

TUM

ANA MÉNDEZ

Observatorio Metropolitano

A GROUND FOR THE COMMONS.
THE PUBLIC AS A SPACE OF
REPRESENTATION,
REAPPROPRIATION AND RECLAIM.



FOTO JULIANE SCHNEEGANS

WS 2014/15

LAO

MASTER PROJECT VACANT PLOTS
MADRID

<http://www.lao.ar.tum.de/index.php?id=23>

LECTURE

MONDAY

JANUARY 19th 2015

7 P.M.

HS 1180

TUM

ARCISSTR. 21, MÜNCHEN

FAKULTÄT FÜR ARCHITEKTUR

LEHRSTUHL FÜR
LANDSCHAFTS
ARCHITEKTUR
UND ÖFF. RAUM
PROF. R. KELLER

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ANA MÉNDEZ

Ana Méndez de Andés is an architect and urban planner who has been working as a landscape designer in Amsterdam, London and Madrid and is currently teaching Urban Design at the Universidad Europea de Madrid. Her main field of interest is the question of urban commons and the re-appropriation of public space.

She is part of the collective Observatorio Metropolitano, a militant research group that utilizes investigations and counter-mapping to look into the metropolitan processes of precarious workers, migrants, and militants taking place in Madrid, brought on by crisis, gentrification, speculation and displacement. Ana collaborates with the publishing house, bookshop, independent distribution and design project Traficantes de Sueños and has also been involved in different projects regarding collaborative mapping, urban commons and the conditions of production of public space such as car-tac, areaciega, and urbanaccion; as well as linked to organizing assemblies within the 15M-Acampada movement.

<http://thefutureofoccupy.org/2012/04/03/swarms-multitude-and-activism/>

OBSERVATORIO

METROPOLITANO

The Observatorio Metropolitano of Madrid is an interdisciplinary collective made up of artists, architects, sociologists, economists and specialists in new technologies, along with militants and activists from different social movements (squatters, ecologists, feminists, etc.). Its main field of action is based on the research and cartographic production around the recent transformations of the metropolis of Madrid, as well as on the social and economic impact of the current financial crisis in our territory

The project carried out by the Observatorio Metropolitano is defined through two main purposes. On one hand, it aims at the production of living knowledge, conceptual maps and research tools to be used by the social movements. On the other, it wants to form itself into an autonomous space of research and knowledge production, independent from the curricular, economic and academic determinations of the conventional research. Here, it is important to highlight that the Observatorio Metropolitano is an independent collective without any financial or organic link with any University, political party or union. Its main support arise from the militant and activist networks of the social movements in Madrid and other Spanish cities, and in punctual collaborations with cultural institutions and art centers such as Arteleku in 2006, and the Museo Nacional y Centro de Arte Reina Sofía in 2010.

Since its foundation in 2005, the Observatorio Metropolitano of Madrid has published six books and more than twenty articles in different readers, scientific magazines and published lectures. Moreover, it has participated in more than 200 public events and lectures. Most of this material is available on-line at this website

<http://www.observatoriometropolitano.org>