#### **STORY PITCH**

For 2022 theme "Fault Lines & Fragile States" I am suggesting one of following three story lines.

# 01. Urban Squares, collection of 394 squares all over the world

This research initiative is an attempt to rediscover the lost or neglected urban symbols. The URBAN SQUARE is a city's 'heart and soul' and that is the focus of this project.

Our exploration is done from a vintage point between art and science, which allows us to decipher and observe universal urban connections. The main body of the content is a collection of Urban Squares. Each includes Virtual Reality panorama, a psychogeographical description of the space, map of the location and additional photos. It is ultimately evaluated and classified.

This is example of text appearing on one of the pages:

"On our way back from the fabulous Gaudi's park Güell we were looking for the metro station. It turned out to be Lesseps station. We were not in this area before so we didn't know what to expect. One narrow street to another and we found ourselves in-front of little Plaçeta with old fashion water fountain and the dog fulfilling his thirst. Nice little sight, having in mind our love for dogs. Next look and we are facing one of the best "modernista" buildings in Barcelona "Cases Ramos", designed by architect Jaume Torres i Grau in 1906. OK, now lets look for the metro entrance.

Just steps away we were really surprised. Vast open public space at the first glance all devoted to pedestrians, few minor streets were visible from our standpoint. Slowly all the magnitude of the content, attention to details and recognition of social urban needs was revealed. It took me a second walk, few days latter, to completely comprehend the urban value of this renewal project. First initiatives for revitalization of this square dates back to 1995."

## Link: Plaça Lesseps, Barcelona





# 02. Psychogeography Walks - Neighbourhood Portraits

>PSYCHO<GEOGRAPHY> is: [our definition]
The subjective analysis, mental reaction, to the
neighbourhood behaviours related to the geographic
location. A chronological process based on the order of
appearance of observed topics, with the time delayed
inclusion of other relevant instances. Reflexivity journals
are produced after each event.

This is one of significant component of "Urbansquares" project and consists of 30 Walks/Portraits.

Link to the main page of **Psychogeography segment** 

Link to one of the walks performed during the Covid19 restrictions: **Nicholson lane, Toronto** 

This is except from our published article

"Psychogeography Now, Window to the Urban

Future: "Word psychogeography: itself is

<u>Future</u>: "Word >psycho<geography> itself is combination of Psychology and Geography and it is obvious that order of those words is also very important. Mental reaction [psychology] in a particular space [geography] are leading towards interaction of both main aspects of human life: mental and psychical, internal and external.

Civilization, especially in the North America with very specific historic and social position is facing challenging time. "New development" mode of operation is in the past, "maintenance/conservation stage" is at the very end and new stage of "restorative development" is in front of us."

03. Portraits of 77 cities around the world, with just a few words and 30 selected photos for each one.

One example: Belgrade, Serbia

Link: Main page with all of the cities listed.

In any of three cases proposed I will follow time sensitive story line.

In case #01, "Urban Squares", I will follow story about one selected country, or possible region, like Mediterranean Basen, and connect cities and urban squares in thematic way. We can use for example Ceremonial Squares. See examples of how I am suggesting "meandering" navigation here.

In case #02, "Psychogeography", I will select a case relevant to, let's say, some historic time frame and then follow that line. Other possibility could be new psychogeography walk performed and recorded specifically for this occasion.

In case #03, "Selected City", we can again select the town of your choice [or mine?] and perform walk and record impressions specifically for this occasion, something similar to the "Postmetropolis" or "Toronto Covid19" already listed among 77 selected cities.

Presentation for any of selected choices will be created as on-line and "exhibition ready in physical space', of course in collaboration with organizers and available technical aspects. In any of the choices presentation will include Virtual Reality interactive images, reflexivity journals and additional still photos. We can also develope new design format for any of three choices suggested.

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#### **REFERENCES**

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#### LINKS TO THE CREATIVE WORK

Link => <u>Urbansquares.com</u>

Link => <u>Urbansquares Art since 2000</u>

Link => Psychogeography Portraits - Main Page

Link => Postmetropolis in relation to Covid19

Link => <u>Urban art as an early warning system</u>

Link => Participatory Urban Democracy

Link => Green Hair Toys

## PROPOSALS FOR PREVIOUS PROJECTS

Link => Future Therapeutic Art Installations

Link => Green Hair Toys

Link => **Brickworks Project**