



**FUTURE  
FORUM**

**FROM CRISIS  
TO RESILIENCE**

**OCTOBER 20, 2023**

22 VANDERBILT, 335 MADISON AVE, NEW YORK

The “FUTURE FORUM”, hosted by the German Center for Research and Innovation (DWIH) New York, brings together German and American scientists, researchers, innovators, and entrepreneurs to tell their stories, exchange ideas, present innovations, and debate.

## From Crisis to Resilience – Building Resilient Futures

Global crises and their associated effects have a profound impact on social, environmental, and economic systems and infrastructures.

Preparedness and a basic robustness in dealing with crises lead to a focus on resilience as both a process and a property – that is to anticipate and adapt to changing conditions in all areas of society. Ideally, resilience does not mean a return to the original state, but rather a continuous and transformative advancement. The FUTURE FORUM: From Crisis to Resilience asks: What is the staying power towards building resilient societies?

### Focus Topics

- Global Security and Crisis Governance
- Climate Change, Biodiversity and Planetary Health
- Energy and Resource Resilience
- Tech and Cyber Security
- Democracy and the Individual



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## **PROGRAM**

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### **FRIDAY, OCTOBER 20 | MAIN STAGE PRESENTATIONS (Amphitheater), 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor**

12:15 PM **DOORS OPEN**

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12:30 PM **NETWORKING**

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1:00 PM **OFFICIAL WELCOME REMARKS**

Joybrato Mukherjee, President, German Academic Exchange Service (DAAD)  
Rector, University of Cologne

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1:05 PM **OPENING**

Benedikt Brisch, Director, DWIH New York  
Jan Lüdert, Head of Programs, DWIH New York

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1:10 PM **TRANSATLANTIC DIALOGUE**

Carsten Ruepke, Consul General, German Consulate General New York  
Amy Myers Jaffe, Director of the Energy, Climate Justice and Sustainability Lab, New York University

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1:30 PM **CLIMATE, PLANET, CITIES**

Timon McPhearson, Director and Professor, Urban Systems Lab, The New School  
Hilke Berger, Scientific Lead, City Science Lab @ Hafencity University Hamburg  
Johanna Lovecchio, Director of Program Design for Climate Action, The Climate School, Columbia University  
Rita Sousa Silva, Professor, University of Freiburg

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2:15 PM Coffee Break

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2:30 PM **BLACKOUT ACTIVATION**

Tricia Wachtendorf, Director, Disaster Research Center, University of Delaware  
Birgitta Sticher, Professor of Psychology and Leadership Science, Berlin School of Economics and Law (HWR Berlin)

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2:50 PM **PSYCHOLOGICAL RESILIENCE**

Oliver Tüscher, Professor for Mental Health and Resilience, Leibniz Institute for Resilience Research (LIR)  
Cyrus Poliakoff, Psychoanalyst, New Lacanian School

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3:25 PM Coffee Break

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3:45 PM **SOCIAL DIMENSIONS OF RESILIENCE**

David Stark, Arthur Lehman Professor of Sociology, Columbia University  
Sophia Li, PhD Candidate, Princeton University  
Elena Esposito, Professor of Sociology, Bielefeld University

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4:30 PM **INTERNET & CYBER RESILIENCE**

Alex Lloyd, Distinguished Engineer, Google  
Isabel Bär, IT Consultant, Senacor

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5:00 PM

**DEMOCRACY & THE INDIVIDUAL**

Michael Hagenlocher, Academic Officer, United Nations University,  
Institute for Environment & Human Security (UNU-EHS)

Anna-Bettina Kaiser, Professor for Public Law/Senior Emile Noel Global Fellow, Humboldt-Universität  
zu Berlin/New York University

Mattias Kumm, Professor of Law, New York University and Humboldt-Universität zu Berlin  
moderated by Steven Sokol, President and CEO, American Council on Germany

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5:30 PM

**MAIN STAGE ENDS**


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**FRIDAY, OCTOBER 20 | 5 PM–9 PM | (The Commons, 7<sup>th</sup> floor)**

**THE NIGHT LAB**

**Curated and Produced by Lauren Goshinski, With production by Tony Tirador**

Thank you to our partners German Research Foundation (DFG) and VibeLab.

