



SUMMER SCHOOL

Organized in the framework of the annual seminars

City & Architecture

PARIS - TRANSFORMATIONS III

Places of spectacle

7 – 14 July 2024

Paris

SCIENTIFIC ORGANISATION

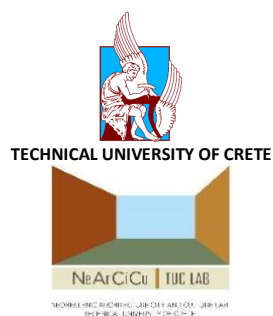
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Fondation Hellénique
Cité internationale Universitaire de Paris

transformations3.sciencesconf.org



Following two successful annual summer school events with the general title CITY & ARCHITECTURE (2022 Paris Transformations I: Architectural, Urban, Metropolitan and 2023_Paris Transformations II: Landscape, Gardens, Urban Parks), we are pleased to announce the third event in the series for the year 2024, entitled **Paris - Transformations III: Places of spectacle**.

Performing arts, as expressed in theatre, opera, dance, and music, have been central to the cultural landscape of the city of Paris for centuries and continue to thrive today. Prominent figures in power and politics have sought to associate their names with the arts and the construction of notable buildings for spectacles, with many architects achieving fame through these endeavours (Charles Garnier, Auguste Perret, Christian De Portzamparc, Jean Nouvel, Renzo Piano, Nieto Sobajano, etc.). Among the most significant historical monuments in the city are buildings dedicated to the performing arts, with the [Opéra Garnier](#) being the most famous. This monumental 19th-century structure dominates the urban fabric and holds a central place in its layout, symbolising the city's commitment to lyrical art. Performance spaces, by definition, are linked to the concept of transformation as they are essential for creating the required stage illusion through scenography. They also respond to evolving needs and possibilities for creating ephemeral leisure and entertainment spaces, primarily through digital technologies. This makes them an excellent topic to explore, especially in Paris, where the presence of performance spaces is rich, diverse, and highly interesting.

In recent years, changing scenic requirements, driven mainly by the desire to democratize art, the evolving use of space, the growing experimental nature of performances, and the exploitation of rapid technological advancements, have rendered the old historical venues (such as [Comédie Française](#), [Théâtre national de l'Odéon](#), [Le Conservatoire national d'Art dramatique](#), etc.) inadequate to meet emerging demands.

The solutions proposed are often grandiose, reflecting France's public policies' commitment to strengthening culture and the arts. The monumental halls of the 19th century are being replaced by famous *Cités* dedicated to music, dance, and theatre. Examples include *Cité de la Musique* (arch. Christian de Portzamparc) with the adjacent [Philharmonie de Paris](#) (arch. Jean Nouvel), a newly built complex in the Villette area that significantly impacts urban development. Additionally, the [Centre national de la Danse](#) (arch. Antoinette Robain & Claire Guieyette) in the Pantin neighbourhood, and the *Cité du Théâtre in Clichy - Batignolles* (Arch. Nieto Sobajano et Martin & Trottin) are also noteworthy.

The [Cité du Théâtre](#), currently under construction, represents a complex transformation of existing buildings. These are essentially giant compounds that house performance venues, rehearsal spaces, teaching areas, set and costume construction and storage facilities, libraries, archives, restaurants, and large open spaces. These highly complex configurations serve the performing arts and aim to attract a broader and more diverse audience transcending age and background. The practice of repurposing existing architectural structures has also been successfully applied at [La Cartoucherie](#) in Vincennes Park. A group of pioneering theatre artists, including *Arianne Mnouchkine - Théâtre du soleil*, and Carolyn Carson (contemporary dance), have transformed these old military installations into spaces for experimental performing arts. The result is an innovative ensemble dedicated to redefining the relationship between art and life. The renowned theatre director Peter Brook has taken a similar approach by converting a 19th-century theatre space, the famous [Théâtre des Bouffes du Nord](#), which now hosts theatre, music, and opera performances.

Renowned figure Ariane Mnouchkine supports another alternative theatre scene, the [Lavoir Moderne](#), where an old 19th-century laundry was converted into a theatre in 1986. This experimental stage primarily caters to young creators and is in the Goutte d'Or, known for its significant African community. La Gare Jazz is dedicated to jazz and occupies a space formerly used as a train station (*La Gare du Pont de Flandre at Petite Ceinture near Parc de La Villette*) hosts major international jazz artists and features a spacious garden that enhances its appeal as an outdoor entertainment venue.

A group of 19th-century buildings, once municipal workshops dedicated to funeral rituals, has been transformed into a space for free artistic expression known as [Le Centquatre Paris - 104](#) (arch. Jacques Pajot - Atelier Novembre). This space places equal importance on the artistic expression of both adults and children. Similarly, the [Le Sample](#) complex in Bobigny is dedicated to the performing arts after the conversion of the *Publison à Bagnolet*. The case of [MC 93 Bobigny](#) is similar. Both spaces

focus on contemporary contemporary creation and encompass performance areas, classes, artist residencies, workshops, and digital spaces, utilizing cutting-edge technology.

An essential space of architectural transformations includes space for cinema. Examples include the conversion of the *Théâtre des Gobelins* (with a façade designed by the sculptor Auguste Rodin) into the [Fondation Jérôme Seydoux-Pathé](#) in the Gobelins area, dedicated to preserving France's film heritage. Historic buildings in the Grands Boulevards have also been converted for the use of the Fondation Jérôme Seydoux-Pathé (in both cases arch. Renzo Piano). Similarly, historic screening rooms like *Rex and Luxor* have undergone conversions. Notable spaces for "light" entertainment, such as the 19th-century circus [Cirque d'Hiver-Bouglione](#) and cabarets like *Moulin Rouge* in Place Pigalle, also contribute to the transformation of the urban landscape, occasionally relocating to change the urban scenery.

