

PETRA MARKO

Petra Marko je architektka a expertka na tvorbu miest s dlhoročnými skúsenosťami v oblasti verejných priestorov a mestského rozvoja. Jej práca na rozhraní urbanizmu, výskumu a facilitácie pomáha prepájať sociálne, ekonomické a fyzické aspekty meststotvorby. Dlhodobou pôsobila v Londýne, kde spoluzaložila ateliér meststotvorby a miestotvorby, ktorý sa podieľa na projektoch mestskej regenerácie v Británii, na Slovensku a v Čechách. Má takisto mnohoročnú skúsenosť s projektovým riadením a procesom developmentu inovatívnych rezidenčných projektov v Londýne. Ako členka Westminster Council Design Review Panel posudzuje projekty, ktoré budú formovať centrálny Londýn. Bola súčasťou panelu mladých profesionálov britskej National Infrastructure Commission, ktorý radí vláde v otázkach dlhodobého rozvoja infraštruktúry; na London School of Architecture viedla výskumné think-tanky k témam inkluzívnych miest a udržateľnej mobility; je spoluautorkou ocenennej strategickej vízie *VeloCity* na udržateľný rast rurálnych oblastí a *Meanwhile City*, príručky o role dočasných intervencií v tvorbe živých miest. Posledné dva roky pôsobí v Bratislave, kde vyrastala, ako konzultantka a facilitátorka v témach zelenej mobility, rozvoja udržateľných štvrtí a aktivácii verejných priestorov. Pravidelne prednáša na medzinárodných fórach a píše pre odborné publikácie. Viedla a bola súčasťou multidisciplinárnych tímov a má prehľad o procesoch plánovania a inovatívnych politikách mestského rozvoja v Británii a v strednej Európe.

VZDELANIE

- 2010 Goldsmiths, University of London
MA Creative & Cultural Entrepreneurship (kreatívne podnikanie), s vyznamenaním
- 2007 Vienna University of Technology
MA Architektúra a urbanizmus, s vyznamenaním
- 2004-05 KTH School of Architecture, Stockholm 2001 **International Baccalaureate Diploma**
Architektúra, výmenný program Erasmus Gymnázium Jura Hronca, Bratislava

PROFESIONÁLNA SKÚSENOŠŤ

- 2022 – **Stratég na mestotvorné projekty**, vizuálne štúdio **Milk**, Bratislava
- 2013 – **Spoluzakladateľka, Marko&Placemakers, London** (od 2021 pobočka v Bratislave)
Viedla projekty verejných priestorov, placemaking stratégie, mestské prieskumy, je spoluautorka *VeloCity* stratégie pre udržateľný rozvoj rurálnych oblastí v Oxford-Cambridge koridore (William Sutton Prize), prieskum Obchodnej ulice (Bratislava) a.i.
- 2010-21 **Development Manager & Design Director, Solidspace, London**
Projektová manažérka komplexných rezidenčných projektov vrátane 81-87 Weston Street v Londýne, GDV £20mil (RIBA National Award), viedla výskum a kampaň o role prieluku a malých parciel v Londýne s expertmi na plánovanie a mestskými zastupiteľmi.
- 2010-12 **Urban Designer, FoRM Associates, London**
Projekty verejných priestorov vrátane Irwell River Park masterplanu v Manchestri.
- 2007-09 **Architectural Assistant, John McAslan&Partners, London**
Projekty budov vrátane Olympic Energy Centres v Londýne.

ČLENSTVO V ODBORNÝCH RADÁCH

- 2023 – **Westminster Council's Design Review Panel, Londýn**. Členka odbornej rady, posudzuje veľké rozvojové a regeneračné projekty v centrálnom Londýne
- 2023 – **CycleUp! Iniciatíva Goethe inštitútu**, členka kurátorskej rady za Slovensko
- 2018-20 **National Infrastructure Commission Young Professionals Panel** Členka 16-členného panelu mladých odborníkov vybraných spomedzi 500 kandidátov
- 2013-18 **Royal Institute of British Architects Small Practice Group** členka rady, spoluorganizovala výročná RIBA konferenciu Guerrilla Tactics.

AKADEMICKÁ ČINNOSŤ

- 2023 **Fakulta architektúry VŠVU v Bratislave**, pedagóg predmetu Základy výskumu a experimentálnej tvorby, 5. a 6. ročník študenti architektúry.
- 2016-21 **The London School of Architecture**, design tutor, členka zakladajúcej fakulty magisterského štúdia, viedla think tanky o zelenej mobilite, inovatívnych typológiách a.i.
- 2013 – Externý kritik a lektor na rôznych školách architektúry vrátane The Architectural Association London, The Bartlett School of Architecture London, UMRUM Praha a.i.
- 2019 **RIBA Future Place competition**, členka odporbej poroty architektonickej súťaže.
- 2018 & 2019 **Architecture in Schools Open City programme**, členka odbornej poroty programu, ktorý angažuje deti základných škôl do poznania role a hodnoty architektúry.