5:00 PM

**NIGHT LAB DISPLAYS & NETWORKING**

“Blackout”

Birgitta Sticher, Professor, Berlin School of Economics and Law (HWR Berlin)

Tricia Wachtendorf, Professor of Sociology & Director, Disaster Research Center, University  
of Delaware

Cara Michell, Northeastern University

“Ekos”

Christopher Kennedy & Timon McPhearson, Urban Systems Lab, The New School at Parsons

“Molecular Resilience”

German Research Foundation featured Walter Benjamin Fellows Mascha Kohen PhD & Arthur  
Nuerberger PhD

“Resilience Walk”

Prof. Dr. Henrik Schultz, Osnabrück University of Applied Sciences

“Musings from the Margins of a Polychrome Future”

Lafayette Cruise, Guild of Future Architects & Rhode Island School of Design

“Nighttime at the Digitope”

Hilke Berger & Rico Herzog, City Science Lab, HafenCity University Hamburg

“Overnight Scenario”

Michael Fichman, Vibe Lab & University of Pennsylvania Weitzman School of Design

“Preserving Queer Place and History”

People’s Riisearch Group (Jacob Riis Beach), Lex Barlowe, dash pinheiro, Safiyah Riddle,  
jah elyse sayers, with support from Rita Musello-Kelliher

“Resilience in NYC’s Chinatown”

Philip Poon, NEW INC. & registered architect NYC

Soul Summit Music

Co-founders Sadiq Bellamy, Tabu, and Jeff Mendoza

“The Lot Radio”

“What We Brought With Us”

Academy in Exile/University Alliance Ruhr (UA Ruhr)/Fatemeh Rezaei

Egemen Özbek, academic coordinator of Academy in Exile at TU Dortmund; Kate Bonansinga,  
Director, School of Art at the College of Design, Architecture, Art, and Planning at University of  
Cincinnati; Annika Roux, producer for Academy in Exile

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9:00 PM **NIGHT LAB END**

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**HOW CAN WE**

**PREDICT**

## OUR SPEAKERS

### Tricia Wachtendorf



#### Director, Disaster Research Center, University of Delaware

Tricia Wachtendorf is a leader in disaster research and education. A Professor of Sociology at the University of Delaware, she directs the world-renowned Disaster Research Center – the oldest center in the world focused on the social science and management aspects of disasters.

For almost three decades, her research has focused on disaster improvisation, multi-organizational coordination, transnational crises, and social vulnerability to disasters. She has engaged in quick response fieldwork after such events as the 2001 World Trade Center attacks, tsunamis affecting India, Sri Lanka, and Japan, Hurricanes Katrina and Sandy, earthquakes in China and Haiti, as well as the 2020 Covid-19 pandemic.

### Yoan Vilain



© Janina Kusterka

#### Vice-Provost for International and European Affairs, Humboldt-Universität zu Berlin

Yoan Vilain is Vice-Provost for International and European Affairs at Humboldt-Universität zu Berlin and visiting law professor at Sciences Po Paris and Strasbourg. His research encompasses German, French, European and comparative constitutional law, methodology of comparative Law, with special attention to questions of state organisation and federal theory. He has received several scientific prizes, among others the German-French Parliamentary Prize awarded by the Assemblée nationale and the Bundestag. He serves on numerous scientific committees and academic boards and has been elected to the board of the German Academic Exchange Service.

### Oliver Tüscher



#### Professor for Mental Health and Resilience, Leibniz Institute for Resilience Research (LIR), Mainz (Germany)

Oliver Tüscher studied medicine at Bochum, Tulane New Orleans, Weill Medical College of Cornell Univ., WMC and Heidelberg Univ, where he received his MD/ PhD in molecular and cellular neurobiology. He started his clinical qualification in Neurology at Hamburg Univ. while in parallel becoming a cognitive neuroscientist focussing on the neural mechanisms of emotion processing and cognitive control using modern neuroimaging methods like functional MRI and FDG-PET on which he spend three years of postdoctoral studies again at WMC in New York City.

Returning to Germany (Freiburg and Mainz) he became board certified in Neurology and Psychiatry and is currently Professor and Vice-Chair, Department of Psychiatry and Psychotherapy, University Medical Center – Johannes Gutenberg-University, Mainz in addition to his LIR affiliation.

**Birgitta Sticher****Professor of Psychology and Leadership Science, Berlin School of Economics and Law (HWR Berlin)**

Born in Germany in 1960, she studied psychology and worked in psychiatry as a clinical psychologist. Since 1998, she is a professor at the Berlin School of Economics and Law (HWR Berlin). Her students are future police officers and security managers.

A special focus of her research is the involvement of the population in disaster management. To this end, she has conducted two major research projects on the consequences of a long-lasting power outage in Berlin and how to improve the way the population copes with this crisis or disaster. She is excited about improving communication, training students in crisis communication and working on the topic of “discrimination risks and protection”.

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**David Stark****Arthur Lehman Professor of Sociology, Columbia University**

David Stark is Arthur Lehman Professor of Sociology at Columbia University where he directs the Center on Organizational Innovation. Stark uses a variety of methods to study problems of valuation, innovation, and observation.

Stark recently completed a major research project on Diversity and Performance: Networks of Cognition in Markets and Teams supported by a five-year Advanced career Award from the European Research Council. The project studied the network properties of cognition as organizations face three challenges of detecting error, allocating attention, and organizing innovation. With continuous support from the National Science Foundation since 2000, Stark and his collaborators are contributing to the field of economic sociology.

