

# Silvano De la Llata, PhD

Associate Professor

Department of Planning and Environment

Faculty of Design, Art and Community

New Generation Cities, McGill University

Montreal, Canada Q3H 3J9

silvano@concordia.ca

**Keywords** public space, democratization of urban planning/design, participatory community planning, urban design, community informatics, wilddesign and open-source urban systems, the right to the city and urban social movements, informal and subaltern urbanisms, urban fragmentation/integration, and urban spatial theory and urban history

## 1 - BIOGRAPHICAL INFORMATION

**Silvano De la Llata** is an associate professor in the department of Geography, Planning and Environment and Institute of Design, Art and Community at NGC at Concordia University. He received his PhD in City Planning from Cornell University (2014). He has previously taught studios and seminars on urban sociology, public space and history at Cornell University, and universities of Tlaxcala and Anahuac (Mexico). For the last 20 years, his research has focused on urban systems and alternative uses of public space, such as street vending, graffiti, public assembly and protest, as urban planning agents. His dissertation explores alternative planning processes in the context of protest encampments in horizontal social movements. He did research and participated in the Indignados mobilizations in Barcelona, Occupy Wall Street and other social movements in 2011 and 2012. Building on this experience, he directs the project *Cities by Citizens*, an urban laboratory and platform to collaborate, brainstorm and think out loud about the democratization of citymaking and the (applied) right to the city. Bridging research, pedagogy and design practice, he developed urban design methodologies, open planning and planning-in-situ, to redesign interstitial spaces in Montreal through collaborative community engagement. He is a licensed architect (4055023) and Masters in Urban Studies and Planning (4949279) in Mexico. In 2002 he founded Balance 1.618 Arquitectura y Urbanismo. He currently studies open urban systems and explores strategies to reconnect fragmented urban spaces in North American cities.

## Qualifications

### 2014: Cornell University - PhD (Ithaca, NY, USA)

City and Regional Planning

*Spaces of Becoming: Public Space in Transformation in the Context of the Social Movements of 2011 (Lessons and Questions for Planners and Urban Designers)*

Committee: Prof. John F. Forester (planning theory), Prof. Jeremy Foster (urban/landscape design) and Prof. Bonnie G. MacDougall (cultural landscapes, urban anthropology)

### 2010: Universidad Iberoamericana - Masters (Summa cum laude) (Puebla, Mexico)

Urban Studies and Planning

*Stigmatized spaces: Cultural Landscapes and revitalization proposals for a Tolerance Zone in Puebla, Mexico.*

Committee: Prof. Nancy Churchill (urban anthropology) and Prof. Mireia Viladevall (urban and cultural landscapes)

- 2002 **Universidad Autónoma de Tamaulipas - Bachelor in Architecture (Tampico, Mexico)**  
School of Architecture, Design and Urbanism.  
*Municipal government complex and civic plaza in Altamira, Mexico (urban and architectural design)*

#### Academic appointments

- 2015-2016 **Concordia University - Department of Geography Planning and Environment**  
Associate Professor
- 2012-2013 **Cornell University - Department of City and Regional Planning**  
Visiting Lecturer
- 2006-2010 **Universidad Autónoma de Tamaulipas - School of Architecture, Design and Urbanism (Mexico)**  
Professor/ Co-founder of the Masters in Urban Development and Planning
- 2006-2007 **Anáhuac University - Department of Humanities (Mexico)**  
Lecturer/ Chair of Design Seminars Committee

#### Other relevant academic experience

- 2010 **Cornell University - College of Architecture, Art and Planning**  
**Research Associate** in the Case Studies in Urban Development on N.Songdo, S. Korea  
Collaboration on design and curation of urban design/architecture exhibition, research and writing texts for a symposium.

#### Research group memberships

- 2015-2016: Cities X Citizens - Founder, PI and blog editor
- 2013-2014: Next Generation Cities Institute (NGCI) - Design, Arts and Culture (Co-director)
- 2011-2014: CRISES: Centre de recherche sur les innovations sociales - Axe Territoire et Milieux de Vie

#### Relevant professional experience

- 2003-2010: **BALANCE** (2003) **Laboratorio de Arquitectura & Urbanismo (founder)**  
**Director, Founder and Principal Architect/Urban Designer**  
Architecture, urban design and landscape architecture, urban development research, construction, supervision, residential and housing projects, design/planning competitions and experimental design
- 2002-2010: **Architecture for Humanity**  
**Chair/founder of first chapter in Mexico (Tampico)**  
Coordination of projects, urban design, community engagement, disaster management/planning for marginalized communities.