AUTORSKÉ PUBLIKÁCIE

- 2022 **Meanwhile City: How temporary interventions create welcoming places with a strong identity.** Milk
- 2019 **Small Sites: Unlocking forgotten land and for housing.** Solidspace
- 2019 **VeloCity Manifesto: Growing Villages Differently.** VeloCity Placemaking
- 2018 **The Value of Design in Infrastructure Delivery.** UK National Infrastructure Commission
- 2010 **Together Alone: Architecture and Collaboration.** Artistbooks

- EXPERTKA NA MESTOTVORBU A TVORBU VEREJNÝCH PRIESTOROV S DLHODOBOU MEDZINÁRODNOU SKÚSENOŠŤOU

- SKÚSENOŠŤ PROJEKTOVÉHO RIADENIA A ZNALOSŤ PROCESU REAL ESTATE DEVELOPMENTU

- PREHĽAD A ZNALOSTI V OBLASTI INOVATÍVNYCH PLÁNOVACÍCH POLITÍK

- SKÚSENOŠŤ MEDZIOBOROVEJ SPOLUPRÁCE A VEDENIA INTERDISCIPLINÁRNYCH TÍMOV

- DOBRÁ KOMUNIKÁTORKA A FACILITÁTORKA

- SKÚSENÁ VEREJNÁ SPÍKERKA V TÉMACH MESTOTVORBY

- MEDIÁTORKA NAPRIEČ DISCIPLÍNAM A SEKTOROM

- ORGANIZOVANÁ MULTITASKERKA

- PEDAGOGICKÁ SKÚSENOŠŤ S DOBRÝMI SCHOPNOSŤAMI INŠPIROVAŤ A USMERNIŤ

- VÝBORNÁ ZNALOSŤ ANGLICKÉHO JAZYKA A NEMECKÉHO JAZYKA

- NARODILA SA A VYRASTALA V BRATISLAVE, CHÁPANIE ROZVOJA MESTA

- VEĽKÁ MEDZINÁRODNÁ SIEŤ KONTAKTOV NAPRIEČ PRIVÁTNEMU A VEREJNÉMU SEKTORU

PETRA MARKO

Petra Marko is a qualified architect and placemaking practitioner with expertise in public spaces, urban development and design advocacy in the UK and Central Europe. She co-founded a placemaking practice in London delivering urban design projects and strategies for people-oriented cities, led visions advocating for walkable neighbourhoods and has client-side experience in development management of innovative housing projects. As member of the Westminster Council's Design Review Panel she advises on major developments which will shape the future of central London. Petra sat on the inaugural UK National Infrastructure Commission Young Professionals Panel advising the government on the added value of public spaces in infrastructure projects; led think tanks at The London School of Architecture; led research and campaign for unlocking London's gap sites for housing; co-authored *VeloCity*, a strategic vision solving critical issues facing rural areas today and *Meanwhile City*, a how-to-guide for temporary interventions. For the past two years, Petra has been based in Bratislava, where she grew up, advising public and private sector clients on public space activation, supporting green mobility initiatives and development of livable neighbourhoods. She is a regular speaker at international forums and contributes to industry journals.

EDUCATION

2010	Goldsmiths, University of London MA Creative & Cultural Entrepreneurship (<i>with Distinction</i>)
2007	Vienna University of Technology MA Architecture (<i>with Distinction</i>)
2004-05	KTH School of Architecture, Stockholm Architecture, Erasmus Exchange
2001	International Baccalaureate Diploma Gymnázium Jura Hronca, Bratislava

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

2022 –	Strategic Lead for place shaping projects at visual design studio Milk , Bratislava
2013 –	Co-founder, Marko&Placemakers, London (since 2021 branch office in Bratislava) Led public space and placemaking strategies, High Street studies, co-authored <i>VeloCity</i> strategy for sustainable growth in Oxford-Cambridge corridor (William Sutton Prize for excellence 2018), Obchodná street study (Bratislava), vision for Bernolákovo.
2010-21	Design Director & Development Manager, Solidspace, London Managed complex housing projects from site acquisition to completion including 81-87 Weston Street in London (RIBA National Award, £20mil GDV) and led campaign for unlocking housing on small sites with policy makers and planning experts.
2010-12	Urban Designer, FoRM Associates, London Projects included Irwell River Park masterplan in Manchester
2007-09	Architectural Assistant, John McAslan&Partners, London Projects included Olympic Energy Centres in London

INDUSTRY PANELS

2023 –	Westminster Council's Design Review Panel, London. Member advising on major development, planning, public realm and regeneration projects in central London
2023 –	CycleUp! Goethe Institute Initiative , member of curatorial board for Slovakia
2018-20	National Infrastructure Commission Young Professionals Panel member. A 16 strong panel selected from 500 candidates to advise gov't on long-term infrastructure planning.
2013-18	RIBA Small Practice Group member involved in organising Guerrilla Tactics RIBA annual conference providing tactical tools and business advice to small architecture practices.