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**Rita Sousa Silva****Professor, University of Freiburg (Germany)**

Rita Sousa-Silva is an Assistant Professor in Environmental Sciences at Leiden University, the Netherlands, and a Research Fellow at the Young Academy for Sustainability Research at the University of Freiburg, Germany. She also serves as the Co-Chair of the Science-Policy-Society Interfacing Taskforce of the BiodivClim Knowledge Hub, part of the European Biodiversity Strategy for 2030.

Her research focuses on the relationship between urban green spaces and human health and well-being, the importance of tree species diversity for resilient urban forests, and how this knowledge can be applied to plan and manage green spaces for multiple benefits. She aims to produce evidence that can be effectively translated into policy solutions, contributing to transforming cities into more sustainable, resilient, and inclusive places.



### Neda Soltani



#### Lead Officer, Humboldt-Universität zu Berlin

Born and raised in Iran, Neda Soltani was forced into a life of political exile in Germany in the summer of 2009. She was the recipient of a Scholar Rescue Fund fellowship in 2012 due to her academic work in Iran. In 2019, she switched from academic work to science management and became the lead officer for protection and advocacy for at-risk and displaced scholars at Humboldt University, Berlin, Germany.

### Steven Sokol



#### President and CEO, American Council on Germany

Dr. Steven E. Sokol is the President and CEO of the American Council on Germany. Previously, he served as President and CEO of the World Affairs Council of Pittsburgh and prior to that he was the Vice President and Director of Programs at the American Council on Germany. He holds a Doctorate in Law and Policy from Northeastern University as well as an M.A. in International Relations and International Economics from the Johns Hopkins University's Paul Nitze School of Advanced International Studies (SAIS) and a B.A. from Wesleyan University. He has also studied at the Ruprecht-Karls-Universität in Heidelberg and as a Fulbright Scholar at the Freie Universität in Berlin.

### Henrik Schultz



#### Professor for Landscape Design and Regional Development, Osnabrück University of Applied Sciences

Henrik Schultz is a landscape architect and co-founder of the consultancies Stein+Schultz and landschaft3\*. Henrik is full professor for landscape design and regional development at Osnabrück University of Applied Sciences. Henrik's research and publications focus on climate-resilient city structures, sustainable mobility, transdisciplinary planning processes and walking as creative practice.

### Carsten Riepke



#### Deputy Consul General, German Consulate General New York

Carsten Riepke has been Deputy Consul General in New York since August 2023. After completing a banking apprenticeship, Riepke studied Business Administration at the University of Göttingen and International Management at the University of Rennes/France. He later joined Germany's Federal Foreign Office and has been posted to Kuwait, Vilnius, New York, and Washington. He worked in the Political Department of the Federal Foreign Office for 4 years as a specialist responsible for Russia and Ukraine, and he has served for 9 years in the European Directorate-General, including 3 years during the run-up to Brexit as Head of the Northern Europe Division.

### Cyrus Saint Amand Poliakoff



#### Psychoanalyst, New Lacanian School

Cyrus is a psychoanalyst and editor practicing in Brooklyn, New York. He is a member of the New Lacanian School and the World Association of Psychoanalysis. Current publication projects include editor-in-chief of The Lacanian Review, International Journal of Lacanian Psychoanalysis and editor-in-chief of Lacanian Press, Publishing House of Lacanian Compass. Cyrus teaches and supervises in New York and abroad.

### Amy Myers Jaffe



#### Director, New York University

Amy Myers Jaffe serves as Director of the Energy, Climate Justice and Sustainability Lab at New York University's School of Professional Studies and is a research professor who teaches graduate level courses examining global climate finance, energy and climate justice, and clean technology business and innovation. A leading expert on global energy policy, sustainability, and geopolitical risk, Jaffe is author of several books including her most recent book, "Energy's Digital Future" published in 2021 by Columbia University Press.

Jaffe is a regular contributor to the popular podcast "The Energy Gang" and a frequent media commentator in television and print media, including the New York Times, Financial Times of London, CNN International and the Wall Street Journal.

### Joybrato Mukherjee



© Ludolf Dahmen/  
Universität zu Köln

#### President, German Academic Exchange Service/ Rector, University of Cologne

Joybrato Mukherjee completed his studies in English, Biology and Education at RWTH Aachen University in 1997. In 2000, he received his doctorate at the University of Bonn; here he also completed his habilitation in 2003. In the same year, he was appointed as Professor of English Linguistics at Justus Liebig University Giessen. Dr. Mukherjee served as President of JLU Giessen from 2009 to 2023 and is the Rector of the University of Cologne. From 2012 to 2019, he also held the office of Vice President of the German Academic Exchange Service (DAAD), and since 2020 he has been the honorary President of the DAAD.

