

Museum in the City — City in the Museum

December 10-12
and December 16

Programme of the conference

On December 10-12, 2020, the 5th International conference “Museum in the city — city in the Museum” will be held in the Museum of Moscow (online via Zoom). Every year, the conference brings together historians, anthropologists, curators, artists, architects, sociologists, urbanists, art historians and cultural experts to discuss the historical and modern development of the city.

This year’s conference is being held in the year of the anniversary of the first Director of the Museum of Moscow, the historian, researcher of Moscow or city specialist, as he called himself, Pyotr Sytin (1885-1968). The first day of the conference is dedicated to his memory, and directly or indirectly concerns the topics of his research works. The sections include reports from researchers of the Museum of Moscow who work with the Sytin’s Foundation, study his heritage and prepare materials for publication. Dialogue between the museum of the city and the city itself — how did the first Director and Creator of the Museum envisage it? What does this dialogue look like now and how is it being carried out on the eve of the 125th anniversary of the Museum of Moscow? We will discuss various practices of interpreting urban space as a museum exhibition that expands our knowledge of Moscow and its inhabitants, and allows us to consider each object of urban economy as part of a single city-text. It is attended by leading architects, historians and cultural scientists.

The second and third days of the conference are united by the topic “The Strange time” and the exhibition “Museum of self-isolation”, organized in collaboration with the Triumph gallery. In March, the Museum of Moscow was one of the first to launch a series of public-talks with experts about how the pandemic has changed different spheres of everyday life: from small businesses to education. At the conference, we will expand the boundaries and bring together researchers from different countries — all of them study different aspects of changed urban life: from new ways of using public spaces to the phenomenon of expectation and uncertainty.

The questions we pose to experts: how today’s crisis transforms our perception of time and space, reconfigures our social world, re-creates our daily practices; reveals existing distinctions and inequalities; breaks some connections and creates others; creates the space of our shared memory; how the condition of uncertainty and intense changes affects our identity, our relationships with people, redefines interaction with material and digital spaces; what optics and methods can best capture and describe the experience of the pandemic; what data we can collect, how to analyze it in the new time we find ourselves in, and how to save it for the future.

The conference will be closed with the presentation of the “Glossary of a Time of Pandemic” — the 24th issue of the philosophical and theoretical journal “Sinii Divan”, which will be held on December 16 at 19:00. This dictionary consists of 38 words-definitions and represents an attempt to conceptualize the changing world by philosophers, cultural theorists, writers and poets.

Programme of the conference

Sections marked with an asterisk (*) will be broadcast in zoom in Russian and English (listeners will be able to choose a language); the broadcast on YouTube will be supplied with Russian translation.

To register, please, fill the form:
<https://forms.gle/fBA6xAbHXfwUhghd9>

Moscow time is currently GMT +3
Please check how this affects your local time zone.

10:00 — 11:45

Plenary session «Pyotr Vasilyevich Sytin and his Museum of Urban Economy»

In 1913, Pyotr Sytin, who dedicated his life to exploring Moscow and preserving its historical and cultural heritage, was appointed Head of the Moscow Municipal Museum. In addition to carrying out administrative work, he participated in the activities of the commissions «Old Moscow» and «New Moscow», the Commission on renaming streets of the capital, the scientific College of the six-volume “History of Moscow” — and all this was made to embody his unique idea “to create a scientifically based, large, standing at the level of scientific achievements Museum of Moscow urban economy”.

Moderator:**Anna Trapkova**, General Director of the Museum of MoscowParticipants:

Stepan Orlov, Vice-Chairman of the Moscow city Duma, Chairman of the group working on the development of archival and bibliographic research and educational activities of the library of the Moscow city Duma

Zinaida Bakhtina, Custodian of the Pyotr Sytin Foundation in the Museum of Moscow

Irina Karpacheva, Head of the «Moscow History» Department

Alexandr Afanasov, senior research officer at the Museum of Moscow

12:00 — 13:15

Session “Actual Urban Studies: Excursion as a Method”

In 1947, Pyotr Sytin united leading Moscow historians-researchers around the idea of creating the first city excursion Agency in Moscow. Its opening was timed to the 800th anniversary of the capital. It was Sytin who consistently developed a methodology of popularizing Moscow studies with the help of sightseeing. Today, walking tours around Moscow are not only an important part of local history, but also one of the most popular methods of studying the city and a significant component in shaping the image and culture of the capital and the Moscow hospitality industry.