TEACHING

2023	VŠVU in Bratislava , research Tutor teaching 5th and 6th Year Architecture students
2016-21	The London School of Architecture , design tutor and member of founding faculty, taught Masters' degree students and led think tanks on green mobility, community building and innovative housing models.
2013 –	Guest critic and lecturer at various architecture schools including The Architectural Association London, The Bartlett School of Architecture, UMPRUM Prague and others
2019	RIBA Future Place competition , jury member.
2018 & 2019	Architecture in Schools Open City programme , Jury member for the programme engaging primary school children into how architecture can change our world.

AUTHORED PUBLICATIONS

2022	Meanwhile City: How temporary interventions create welcoming places with a strong identity. Book published by Milk.
2019	Small Sites: Unlocking forgotten land and for housing. Published by Solidspace.
2019	VeloCity Manifesto: Growing Villages Differently. Book published by VeloCity.
2018	The Value of Design in Infrastructure Delivery. Report published by the UK National Infrastructure Commission.
2010	Together Alone: Architecture and Collaboration. Published by Artistbooks.

- EXPERTISE IN PLACEMAKING AND PUBLIC SPACES

- EXPERIENCE OF PROJECT AND DEVELOPMENT MANAGEMENT

- GOOD OVERVIEW OF INNOVATIVE PLANNING POLICIES

- EXPERIENCE OF LEADING AND WORKING WITHIN MULTIDISCIPLINARY TEAMS

- GOOD COMMUNICATOR, FACILITATOR AND LATERAL THINKER

- ORGANISED MULTITASKER

- MEDIATOR ACROSS DISCIPLINES AND SECTORS

- EXPERIENCED PUBLIC SPEAKER AND ADVOCATE FOR LIVABLE CITIES AND GREEN MOBILITY INITIATIVES

- POSTGRADUATE TEACHING EXPERIENCE WITH GOOD LEADERSHIP AND SUPERVISION SKILLS

- FLUENT IN WRITTEN AND SPOKEN ENGLISH, SLOVAK & GERMAN

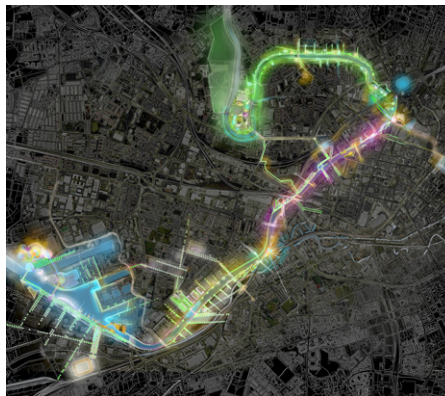
- BORN AND GREW UP IN BRATISLAVA, UNDERSTANDING OF THE CITY'S CONTEXT AND URBAN CHALLENGES

- LARGE INTERNATIONAL NETWORK OF CONTACTS ACROSS BUILT ENVIRONMENT SECTOR

THE PLACEMAKING STORY

VEREJNÉ PRIESTORY A ICH PRÍBEH

In 2013, Petra Marko co-founded Marko&Placemakers with Igor Marko, following their previous collaboration on urban regeneration projects. Their work addresses the overlaps between place, process and people, reaching beyond the physical aspects of design. In this experiential design process, they see the role of the placemaker as that of a creator, bringing new ideas, as well as a mediator, linking existing processes and people. Their work ranges from public realm strategies, place shaping visions, stakeholder engagement and socio-economic mapping studies to masterplanning and urban design projects. Marko&Placemakers sat on the London Mayor's Special Assistance Team for High Streets and was included in the Architecture Foundation's New Architects 4 (published in 2020), surveying the best British architectural practices established in the past 10 years. In 2019 the practice was featured amongst leading transport innovators by The Museum of Architecture in London in recognition of their public realm work exploring innovative ways of shaping resilient urban neighbourhoods. Marko&Placemakers have a growing portfolio of work in Central Europe, advising both private and public sector clients on the integration of public realm in new developments and major regeneration schemes. As members of the London School of Architecture practice network, the founders have led research think talks at the LSA on the themes of regenerative design, placemaking and green mobility.



