THE PLACEMAKERS

TOURS
&COMMUNAL
ACTIVITIES



JUNE
THRU
2014

PUBLIC AND PROJECTS











WHAT'S IT ALL ABOUT?

For the past 12 years Version Festival has introduced projects that tackle local social and urban issues. The festival highlights projects and people that engage the public interest and promote the cultural use of public space.

This year Version Festival will share projects by people who are shaping the physical environment and social character of the city through art and cultural reinvigoration. From June 21-29, 2014 the festival will bring together a diverse group of creative workers, gardeners, pop up urbanists, artists and activists to celebrate, inspire and be inspired by the praxis of transforming our cities' neighborhoods. We will examine how creative place-making and tactical urbanism animates public and private spaces, rejuvenates

structures and streetscapes, and improves business viability, public safety and builds a better urban society.

Version Festival 14: The Placemakers will be a journey through mini markets, festivals, artist warehouses, exhibition platforms, public art projects, bar-b-qs. tours and communal activities that highlight the best practices of a range of projects seeking to radically change the fabric of our cities. The festival will investigate an array of rejuvenated spaces as well as take part in creating temporary decentralized hubs of creative activities. Our goal is to help animate under utilized spaces, spark cultural and economic development and promote co-prosperity for all.





Saturday, June 21, 2014 Noon - 6pm Chicago Mini Market Mana Contemporary Chicago 233 S Throop St.

Join us at a lively and fun outdoor pop-up fair created by Renegade Craft Fair in The Mana Contemporary Arts parking lot. Version Festival has curated the Placemaker Summit, and a series of arts projects within the shipping containers located in the Mini Market.

Saturday, June 21, 2014 • 12:30pm - 6pm Version Festival: The Placemakers Summit Mana Contemporary Chicago 233 S Throop St. First Floor Gallery Free

Visit us in the first floor gallery of Mana Contemporary Chicago for presentations and lectures about creative placemaking, urban innovation, and much, much more. With Robby Herbst, Paul Durica and Nick Fraccaro, Krisann Reihbeine, Rik Adamski, and Multiuso with The Graffiti Institute and 96 Acres.

Symposium Schedule (See sidebar on right):

1 pm: Contested Territory with Multiuso, The Graffiti Institute and 96 Acres

2 pm: Tactical Urbanism 101 with Rik Adamski 3 pm: ArchiGO with Paul Durica and Nick Fraccaro

4 pm: A Free Frame with Robert Herbst 5 pm: Presentation TBA by Krisann Rehbein

Saturday, June 21 • 8pm - midnight Version Music Showcase Co-Prosperity Sphere 3219 S Morgan St free

Our Mini Market/ Placemaker Summit After Party moves to Bridgeport with performances by Chicago's electronic music impresarios.

Windbreaker - https://soundcloud.com/windbreaker-1 OnYou - https://soundcloud.com/onyou Chandos - https://soundcloud.com/chandeliers Johnny Ludwig (DJ) - www.jplusjplusj.com

JUNE 21 The Placemakers Summit Schedule Location: Mana Contemporary Chicago -First Floor Gallery

June 21 · 1pm **Contested Territory** - Multiuso, The Graffiti Institute and 96 Acres

Place and power shape Chicago, and for some communities, places are created by mass incarceration, segregation, and economic migration. In this discussion, Chicago cultural workers extend the story of placemaking to include disobedience, resistance movements, and creative engagement with power. What can be learned from historic struggles? Panelists include members of Multiuso, The Graffiti Institute and 96 Acres.

June 21 · 2pm Tactical Urbanism 101 - Rik Adamski

In recent years, there has been a growing shift toward Tactical Urbanismlow-cost, high-impact, often citizen-led approaches to neighborhood development-in city planning. Examples include painting of crosswalks and bike lanes, DIY signage, temporary activation of parks and storefronts, and use of food trucks and other vendors to add vibrancy to underutilized spaces. Rik will present the fundamental ideas of Tactical Urbanism, discuss examples, and work with attendees to explore potential projects for the neighborhood surrounding the summit.