Professor Mukherjee's research focuses on computer-based corpus linguistics, applied linguistics, English syntax and variety research. Numerous research and teaching visits have taken him to various universities abroad.

### Timon McPhearson



#### Director and Professor, Urban Systems Lab, The New School

Dr. Timon McPhearson is Director of the Urban Systems Lab and Professor of Urban Ecology at The New School in New York City. He investigates the ecology in, of, and for cities and teaches urban resilience, systems thinking, and urban ecology. Dr. McPhearson is a member of the NYC Panel on Climate Change (NPCC) and is an IPCC Lead Author focusing on urban resilience in cities. He is a Senior Research Fellow at The Cary Institute of Ecosystem Studies and Associate Research Fellow at the Stockholm Resilience Centre, Stockholm University in Sweden.

His work is published in scientific journals, in books (Nature-based solutions for Cities, Urban Planet), and covered by The New York Times, The Guardian, The Nation, and more.

### Jan Lüdert



#### Head of Programs, DWIH New York

Jan Lüdert is Head of Programs at the German Center for Research and Innovation (DWIH) New York. He has a proven track record of driving innovation and excellence in higher education. He is passionate about international affairs, knowledge management, and building transatlantic partnerships.

Jan earned a Ph.D. in Political Science from the University of British Columbia (UBC). He holds Harvard Kennedy's School Public Leadership Credential; a First-Class Honors MA in International Relations from the Australian National University; and a BA in Public Policy from Hamburg University for Economics and Politics.

### Johanna Lovechio



#### Director of Program Design for Climate Action, Columbia University, The Climate School

Johanna Lovechio is the Director of Program Design for Climate Action and Adjunct Faculty of Climate at the Climate School at Columbia University, where she is leading efforts to deliver impact. She specializes in adaptation planning, policy, project design, and decision-support programs at the intersection of socio-ecological systems, justice, climate, and the built environment and has partnered with local communities and governments around the world.

Johanna co-directs the Coastal Resilience and Environmental Justice and Climate Justice Cities Earth Networks and is leading the Climate School's Imagining Climate Justice and Resilience collaboration with the Urban Design Program at GSAPP.

**Alex Lloyd****Distinguished Engineer, Google**

Alex received his B.A. in Computer Science from Harvard University, where a dormroom startup led him to Google. Since 2004 he's been building the software that stitches millions of servers in dozens of datacenters into the seamless abstraction of "the cloud".

His novel work in Spanner, the first planet-scale relational database, won the Association for Computing Machinery's SIGOPS Hall of Fame Award for establishing new fundamental design patterns, and it underpins all of Google's billion-user products. Using GPS-distributed time signals as a global shared reference, and automated resilience to software, hardware, environmental and even geopolitical turbulence, the system serves exabytes of data at 99.999% availability.

**Sophia Li****PhD Candidate, Princeton University**

Sophia Li is a sociologist writing her Ph.D. at Princeton University. Her doctoral research focuses on intersections between government policy, moral classification, and economic knowledge in American financial regulation around 1980. She holds a Masters in Sociology from Princeton and a B.A. in Economics and Statistics from the University of Chicago. More broadly, she is interested in questions of uncertainty, accountability, and evidence.

**Mattias Kumm****Professor of Law, New York University and Humboldt-Universität zu Berlin**

Mattias Kumm's research and publications focus on basic issues in comparative constitutional law, European and international law, and philosophy of law. Kumm joined NYU School of Law in 2000 after studies in law, philosophy, and political science in Kiel, Germany, and Paris and doctorate work at Harvard University. He holds a part-time joint appointment as a professor for Global Constitutionalism at the WZB Social Science Research Center and Humboldt University, both in Berlin.

He has held visiting appointments at Yale Law School, Harvard Law School, and the European University Institute (Florence), and has lectured at other leading universities worldwide. Kumm is a founding editor and ex editor-in-chief of *Global Constitutionalism* (Cambridge University Press), was on the board of *I • CON* and and co-founding editor of *Jus Cogens* (Springer) as well as other journals.

**Kader Konuk****Professor of German Literature, TU Dortmund University**

Kader Konuk is a comparatist with expertise in the literary and cultural history of migration and exile. She is Professor of German literature at the TU Dortmund University. Between 2014–2023, she was professor of Turkish literary and cultural studies at the University of Duisburg-Essen and between 2001–2013 an assistant professor and, subsequently, associate professor of comparative literature and German studies at the University of Michigan.

**Anna-Bettina Kaiser**

**Professor for Public Law/Senior Emile Noel Global Fellow,  
Humboldt-Universität zu Berlin/New York University**

Anna-Bettina Kaiser holds a chair in Public Law and General Jurisprudence at the Law Faculty at Humboldt University Berlin. She received her doctorate in 2007 and her habilitation in 2017, both from the University of Freiburg. Her habilitation thesis, "Ausnahmeverfassungsrecht" (The Emergency Constitution), was on the best non-fiction list of the German Newspaper DIE ZEIT in July/August 2020.