## Selected Design / Creative Work

- 2009 Taksim Square as a Wikipace (Architectural project competition to redesign Taksim Square in Istanbul)  
Participated as an architect and as the chief urban theorist  
In collaboration with Baris Basat, Emre Cursoy, Ayse Tatar, Merve Tasdelen and Esra Mir  
(Continues in the next page)  
As principal of **Balance LAB | Laboratorio de Arquitectura&Urbanismo**
- 2012 *The Fisherman's barrio project: Spatial integration strategies and urban acupuncture in Tampico, Mexico*  
Probono project for Architecture for Humanity
- 2010 *The Fisherman's region project: Sustainable regional plan for informal settlements, seafood market and docklands in the Panuco River Delta, Tampico, Mexico*  
Stage: Schematic plan completed
- 2010 Apartment complex *Reyes-Bolado*  
Stage: completed
- 2008-2009 *Hospital explanades: Public Space Integration Strategies for Public Hospital in Tampico, Mexico*  
Stage: Experimental/completed  
Published in the book *Public space in the contemporary city: critical perspectives about its design, management and preservation (2011)*
- 2007-2010 *Plaza Ivy: Office and retail building and café in Tampico, Mexico*  
Stage: completed
- 2007 *Torre del Bicentenario: Sustainable/Self-managed building in Xochimilco, Mexico City*  
X International Architecture Competition Arquine 2007
- 2004 *100 studios of 100 m3 for students and artists. Building in Downtown Mexico City*  
VII International Architecture Competition Arquine 2004
- 2001 *Casa Garza-Aguilera: Sustainable house with energy saving and bioclimatic technologies*  
Mexico City, Mexico - Stage: Design completed

## II - RESEARCH ACTIVITIES

### Research projects

- 2016-2019 **Open urbanisms: Challenges and opportunities of cities as boundless systems**
- 2016-2019 **Puzzle: Accessibility and walkability in the fragmented city** (Funded by IROSC)
- 2016-2019 **Cities X Citizens** (funded with Concordia's Start-up Funds)

## Publications

### Articles and book chapters:

- 2023 De la Llata, S. & Chen, J. (forthcoming). A new theory of urban integration: Accessibility and walkability in the fragmented city  
*URBAN DESIGN International*  
(Forthcoming)
- 2022 De la Llata, S. (2022). "Also saying yes: Overcoming the 'anti' stage in social movements" *Interface: A journal for and about social movements. (In Press)* (Peer-reviewed article)  
(Continues in the next page)
- 2021 De la Llata, S. (2021). "Spaces of Becoming: Lessons for Planners from the Square Movements." *Planning Theory & Practice*, 22(1), 90-107. (Peer-reviewed article)
- 2020 De la Llata, S. (2020). Beyond Representation. Overcoming the trap of representation through autonomous organization and prefigurative politics in the square movements, *Geoforum*, 108, 70-79. (Peer-reviewed article)
- 2017 De la Llata, S. (2017) "#1Dmx and the Mexico City Commune: The right to the city beyond the rule of law in public spaces" (Book Chapter) in Hou, J. and Knierbein, S. (editors), *City (Un)Silenced: Urban Protests and Public Space in the Age of Shrinking Democracy*.
- 2016 De la Llata, S. (2016) "Open-ended urbanisms: Space-making processes in the protest encampments of the Indignados movement in Barcelona." *URBAN DESIGN International* 21.2 (2016): 113-130. (Peer-reviewed article)
- 2014 De la Llata, S. (2014) "Spaces Of Becoming: Public Space In Transformation In The Context Of The Social Movements of 2011 (Lessons and questions for Planners and Urban Designers)" Doctoral Dissertation, Cornell University, Ithaca, NY. Supervisor: John Forester.
- 2014 De la Llata, S. (2014) "Protest Encampments as Urban Laboratories. The 15M Barcelona Encampment: A Space of Resistance and Creativity" in Planners Network (Association) *Progressive planning: The magazine of Planners Network*, No. 199, Spring 2014; 32-35, New York, N.Y.: Planners Network.
- 2012 "Accidental Dissidents: Urban informality as social potential" in Falasca, C. *La domanda dello spazio pubblico: tra esclusione e incorporazione*. Istituto Nazionale di Urbanistica, (Chapter in online edited book), Roma, Italia. 2012 (in English and Italian)
- 2011 "Urban resistance: Alternative interpretations of public space" (Book Chapter) in Viladevall M. & Castrillo M. (editors), *Public space in the contemporary city: critical perspectives about design, management and preservation* (published in Spain and Mexico) Universidad de Valladolid Press, Valladolid, Spain, 2011. ISBN: 987-84-8448-557-5
- 2009 "Public spaces as scenarios of social revindication" in *Pharus Academiae: Research Magazine* (peer-reviewed) No. 5, November, 2009, Altamira, Mexico, pg. 72-79. CV - SILVANO DE LA LLATA | 4

- 2008 "Elements of architectural identity. On the collective spatial imaginary in the information era" in *Pharus Academicus: Research Magazine* (peer-reviewed), No. 2, Instituto de Estudios Superiores de Tamaulipas, Altamira, Mexico. April 2008. pg. 17-25.
- 2007 "The Social Construction of Space in the Sustainable City" in *Ambiente: Arquitectura y Sustentabilidad*, No. 99, Buenos Aires, Argentina, 2007. ISSN: 1851-2771

### Submitted articles

- 2022 Beyond the city wall: Transcending the city-non-city dichotomy (the case of Gaza)  
(Coauthored with Heba Badi)  
*Urban History* (Recently submitted)  
(Continues in the next page)
- 2022 Wikiplaces and Living Structures: What computer scientists learned from designers and designers have not yet learned from computer scientist  
*Journal of Urbanism: International Research on Placemaking and Urban Sustainability*  
Submitted/under review since 2021
- 2022 Do not name it yet! Open urbanisms and the power of the quality without a name  
Design Issues (to be submitted soon)

### Articles in progress

What is a refugee camp? Theory and philosophy of the wall  
In collaboration with Heba Badi  
In progress

**Open urbanisms: Re-thinking public spaces through iterative design**  
Article based on the homonim atelier organized for the Le Monde/Le Devoir Festival  
In progress

Restitching the city: Tactical integration of fragmented urban landscapes in Montreal  
Edition process/ to be submitted soon.