June 21 · 3pm **ArchiGO**

- Paul Durica and Nick Fraccaro

While researching photojournalist and Magnum Photographer Danny Lyon and his relatively undocumented formative years spent at the University of Chicago-- as a motorcycle rider, photographer and history student-- in that order—a gnomic mention of a gathering hosted by the then Chicago-based ArchiGO collective led Paul and me astray. It was time to consult more knowledgeable local historians of the sprawling mid-century architecture and design "movement" centered around Chicago and the IIT campus. Join Paul Durica and Nick Fraccaro as they guide an audience down a forgotten rivulet of Chicago history that involves Archigram, intellectual piracy, radical playground architecture, Chicago public housing, and much more. Presented in the form of a half hour lecture program featuring a lecture, never before exhibited slides, and a lively question & answer session, we hope to rewrite, and re-right the long criminally forgotten exploits of Chicago's very own collective ArchiGO.- Nick

June 21 · 4pm A Free Frame - Robert Herbst

The Free Frame of Reference was an actual large yellow picture frame that was placed before a crowd by the SF Diggers in the Pan Handle before they shared their daily free meals served to the free people of San Francisco in the 1960's. The frame served as a literal portal between a world of capital and the (then) emerging architecture of a living breathing free city.

June 21 · 5pm Presentation TBA - Krisann Rehbein

Krisann Rehbein is a strategist, mentor, writer, and convener. She is currently the Director of Youth Education at the Chicago Architecture Foundation. Krisann began her career as a grassroots organizer in Chicago, New York and Pittsburgh, and served as the Midwest Recruitment Director for the Organizing Institute of the AFL-CIO. She holds a bachelor of arts degree from the University of Wisconsin at Madison and a master's degree in sociology from the University of Chicago where her research focused on land use policy and change in urban neighborhoods. She is a contributing writer for Newcity where she ruminates on the intersections between urbanism and parenting.

JUNE 21 The Placemakers Summit Schedule Location: Mana Contemporary Chicago -First Floor Gallery

June 22 · 1pm Why Aren't We All Developers By Now? - Charles Vinz

Artists and their respective communities are the economic saviors to blighted urban areas. At least that's what we're told to believe by Atlantic Cities and Richard Florida. But then there's gentrification, the inevitable end game of that real estate roller coaster. So what do people in Rustbelt & Legacy Cities, cities in which blighted neighborhoods are in constant supply, do to create a sense of shared pride in place, economic stability, and a desirable quality of life? Create it themselves.

June 22 · 2pm Wicker Park Bocce Club - Alex Gara

Local Chicagoans transformed one of their neighborhood's many abandoned, overgrown city lots into a community park centered around the game of bocce ball in the summer of 2013. The project's conception was basic enough: take an eyesore and create a handsome, usable space for the neighborhood. The realization of this goal led us down the labyrinth of city bureaucracy, but also helped instigate Chicago's announcement of \$1 leases on empty city lots. Having experienced the overwhelmingly positive response of this project, the Wicker Park Bocce Club is now in the process of founding bocce clubs in neighborhoods across the city, all the with the aim of strengthening the bonds between people and their place.

June 22 · 3pm Space-taking and place-making - Sean Starowitz

The fall out of post-industrial centers and the automobile has lead to sprawl, racial and economic divides, and vacancy throughout the Midwest. What are the roles (if any) that artist, cultural workers, and neighbors can do in the urban/suburban context that lead to transformation and renewal? How do we define and truly grasp vocabularies dealing with our civic life such as "creative-place-making", gentrification, revitalization and community? For VersionFest, Sean Starowitz will talk about a variety of projects in Kansas City that explore, discuss, and challenge the urban/suburban context.

June 22 · 4pm Fertile Substrate: the down and dirty job of placemaking - Nance Klehm

Intrepid earthy folk here and far are building fertile substrates in our landscapes of disturbances – aka Cities. Nance will share stories and images from a few local projects as well as other rooted efforts being engaged elsewhere to inspire you to throw in wherever you currently inhabit.