www.markoandplacemakers.com

One Day in Vauxhall

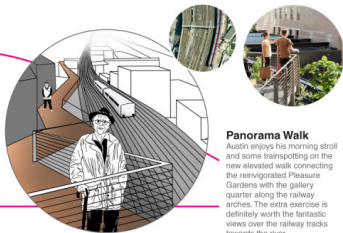
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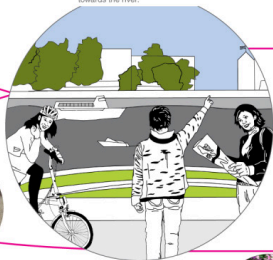
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Panorama Walk
Austin enjoys his evening stroll and some train-spotting on the new elevated walk connecting the regenerated Pleasure Gardens with the gallery quarter along the railway arches. The extra exercise is definitely worth the fantastic views over the railway tracks towards the river.



Garden link
Cyclists using the generous cycle lanes along Tyne Street admire the gardens on either side. As a member of the resident's association, even Frank helped plant a vegetable patch beside his building with the downstairs neighbour. The private back gardens and housing estate green spaces have become an attraction since the competition was held by the BID for the best garden and Austin and many of his neighbours removed the shabby wooden screens replacing them with various plants and flowers.



Adventure Playground & Sensory Gardens

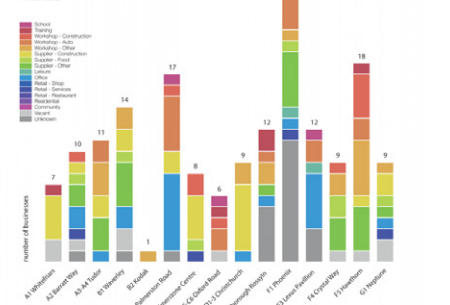
Reactivating this pocket park through sensory gardens and playground started with different species close by the Garden Museum. This is the favourite spot of little Emilia to play while her mother watches her from a Café in the railway arches, sipping coffee from beans freshly roasted by Costa just next door.



Continuous & Active Riverfront

The widened river walk from Battersea to the South Bank Centre provides space for cyclists to pass by as Mr and Mrs Chung stop to take pictures of the Houses of Parliament during their walk along the river edge. In some areas the new walkway hangs over the river while in others the embankment has been softened and stepped down to the river's edge.

Business numbers by estate
179 businesses



THE ARCHITECT-DEVELOPER STORY

ARCHITEKT AKO TVORCA MESTA

First as development manager, and later as design director, Petra Marko has been part of the evolution of Solidspace since 2010. Solidspace is an independent developer of unique split-level homes unlocking the potential of small gap sites in London founded by Roger Zogolovitch in 2003. Petra joined Solidspace part-time following her MA in Creative Entrepreneurship at Goldsmiths, University of London - which she undertook with the aim to broaden her interdisciplinary understanding of architecture practice and the skills needed in the process of enabling good quality built environment.

SPLIT-LEVEL HOUSING

In her role at Solidspace, Petra managed housing projects on complex sites overseeing the whole process of development from site finding, funding, design team commissioning, planning and construction through to completion, marketing and sales. Her first project was 2 houses in north London designed by Stephen Taylor Architects, and later 81-87 Weston Street, a mansion block of 8 apartments designed by AHMM Architects, with a gross development value of 20million, which went on to win multiple awards including the RIBA National Award in 2018 and the World Architecture Festival 'Small Scale Housing Award' in 2018.

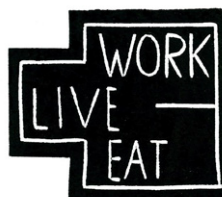
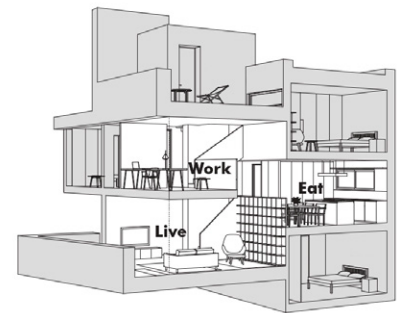
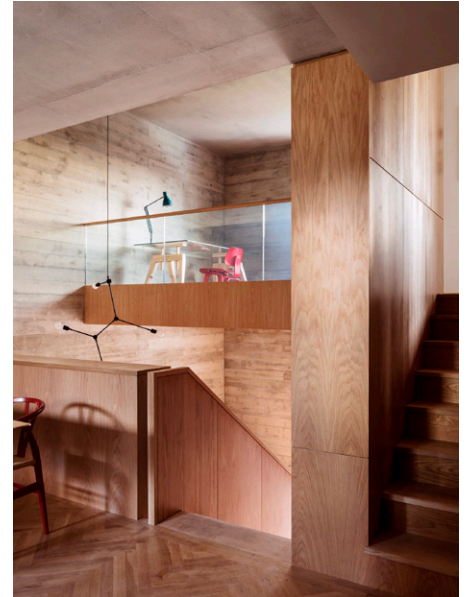
SMALL SITES RESEARCH