### Journal review activities

Regular reviewer of articles in the journal *Urban Design International (UDI)*, *Transactions: Journal of British Institute of Geographers*, *Latin American and Latinx Visual Cultures*

### Conference Papers

- 2022 Open urbanisms: Exploring the city and public spaces as boundless systems  
Paper presented in the Biennial of Public Space in Rome, Italy.
- 2021 Puzzle: Accessibility and walkability in the fragmented city (The Montreal Case)

- Paper presented in the Biennial of Public Space in Rome (online)
- 2020 The Tao of public space: Open planning and the power of the quality without a name  
Conference of the Association of Collegiate Schools of Planning (ACSP), Online - Toronto, ON
- 2019 La Pianificazione Aperta e la rigenerazione del tessuto urbano (Open Planning and the regeneration of the urban tissue)  
Paper presented in the Biennial of Public Space in Rome, Rome, Italy, 2019  
(Continues in the next page)
- 2019 La Pianificazione Aperta e la rigenerazione del tessuto urbano (Open Planning and the regeneration of the urban tissue)  
Paper presented in the Biennial of Public Space in Rome, Rome, Italy, 2019
- 2019 *Interventi partecipativi di rigenerazione urbana (Participatory interventions in urban regeneration)*  
Speaker in panel at the Biennial of Public Space in Rome, Rome, Italy, 2019
- 2016 *The Dilemma of openness: Challenges of planning in open communities and social movements*  
Conference of the Association of Collegiate Schools of Planning, Portland, OR, 2016
- 2016 Destituent Power and The Right to the City: New Radical Theory in the Context of the Social Movements of 2011 and 2012  
Conference of the Urban Affairs Association, San Diego CA, 2016
- 2016 *Spaces of resistance and creativity (Stream and panel organizer)*  
Conference of Research Committee 21, Mexico City, Mexico, 2016
- 2014 *Turning voices into spaces: Exploring open planning approaches in the context of the 2011 social movements*  
Conference of the Association of Collegiate Schools of Planning, Philadelphia, PA, 2014
- 2014 *Spaces of Becoming. Destituent power and the protest encampments*  
Conference of the Association of American Geographers (AAG), Tampa, FL, 2014
- 2014 *Permeable boundaries. The sociopolitical construction of public space in the context of Occupy social movements*  
Conference of the Urban Affairs Association, San Antonio, TX, 2014
- 2013 *Legitimacy and legality: The Right to the City and the Rule of Law in the Context of Occupy Social Movements.*  
Conference of the Urban Affairs Association, San Francisco, CA, 2013
- 2013 *Breaking the Law to defend our rights. Geographies of autonomy and the right to the city.*  
Conference of the Association of American Geographers (AAG), Los Angeles, CA, 2013

2012. *Diffuse-outcome Planning: Direct Democracy, Direct Action and Horizontalism as Planning Tactics in the context of Occupy Social Movements.*  
Conference of the Association of Collegiate Schools of Planning, Cincinnati, Oh. 2012
2011. *The Role of Alternative interpretations and practices in the construction of public space*  
Conference of the American Association of Geographers, New York, NY. 2012
2011. *Accidental Dissidents: Spontaneity as social potential in public spaces.* Biennale dello Spazio Pubblico 2011. INU Rome, Italy.
2009. *Urban Resistance and interpretation of public space* in Urban Resistance Symposium Mexican Society of Architects and Engineers, Universidad del Noreste Tampico, Mexico 2008.
2008. *Almost no one, almost nothing: Social effects of urban transformations* in International congress of Virtual Cities and Territories: "Rethink the city", Universidad de Guadalajara, Guadalajara, Mexico., 2008.
2008. *Democratization of public spaces: Dossiers on every day life democracy.* in International Seminar of Sustainable Design II, Universidad Autónoma de Tamaulipas, Tampico, Mexico. 2008.
2007. *Elements of identity in public spaces* at the Conference of The Mexican Association of Schools of Architecture, Universidad Autónoma de Tamaulipas, Tampico, Mex. (Continues in next page)
2006. *Social construction of space: Citizenship praxis as an element of sustainable urban design* at International Seminar of Sustainable Design I, Universidad Autónoma de Tamaulipas, Tampico, Mexico. 2006.

