenomenological approaches coupled with digital and mediatized approaches.

### 3. Everyday life & The mundane

In this session we in particular invite contribution and work focusing on the routinized level of mundane everyday life practices (e.g. commuting, leisure trips, daily mobilities care, shopping trips etc.). The often 'invisible' frames shaping the massive material mobilities in all sorts of mobilities systems and modes are in particular discussed in this session. The normative and regulatory principles underpinning infrastructural systems are of interest here, as well as we welcome analysis of the minute social interactions and 'rules' of proper mobilities behavior that millions of humans produce and re-produce in the everyday life across cities and rural areas.

### 4. Politics & Planning

In this session attention is turned towards the regulatory frameworks, organizations, and institutions shaping the conditions for the materialities of mobilities. Contributions that explore the issues of political debate and deliberation, as well as stakeholder involvements are welcome as are investigations into the processes of decision-making that shapes the conditions for material mobilities across all scales (from neighborhoods over city regions to global mobilities systems). In particular the session welcomes contributions working on the edge of the organizational/institutional and the material/physical. Questions related to how 'things', 'artifacts', and 'systems' connect directly or indirectly to issues of policy-making and planning deliberations are thus invited. The session theme invites deliberate blurring of the distinction between the organizational and physical/spatial realm of politics and planning. The session also invites contributions with a domain-specific focus of politics and regulation such as environmental policies and regulations, migrations policies, disability regulations etc.

### 5. Design, Art & Architecture

The session on design, art and, architecture turns to these areas both as field of practices that shapes the materialities of mobilities, as well as it put focus on the particular ways of working and thinking within these areas often considered extra-academic. The session welcomes concrete case studies of how designers, artists, and architects work and practice their skills and crafts with repercussions to mobilities. Equally the session welcomes entries reflecting upon 'designerly ways of thinking' and 'speculative design' approaches. Next to empirical case studies the session is also interested in contributions of a more generalizing nature exploring the touch points between academic mobilities research and artistic and design-oriented practices. Contributions reflecting research 'by and for' design are most welcome.

### 6. Power, Resistances & Counter practices

This session is dedicated to explore the 'dark sides' of material mobilities in recognition of the massive injustice and examples of social exclusion that takes place in relation to mobilities (from economic and resource-based exclusion over mobilities differentials in relation to skills and cognitive competencies, towards critiques of 'ableist' exclusions of the physically impaired). The session both welcomes empirical case studies of mobilities struggles and injustices, as well a more theoretical and conceptual reflections of such issues. Research focusing on the resistance and counter practices are most welcome, and contributions working around notions of 'empowerment' and 'co-creation' exploring the massive labor exercised in countering unjust systems and practices will be much encouraged for this session. Also the session welcomes explorations of 'agonist' understandings of the counter practices challenging hegemonic mobilities systems and infrastructures.



## Social programme

### Welcome Reception at Utzon Center

28 November 2016, 19:00-21:00

Address: Slotspladsen 4, 9000 Aalborg

The City of Aalborg's official opening reception will be at the Utzon Center. The Opera House in Sydney is one of the world most famous and renowned buildings. The architect behind this masterpiece, Jørn Utzon, was raised in Aalborg. Jørn Utzon and his sons are the architects behind this magnificent building, Utzon Center.

Utzon Center stands as an architectural intermediary between the buildings of the city center opposite the tall, massive constructions by the new waterfront and the heavy industry on the east harbor. We are delighted to offer all participants this very special welcome to the City of Aalborg. Standing reception in the Auditorium. Appetizers (snacks) and beverages will be served.

(Included in the registration fee)

### Conference Dinner in Nordkraft

29 November 2016, 19:00-23:00

Address: Kjellerups Torv, 9000 Aalborg

The Conference Dinner for Material Mobilities 2016 will be held at Nordkraft which is a former power plant located in the center of Aalborg. Now, the old, coal-fired power station generates a completely different kind of power – Culture Power.

Nordkraft opened its doors in 2009. Nordkraft brings together culture, sports, and recreation, combining sports facilities, a cinema, theatres, and restaurants under one roof – all in a fusion of contemporary architecture and authentic industrial styles that create a very special atmosphere.

The exciting, unique and impressive building located in the center of the city, is the perfect setting for the Congress Dinner. The dinner will be served in "Den Grønne Café".