Moderator:**Natalia Katonova**, Academic Secretary of the Museum of MoscowParticipants:

Tatiana Sharshavitskaya, Vice-Chairman of the Moscow city tourism Committee

Mikhail Gnedovsky, candidate of historical Sciences, leading analyst of the Moscow Agency for leisure and tourism “MOSGORTUR”, member of the Presidium of the ICOM of Russia

Andrey Lisitsky, Vice-Director of the Central library system of the Central administrative district of Moscow

Daria Bulgakova, guide, researcher of Moscow, author of the project “Red Moscow”

Philipp Smirnov, editor-in-chief of the magazine “Moscow heritage”

Airat Bagautdinov, guide, researcher of Moscow, author of the project “Moscow through the eyes of an engineer”

15:00 — 16:30

Discussion “City as an Exhibition Text”

Talking about a city with a long history as a kind of a museum, we first of all mean the density of historical and architectural monuments, museified archaeological excavations, cultural heritage sites, etc. per square meter. But the cultural landscape of the modern city is changing rapidly and the need to record important, still recent events of its history forms a very definite request for the inclusion of new memorials, «micro-memorials» in the exhibition space of the city as various objects of the urban architectural environment.

Moderator:**Denis Romodin**, senior research officer at the Museum of MoscowParticipants:

Oleg Shapiro, co-founder of the architectural firm “Wowhaus”

Oxana Bondarenko, Moscow Department of Transport

Anna Narinskaya, literary critic, curator of exhibitions, producer

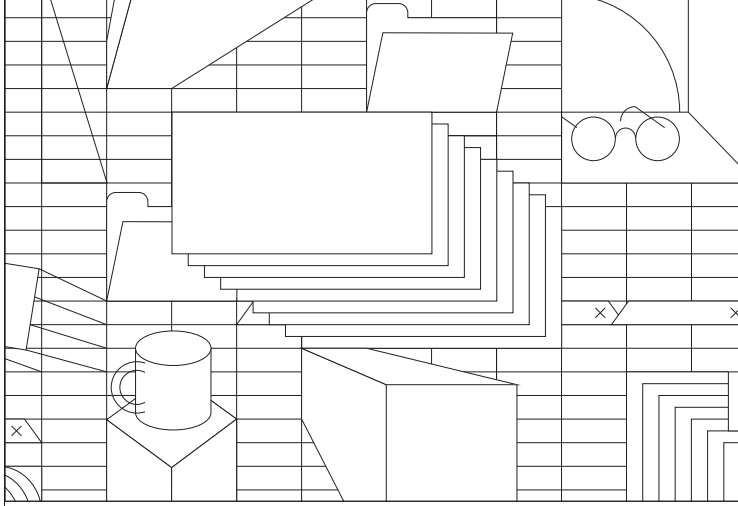
Igor Gurovich, graphic artist, designer, teacher at the HSE School of Design

17:00 — 18:30

Discussion “Toponymy as a Space of Historical Memory”

The semiotics of cities from the moment of their emergence is multidimensional and full of various meanings and significations. Urban toponymy forms a space of authentic historical memory and frequently changes depending on the socio-political agenda. Published in 1948, the research of P. Sytin “The Past of Moscow through street names” formed a request for knowledge of the historical names of the city familiar from childhood and today clearly requires extension. Published in 2020, Sergey Nikitin’s book “The Land of names. How we call streets, villages and cities in Russia”, which layer by layer reveals the meanings hidden in former and current toponyms on the map of Russia, continues this conversation and turns it into the most important metahistorical discourse.