#### **Publications for dissemination (online)**

2013. Temporary Autonomous Spaces: On time, space and insurgencies  
*The Cities X Citizens Blog*
2011. Benign Modernism?  
*The Cities X Citizens Blog*
2010. Wikispaces: How open-source theory can democratize public space planning.  
*The Cities X Citizens Blog*
2009. Let the mind put it together: How Gestalt theory can help city planners reverse fragmentation.  
*The Cities X Citizens Blog*
2008. Healing the wounds of the city: Urban fragmentation and reconnection in postindustrial landscapes  
*The Cities X Citizens Blog*

- 2017 **Cities by Citizens: From Planning to Citymaking**  
*The Cities X Citizens Blog*

### **Project Reports in the Concordia Spectrum Repository**

- 2018 **Put the core in Concordia (Public space planning and Integration strategies for an urban campus)**  
*Publication of Urban Project Report*  
*Concordia Spectrum Repository*
- 2020 **Gorilla Park: A sustainable park for all (Mobility pilot project)**  
*Publication of Urban Project Report*  
*Concordia Spectrum Repository*
- 2019 **Placemaking through Adaptable Community Design (The Case of Coffee Park)**  
*First Design Iteration*  
*Publication of Urban Project Report*  
*Concordia Spectrum Repository*
- 2019 **Placemaking through Adaptable Community Design (The Case of Coffee Park)**  
*Second Design Iteration*  
*Publication of Urban Project Report*  
*Concordia Spectrum Repository*
- 2017 **Placemaking from Interstitial Spaces: Participatory planning and collaborative community design as strategies to revitalize a service alleyway in Montreal (Bishop/Mackay)**  
*Publication of Urban Project Report*  
*Concordia Spectrum Repository*

### **Research Creation**

- 2016 **Taksim Square as a Wikiplace**  
*Architectural project (potential to develop future iterations of the project)*  
*International Architecture competition to redesign Taksim Square in Istanbul*
- 2015 **Open urbanisms: Re-thinking public spaces through iterative design**  
*Iterative design project (Experimental Workshop)*  
*Presented at Concordia's 4th Space*  
*Le Monde/Le Devoir Festival (Montreal/Paris)*
- 2015 **Wikispaces and open-source planning**  
*Iterative design project (Experimental Workshop)*  
*Workshop presented at 4th Space*  
*Urban Essentials Conference (Montreal, QC)*

## 2018 **Parc placettes as community platforms**

*Project for public spaces in the context of the 375th anniversary of Montreal (Built)*

*Ideas incorporated through internships and built in parks NDCI and Kent in CDN-NDCI Borough*

### Funding

#### Awarded funding

- 2021-2024 Fonds de Recherche en santé du Québec - Société et Culture (FRQSC)  
Supplementary grant: *Soutien à la recherche pour la relève professorale* - \$17,500
- 2021-2024 Fonds de Recherche en santé du Québec - Société et Culture (FRQSC) - - \$52,263  
Research Grant: *Soutien à la recherche pour la relève professorale*
- 2020-2022 MIEACS Research Training Award (in collaboration with Sahar Ainejadi) - \$6,000
- 2020 Experience Learning Grant - Concordia University - \$2,000
- 2018 Performative Urbanism as Critical Spatial Practice: Social and Environmental Justice in the City  
Insight Development Grant, Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council (SSHRC)  
Principal Investigator: Shauna Janssen (participation as collaborator)
- 2018 Concordia University Research Start-up Funds - \$10,000  
*Cities X Citizens (Research group, urban laboratory and planning platform)*  
[www.citiesxcitizens.com](http://www.citiesxcitizens.com)

#### Not awarded or recommended to be awarded but not granted

- 2021 Federal Funding for Research on Public Spaces in the context of the COVID-19 Crisis  
*Put the Cure in Concordia (Co-applicant with Maude Lecourt)(Not awarded)*
- 2020 SSHRC – Collaborative Research Training Experience Program (CRFATE)  
(Collaborator) (Not awarded)
- 2020 *Poles of shared mobility as spaces of encounter (a pilot project)*  
Cities Project Grant  
Concordia University Internal Funding  
Favorable reviews but not awarded
- 2020 *Participation fest: Celebrating public participation and sustainability in public spaces.*  
Cities Outreach and Engagement Grant  
Concordia University Internal Funding  
Favorable reviews but not awarded
- 2019 *Wikispaces: The right to city-making and the role of open-source systems in the democratization of urban design (Not awarded)*  
Social Science and Humanities Research Council (SSHRC) - Insight Development Grant
- 2017 *Les villes intelligentes à la portée de tous – la technologie pour démocratiser l'urbanisme et le savoir*  
FRQ-AUDACE - Fonds de Recherche Intersectorielle (Not awarded)

In collaboration with Dr. Mazdak Nik-Bakht (Department of Engineering)

- 2017 *Community corridors: Community engagement and neighbourhood-level planning as urban revitalization tactics (recommended for funding by the committee but not awarded)*  
FRQ-SC - Souhaité à la recherche pour la relève professorale
- 2017 *Cities for Citizens, Cities by Citizens: Participatory processes and open planning platforms to democratize urban planning and design for the revitalization of public spaces in Montreal.*  
Social Science and Humanities Research Council (SSHRC) - Insight Development Grant  
(Not awarded)
- 2015 *Citymaking from interstitial spaces: Community engagement and neighbourhood-scale planning as urban revitalization strategies (Not awarded)*  
FRQ-SC - Nouveau Chercheur