In 2019, Petra has led the research and campaign for unlocking small sites for housing, culminating in a round table discussion with members of local authorities, the GLA (Greater London Authority), small developers, architects and planning experts. The Solidspace research identified the challenges of unlocking small sites and has led to further consultancy work for local authorities on characterisation studies and small sites design codes.

In 2021 Petra stepped down from active role at Solidspace to focus on establishing a European branch of her placemaking practice and remains a non-executive director of Solidspace.



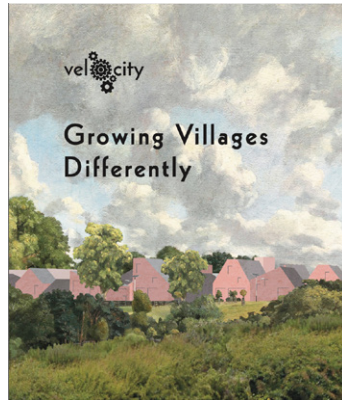
www.solidspace.co.uk



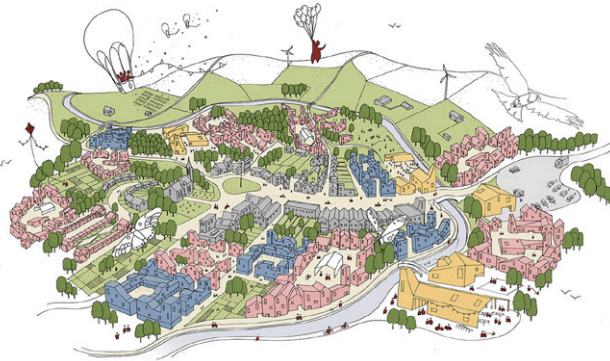
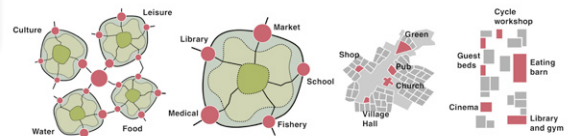
RESEARCH AND THOUGHT LEADERSHIP VÝSKUM A ODBORNÉ LÍDERSTVO

VELOCITY

In 2017 six women practitioners (architects, planners and engineers) including Petra Marko formed a team which went on to win the National Infrastructure Commission's ideas competition for growth and placemaking along the Oxford-Cambridge corridor. Instead of focusing on cities, they looked at the issues that rural areas in the corridor face, and how compact growth combined with a fine grain cycle network and walkable villages forming self-sufficient clusters can help address the issues of homes affordability, ageing population, disappearing services, car dependency and loss of biodiversity. Since winning the competition, the team have spoken widely to government, local authorities, communities and landowners and won awards including the *William Sutton Prize for Excellence in Social Housing Design and Placemaking* (2018). In 2019 the group launched their manifesto at the *Oslo Architecture Triennale*. VeloCity have developed a shared vision for and with Blenheim Estate, challenging the way in which the planning and development of rural areas has been approached historically. In 2022, VeloCity have been shortlisted for the Colchester Garden Community competition, a 704ha masterplan and placemaking strategy for 9000 new homes.



www.velocityplacemaking.co.uk



If nothing changes...



MEANWHILE CITY

Petra Marko led the research and authored *Meanwhile City* with a team of researchers, editors and designers at Milk. Published in 2022, the book is a guide on how to use temporary interventions to shape the identity of places and build active communities around them, uncovering the role and potential of tactical urbanism in an age of social, economic and environmental crises. Aimed at city authorities, developers, urban practitioners and citizens, *Meanwhile City* shows that temporary projects are an important part of city resilience and when done well, they can enhance a city's ability to accelerate both physical and behavioural changes, course-correct and recover in face of adversity. *Meanwhile City* is included in the new space10 library in Copenhagen of 100 essential books for creating a better everyday life for people and the planet, and has been featured in The Monocle 24h Radio podcast *The Urbanist*, and The Monocle Companion's *Fifty Essays for a Brighter Future*. Petra Marko presented the research and findings at New London Architecture (NLA), Urban Design London, Centre for Architecture in Prague (CAMP), Utopian Hours (Turin) and other forums, including several podcasts.