June 22 · 5pm Hypercities :: Bangkok - Logan Bay

From street food and commerce to Buddhist and animist practice urban spaces take on a multitude of uses, often overlapping and developing a distinct hybridity in their physical manifestations. This is hyper-urbanism built through a rich multitiered cosmology that creates a cityscape teeming with access points to mystical reality. But this mythical sense of place making is no utopia and like many urban environments survival is still an important aspect of big city existence, leading to the appropriation and reuse of everyday objects--urban innovation. Join artist and curator Logan Bay as he presents a street level tour of South East Asia, with a heavy focus on urban life in Bangkok.

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renegadecraft.com/chicago-mini-market



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Sunday, June 22, 2014 • 5 - 8:30pm

Never the Same Artists Congress Potluck

McGuane Park / Palmisano Park

Free

Meet us on the top of the hill for the Artist Congress Summer Bar BBQ and Unfurling Book Release.

It will be a summer social – a chance to continue the conversation. What is the relationship between activism and art? What revolutionary art practices are happening now in Chicago, the United States and worldwide? Bring food and beverage for a potluck picnic. Ginger beer provided by Maria's Packaged Goods.

More info: http://theleftfront-blockmuseum.tumblr.com/

Monday, June 23, 2014 ● 4pm - 6pm Bridgeport Streetscaping Society Co-Prosperity Sphere 3219 S Morgan St RSVP Only Event \$5

Take a tour of recent guerrilla streetscaping and tactical urbanism projects by residents of Bridgeport. We start the tour at 37th and Morgan, visit a few unique spaces in the neighborhood, talk with the artists behind the new mural on the Co-Prosperity Sphere, take a peak at a few tactical urbanism initiatives and end with a dinner and discussion at Maria's Packaged Goods & Community Bar during their weekly Korean Polish BBQ. RSVP online at versionfest.org.

Tuesday, June 24, 2014 ● 3pm - 6pm Rebuild Foundation Tour RSVP Only Event \$20

Rebuild Foundation helps neighborhoods thrive through culture-driven redevelopment by activating abandoned spaces with arts and cultural programming. Join us for a private tour of some their groundbreaking projects. A very limited number of guests will be able to take a private tour. You must RSVP online at versionfest.org

rebuild-foundation.org

Tuesday, June 24, 2014 ● 7-10pm

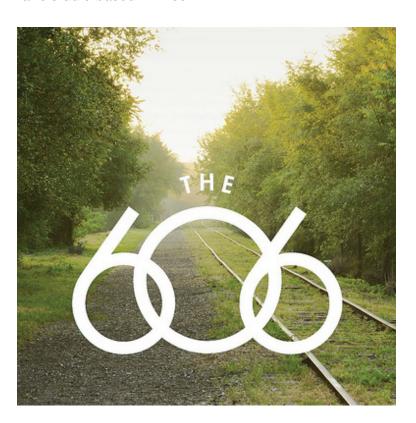
Community Grant Night

Maria's Packaged Goods & Community Bar

960 W 31st Street

Free

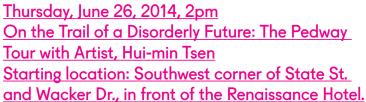
The purpose of Community Grant Night is to raise money for worthwhile projects by local artists, neighborhood organizations and valuable social groups. The concept is plain and simple: You order a special cocktail or beer and then Maria's gives 100% of the proceeds to the specified grant recipient. On June 24, Maria's will raise funds for Elevarte Community Studio a non profit arts studio based in Pilsen.



Wednesday, June 25, 2014 ● 1-4pm
The 606 Tour
RSVP Only event \$20
Details for tour location starting point TBA.

The 606 is Chicago's next great park. The 606 brings together elevated trails for bikers and runners, art installations, and landscape design to create an urban oasis and a new way to explore the city. CDOT, along with numerous community partners, is building the Blooming-dale Trail and Park-- a multi-use linear park that will be the first of its kind in Chicago. A very limited number of guests will be able to take a private tour months before it opens. You must RSVP at versionfest.org.