She has been awarded several prizes, most recently with the Caroline von Humboldt Professorship by the Humboldt University (November 2022).

Anna-Bettina Kaiser has been co-director of the Integrative Research Institute Law & Society since 2019 and co-spokesperson of the project "Laws of Social Cohesion", funded by the Berlin University Alliance/German Excellence Initiative.

**Michael Hagenlocher**

**Academic Officer, United Nations University, Institute for  
Environment & Human Security (UNU-EHS)**

Dr. Michael Hagenlocher is an Academic Officer in the "Vulnerability Assessment, Risk Management & Adaptive Planning" (VARMAP) division of UNU-EHS. He has a broad interest in understanding the systemic nature of risks and identifying pathways towards more resilient futures. He combines global perspectives and policy agendas with empirical research in Europe, Africa and Asia.

Much of his work focuses on conducting policy-oriented research on drivers and dynamics of multiple, often interconnected vulnerabilities and risks associated with climate change and other hazards/shock events and implications for risk management and adaptation.

**Elena Esposito**

**Professor of Sociology, Bielefeld University**

Elena Esposito is Professor of Sociology at Bielefeld University and the University of Bologna. Her current research on algorithmic prediction is supported by a five-year Advanced Grant from the European Research Council. Her latest book is "Artificial Communication. How Algorithms Produce Social Intelligence" (MIT Press, 2022; Egea 2022; Shanghai Jiaotong UP 2023).

**Benedikt Brisch**

**Director, DWIH New York**

Benedikt Brisch studied history, slavic languages and political science at the University of Cologne and has been with the DAAD since 1998. Among other positions, he was Deputy Director of the DAAD Moscow Office and Head of the Division for Europe and North America at DAAD Headquarters in Bonn, Germany.

As Director of the DWIH in New York since 2019, he developed the "Future Forum" format that brings together researchers and innovators from Germany and the U.S.

**Hilke Berger****Scientific Lead, City Science Lab @ Hafencity University Hamburg**

Hilke Marit Berger is Scientific Lead of the City Science Lab at Hamburgs HafenCity University, a cooperation with MIT Media Lab in Cambridge/USA. For the collaboration project UNITAC (United Nations Innovation Technology Accelerator for Cities), she heads the Urban Academy in collaboration with the African Center for Citites in Cape Town.

As an urban researcher, her work at the intersection of cultural studies and urban planning includes practices of participation, issues of collective urban design, co-creation in mixed realities and digital art. She leads the CityClimate meets CreativeCoding project and has a keen interest in artistic research, diversity of methods, and experimental forms of collaboration. She is active as a juror, developed, coordinated and worked for several artistic and scientific projects, for festivals, theaters, universities and authorities. She lectures and publishes internationally.

**Isabel Bär****IT Consultant, Senacor**

Isabel is a skilled professional with a Master's degree in Data Engineering from the prestigious Hasso-Plattner-Institute in Germany. Her research and expertise center around the critical role of data quality in Machine Learning. Moreover, she has made significant contributions in the field of AI software, focusing on areas like MLOps and Responsible AI.

Beyond being a regular speaker at various conferences, she has also taken on the role of organizing conferences on Data and AI, showcasing her commitment to knowledge sharing and community building. She is currently working as a consultant in a German IT consulting company.

**Vanessa Agnew****Professor, TU Dortmund University**

Vanessa Agnew was Professor in Anglophone Studies at Universität Duisburg-Essen until 2023 and is now in the Faculty of Cultural Studies at the Technische Universität Dortmund. Agnew is also Honorary Professor in the Research School of Humanities and the Arts at Australian National University, and Associate Director of Academy in Exile.

# HOW CAN WE PREPARE

## ABOUT THE NIGHT LAB

This year, Night Lab projects by DWIH members and a selection of local NYC initiatives show a connection between “night and day” – and how different approaches to resilience are intertwined. The Night Lab is a social space that encourages interaction. Projects from a wide range of disciplines take community-centered and creative approaches to raise awareness of different forms of urban, ecological, and cultural resilience, and advocate for more inclusivity in how we perceive, design, plan, and thrive in cities night and day.

### Lauren Goshinski

#### Night Lab Curator/Producer



Lauren Goshinski is a curator, producer, and DJ who works at the intersection of nightlife culture, the arts, and urban planning. Placekeeping is at the core of her practice. As a curator she brings together creative practitioners and communities across disciplines to spark unique and insightful connections and build bridges between creative scenes around the world. She was curator of “The Nighttime Lab” with DWIH and VibeLab at SXSW, in Austin, TX, exploring displacement of diverse, creative communities throughout the city and strategies to save space. [www.laurengoshinski.com](http://www.laurengoshinski.com)

### Tony Tirador

#### Night Lab Production Assistant



Tony Tirador is an audio-visual and live event producer who has helped bring creative projects to life for MOMAP51, The Met, Guggenheim Museum, and NEW INC.

