

S12	REVOLUTIONARY PLACE-MAKING: HOW DO SPECIFIC URBAN PLACES BECOME SYMBOLS OF CONTESTATION?
Organisers:	Rolf Hugoson (Umeå University) Mats Berglund (Stockholm Institute of Urban History)
Period:	Early modern/Modern
Date:	Saturday, 1 September 2012
Time:	14:00-15:30
Room:	217

Description

The session focuses contestations of established power. We are interested in the role of narratives, when specific buildings, squares or streets are set up as loathsome or promising. This might occur before or after actual upheavals (a term denoting a broad array of political contestations). Rarely have reformers or revolutionaries been content just to mirror the established order. More typically, a complex interplay between various efforts has occurred: adherents have gathered at specific arenas; looked for confrontation where a military or a symbolic advantage could be gained; or tried to escape established control, at times through an inventive use of place-making. Narratives before, after or in between upheavals might thus reinforce or change established patterns. The role of the Bastille during the French revolutions during the 18 and 19th century is exemplary. If its role as a fixed revolutionary locus (1789, 1848, 1870) has already been studied in detail, e.g. by Lüsebrink and Reichardt (*The Bastille: On the history of a symbol of despotism and freedom*, eng. Transl. 1997), even more could be learned about the topic “revolutionary place-making”. We ought to compare processes in other cities, in Europe and elsewhere. The long view can be helpful, although in this session, the contributions should preferably focus the early modern and modern era, up until the present. We encourage reflections upon the contemporary use of historical place-making narratives, if the notion of older historical origins also is elaborated upon.

Among many possible themes, these appear particularly fruitful:

- The depiction of contested places on maps, in pictures and in songs.
- Old places of upheaval as role models for later contestations.
- New media and the spread of revolutions between cities and countries.
- Gender aspects of revolutionary place-making.
- Urban planning and the competition between established and contesting orders.
- Memory politics: Commemorations and street naming.

Scientific Programme

- 847** **“THE SUPREME LODGE OF THE ANCIENT ORDER OF CONSPIRATORS OF THE WORLD”: EL PASO, TEXAS AS PLOTTING GROUND FOR THE MEXICAN REVOLUTION**
David Romo (University of Texas at El Paso, Borderlands History, Anthony, New Mexico, USA)
- 294** **THE ATHENS POLYTECHNIC UPRISING: MYTH AND REALITY**
Marianthi Kotea (Panteion University of Social and Political Sciences, Sociology, Kallithea-Athens, Greece)
- 1032** **THE TRANSFORMATION OF URBAN NODES OF POWER STRUGGLE AND SCENARIOS OF PUBLIC UPRISING – A REVOLUTIONARY ROAD: TEHRAN UNIVERSITY TO AZADI SQUARE**
Zohreh Soltani (Middle East Technical University, Architecture, Ankara, Turkey)
- 947** **BURY THE MONUMENTS!!!**
Zeynep Akture (Izmir Institute of Technology, Department of Architecture, Izmir, Turkey)