Deep beneath the surface of the city, a tangled ribbon of corridors runs throughout 40 blocks of downtown Chicago. This meandering passage appears to have grown up organically as if it were an animal's burrow or a donkey's path. Its route is illogical: the corridors exist outside of known space, and its hidden entrances lead to mysterious destinations. What is this place? It is the Chicago Pedway, an intricate non-system of pedestrian tunnels built to separate the citizens of the city from the dangers and foul weather encountered on the street. The tour is a participatory look at the myth and mystery present in our everyday landscape.

The tour re-imagines the tunnel's origins according to residual undercurrents in our urban history: fear of others, discontent and its Utopian counterpart (order), control, wonder, and fantasies of the future. During the tour, visitors will catch glimpses of characters including a fearful Grand Duke, a 19th century capitalist, a time traveler, and an eccentric president as well as hear stories about the history of Chicago and multi-level walkways. Although some residents may be familiar with portions of the Pedway, few have walked its entirety from end to end. The 90-minute tour starts at the beginning with the Renaissance Hotel, winds through corridors, lobbies, and connecting train platforms unmarked on maps, to reach the Pedway's conclusion in a magnificent vista on the 42nd floor of the Swissotel, all without ever stepping outside.



Friday, June 27, 2014 7-midnight ArchiGO, 50 Years Later Co-Prosperity Sphere 3219 S Morgan St Admission is \$5 after 9pm

ArchiGO was an avant-garde architectural group formed in the 1960s - based at the Illinois Institute of Technology - that was neofuturistic, anti-heroic and pro-consumerist, drawing inspiration from technology in order to create a new reality that was solely expressed through hypothetical projects.

ArchiGO's utopian visions influenced a generation of urban planners and designers who worked to prevent modernism from becoming a sterile and safe orthodoxy by its adherents. ArchiGO and the movements they spawned are a source of inspiration for much of the contemporary placemaking and guerrilla urbanism practices that we have explored in this year's festival. The exhibit shows a rare collection of ArchiGO's remixing of the city of big shoulders and other utopian projects.

ArchiGO, 50 Years Later features original work on loan from IIIT and interpretations by these additional artists:

Patrick Willi, John Salhus, Reuben Kincaid, Juan Angel Chavez, Rob Christopher, Charlie Vinz, Ken Camden, Catherine Uehara, Mike Slattery, Logan Bay, William Neville, Paul Durica, Nick Fraccaro, Patrick Lichty, Emma Saperstein and others.

Saturday, June 28, 2014 ● 4-9pm Printers Ball 1821 W Hubbard Free

The 10th annual Printers' Ball is an homage and celebration of literary culture and printmaking. This year's theme is Chatter and offers a robust schedule of performances, live printmaking demos, exhibitions, and food, drink tastings and more. Version festival participates in the Ball by presenting its related publications: Proximity Magazine, Lumpen, Mash Tun Journal and bringing Maria's to the North Side.

Above the Pavement
Sunday, June 29, 2014 • 1-6pm
Maria's Packaged Goods & Community Bar
960 W 31st Street

We started Above The Pavement to demonstrate what a city market could look like for the neighborhood of Bridgeport. Join us as we present wares from members of the Small Manufacturing Alliance, objects by local makers and delicious treats from artisan food purveyors.



From June 21 to June 29, 2014 Public Media Institute presents:

Version Festival 14: The Placemakers

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The festival is co-produced by Public Media Institute (PMI) and dozens of our neighbors, community groups, friends, and business owners here in Chicago. PMI is a non-profit 501(c) 3, community based, arts & culture organization located in Chicago, Illinois. Our mission is to create and incubate innovative arts programming and cultural infrastructures to transform people - socially and intellectually – through the production of festivals, art spaces, events, exhibitions, community projects, artifacts and media. Public Media Institute is committed to the region's cultural ecology and is evident through our series of programs, spaces and projects.

Public Media Institute publicmediainstitute.com

Version Festival is sponsored by Mana Contemporary manacontemporary.com