## NIGHT LAB PROJECTS & PRESENTERS

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### “Blackout”



**Birgitta Sticher**, Professor, Berlin School of Economics and Law (HWR Berlin)

**Tricia Wachtendorf**, Professor of Sociology & Director, Disaster Research Center, University of Delaware

Following their “Blackout” simulation in the day program, Birgitta and Tricia invite participants to workshop different approaches and solutions for similar crisis scenarios. Born in Germany in 1960, Birgitta Sticher studied psychology and worked in psychiatry as a clinical psychologist. Since 1998, she is a professor at the Berlin School of Economics and Law (HWR Berlin). Her students are future police officers and security managers. A special focus of her research is the involvement of the population in disaster management. To this end, she has conducted two major research projects on the consequences of a long-lasting power outage in Berlin and how to improve the way the population copes with this crisis or disaster. She is excited about improving communication, training students in crisis communication and working on the topic of “discrimination risks and protection”. Tricia Wachtendorf is a leader in disaster research and education. A Professor of Sociology at the University of Delaware, she directs the world-renowned Disaster Research Center – the oldest center in the world focused on the social science and management aspects of disasters. For almost three decades, her research has focused on disaster improvisation, multi-organizational coordination, transnational crises, and social vulnerability to disasters. She has engaged in quick response fieldwork after such events as the 2001 World Trade Center attacks, tsunamis affecting India, Sri Lanka, and Japan, Hurricanes Katrina and Sandy, earthquakes in China and Haiti, as well as the 2020 Covid-19 pandemic.




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### Cara Michell



**Northeastern University**

Cara Michell is an Assistant Professor in the School of Architecture at Northeastern University. Previously, she worked as an urban planner in NYC and Toronto. Cara holds an MUP from Harvard University and an AB in sculpture from Princeton. Her conceptual artwork has been exhibited at MoMA PS1, LaMama Galleria and with the design collective Intelligent Mischief. In 2015, Cara co-founded and co-chaired the inaugural Black in Design conference with Courtney Sharpe and the Harvard GSD AASU. [caramichell.com](http://caramichell.com)



## “Ekos”



### Christopher Kennedy & Timon McPhearson, Urban Systems Lab, The New School at Parsons

“Ekos” is a game that invites players to alternate between building Social, Ecological, and Technological Systems (SETS), and responding to a diverse range of Events. Working cooperatively to complete challenges earns you Ekos points. The game continues until one player earns enough Ekos points to win! The Urban Systems Lab is an interdisciplinary research, design and practice space at The New School that provides knowledge and analysis for developing more equitable, resilient, and sustainable cities. The Lab’s work advances cutting edge science, data visualization, and computation to develop systemic solutions to social and environmental challenges driving inequity and injustice in urban areas. The Lab brings together designers, urban ecologists, scientists, researchers and policymakers with the goal to improve the lives of those most vulnerable, and to enhance decision making and science communication from local to global scales. Christopher Kennedy is the associate director at the Urban Systems Lab at The New School and lecturer in the Parsons School of Design. As an artist and scholar, Kennedy’s research explores the social-ecological benefits of urban plant communities, multispecies thinking, and community-based approaches to environmental stewardship and environmental art. Kennedy holds a BS in environmental engineering from Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute, an MA in Environmental Education from NYU, and a PhD in Cultural Studies from the University of North Carolina.

Timon McPhearson is director of the Urban Systems Lab, professor of urban ecology at The New School’s Environmental Studies Program, and research faculty at the Tishman Environment and Design Center. In 2017 he was awarded The New School’s Distinguished University Teaching Award and in 2018 became a member of the IPCC and lead author for the urban systems chapter. He investigates the ecology in, of, and for cities and teaches urban resilience, systems thinking, and urban ecology. <https://urbansystemslab.com/>

## “Molecular Resilience”

### German Research Foundation featured Walter Benjamin Fellows Mascha Kohen PhD & Arthur Nuerberger PhD

The DFG promotes scientific excellence by selecting the best research projects on a competitive basis and facilitating national and international collaboration among researchers. Its mandate also includes encouraging the advancement and training of early career researchers, promoting gender equality in the German scientific and academic communities, providing scientific policy advice, and fostering relations between the research community and society and the private sector.

**“Resilience Walk”****Prof. Dr. Henrik Schultz, Osnabrück University of Applied Sciences**

Henrik Schultz will lead different walking practices that promote awareness of both the space being walked through and the walking group, such as walking in silence, working with the pace of walking, deviating from familiar paths, and sharing questions in walk and talk pairs. At the end of the walk, the participants record their experiences in a quick sketch with a term that for them is the essence of the concept of resilience. These sketches will be exhibited and further developed with attendees at the Night Lab, with a rooftop walking exercise for participants to build upon each others experiences.

