

**Call for papers**  
**AAA 2011 meeting: Traces, Tidemarks and Legacies**  
**November 16-20, Montreal**

**Translocal place-making: Trails and traces in the city**

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This panel aims to explore how translocal/global actors actively transform cities. We are interested in understanding how urban residents form networks and groups of global actors that are tied to other places, and how global actors turn into urban residents. More narrowly, the panel focuses on people whose large-scale political, economic and/or cultural actions extend beyond the city in order to ask how they transform urban space into place(s) while transforming urban space. By tracing the actors' (individual and collective) practices and observing the form (networks, groups) and scale of their organizations, the session aims to explore how making sense of a city as a unique place is a globally articulated process.

We seek contributions that pay close attention to the following questions:

**To which extent is place-making a translocal process?** How does it imply the intervention of other localities, long-distance networks, action from afar? We aim to understand what "places" are possible in the city and how the sense of place is transformed and transmitted in a translocal context. How are places made concrete, built materially, marked off as significant? How do global actors make the urban landscape? How does the sense of place change as people move through space/place/social configurations? In which ways does identification with a particular place in the city or elsewhere contribute to the making of groups or collective actors that reach out to other places ?

**How are cities connected through individual and collective actions on global or translocal scales?** How are places of origin transposed/translated locally? What kind of urban place makes sense when people are caught between two localities? Can distant links, actions, and events change the relation to the city where one resides, or create opportunities for change?

Who changes, imposes and controls **what fits into the city's story**? We seek to understand how the dominant representations of the city enclose or disclose representations of other cities, nations and conflicts. How do they facilitate or dislodge oppositions and revolutions in public spaces? What potentialities lie in oppositional or ambivalent spaces? How do these allow the forging of new representations of or identifications with place? How are they reshaping structures of power thereby rejecting or altering the city's future or past?

Given that social, political, economic and cultural **boundaries are established within the city**, how do these separate while binding people together? How are people and practices, places and spaces enmeshed in the city? How are boundaries built and dealt within the city, and what is their timeliness? How are shared spaces/places possible across divides? How are spaces/places produced through processes of belonging and "othering"? How does the city accommodate practices and elements evolving from origin, education, and individual strategies and pointing to "otherness"?

Place-making and space-making can evolve from, build upon or sustain **inter-/supra-/national or municipal policies**. How do global urban actors relate to economic or political policies and actions and take part in change? How do heritage protection, environmental measures, economic development policies intersect, collide with the processes of place-making? To what extent do power struggles transform the actors and the policies involved with particular cases of place-making?

We invite you to submit an abstract of no more than 250 words to Barbara Karatsioli [barbarakaratsioli@hotmail.com](mailto:barbarakaratsioli@hotmail.com) before the 4th of April.

For more information on the AAA meeting of 2011 see <http://www.aaanet.org/meetings/2011-AAA-Annual-Meeting.cfm>