

## The 6th edition of Cities Connection Project gets off the ground in Brussels with a new format

*Created in 2013 by Nicola Regusci and Xavier Bustos, Cities Connection Project is a platform that sets out to connect European cities through their contemporary architecture. With each edition, a rich and varied programme is put together with the aim of bringing together architects, urban planners, universities and the institutional authorities. CCP is designed in such a way as to generate meetings, professional exchanges and collaborations.*

### An exchange between 3 territories

For this sixth edition, the territories of Wallonia-Brussels, Barcelona and Basel will share their experiences and best practices on the theme of "**Shared living spaces**". This is a first as, until now, the connection has only been established between 2 cities. Brussels is the first stage in this new connection.

### "Shared living spaces

The theme chosen for this sixth edition of the CCP has taken on a particular and unexpected resonance in the light of the global health crisis. The pandemic has changed the way we communicate, relate to each other and work. Shared living spaces are more than ever indispensable places that take on a new role as a catalyst for social exchange. This theme has been explored in different ways by the architects of the territories concerned, who propose solutions in line with their own particular context.

### A programme encouraging exchanges of experience and encounters.

For this first stage, which will take place in Brussels on 14 and 15 October, a combined programme of exhibitions, meetings, architours, debates and social events has been organised. The schedule of events is as follows:

- An exhibition at the Brasserie de la Senne

The "Shared Living Spaces" exhibition will allow visitors to discover 60 major avant-garde architecture projects from the 3 connected territories, 20 per territory. The projects presented are all responses proposed in line with the specific context. This exhibition will put the spotlight on talented young architectural practices from the 3 connected territories and allow lasting links to be forged between the partners involved. The projects proposed by the FWB illustrate the diversity of production in our territory (scale, use, programme, etc.). The exhibition will be presented at the Brasserie de la Senne until 25 November.

- An event at Recyclart

Wallonie-Bruxelles Architectures, in partnership with the Institut Culturel d'Architecture -Wallonie-Bruxelles (ICA-WB), is organising a *lucha libre* between architects at Recyclart on 14 October at 6.30 p.m. Moderated by Apolline Vranken, it will confront two architectural practices per partner city/region, tasked with giving a talk on the theme of the exhibition on the basis of two photos, one successful and one unsuccessful example of a shared living space in their city.

- A catalogue, conferences, round tables, visits to projects and practices

In addition to the exhibition, the above-mentioned actions are opportunities that have been carved out to bring together the professionals who best represent the avant-garde architecture of each city/region and allow them to dialogue with their foreign counterparts and explore new approaches.

### Concrete results

These events also allow local architects to get to know each other, as was the case in previous editions. Several architects from the FWB did not know each other and are now collaborating on one or more projects or are planning to do so.

In addition to the excellent visibility for the stakeholders, the previous edition of CCP resulted in concrete collaboration between architects from different countries. One example is the partnership between the Brussels-based practice Owest and the Spanish practice FLORES & PRATS - both exhibited in the Cities Connection Project - which enabled them to be awarded the contract for the renovation of the *Théâtre des Variétés* in Brussels.

### And then what?

The exhibition will be presented in Basel in May 2022 as part of the first Basel Architecture Week. Finally, it will be presented in Barcelona in October 2022 in partnership with the Mies van der Rohe Foundation. At the end of this sixth edition, the catalogues from the various cities will be combined in a single edition, serving as a valuable calling card for the projects/practices exhibited.

### For more information

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Photo link : <https://www.forum-communication.be/fileBox/CCP/>

Exhibition

Shared Living Spaces

Brasserie de la Senne

Drève Anna Boch 19-21, 1000 Brussels

Monday to Friday 4 to 8 p.m.

Saturdays noon to 8 p.m.

Until November 25, 2021

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