#### **Previous funding awarded (before arriving to Concordia)**

- 2013-2017 Clarence S. Stein Institute for Urban and Landscape Studies Award for Research (\$7,000USD)
- 2010-2011 Olin Fellowship (\$33,000USD)
- 2004-2013 CONACYT Scholarship, National Council of Science and Technology, Mexico (\$150,000USD)
- 2009-2013 SEP Scholarship, Public Education Secretary, Mexico (\$14,000USD)
- 2009-2012 GAT Scholarship, Universidad Autónoma de Tamaulipas, Mexico (\$45,000USD)
- 2011 Tinker Grant, Mario Einaudi Center for International Studies (\$1,200USD)
- 2011 CRP Travel Grant, City and Regional Planning Department, Cornell University (\$3,000USD)
- Project *Spaces of Becoming: Public Space in Transformation in the context of the 15M and Occupy Wall Street Movements (Doctoral Research and Fieldwork)*
- 2011 International Research Travel Grant, Mario Einaudi Center for International Studies (\$1,200USD)
- 2011 Tinker Grant, Mario Einaudi Center for International Studies (\$1,200USD)
- 2011 CRP Travel Grant, City and Regional Planning Department, Cornell University (\$1,200USD)
- Project *The role of urban informality in the production of public space (Preliminary doctoral research)*

#### **Self-funded independent research**

- 2009 Independent Research
- Project *Informality and urban resistance in public spaces of Mexican Late Modernism*  
Hospital Modernist esplanades and open spaces, Tampico, Mexico.
- 2008 Field Research and Community Development
- Project *Community and urban regeneration of Barrio de los Pescadores (Fishermen Barrio)*  
Architecture for Humanity, Tampico, Mexico.

2004-2006 Master Thesis (field Research).

Project: *Urban Violence and city landscapes. Barrio of San Antonio, Puebla, Mexico.*  
Universidad Iberoamericana. Puebla, Mexico

### Awards and recognitions

- 2019: Especial Mention at the Voila Exhibition in the context of CitéStudio Design Challenge
- 2019: Distinguished Professor Award, Department of Architecture, Anáhuac University
- 2010: 3rd. Prize. Annual Photo Competition, Mario Einaudi Center for International Studies
- 2010: Hon. Mention. Annual Photo Competition, Mario Einaudi Center for International Studies
- 2007: First Prize. Poetry Competition, National Council of Culture and Arts, Mexico.

## III - TEACHING ACTIVITIES

### Course development

2011-2015 **Concordia University - Department of Geography Planning and Environment**  
Assistant Professor

- 2014-2015: URBS 333 - Urban Laboratory (Studio)
- 2013-2015: URBS 490 - Public Space and The Public Interest
- 2012-2015: URBS 300 - Neighbourhood and Community Planning
- 2013: INDI 620C - Critical Metaphysics
- 2012: INDI 820 XX - Space/Place and alternative mobile spaces (Doctoral Level studies)

2012-2015 **Cornell University - Department of City and Regional Planning**  
Visiting Lecturer

#### Graduate/under-graduate courses

- 2014: CRP 6594 - Urban Design and Real State (Graduate Studio Course)
- 2014: CRP-4970 Independent Studies in City and Regional Planning - On protest encampments in Istanbul, Turkey (Undergraduate Course)
- 2013: CRP 3820/5820 - Introduction to Physical Planning (Graduate/Undergraduate Studio Course)
- 2012: CRP-4970 Incl. Studies in Urban Planning - On informality in Bogotá, Caracas and Rio (Undergraduate course)

2006-2008 **Universidad Autónoma de Tamaulipas - School of Architecture, Design and Urbanism**  
Professor/ founder faculty of the Masters in Urban Development and Planning

#### Graduate courses

- 2008: Public Projects Studio: Urban Design Studio with focus on public spaces
- 2007-2008: Urban Sociology
- 2008: Psychology of the Urban Inhabitant (Environmental Psychology)

#### Under-graduate courses

- 2007-2009: History of the Urban Form
- 2008: Urban Development Seminar
- 2007-2008: Design Processes Studio

2006-2009 **Anáhuac University - Department of Humanities**  
Lecturer/ Chair of Design Seminars Committee

**Under-graduate courses**

2007-2008 Urbanism and Ecology  
2008 Urban and Community Planning  
2009 Sustainability and Urban Design  
2006 Urban/Architectural Studio  
2007 Architecture Studio

**Student/Thesis supervision**

**Doctorate-level supervision**

**Chief supervisor**

In progress: Judy Chen, *The role of the marketplace in the placemaking in Montreal*  
2024 (PhD project) Geography Planning and Environment, Concordia University,  
Montreal, QC. Prospective graduation 2024

In progress: Bruno Ragi, *Participatory architecture and urban planning in Rio de Janeiro*  
2023 (PhD Project) Geography Planning and Environment, Concordia University,  
Montreal, QC. Prospective graduation 2023

Completed: Badi, Heba, *The relationship between the design and use of urban spaces in Cairo*  
2023 (PhD Project) Geography Planning and Environment, Concordia University,  
Montreal, QC. Prospective graduation 2022

In progress: Alirezhad, Sahar, *The role of public space in the urban quality of life*  
2023 (PhD Project) Geography Planning and Environment, Concordia University,  
Montreal, QC. Prospective graduation 2023

**Committee member**

Completed: Arroyo, Victor, *The making of indigenous resistance, land struggle and the foreclosure of politics:  
2023 Geographies of absence and politics.* (PhD Dissertation) Centre for Interdisciplinary Studies  
in Society and Culture, Concordia University, Montreal, QC. Prospective graduation 2021

