

FLUSS FLUSS by orizzontale

WAS BEDEUTET DIR/EUCH/DIE MUR?



Dear inhabitants of Graz city,

In the scope of the upcoming project of Transparadiso called Normal, our collective of architects, orizontale, will propose an urban design in the district of Liebenau, in the south of Graz. This interdisciplinary project attempts to redefine our cities and neighborhoods in a socially engaged urbanism with sustainable structures that aim to fundamentally question our norms and habits.

Our objective will be to reconsider, through this workshop, our relationship to the city and to bring a plural and critical look at it. In our process, we want to have your participation. In order to better familiarize ourselves with the city of Graz and the river Mur, we have decided to ask you some questions. In these difficult times of global pandemic, we seek to initiate a connection, small but important, with Graz and you all.

Our request is the following:

We are raising questions about the “city of the future”. Therefore, we want to bring a radically different vision of the city, one that is much more about commons, democratic processes and ecology. At the crossroads between science and art, the place that we want to emerge from the banks of the river Mur will hopefully form a place of convergence to build our future, a place of reflection, sharing and learning, but also a place of experimentation, artistic and social. As a starting point for this project, we hope to understand what is your relationship with the river Mur, which crosses the city from North to South and that was recently affected by the implementation of the new hydroelectric dam. Thus, here are some questions.

What is the Mur River for you?

To whom does the river belong to?

What is a river for a city?

How do you interact with the Mur River?

What is your own perception of the Mur River?

What should the Mur River be like?

These questions will allow us, in a first step, to question and position our project in a transforming dynamic for the city and the district of Liebenau. But also, thereafter, to bring discussions, on the site of the project, around the proposal that we will have led in relation to all the answers brought by the population.

We therefore invite you to choose one or more of these questions and to answer them as you wish. Our last word is a reminder that the development of cities is embedded into political schemes. This whole project aims to fundamentally question those schemes because they are the ones that support and maintain the unsustainability of cities, both socially and ecologically. What we seek for is new visions and new stories. There are no more precisions, let your imagination, your memories, your knowledge or your wildest aspirations speak for themselves.

Thank you for your contribution.

Sincerely yours,