Moderator:**Anatoly Golubovsky**, adviser to the President of The Russian Jewish Congress on culture, art historian, sociologist



Participants:

- Sergey Nikitin-Rimsky**, historian of toponymy, culturologist, founder of the International Architectural Project «Velonoch/Velonotte», Chairman Of the Department of Yard Researches «Moskultprog»
- Laura Salmon**, linguist, translator of Sergey Dovlatov and Boris Ryzhy, Professor at the University of Genoa, Italy
- Lev Lourie**, historian, regional specialist, writer
- Ian Rachinsky**, regional specialist and human rights activist, Chairman of the Board of the International Society “Memorial”

Day 2

Friday, December 11

12:00 — 13:30*

Round table “Museum of Self-isolation”. Part 1

Since the beginning of the pandemic, city museums around the world have announced a collection of artifacts, stories, photos and videos that reflect the impact of quarantine on the daily lives of citizens. «Corona in the city», «Collecting coronavirus», «Stay home», «Museum of self-isolation» — together with the curators of these projects, we will discuss what can become a collectible today, how to involve a wide audience in the work on creating a collection, what selection criteria and methods of analysing incoming material are possible, and what ethical issues arise in this work.

Moderator:

Anna Trapkova, General Director of the Museum of Moscow

Participants:

- Beatrice Behlen**, Senior Curator of Fashion & Decorative Arts at the Museum of London
- Tom van der Molen**, Curator at the Amsterdam Museum
- Danielle Patten**, Curator (Research) of the Museum of the Home, UK
- Martina Nussbaumer**, Curator at the Wien Museum
- Thomas Cauvin**, Associate Professor of Public History at the University of Luxembourg
- Sergey Kamensky**, Director of the Yekaterinburg History Museum
- Polina Zhurakovskaya**, Curator of the Museum of Moscow

13:45 — 15:00*

Round table “Museum of Self-isolation”. Part 2

The second part of the round table will be devoted to discussing museum projects that, in collaboration with artists and researchers, address the comprehension of today’s time, new ways of living it, new forms of interaction, experience and perception of the surrounding space. What is the role of a cultural institution in comprehending what is happening? How can a museum respond to new challenges in its curatorial projects?

Moderator:

Anna Trapkova, General Director of the Museum of Moscow

Participants:

- Dmitry Khankin**, the founder of the gallery of contemporary art “Triumph”
- Olga Shishko**, art critic, curator of the direction “Pushkinsky XXI” of the Pushkin state Museum of fine arts, founder of “MediaArtLab”
- Ekaterina Suverina**, coordinator of the Garage Art Book Fair, editor of the Garage Journal, co-founder of the Laboratory of public history
- Andrey Miziano**, curator of the Garage Museum

15:15 — 16:15

Discussion: “The Artist and (Strange) Time”

Artists are always one of the first who react to crisis situations, to changes in the usual flow of time and configuration of space. What do artists talk about today, when they are forced to reinvent their working methods and ways of communication with the audience in the circumstances of isolation? What processes and dimensions of social and emotional life are in the focus of their attention? Is it possible to see and describe the ongoing transformation of artistic practices?

Moderator:

Marina Bobyleva, chief curator of the gallery of contemporary art “Triumph”

Participants:

- artists **Pavel Otdelnov**, **Igor Samolet**, **Maria Ionova-Gribina**, **Alexey Abanin**

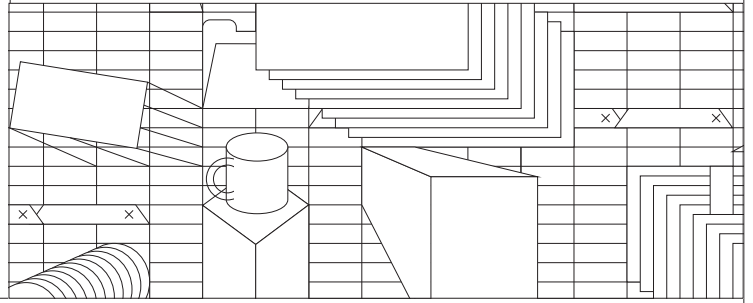
16:30 — 17:30*

Practical dialogue: Museum Digital Projects Before, During and After Lockdown

The pandemic has actualized a request to develop digital projects in museums and expand their online presence. At the meeting, the curators of digital projects of the Museum of London and the Museum of Moscow will talk about their recent projects and discuss what topics can form the basis of digital projects of city museums and how to address them to different audiences.