In progress: Scott, Christian, *Game Theory and Performative Urbanisms*  
2024 (PhD Dissertation) Centre for Interdisciplinary Studies  
in Society and Culture, Concordia University, Montreal, QC. Prospective graduation 2021  
Supervisor: Shauna Janssen

## Masters-level supervision

### Chief supervisor

- 2023-2023 Nathans Powell, *Participatory perspectives in planning* (Masters thesis)  
Department: Geography Planning and Environment, Concordia University.
- 2021-2021 Manshaei, Mohammad, *Revisiting utopia in modernist urban development in Montreal*  
(Masters thesis) Geography Planning and Environment, Concordia University,  
Montreal, QC. 2016
- 2016-2016 Baba, Mira, *Cognitive maps as placemaking strategies in Montreal's Sud-Ouest* (Masters thesis)  
Department: Geography Planning and Environment, Concordia University, Montreal, QC. 2016

### Committee member

- 2019-2019 Parish, Annita, *The Flanour as a Geographic Database: The Atlas of Montreal Planerie*  
Department: Geography Planning and Environment, Concordia University  
Montreal, QC. 2019
- 2020-2020 Sopedeh Shahamati, *Making the Invisible City Visible; Mapping Intangible Urban Heritage*  
Geography Planning and Environment, Concordia University,  
Montreal, QC. 2020
- 2020-2020 Novkovic, Anja, *Alley Stories: Uncovering the Hidden Life of an Urban Backstreet* (Masters thesis)  
2020-2020 Geography Planning and Environment, Concordia University,  
Montreal, QC. 2020
- 2019-2019 Cressley, Jennifer, *Building Blocks of the Ineffable: Revealing Public Space through Participatory*  
2019-2019 *Performance Interventions* (Masters Thesis) INDI Masters (Individualized program)  
Concordia University, Montreal, QC. 2019

## Honours thesis supervision

- 2023-2023 Hebert Modragon, Frederique, *Implementing life into spaces: Place Émilie-Gamelin*  
Department: Geography Planning and Environment, Concordia University, Montreal, QC. 2023
- 2021-2021 Fortie, Anne-Marie, : *The role of urban agriculture for the creation of social cohesion in the context*  
Department: of Covid-19  
Geography Planning and Environment, Concordia University, Montreal, QC. 2021
- 2017-2017 Zenasni, Zak, *Public Space in a Digital World: How should a city respond to the increasing*  
Department: amount of smartphone users in public spaces? (Honours Thesis)

- Geography Planning and Environment, Concordia University, Montreal, QC. 2017
- 2017 Patel, Vivian, *Indifference and Tolerance: The Shaping of Publics and the Public Space*  
 Completed: *in a Ugandan Marketplace*. (Honours Thesis) Geography Planning and Environment, Concordia Uni  
 Montreal, QC. 2017
- 2016 Aouad, Patrick, *Community engagement strategies in interstitial spaces in St-Henri, Montreal*  
 Completed (Honours Thesis) Geography Planning and Environment, Concordia University,  
 Montreal, QC. 2016
- 2014 Yetim, Fda, *Horizontal urban design in the protest encampment of Gezi Parki/Taksim Square*  
 Completed: *in Istanbul, Turkey* (Pre-thesis project: advised through Independent Studies course in  
 Architecture and Urban Planning) Cornell University, Ithaca, New York, 2014
- 2012 Amaya, Laura, *Stitching: Urban integration strategies through networks of informality.*  
 Completed: *Three cases of informal settlements (favelas) in Bogotá, Caracas and Rio de Janeiro*  
 (Architecture Thesis/Book: advised through Independent Studies in Urban Planning)  
 Cornell University, Ithaca, New York, 2012
- 2008 Estevez, Omar, *Pedestrianization project for downtown Tuxpan*  
 Completed: Anahuac University (IEST), Altamira, Mexico, 2008.
- 2008 Andrade, Rosaura, *The effects of strip malls in the urban context of Tampico*  
 Completed: Anahuac University (IEST), Altamira, Mexico, 2008.
- 2008 Lopez, Cynthia, *The psychological effects of color in public spaces in Tampico*  
 Completed: Anahuac University (IEST), Altamira, Mexico, 2008.
- 2008 Lozano, Sandra, *Architectural project of a Rehabilitation Center for drug addicts*  
 Completed: Anahuac University (IEST), Altamira, Mexico, 2008.
- 2008 Gonzalez, Marisol, *Hospital for HIV/AIDS terminal patients (Architectural project)*  
 Completed: Anahuac University, (IEST), Altamira, Mexico, 2008.
- 2007 Carlos, Lizzet, *Good governance policies in urban planning projects*  
 Completed: (Isla Perez case), Anahuac University (IEST), Altamira, Mexico, 2007.
- 2007 Medina, Juan Ramón *Fine Arts Institute (Architectural project)*, Anahuac University  
 Completed (IEST), Altamira, Mexico, 2007.

