



Fringe

URBAN NARRATIVES

2022-2023 report

www.urbanfringes.com

27th of June, 2023

Dear FRINGE members,

As we do every year, we would like to give you an overview of 2022-2023 before we take a break during the summer.

Membership and Associated Groups

Fringe currently has [222 members](#) from a wide variety of countries, scholarly backgrounds and artistic disciplines. We would like to give a warm welcome to all new members who joined us. This year, our ongoing collaborations with research networks and projects across Europe included this the co-organization of the [Underground Imaginaries](#) conference (info below) with EROSS (Dublin City University). Once again, we would like to thank our partners for their ongoing support. We are always open to new collaborations and to facilitating activities organized externally in connection to the urban fringes. Do not hesitate to contact us if you have any ideas.

Fringe Activities

Reading Group

For the third consecutive year, we managed to keep in touch every six week via our [Reading Group](#), which engages with urban theory from intersectional perspectives. Participants from all disciplines are invited to join and suggest texts. This time we discussed nocturnal cities, urban comics, monuments of absence, creative writing and ways of feeling the city with texts and videos by W. Straw, D. Davies, D. Başar, the Delhi Cybermohalla project, Á. Györke, E. Timár and J. Allan. Special thanks to those of you who moderated a session during this academic year. We will be in touch in September to hear your thoughts on the best way to continue our reading group programme.

Fringe Activities

Conferences

This year we organized the European Society of Comparative Literature (ESCL) conference, which gave us the opportunity to meet many of you in person at our headquarters, the Universidad de Alcalá (Spain).

[Urban Imaginaries](#) (with EROSS) was held at the Universidad de Alcalá on 24-26 of May 2023, with 78 participants and keynote talks by Professors Rachel Falconer and Sayak Valencia. We spent three wonderful (and unusually cold) days together, and we would like to express our gratitude to all attendees for being so active during panel discussions and for contributing to a friendly atmosphere. The [programme](#) and [book of abstracts](#) are accessible online. Given its success, we hope to offer a second edition conference in the coming years!



Fringe publications

We are working towards the release of a volume inspired by our 2021 conference [*Urban Im/mobilities and Borderland Narratives*](#). The collective volume *Urban Mobilities and Art Activisms* (eds. Patricia García and Anna-Leena Toivanen) will be published with the Palgrave series Literary Urban Studies. We plan to have a book launch online and will keep you updated.

Related activities

We are always happy to support activities organized by Fringe members. As you know, to reduce the constant social media exposure, Fringe does not use social media platforms. All our network-related information is streamlined via this distribution list and updated on our [website](#). Here is a summary of the activities organized by our members this academic year.

[Queer \(Second Cities\)](#) (30-31 August 2023, Online)

["Urban activism and the transformation of Latin American cities", Iberoamericana](#) (Deadline 15 June 2023)

["Shaping African Futures from the Subsoils" European Conference on African Studies](#) (31st May-3rd June, 2023, Cologne)

ALUS 2022 Hybrid Symposium (2 Dec, 2022, Tampere University)

[Street life exhibition Wilhelm-Hack-Museum \(DE\)](#) (19 Nov 2022 – 5 March, 2023)

["Eastern European Urban Narratives of Conflict"](#) (deadline 4 Nov, 2022)

[Global Lives, Local Complexities](#) (Joensuu, 24-25 Nov 2022)

[Walking as Research Practice \(WARP\)](#) (Amsterdam, 29-30 Sept, 2022)

[Fantastic Geographies](#) (TU Dortmund, 22-24 Sept, 2022)

["Thinking space beyond the binary"](#) (European Geographies of Sexualities Conference, 14-16 Sept, 2022)

We will be back in September with new ideas for the upcoming academic year. As usual, July and August are quieter. We wish you a restful and inspiring summer break.

Patricia García

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