www.meanwhile.city



PUBLIC SPEAKING AND WRITING VEREJNÉ PREDNÁŠKY A PUBLIKÁCIE

AUTHORED ARTICLES

07/2023 **Backstage Talks** | *Small Steps that Make Cities Welcoming* by Petra Marko

06/2023 **CTZN** | Petra Marko - *Ako aktivovať verejný priestor? Nečakajme na prestrihnutie červenej pásky*

06/2023 **Situace** | Petra Marko: *Mohou dočasné zásahy (meanwhile use) pomoci oživit regionální města a posílit místní ekonomiku?*

03/2023 **The Monocle Companion** | *Fifty Ideas for a Brighter Future* | *The Meanwhile City* by Petra Marko

01/2022 **CTZN** | *London Street Markets and their Role in Urban Regeneration* - Petra Marko

07/2021 **Citizen Magazine** | *Daniel Pink: What actually motivates us* - Digest by Petra Marko

02/2021 **Monocle** | *Change for Good* - Petra Marko amongst 20 thinkers on how to make things better through small steps

05/2020 **Building Design** | *Learning from lockdown: Could post-pandemic Britain be a breath of fresh air?* by Petra Marko

11/2019 **Architecture Today** | Petra Marko - *My Kind of Town* - Bratislava

09/2019 **Building Design** | *How to build a circular economy: Petra Marko asks whether we can get to a place of 'good growth'*

02/2019 **Building Design** | *Can we design some Danish 'hygge' into our housing?* by Petra Marko

11/2018 **Building Design** | *Client design leadership is crucial to the success of our infrastructure* - by Petra Marko

INTERVIEWS

10/2023 **NM** | *Urbanistka Petra Marko: Viac bicyklov prinesie do miest čistejší vzduch a šťastnejších obyvateľov*

08/2023 **Parkly** | Interview with Petra Marko

07/2023 **Monocle** Issue 165 *Quality of Life Special* | *Sound and Vision* feature about Bratislava and its urban changemakers

05/2023 **The Invisible Mag** | *Petra Marko: Pochopiť neviditeľnú identitu mesta*

09/2022 **Hospodárske noviny** | *Architektka Petra Marko: Bratislava sa mení k lepšiemu*

04/2018 **Architectural Review** / *VeloCity* case study: Q&A with Petra Marko and Sarah Featherstone

06/2016 **Archipreneur** | *How to Use Placemaking to Create the City of the Future* - interview with Petra Marko and Igor Marko

LECTURES AND TALKS

2023 **Utopian Hours, Turin** | *Meanwhile City - how to activate places and build communities* - Lecture by Petra Marko

2023 **Pěšky Městem Conference, CAMP Prague** | *The Role and Value of Public Spaces* - Lecture by Petra Marko

2023 **NLA New London Architecture, London** | *Pecha Kucha on Tactical Urbanism* - Talk by Petra Marko

2023 **MIB Bratislava** | *Mesto prívětivé pre deti* - panel discussion with Petra Marko

2023 **Janette Sadik-Khan at SNG Bratislava** | Petra Marko moderated discussion with leading transportation expert and mayor Matúš Vallo

2023 **PLACE! Conference Košice** | *Meanwhile City - how to activate places and build communities* - Lecture by Petra Marko

2023 **Youth 4 Bauhaus, CIKE Košice** | *Rola a hodnota verejných priestorov* - Lecture by Petra Marko

2023 **Semmelrock Conference, Vienna** | *Climate and Wellbeing in Urban Living* - Lecture by Petra Marko

2023 **Gehl, Copenhagen** | *Meanwhile City - how to activate places and build communities* - Talk by Petra Marko

2023 **Cykloškola dopravy, Trnava** | *Rola a hodnota verejných priestorov* - Lecture by Petra Marko

2022 **Microlabs, Melbourne** | *Meanwhile City - how to activate places and build communities* - Lecture by Petra Marko

2022 **Stará tržnica, Bratislava** | *Meanwhile City - how to activate places and build communities* - Lecture by Petra Marko

2022 **NLA Co-creating Equitable Places Conference, London** | *Meanwhile City - how to activate places and build communities* - Lecture by Petra Marko

2022 **Morris+Company House of Ideas, London** | *Meanwhile City - how to activate places and build communities* - Lecture by Petra Marko

2022 **CAMP Centre for Architecture, Prague** | *Meanwhile City* book launch, lecture by Petra Marko and panel discussion with international guests

2022 **Cyklomestá konferencia, Trnava** | *Cyklo doprava a projekt VeloCity* - Lecture by Petra Marko

2021 **Architectural Association, London** | *Collaboration in architecture* - joint talk by Petra Marko and Madeleine Kessler



"Cities are spatial and human organisms. Everyone's experience of their city is highly individual and based on personal relationships and our background. How does placemaking relate to these invisible layers of the city?"