#### IV - ACADEMIC SERVICE

##### Coordination of events

- 2021 Organizer and participant  
 Put the Core in Concordia  
 Talks and workshops to redesign the downtown campus  
 Coorganized by Concordia's Facility Management

- 2015 Organizer  
 Launching of research, pedagogy and design project: Cities X Citizens with academics, students and community organizers
  
- 2017 Organizer, curator and coordinator  
 Geography Planning and Environment Departmental Seminar Series  
 Theme: *Spaces of autonomy and resilience*  
 7 seminar presenters
  
- 2018 Organizer and Facilitator  
 Right up your alley! Project: organization of community planning charrettes, visioning workshops and meetings to replan/design a service alleyway in downtown Montreal.  
 In collaboration with the government of the City of Montreal and Concordia's University-City Liaison Office
  
- 2017 Co-organizer and speaker  
 Civic Commons Conference  
 In collaboration with Concordia's Community Engagement and University-City Liaison Offices and the Board of the Quartier des Grands Jardins of Montreal
  
- 2016 Organizer and Facilitator  
 Organization of community planning charrettes and visioning workshops to plan two public spaces in two parks in the Borough of Côte-des-Neiges–Notre-Dame-de-Grâce in Montreal.  
 In collaboration with the borough government and Concordia's University-City Liaison Office
  
- 2015 Coordination of Research Stream: Resistance, Creativity and Planning  
 Research Committee 21 Conference: The Transgressive City in Mexico City  
 Coordination and curation of 12 conference presentations in 3 panels  
 In collaboration with Prof. Walter Nichols (University of California, Irvine)

## Committee Service

- 2019-20 Department Hiring Committee at Geography Planning and Environment Committee member
- 2021 Chinatown Working Group Participant in working group
- 2021-2022 Committee member  
Space Committee  
Geography Planning and Environment Department  
Active participant in the planning of spaces in campus (Hall terrace, public spaces, GPE Department, Intelligent classrooms in the 6th floor, ER14 space, etc.)
- 2019 Committee axis member  
Next Generation Cities Institute - Design Arts and Culture (DAC) Axis
- 2019-2020 Founding group member  
Concordia's Institute of Urban Futures
- 2017 Montreal Host Committee Member and Co-organizer  
Next City Vanguard Montreal 2017
- 2018 Saving Jeanne Mance Park  
Advisory of Neighbour's Committee to preserve Jeanne Mance Park  
Community Engagement and Historic Preservation

## Public lectures, seminars and presentations

- 2023 Webinar on public spaces (international perspectives) panelist  
Biennial of Public Space in Rome
- 2023 Keynote speaker  
L'ancien esprit nouveau: La planification de l'espace public: dan le context des pandemies  
Webinaire proposé par l'axe Territoires et milieux de vie du CRISES
- 2022 Put the Core in Concordia  
Presentation to Concordia officials, city officials, designers and students
- 2021 Poles of shared mobility  
Talks and workshops with the City of Montreal
- 2019 International perspectives in public space (the Canadian Experience)  
Biennial of Public Space in Rome  
Panel participant

- 2010 Keynote speaker  
 Open Planning: Urban design meets wikisystems meets participatory design  
 Public lecture in *Cities: Urban Essentials*  
 Concordia's 4th Space
- 2010 Community engagement  
 Borough government and community council of CDN-NDG
- 2010 From Knot to Node: Urban regeneration of Coffee Park  
 Presentation to the CDN/NDG Borough Government
- 2010 Good Practices in Public Space Design  
 Presentation to the CDN/NDG Borough Government
- 2010 Healing the Wounds: Tactical regeneration of the urban tissue  
 Presentation to the CDN/NDG Borough Government
- 2017 Keynote speaker  
 Next City Vanguard Conference Montreal 2017  
 Kickoff presentation to *Vanguards: Design as an Inductive and Synthetic Process*  
 Montreal, QC
- 2017 Keynote speaker  
 Civic commons conference  
 Title: *Public space and public participation in the Quartier des Grands Jardins*  
 Montreal, QC
- 2017 Keynote Speaker  
 Presentation at Living Knowledge Community of Practice by Concordia's Community Engagement  
 Title: *Democratizing Knowledge: How can we facilitate community-based projects without leading them*  
 Montreal, QC
- 2017 Keynote Speaker  
 Seminar at McGill University's Urban Studies Seminar Series  
 Title: *Cities X Citizens: Open planning and planning in-situ as strategies to democratize public space planning*  
 Montreal, QC
- 2017 Keynote Speaker  
 Conference of Quality of Life, Organized by the NEDG Community Council  
 Title: *The role of public space and community engagement in quality of life.*  
 Montreal, QC
- 2017 Keynote Speaker  
 Conference: Global Leader Experience: "How do you prevent city sprawl?"  
 Title: *The role of public spaces in the creation of compact cities*  
 Montreal, QC

- 2017 Keynote Speaker  
 Conference at Cornell University: Landscape Architects Address Equity & Identity  
 (Interdisciplinary Design Reflection)  
 Title: Protest encampments as Urban Laboratories (The Barcelona Case)  
 Ithaca, New York
- 2015 Keynote Speaker  
 Seminar presentation at Rutgers University's Bloustein School of Planning and Public Policy  
 Title: *Open Planning: Spontaneous and organic urban planning processes in the context of social movements* (Design Reflection)  
 New Brunswick, New Jersey