Participants:

Foteini Aravani, Digital Curator at the Museum of London
Tamara Velikodneva, Head of the Digital projects
Department of the Museum of Moscow



Day 3

Saturday, December 12

12:30 — 14:00*

Time of Everyday Life

Moderator:

Mikhail Alekseevsky, Anthropologist, Director of the Centre for Urban Anthropology at Strelka KB

Participants:

Alexandra Arkhipova, PhD in Philology, Senior Research Officer at the School of Contemporary Humanities, RANEPa, Docent at the Center of Typology and Semiotics of Folklore, RSUH

WHAT RUMORS WORRY MUSCOVITES IN NOVEMBER?

Dr. Rebecca Coleman, Reader and Co-director of the Methods Lab in the Sociology Department, Goldsmiths, University of London; **Dawn Lyon**, Reader in Sociology and Co-director of Research and Innovation, Division of Law, Society and Social Justice, University of Kent

MAKING TIME AND FEELING TIME: TEMPORAL ORIENTATIONS TO THE CORONAVIRUS PANDEMIC

Petra Andits, Department of Humanities Ca' Foscari University of Venice, Italy

WAITING DURING THE TIMES OF COVID-19

Alexander Vileykis, philosopher, employee of the Center for New Philosophy and Social Studies in Tyumen State University

COVID-19 AS A MIRROR: HOW WE LEARNED OUR EVERYDAY LIFE

Anna Temkina, Professor at the Faculty of Sociology, European University, Co-director of the programme "Gender studies"

VIRAL DIARIES: CHRONICLES OF EVERYDAY LIFE

14:15 — 15:45

So Far, so Close: Relationships During Quarantine

Moderator:

Linor Goralik, poet, writer, essayist

Participants:

Polina Aronson, sociologist and journalist, editor of portals "openDemocracy Russia" and "dekoder", a regular contributor to the edition "Colta"

LOVE IN QUARANTINE: STAY THERE. COME HERE

Ekaterina Muromtseva, artist

GALLERY "BALCONY"

Elena Bogdanova, sociologist, researcher at the Center for Independent Sociological Research, docent at the European University in Saint Petersburg

THE NEW MORALITY OF THE NEIGHBOURHOOD IN THE CONTEXT OF THE PANDEMIC. DIARY RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

Nana Greenstein, screenwriter, dramaturge

LABORATORY OF THE THEATRE.DOC
"AUTOSAVE"

16:00 — 17:30*

The New Digital

Moderator:

Andrei Zavadski, researcher at the Centre for Anthropological Research on Museums and Heritage (CARMAH) of the Humboldt-Universität zu Berlin, cofounder of Public History Laboratory (Moscow)

Participants:

Lev Manovich, Professor of Computer Science at The Graduate Center, City University of New York (CUNY), Director of the Cultural Analytics Lab

HOW TO PREDICT CULTURE IN 2050?

Oxana Moroz, PhD in cultural studies, docent of the HSE Department of media, co-author of the “blog of the evil culturologist”

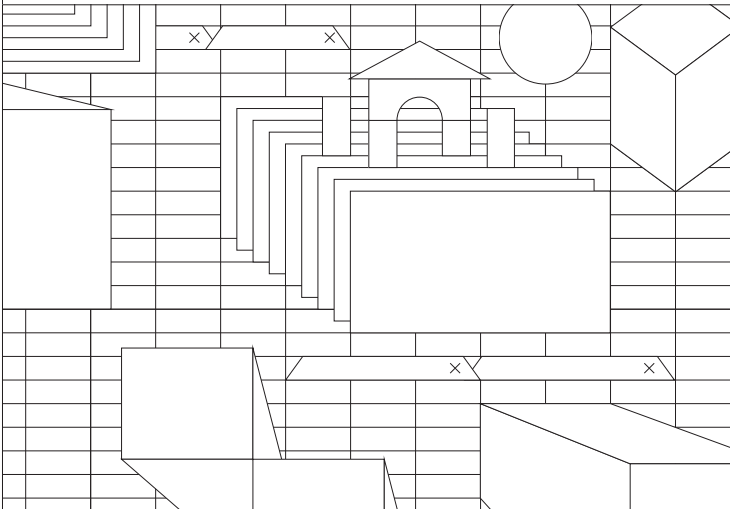
DEAR INCLUSIVITY, OR ABOUT THE HARD-
SHIPS OF CARE IN ONLINE COMMUNICA-
TION

Anita Datta, Anthropologist, Researcher at the University of Durham, UK

VIRTUAL CHOIRS: NEW DIGITAL SPACES
FOR CLASSICAL MUSIC PERFORMANCE

Daria Radchenko, anthropologist, senior research officer at RANEPa, Vice-head of the Center for Urban Anthropology at Strelka KB