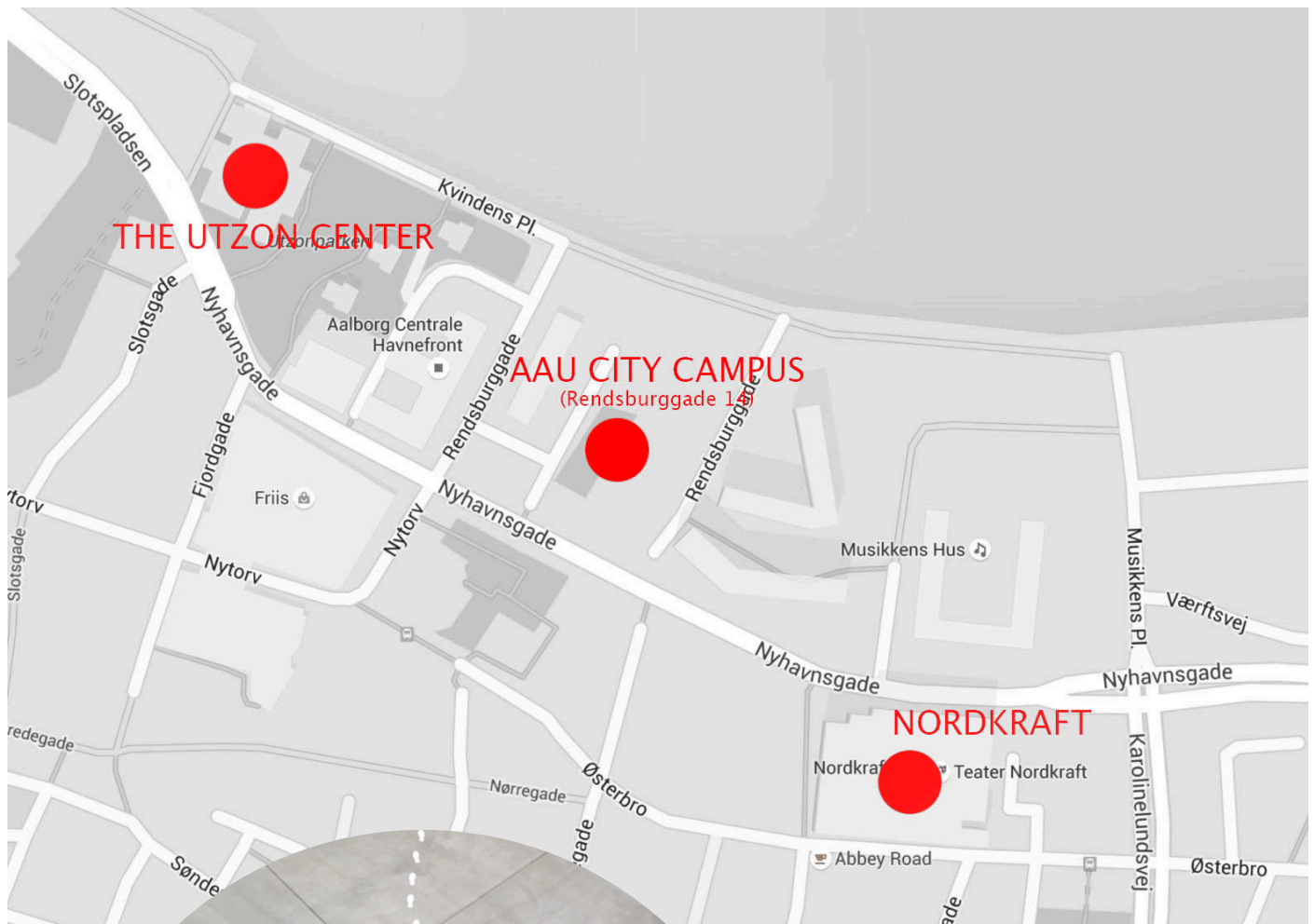
(For those who have signed up during registration to the conference)