### Press Interviews and Media

- 2022 Montreal's summer pedestrian streets are a hit. So why don't we keep them going?  
 Laura Manchard (2022), CBC News, Montreal, QC.
- 2020 De la Puerta del Sol a Christiania: ¿es posible crear un estado autogobernado en medio de una gran ciudad?  
 Michel Echarrí (2020), *El País*, Madrid, Spain  
 Interview in Spanish
- 2020 *The accidental occupation of Seattle: A police-free "autonomous zone" in the city's Capitol Hill neighborhood started with a demand to reform law enforcement. But some protesters want bigger changes.*  
 Gregory Scruggs (2020), Bloomberg City Lab, New York, NY.
- 2019 *Why livable cities need public spaces that aren't an afterthought*  
*The Globe and The Mail*  
 Globe Content Studio (2019), Toronto, ON.
- 2018 Laisser le citoyens guérir les "blessures" des villes  
 Karl Rellini Parazzelli (2018), *Le Devoir*, Montreal, QC  
 Interview in French
- 2018 Interviewee and project featuring  
*Promenade Montréal* (film)  
 Featuring of NDC Park, developed in URBS 333: Urban Laboratory. Facilitated by S. De la Lanza  
 Directed by Bashar Shbib  
 Oneira Pictures
- 2017 Presenter and Interviewer  
 Concordia University's Podcast Series: *Thinking outloud*  
 Conversation/Interview with Jeff Speck on the topic of *Walkable cities*  
 Montreal, QC
- 2017 Interviewee  
*The Montreal Gazette*  
 Westfield, H. (2017), "Citizen Involvement in Urban Planning Helps Cities Move Forward"  
 Westfield, H. (2017), "Citizen Involvement in Urban Planning Helps Cities Move Forward" | 18

Montreal, QC. 28 January 2017

- 2017 Project Featuring  
City of Montreal's Official Website  
*Ruelles aménagées: Espaces publics à repenser et à transformer.*  
Featuring of Ruelle Bishop/Mackay Project developed in URBS 333: Urban Laboratory and facilitated by Silvano De la Llata
- 2017 Project Featuring  
Radio Canada  
*Deux ruelle rajoncées et technologiques seront aménagées au centre-ville de Montreal*  
Featuring of Ruelle Bishop/Mackay Project developed in URBS 333: Urban Laboratory and facilitated by Silvano De la Llata  
Montreal, QC. 24 February 2017
- 2017 Project Featuring  
*Concordia NOW*  
Stainforth, J. (2017) "Quartier Concordia's public spaces and gathering places"  
Montreal, QC. 10 May 2016
- 2017 Project Featuring  
*Le Citoyen: Official Newsletter of the Borough of CDN-NDC*  
"A Legacy Project Steeped in History Yet Focused on the Future"  
Featuring of Parks Kent and NDC developed in URBS 333: Urban Laboratory and facilitated by Silvano De la Llata  
Montreal, QC. August 2017
- 2016 Interviewee  
*The Link*  
Bauer, S. (2016), "The Key to The (other) City"  
Montreal, QC. 01 December 2016
- 2016 Project Featuring  
*Concordia NOW*  
Faure, E. (2016) "A transformative vision for two Montreal parks: Concordia undergrads participate in design initiative to beautify green spaces for the city's 375th birthday"  
Montreal, QC. 10 May 2016

## Exhibitions

- 2016 Put the Core in Concordia  
*Voila Exhibition coorganized between the City of Montreal and CitéStudio*  
Online
- 2016 Gorilla Park: A sustainable place for all  
*Voila Exhibition coorganized between the City of Montreal and CitéStudio*  
At Marche Bonsecours

- 2009 Coffee Park: adaptable design in the fragmented city  
Projects displayed at the CDN-NDG Borough hall
- 2010 Co-curator (with Howard Davies, PK Langshaw and Carmela Cucuzzella)  
*Civic Commons Conference and Exhibition*  
URBS 333: Urban Laboratory projects (Ruelle Bishop/Mackay) presented in exhibition  
Montreal, QC. 18 April 2017
- 2013 Projects featuring  
*Exhibition of Parks Kent and NDC, developed in URBS 333: Urban Laboratory and facilitated*  
Silvano De la Llata.  
Exhibition at Maison de la Culture de Côte-des-Neiges  
Montreal, QC. Summer of 2016
- 2010 Co-designer (with M. Curry)  
Exhibition of the Symposium: Case Studies in Urban Development on New Songdo, South Korea  
Cornell University's Hartell Gallery  
Ithaca, New York Summer of 2010

## V - OTHERS

### Languages

- English** (fluent)
- Spanish** (native speaker)
- Italian** (fluent)
- French** (Completed Courses at Concordia University's Center for Continuing Education)

### Memberships

- 2015- Next Generation Cities Institute (Concordia University)
- 2015-2020 Ordre des Urbanistes du Québec (OUQ)
- 2014- CRISES: Centre de recherche sur les innovations sociales - Axe Territoire et Milieux de Vie
- 2015- Research Committee 21
- 2014- Association of Collegiate Schools of Planning (ACSP)
- 2013- American Planning Association (APA)
- 2013- Urban Affairs Association (UAA)
- 2011- American Association of Geographers (AAG)
- 2013- Planner's Network (PN)
- 2007-2010 Architecture for Humanity (AFH) - Founder of local chapter (Tampico, Mex)
- 2007- Mexican Society of Architects and Engineers (SMIA)