Petra Marko is an architect and placemaking expert whose work focuses on shaping and promoting people-oriented cities and inclusive public spaces. She is co-founder of Marko&Placemakers with offices in London and Bratislava and strategic lead on place projects at visual design studio Milk, where she led the research and co-authored *Meanwhile City*, a best practice and how-to guide for temporary



PUBLIC SPEAKING, WORKSHOPS & EXHIBITIONS

VEREJNÉ PREDNÁŠKY, WORKSHOPY & VÝSTAVY

2021 **FA STU Bratislava** | *Rola a hodnota verejných priestorov* - Lecture by Petra Marko

2021 **The Architecture Club Spring Forum** | *Gentle Radicalism* - talk and discussion with Petra Marko

2021 **London Conference** | *Cycling in the Era of Covid 19* | Panel discussion moderated by Petra Marko

2021 **The London School of Architecture** | *Value and Purpose* - Lecture by Petra Marko

2021 **Velo-City Conference, Lisbon** | Petra Marko and Sarah Featherstone introduce VeloCity project

2020 **RIBA Perspectives on Architecture** | *VeloCity Research Findings* - lecture by Petra Marko & Sarah Featherstone

2020 **Architectural Association, London** | *Value and Purpose* - Lecture by Petra Marko

2020 **The London School of Architecture** | *Design Direction* - Lecture by Petra Marko

2020 **Creative Changemakers Conference**, Creative Conscience, London | *Motivation and Shifting Role of Architects* - talk by Petra Marko

2020 **The Architecture Foundation 100 Day Studio** | *Disruptive Housing Models* - talk by Petra Marko and Roger Zogolovitch

2019 **Architectural Association, London** | *Collaboration in architecture* - joint talk by Petra Marko and Madeleine Kessler

2019 **All Party Parliamentary Group on Building Communities, Westminster Hall** | *VeloCity placemaking approach* - lecture by Petra Marko and Kay Hughes

2019 **Infracafe on Circular Economy at King's Cross, London** | Petra Marko organised and chaired panel discussion with public and private sector experts as part of her role on the UK National Infrastructure Commission Young Professionals Panel

2019 **Labour Planning Commission, RIBA London** | *How do we drive up quality across built environment?* by Petra Marko

2019 **RIBA Smart Practice Conference, Cambridge** | *Value of Design in Infrastructure* - lecture by Petra Marko

2018 **The Architecture Foundation** | 10 Ideas for Public Spaces - *Principles of Gender Mainstreaming in Public Space Planning* - Lecture by Petra Marko

2018 **RIBA Royal Institute of British Architects** | *Principles of Placemaking* - Petra Marko

2018 **reSITE Conference, Prague** | panel discussion on housing with Petra Marko

2018 **Museum of Architecture London** | *Speculative Practice, Architecture as a Process* - talk by Petra Marko & Jennifer Ross

2015 **Fontys School of Fine and Performing Arts in Tilburg, Netherlands** | Sustainable Design Lecture Series | *From Design to Process* - Lecture by Petra Marko

2014 **Guerrilla Tactics Small Practice Conference, RIBA** | *'In between' Tactics* - lecture by Petra Marko

2014 **Eco Week London** | *The Role of Placemaking in Sustainable Urban Development* - Petra Marko

2013 **reSITE Conference, Prague** | *Urban Ecosystems* - panel discussion chaired by Petra Marko

PODCASTS AND RADIO

2023 **Urbanistica Podcast** | The power of meanwhile interventions - with Petra Marko

2023 **Monocle The Urbanist** | City profile: Bratislava featuring Petra Marko

2023 **Urbcast** | What is the power of temporary interventions in shaping cities? with Petra Marko

2023 **LNDWN podcast** 'School of Place and the revival of traditional architecture' with Petra Marko, London Open City podcast

2023 **Český rozhlas Rádio Vltava** | Petra Marko, Milota Sidorová a Peter Gero o rozvoji Bratislavy

2022 **Monocle The Urbanist** | 'Meanwhile City' and Small Cities Index with Petra Marko

2022 **Živé mesto FM** | Charakter mesta silne určuje jeho plánovanie | rádio diskusia s Petrou Marko, Martinom Berežným a Petrom Návratom

2022 **DOM Podcast** 31. časť - Petra Marko

2022 **Velocity Tracks of my Tyres** with Petra Marko

2021 **Živé mesto FM** | O cyklovoľite s Petrou Marko a Danom Kollárom

2021 **FX magazine Close to Home** | Petra Marko and Sarah Featherstone discuss VeloCity