# "Methods & Approaches"



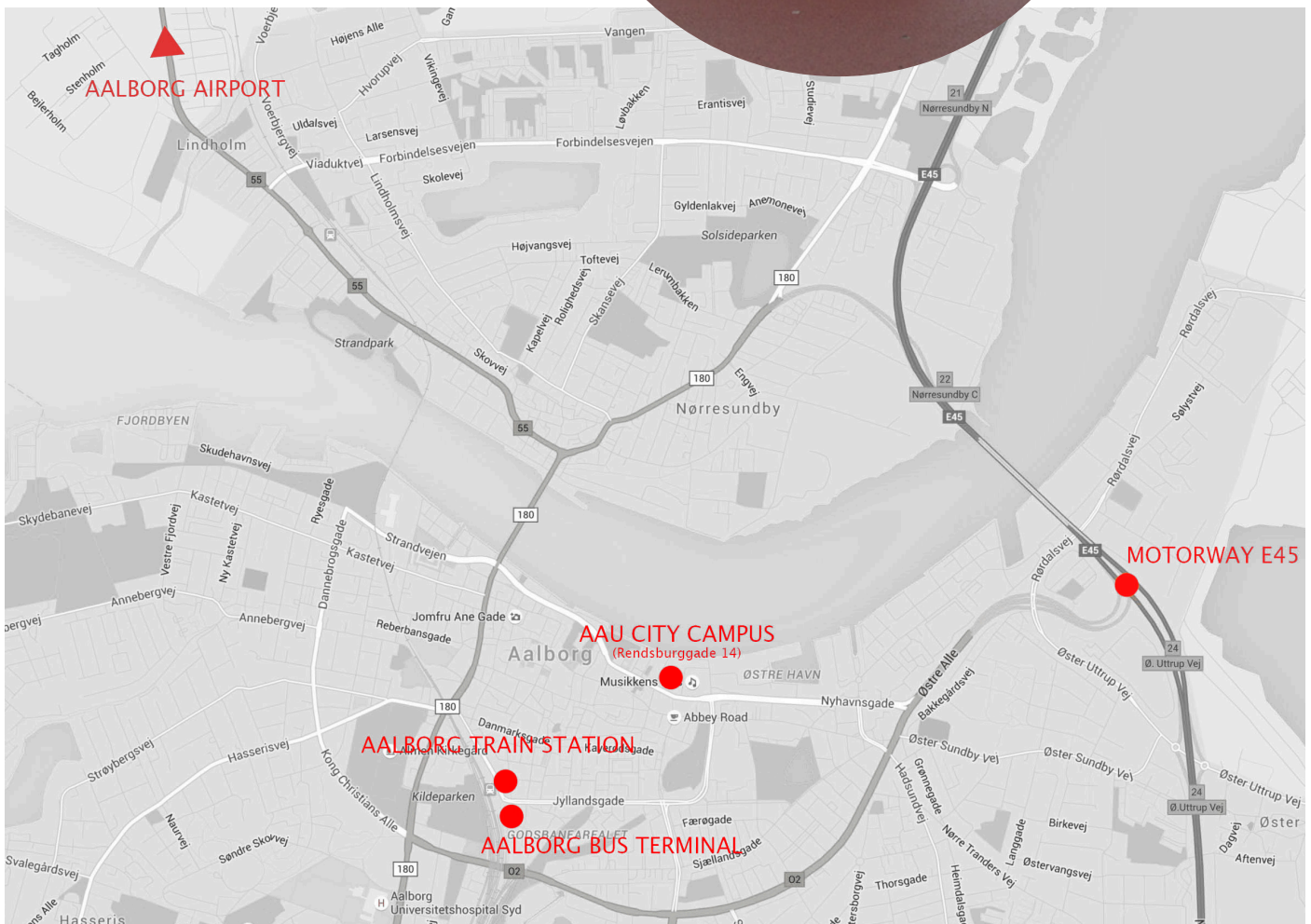
The conference will be held on three locations in the city centre of Aalborg. The main venue is Aalborg University City Campus - the CREATE building (Rendsburggade 14) - situated at the harbour front. Most of the activities will take place here except from the opening event and conference dinner. The opening event will be held at the Utzon center 5 minutes walk along the harbourfront to the west of the CREATE building. And the conference dinner will be held at Nordkraft a former powerplant only 5 minutes walk away.

The CREATE building will be open during the conference for all participants. No access card is required. However, please have your conference ID with at all times as you might be asked to show them to the building officers.



# "Design, Art & Architecture"

# "Politics & Planning"



For information about travel arrangements, accomodation and Aalborg in general, please visit our conference website: <http://www.c-mus.aau.dk/conference/Practical+Information>

## Contact

### Centre for Mobilities & Urban Studies (C-MUS)

Aalborg University  
Rendsburggade 14, DK-9000 Aalborg, Denmark  
Visit us at: <http://www.c-mus.aau.dk/>

### Conference Venue

Aalborg University CREATE building  
Rendsburggade 14, DK-9000 Aalborg, Denmark

### Internet access

Wi-Fi: AAU-CONF-1  
Password: OAcFgJw2

### Questions?

If you have questions in relation to the conference please use the C-MUS conference email or call our conference secretary:

Email: [conference@c-mus.aau.dk](mailto:conference@c-mus.aau.dk)  
Phone: (+45) 9940 7860

# "Centre for Mobilities & Urban Studies"

