

**Call for Papers**  
**Cinema and the City: Interdisciplinary Perspectives**

International Conference  
November 29-30, 2019

University of Palermo, Department of Architecture, viale delle Scienze  
Room 1.3 and 1.4, Main Building

*Deadline for proposals: November 10, 2019*

The conference aims to explore the relationships established between cinema and urban areas. We want to stress the connections woven between cities and cinema, films, fiction and documentaries – important unconventional sources for the understanding of social and cultural contexts. We intend to focus on the modalities used in films to tell stories – through images and speech – concerning cities, territories, and places, residents’ lives in relation to spaces, to buildings, to landscapes, as well as to its urban culture as a whole. The perspective we have chosen for this conference is interdisciplinary and cinema will be considered as a medium to be understood and interpreted in several, possibly comparative, ways. Actually, cinema, as a specific cultural artefact, expresses both individual and collective viewpoints mirroring cultures and hybridizations that can be explored by various disciplines and comparative perspectives. This complexity, possible reflection of the contemporary world, is perhaps more tangible in cinema than in other expressive forms, making it accessible to many people and at the same time a medium in which several genres and contents meet and can be analysed and compared. We are particularly interested in comparative perspectives and interdisciplinary viewpoints. As a result, the conference aims to engage researchers from different countries and various fields of study in order to explore the multiple ways through which cinema is able to contain and manifest crucial aspects of cities and urban spaces. Anthropologists, architects, urban planners, geographers, sociologists, film critics, semioticians, scholars of aesthetics, of images, of cultural studies, as well as film directors, documentary film makers and designers are invited to share their experiences and their ideas. We intend to collect the articles and publish them in a collective volume.

The Committee welcomes papers on any-related topic. Suggested topics may include:

Cultural and social exchanges and/or conflicts between cultures, people and places  
Cultural hybridizations  
Urban spaces: the concrete building  
Urban spaces: the symbolic building  
Urban spaces: beauty  
Urban spaces: transformation  
Urban spaces: relationships between people  
Living, moving, dwelling  
Urban economy and the real estate market  
Urban rituals  
Visual imaginaries  
Cities and comics  
Film photography and urban spaces  
Food and cities  
Politics, cinema and cities  
Ghettos and cities as “prisons”  
Urban distress and marginalization, inclusion and exclusion

Transforming urban spaces  
Centres, suburbs, gentrification  
Cities and dreams  
Urban biographies: telling the city  
Everyday life and urban infrastructures  
Domestic spaces and cities  
Identity and urban configurations  
Old and new methodologies of analysis  
Imaginary horizons and cities  
Perception, interaction and urban spaces  
Urban Resilience/Resistance

**Scientific Coordinators**

Flavia Schiavo and Stefano Montes

**Organizing committee**

Flavia Schiavo, Stefano Montes, Leonardo Mercatanti, Federico Montanari, Alessandro Prato, Gaetano Sabato, Giusi Coppola, Massimo Bonura, Alessio Arena

**Administrative organisation**

Department of Architecture, Università di Palermo, Viale delle Scienze 90128, Palermo

**Proposals and information should be sent to:**

Flavia Schiavo ([flviaschiavo62@gmail.com](mailto:flviaschiavo62@gmail.com)) and Stefano Montes ([montes.stefano@tiscalinet.it](mailto:montes.stefano@tiscalinet.it))

**Deadline for proposals and biodata: Novembre 6, 2019**

Proposal abstract and title: max 250 words

Time for speech: 20 minutes

Languages used in the conferences: Italian, English, French and Spanish

Participation is free, travelling, accommodation and meals are covered by participants.