**“Musings from the Margins of a Polychrome Future”****Lafayette Cruise, Guild of Future Architects & Rhode Island School of Design**

Lafayette’s “Musings” video work argues that urban planning is speculative fiction; and that other equitable worlds, which account for multiplicity, have been and are possible. This video work shares one of these futures, a love letter to Chicago and a hope for its future. Lafayette Cruise’s practice intersects urban planning and futurism to explore the question: how can we expand our collective imagination of who belongs in our future communities and how we facilitate belonging in the present? He is a member of the Guild of Future Architects, has taught at the University of the Arts London and is currently a lecturer at the Rhode Island School of Design. Emerging from an early career in urban governance and his masters thesis, his practice is rooted in collaborating to create and hold space for radical public and policy imagination. That has manifested as speculative salons for racialized urban planners and artists, co-creating a worldbuilding methodology, writing short fiction, constructing speculative worlds for other media projects, and teaching. Regardless of the context, Lafayette brings a sense of awe and wonder for people, nature, and the imaginative possibilities of how we can exist together. <https://lafayettecruise.carrd.co>

**“Nighttime at the Digitope”****Hilke Berger & Rico Herzog, City Science Lab, HafenCity University Hamburg**

“Nighttime at the Digitope” is a hands-on activity that will explore CityScopes in night time conditions. The CityScienceLab at the HafenCity University Hamburg investigates the urban challenges in the era of digitalization in cooperation with partners from civil society, politics, economy, and science. It pursues an inter and transdisciplinary perspective by linking technical issues with social and cultural developments. CityScienceLab develops digital city models– so-called CityScopes – based on comprehensive urban data to make future cities more livable and efficient. And, CityScopes help to visualize and simulate complex urban development processes. <https://www.hcu-hamburg.de/en/research/csl>

## “Overnight Scenario”



**Michael Fichman**, Vibe Lab & University of Pennsylvania Weitzman School of Design

“Overnight Scenario” shares the stories of people who work and live much of their lives at night, and invites participants to imagine what cities and citizens could do to make the night a safer and more accessible place. Michael Fichman is a data-savvy city planner and educator working in a range of fields, including nighttime economies, arts and culture, smart cities, transportation, parks and open space, and more. He is an Associate Professor at University of Pennsylvania’s Dept. of City and Regional Planning Masters of Urban Spatial Analytics, and a researcher and consultant for PennPraxis, the Center for Safe Mobility, and nighttime consultancy firm Vibe Lab. [michael-fichman.com](http://michael-fichman.com), [vibe-lab.org](http://vibe-lab.org)

## “Preserving Queer Place and History”



**People’s Riisearch Group (Jacob Riis Beach), Lex Barlowe, dash pinheiro, Safiyah Riddle, jah elyse sayers, with support from Rita Musello-Kelliher**

Jacob Riis Beach is at risk of both ecological and cultural erasure: a site that will continue to experience the impacts of climate change and sea-level rise, as well as new development that could threaten the presence of longstanding queer communities who have built resilient networks and livelihoods in and through this place. Hear stories from Riis’ community archive, learn about the conditions of the beach, and workshop ways that Riis could be more resilient with respect to both the planet and its people. Public spaces can be crucial sites of messy and collective ecological, social, and cultural value, and this is especially true of public spaces utilized for queer gathering. However, planning processes designed around private property logics economically pressure and culturally flatten these non-normative and generative spaces in New York City and globally. This challenge is twofold; it is the physical removal of diverse communities AND the displacement and disruption of cultural knowledge and both social and ecological relationships. Working class queer people have historically relied on often devalued public spaces to build community while also being at a heightened risk of violence and policing in public. As a humble and long-standing queer space in New York City, Bays 1 and 2 of People’s Beach at Jacob Riis Park have offered safety, community, and joy for over seventy years—though not uncontested by police and voyeurs. Recent demolition, nearby luxury development, and increased surveillance—not to mention climate change’s refiguring of the landscape—are applying pressure to this crucial site of queer gathering. In support of and collaboration with GLITS’ campaigns to landmark queer Riis and establish community control of land adjacent to the beach, the People’s Riisearch Group was established. Utilizing participatory art and research-based methods, the People’s Riisearch Group has two primary goals at present: (1) an update to the National Historic Register of Places to include queer gathering at People’s Beach and (2) the creation of People’s Riisearch Archive, which aims to collect, compile, share, and mobilize materials about queer histories at People’s Beach. [www.instagram.com/pplsriisearch](http://www.instagram.com/pplsriisearch); [www.peoples-beach-land-trust.org](http://www.peoples-beach-land-trust.org)

### “Resilience in NYC’s Chinatown”



#### Philip Poon, NEW INC. & registered architect NYC

“Resilience in NYC” is a media collage that presents Poon’s concept of “resilience complicated” looking at NYC’s Chinatown from nuanced perspectives that cut across its built environment, cultures, economics, and social infrastructure. Philip Poon is a registered architect based in New York City. His practice explores the contemporary American condition, in particular the architectural and spatial expressions of the Asian-American experience. Recent projects include a new 5,000-square-foot community church in Queens and a speculative proposal for a Chinatown community center, which was featured in Chinese-language newspapers Sing Tao Daily and World Journal. As an active member of the Asian-American and Chinatown community, he has exhibited his work in five galleries in New York City, including a solo exhibition in Tribeca.