2019 **Monocle The Urbanist podcast** | UK National Design Guide with Petra Marko

SELECTED WORKSHOPS, EXHIBITIONS, ROUND TABLES

2023 **Utopian Hours, Turin** | Half a day Meanwhile Placemaking workshop focused on activating the Lungo Dora riverfront led by Petra Marko

2021 **Shifting Gear, The London School of Architecture** | Think tank on green mobility led by Petra Marko and Steven Smith

2020 **Connected Communities, The London School of Architecture** | Think tank led by Petra Marko and Angie Jim Osman

2019 **Oslo Architecture Triennale, Norway** | VeloCity manifesto co-authored by Petra Marko exhibited as part of the triennale theme of degrowth

2019 **Small Sites: Unlocking Forgotten Land for Housing, GLA London** | expert panel discussion led by Petra Marko as part of Solispace research publication launch discussing challenges and opportunities of small sites development

2015 **Unstable City Think Tank | The London School of Architecture** | Think tank on innovative regeneration models led by Petra Marko and Paolo Vimercati

2014 **Urban Transcripts Berlin** | Petra Marko led a week long workshop using storytelling as a tool for exploring the city and developing scenarios for the future

2012 **Urban Transcripts London** | Petra Marko led a week long workshop exploring the transformation of Hackney Wick following the London 2012 Olympic Games



Place

My Kind of Town

Petra Marko



Bratislava is my kind of town by default: I was born there and spent half of my life in the city before leaving for university in Vienna (the two being the closest European capitals) and winding up in London, my adoptive home for over a decade now.

My relationship to Bratislava is that of a child to its mother. Despite the many dramatic changes the city has seen over the years, I fall into its arms every time I visit and bask in the sunlight of its nearby lakes, where the serenity of its nature cocoons me from some of the day-to-day idiosyncrasies in this post-communist metropolis.

Bratislava, as it is known in Slovak, is Pressburg in German and Pozsony in Hungarian: the multiplicity of names encapsulates its multi-ethnic legacy as the coronation city during the Austro-Hungarian Empire in late-nineteenth and early-twentieth centuries. My 99-year-old grandmother — who speaks all three languages fluently — recalls days when you could walk into the butcher's and be understood either way. After formation of the first Czechoslovak Republic in 1918, the Czech and Slovak population increased, while most of the Germans were evacuated following the second world war. Until 1989, Bratislava was under a Communist regime, which had a profound effect not only on my parents' generation but also on the city's architecture.

The historic centre was disjointed through the pioneering construction of the Bridge of Slovak National Uprising in the 1970s, with plans for stitching back the city in this sensitive scar point in evolution for the past 20 years. Many significant monuments of modernism emerged during the Communist era, but the city has struggled with the upkeep of these buildings since the revolution. Once despised for the ideology they represented, today their architectural legacy and future transformation are the focus of a fierce public debate.

Contemporary Bratislava is walkable, bustling with cafes, shops, markets and restaurants adopting every foodie concept imaginable. New developments along the river capitalise on the city's location on the Danube and at the foot of the Carpathian mountains, with Bratislava Castle nestled above the city providing an undoubtedly picturesque setting. The pedestrianised historic city centre, along with socialist architecture, make for quirky city tours, where some of the undercurrent tensions easily escape the eye of a weekend visitor.

Unlike its European twin, Vienna, with its stable and mature composure, for the past 30 years Bratislava has been more of a teenager, experimenting and getting to know itself in a 'coming of age' story.

From booming malls and skyscrapers to self-nurturing bottom-up initiatives, the city presents itself as a battleground of ideologies. Nowhere is this more apparent than in its public spaces — the pavements, parks and squares which were first to feel the effects of an empty public purse after the revolution, when the need to satiate the craving of private ownership was unstoppable. The last decade has seen interest in re-establishing the lost relationship to the public domain soar, with a multitude of initiatives, from street markets to cultural events, bringing back to life important social hubs such as the old market hall. The current mayor has declared public spaces his top priority, recognising that the city's rising inequality can only be redressed through this common ground.

The rise of the what urbanist Richard Florida calls the "creative class", in a post-socialist city of a manageable scale (half a million people) has spawned a thriving economy with artisanal production by local designers. While they can feel the pressure of the precarious neo-liberal model, in Bratislava it comes hand-in-hand with the benefits of tight-knit community support from family and friends, something of a luxury in cities like London.

Like any parent, Bratislava is far from perfect. But the city's dynamic nature and the resilience of its people make a strong foundation for its future evolution. ↗