

THICK SPACE

ANDREAS BUNTE
JULIA HORSTMANN
KARINA NIMMERFALL
BOJAN ŠARČEVIĆ
JOCHEN SCHMITH
MIRJAM THOMANN

March 8–9, 2018

Public tour: Friday, March 9, 12:30 pm
Meeting point: Foyer of Convention Center, Ruhr-Universität Bochum



Construction site, Ruhr-Universität Bochum, 1969
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On the occasion of the interdisciplinary conference *The Spatial Turn and its Implications on (In)formal Learning Contexts*, six international artists have been invited to develop artistic interventions on the iconic brutalist campus of Ruhr-Universität Bochum. Built on an open, rural field site in the 1960s, the founding members of the university wished to compensate for the decline of the industrial region of the Ruhr valley with—what was called—a “harbour in the sea of knowledge.” Advanced concepts of how to organize an architectural megastructure, a progressive understanding of material use, and the integration of landscape elements shape this literally striking example of post-war architecture.

With each intervention, the participating artists aim to connect their works to this significant specific site, with its historical, institutional, and social momentousness. In marking the large window front of the library, Jochen Schmith focuses on the location’s heritage buildings while Mirjam Thomann deals with a non-

functional, ornamental part of the architecture in a poster series spread throughout the campus. Graphic works by Julia Horstmann are based on an analysis of the daily movements that take place on campus, while in a performative lecture, Karina Nimmerfall addresses the concept of the spatial turn as artistic method, by attempting a reverse-view back towards a once-utopian modernist past. With the use of current digital technologies, Andreas Bunte's appropriations of pre-digital visualization of space inhabit the study area of the students, while Bojan Šarčević participates with an intervention in an undisclosed location of the campus. Following the conference, a documentation of all projects will be published.

Organized by Karina Nimmerfall and Mirjam Thomann as part of the conference *The Spatial Turn and its Implications on (In)formal Learning Contexts*, and hosted by Sandra Aßmann.

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