EASTER ONLINE: PRODUCTION OF SACRED
SPACE IN SELF-ISOLATION



17:45 — 19:15*

A Place to Live: Observations of Material Space and Mobility

Moderator:

Alexandr Ostrogorsky, art critic, journalist, teacher of the school of architecture “MARSH”

Participants:

Setha Low, Distinguished Professor of Anthropology, Geography and Psychology and Director of the Public Space Research Group, CUNY Graduate Center
PUBLIC SPACE DURING COVID-19

Mikhail Alekseevsky, Anthropologist, Director of the Centre for Urban Anthropology at Strelka KB & **Elena Chernets**, Senior Anthropologist of the Centre for Urban Anthropology at Strelka KB
IMPACT (EXPERIENCE) OF QUARANTINE
ON THE PERCEPTION OF HOUSING IN A
LARGE CITY/METROPOLIS

Dace Dzenovska, Associate Professor in the Anthropology of Migration, University of Oxford

GOING TO THE COUNTRY: MOBILITY AND
PROPERTY IN THE TIMES OF A PANDEMIC

Alexey Novikov, the President of Habidatum

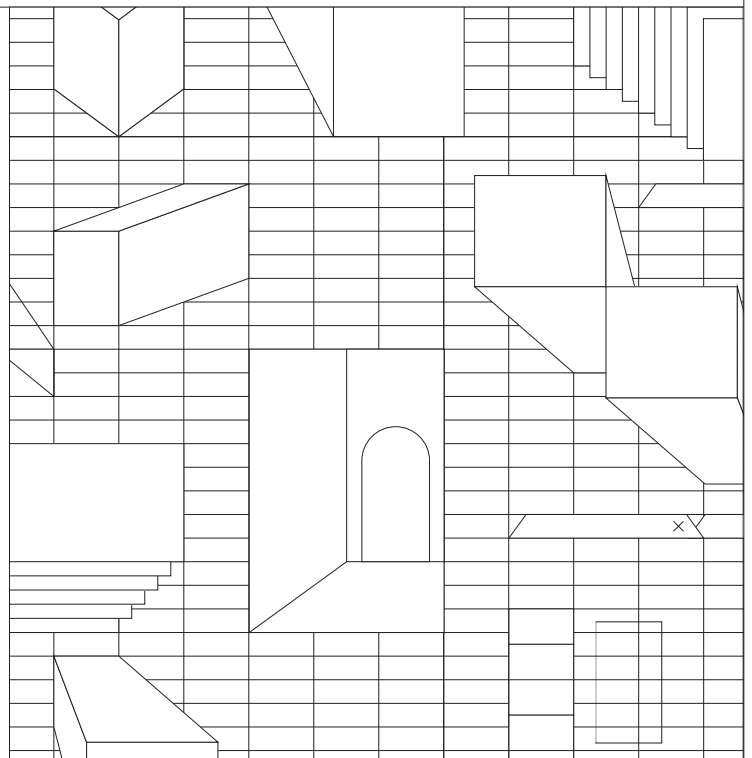
REAL ESTATE IN THE WORLD OF FLOW:
THREE TRENDS OF THE CENTURY THAT
WILL SHAKE THE URBAN WORLD

Wednesday, December 16

19:00 — 20:30

Presentation of the “Glossary of a Time of Pandemic” — the 24th issue of the philosophical and theoretical journal “Sinii Divan”

The glossary consists of 38 words-definitions and represents an attempt to conceptualize the world in which the usual bases and ways of existence have been shaken and new forms of shared experience have emerged. The presentation will be performed by the author of the idea and editor of the magazine **Helen Petrovsky**, as well as the authors of the issue — philosophers, cultural theorists, writers and poets.



To register, please, fill the form:

<https://forms.gle/fBA6xAbHXfwUhghd9>