[www.philippoon.com/](http://www.philippoon.com/)

### Soul Summit Music



#### Co-founders Sadiq Bellamy, Tabu, and Jeff Mendoza

Tune your ears to the soundtrack playing at the Night Lab, and how music is a vehicle for cultural and community resilience. Soul Summit shares live recordings from past events and a video archive that tells the story of how such creative gatherings claim space for culture and community to persist, resist, and deepen. The DJ collective founded in 2002 began hosting an outdoor festival in Fort Greene Park, Brooklyn, celebrating Black culture and the roots of House Music. Over the past 20 years the neighborhood, which once had a high concentration of Black and immigrant residents and commercial tenants, have been replaced and displaced in the name of urban economic development. Out of this context, Soul Summit has intentionally held space, and become an institution with a loyal following that brings the hills of Fort Greene Park alive with families, food, and dancing. The festival provides the backdrop for access to music, networking and other activities. Always free and open to the public, the festival showcases artists of various backgrounds, including DJs, bands, dance companies, fashion designers, filmmakers and photographers, just to name a few. Soul Summit’s creative use of public space and steadfast commitment to community is a shining star of grassroots NYC events. [soulsummitmusic.com](http://soulsummitmusic.com)

### “The Lot Radio”



The Lot Radio is an independent, non-profit, online radio station live streaming DJ sets and music shows 24/7 from a reclaimed shipping container on an empty lot in Greenpoint, NYC. Their inventive and resourceful use of an awkward plot of land in a neighborhood that continues to experience heavy gentrification is a model for grassroots “placekeeping”. Over the past 7 years this site has become an indispensable community anchor and connector for music-lovers locally and around the world. The Lot Radio is free for anyone to attend, and the physical site is open to the public everyday from 8am–12am, which offers a place of rest and connection for people from all backgrounds and walks of life. [www.thelotrдио.com](http://www.thelotrдио.com)

## “What We Brought With Us”



### Academy in Exile/University Alliance Ruhr (UA Ruhr)/ Fatemeh Rezaei

Team: **Egemen Özbek**, academic coordinator of Academy in Exile at TU Dortmund; **Kate Bonansinga**, Director, School of Art at the College of Design, Architecture, Art, and Planning at University of Cincinnati; **Annika Roux** producer for Academy in Exile

“What We Brought with Us” is an exhibition developed by Academy in Exile at TU Dortmund University, one of the three universities that comprise the University Alliance Ruhr. The exhibition presents images of objects carried by some of the Academy in Exile’s fellows when they fled from their countries of origin to Germany. The exhibition serves as an engaging exploration of the significance and emotional resonance carried by the objects refugees bring with them when fleeing their homelands. “What We Brought with Us” prompts us to reflect on what truly matters to us and what we consider most precious. University Alliance Ruhr (UARuhr) is an alliance between Ruhr University Bochum, TU Dortmund University, and the University of Duisburg-Essen, the three largest universities in Germany’s thriving Ruhr Area. Fatemeh Rezaei is a photographer from Afghanistan. Last year she started as a researcher at Academy in Exile and is currently living in Essen, Germany. Her current project is about The Impact of ID Cards on the Lives of Immigrants and Refugees: A Photographic Exploration of Identity and Migration. This exploration examines the impact of ID cards on the lives of Afghan immigrants and refugees in Iran, focusing on the emotional and psychological effects of identity and migration.



# HOW CAN WE

# TIP BOWL

## THE VENUE

**22 Vanderbilt**  
**335 Madison Ave, New York, NY 10017**

**The Amphitheater (2nd floor): Main Stage Presentations**  
**The Commons (7th floor): Night Lab**



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Each year German, American, and international thought leaders from academia, the public and private sectors convene to exchange perspectives, find collaborators, and determine a collective path toward a progressive future. The first FUTURE FORUM was held in 2019 in Brooklyn on the topic of artificial intelligence. In 2020, the forum was held virtually focusing on cities and climate. In 2021, a hybrid FUTURE FORUM in Chicago centered on societies in transition and effects of the COVID-19 pandemic. In 2022, the FUTURE FORUM took place in Manhattan and revolved around sustainable fashion.

- 2022 Fabricating the Future**
- 2021 Before After**
- 2020 Building Biopolis**
- 2019 Demystify A.I.**