Finally, open spaces for entertainment play a vital role in urban space management. Paris has long been considered a spectacle, especially since the *International Exhibitions*, which left a lasting impact on the city's image. Paris is currently undergoing significant transformations and unprecedented developments in architecture and urban planning. The layout of the major entertainment venues that have defined the city's urban fabric since the 19th century is now influencing the evolution of the modern French capital. The large complexes of cités dedicated to the performing arts mentioned earlier, situated on the outskirts of Paris in alignment with the Grand Paris urban plan, foster a dialogue between the city center and its periphery. They serve as catalysts for revitalising outlying urban areas, reflecting the social character of these choices. This is further reinforced by the upcoming 2024 Olympic Games, which are often poised to transform the city into a spectacle.

PRELIMINARY PROGRAMME

Sunday July 7 th	Monday July 8 th	Tuesday July 9 th	Wednesday July 10 th	Thursday July 11 th	Friday July 12 th	Saturday July 13 th	Sunday July 14 th
Arrival in Paris and accommodation at the Hellenic Foundation	Introductory Lecture / General presentation	Lectures	Lectures + Travail atelier	Lectures	Lectures	Presentations of the summer school work	Departure and end of the Summer School
Visit to the theatre of the CIUP	Buffet / Lunch, Fondation Hellénique						
Cocktail reception at the Hellenic Foundation	Visit 1	Visit 2	Visit 3	Visit 4	Visit 5		
	Free Diner	Free Diner	Free Diner Attendance of a performance	Free Diner	Farewell dinner at a Parisian Restaurant		

ELIGIBILITY AND EXPRESSION OF INTEREST

The summer school is open to students of architecture, theatre studies, and scenography at the undergraduate, postgraduate, and PhD levels. It also welcomes young architects who have graduated after 2020.

- Applicants should possess a strong foundation in the history of architecture and urban studies
- Proficiency in English is essential
- A knowledge of French is highly appreciated

To express interest, candidates are required to fill in the [online form](#) as well as submit **a single PDF** containing the following documents:

- A letter of motivation explaining how the summer school will contribute to their research or professional activities
- A letter of recommendation from a professor at higher education
- A concise CV

- A portfolio featuring three projects (drawings, architectural proposals or projects, collages, photographs, texts, etc.) related to the theme of building and urban landscape transformations

Deadline for submission of supporting documents: **Monday, March 18, 2024.**

All the supporting documents should be submitted to fondation.hellenique.adm@wanadoo.fr with the email subject "ECOLE D'ETE TRANSFORMATIONS".

Shortlisted candidates will be notified by April 5, 2024.

PARTICIPATION COSTS

The participation fee is 790 euros and covers the following:

- 7 nights in a single room (15sqm with a private bathroom and kitchenette) at the Fondation Hellénique – "Greek house"
- 6 meals (buffet) at the seminar lecture venue
- 1 cocktail (reception)
- 1 dinner at a typical Parisian restaurant
- Attendance at a performance
- 1 weekly metro card for all travel in Paris and Paris Region
- Participation in all program visits and museum entrances
- Attendance at lectures by distinguished speakers
- Organisation of the seminar, facilities, and workshop materials

The participation fee of 790 euros does not include:

- Travel to and from Paris (air tickets, train tickets, etc.)
- Airport-to-city transportation
- Breakfasts
- Personal expenses

The participation fee must be paid in two instalments:

- 400 euros, by May 6, 2024
- 390 euros, by June 10, 2024, to the bank account of *Fondation Hellénique*

In the event of a cancellation for serious reasons before June 1, 2024, a refund of 400 euros will be issued. No refunds will be granted after June 20, 2024.

CONDITIONS FOR VALIDATING THE SUMMER SCHOOL AND OBTAINING THE CERTIFICATE OF PARTICIPATION

The work of the summer school will be carried out in **English**. Successful attendance of the summer school requires regular and active participation in the entire program and workshops. Participants in the summer school are required to prepare a paper, the text of which and the relevant bibliography will be given to them at the same time as the announcement of the results in order to prepare it before coming to Paris. This paper will be completed during the summer school, presented/produced on the last day of the summer school and will result in an electronic version. At the end of the summer school a certificate of participation is awarded to those who have successfully completed the program, corresponding to 3 ECTS.

SUMMER SCHOOL LOCATIONS

The summer school *PARIS _ TRANSFORMATIONS III: Places of spectacle* will take place at the premises of the the **Hellenic Foundation of the Cité Internationale Universitaire**¹ of Paris. The Hellenic Foundation² has a rich history closely connected to the lives and legacies of important Greek

¹ www.ciup.fr

² www.fondation-hellenique.fr

intellectuals, artists, scientists, and architects. Notable figures such as Takis Zenetos, Panagiotis Kandyliis, Aristomenis Proveleggios, Yannis Tsiomis, and others have been hosted at its premises. Located within a 34-hectare park in Paris, the Fondation Hellénique enjoys excellent access to public transportation. The park essentially serves as an open-air museum showcasing 19th and 20th-century architecture, featuring buildings designed by renowned architects like Le Corbusier, Lucio Costa, Claude Parent, Dudock, and more. The "Greek house", designed by architect Nikolaos Zachos during the interwar period, seamlessly combined neoclassical elements with Art Deco influences. Its rooms, fully renovated in 2021, offer individual bathrooms and kitchens.



The Campus of the Cité Internationale



The building of the Fondation Hellénique

CONTACT

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<https://fondation-hellenique.fr> & <https://transformations3.sciencesconf.org>

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