

Let's Get Lost – A Walking / Reading Group focused on the Dismantling of Subjects and Spaces.

Hosted by *Scapegoat: Architecture/Landscape/Political Economy*

Responding to the proposition that we 'get rid of ourselves', this biweekly walking/reading group explores the spatial construction of subjectivity. Discussions focus around selected articles that highlight the contradictory values of individual freedom and private property underpinning the principle of the autonomous modern subject, and their current manifestations under Neoliberalism.

The belief in the free, autonomous subject, which emerged with 19th century Liberalism, produced the two great modern subjects: the proletariat, a worker "freed" from his or her obligations to the land, and the bourgeois owner who controlled the means and sites of production. While in our contemporary period the clear distinction between these two subjects as been blurred, we call this moment Neoliberalism because it involves of a return to Liberalism's core principles. Contemporary economies emphasize individual creativity and self-reliance, while at the same time privatizing all public assets. It is no wonder that in the face of this contemporary political landscape, we are exploring new ways of dismantling, dissolving and erasing the self.

The journal *Scapegoat: Architecture/Landscape/Political Economy* has been exploring these ideas for the past four years, through its first eight issues: *Property, Service, Materialism, Realism, Currency, Excess, Mexico DF/NAFTA* and *Incarceration*. The reading group, facilitated by Adrian Blackwell and Marcin Kedzior, will examine the relationship between subjectivity and space by reading texts that have appeared in *Scapegoat*. For the first hour of each meeting, we will walk in the city, discussing the readings in pairs (a technique modeled on the Walking / Reading Group on Participation developed in 2013 by Ania Bas and Simone Mair). For the second hour, we will assemble in the gallery on Adrian Blackwell's sculpture *Circles Describing Spheres* to connect the initial conversations.

The group will meet at Onsite Gallery, 230 Richmond St. W. from 6-8pm, every second Tuesday: August 5, August 19, September 2, September 16. Meet at Onsite Gallery, 230 Richmond St. W. To register and receive the readings please email onsite@ocadu.ca

Readings:

August 5 - The Origins of Property in Liberal Individualism

- Shiri PASTERNAK, Property in Three Registers

- Brett NEILSON & Sandro MEZZADRA, *Fabrica Mundi: Producing the World by Drawing Borders*

August 19 - Precarious Actors of Neoliberal Urbanization

- AbdouMaliq SIMONE, *Water, Politics and Design in Jakarta*
- Irmgard EMMELHAINZ - *The Mexican Neoliberal Conversion and Differentiated, Homogenous Lives*

September 2 - Opened by the World

- Jesse BOON, *Kids on Buildings: Echos, Mirrors, and Ghosts*
- Georges BATAILLE, *The Economy Equal to the Universe*, translated by Stuart KENDALL
- Jane BENNETT & Alexander LIVINGSTON, *Philosophy in the Wild: Listening to Things in Baltimore*

September 16 - Commonism, or Caring With Others

- Wendy JACOB and Gina BADGER, *In the Presence of Another Being*
- Isabelle STENGERS and Erik BORDELEAU, *The Care of the Possible*, translated by Kelly LADD
- Paige SARLIN, *Vulnerable Accumulation: A Practical Guide*