

After our successful project The Line Galleries 2013, which have drawn attention to the potential of Negrelli viaduct and uncovered through the artistic installations the genius loci of the space around and under the oldest viaduct in Czech republic, we decided to direct our activities in 2014 toward intensive negotiations among the parties with ownership and other interests in the upcoming reconstruction of the viaduct. Our aim is to lead the renovation not only to technical reconstruction of its railway and structure but to offer new programs and use in viaduct arches and so enrich the urban space between historical core of Prague and Karlin district. As a part of our 2014 activities we decided to organize a symposium dedicated to Viaduct Transformations.

Symposium

Metamorphoses of Viaducts in European Cities

In the context of exploring approaches to historical still functional rail road projects in European cities, we are inviting to Prague the architectural offices and city representatives presenting the transformation process and current state of the viaducts in Berlin (S-Bahn viaduct) , Vienna (U6 Line at Gürtel Straße) and Zurich (Im Viadukt). The guests will share the experience of viaduct redevelopment by presentations and discussions with local professionals, city representatives, invited organizations and public.

Invited guests:

Berlin (S-Bahn viaduct)

DB/city representative (to be specified)

Vienna (U6 Line Gürtel)

Architekten Tillner & Willinger

Zurich (Im Viadukt)

EM2N Architekten



Negrelli viaduct (Karlin viaduct) today

Our passion is the contemporary city.

CCEA is dedicated to Central Europe and its culture.

[Centre for Central European Architecture]

MOBA is focused on the research, design and vision of urban space.

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Program draft:

27.11.2014 (afternoon -evening)

lectures and debate

Each guest will prepare 30 min presentation about the history, transformation process, final outcome and current life of the viaduct project. After the presentations will follow debate. The audience will consist mainly form professionals, the owners of property of Negrelli viaduct (Czech railway, City of Prague, City District Prague 8) representatives and other interested parties involved in the viaduct renovation will come to share experiences and ideas.

28.11.2014 (9 30 – 15 00)

Workshop

Projected debate about future of Negrelli viaduct will continue with invited professionals, city representatives (Municipality of City Prague and City District Prague 8), Railway Infrastructure Administration and owners of neighbouring properties (Vienna Insurance Group, Hotel Hilton, Karlin Group, Consortium for Karlin). The workshop will focus on the processes that could lead to the best solution of the viaduct transformation as well as operation of the activities in the arches under Negrelli viaduct.

The aim of the symposium is to reach an agreement on the value and importance of the Negrelli viaduct and to discuss and project its future use/role that can significantly influence not only the surroundings of one of the most outstanding achievements of structural engineering in Czech history, but the whole city of Prague as well. Last but not least the symposium can generate new connections and possible future cooperation between Zurich-Vienna-Prague-Berlin.



Negrelli viaduct (Karlin viaduct) was constructed as a connection between Olomouc - Prague - Dresden in 1850 by construction engineer Alois Negrelli, who constructed inter alia Munster Bridge in Zurich, the Suez Canal... The viaduct is 1100 m long and till 1910 it was the longest viaduct in Europe.

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