Conference
Wednesday through Saturday, May 4–7

A conference of symposia, lectures, and workshops with visionaries and leaders—including exemplary mayors, forecasters, architects, artists, economists, and technology experts—addressing the Festival themes: The Heterogeneous City, The Networked City, The Reconfigured City, and The Sustainable City. Events take place at The Cooper Union, NYU Wagner, and the New Museum.

Program subject to change. Please visit festivalofideasnyc.com for updates.

Wednesday, May 4, 7:00pm
Keynote Address: Rem Koolhaas
$25. Rosenthal Pavilion, Kimmel Center, NYU, 6 Washington Sq South

Co-founder of the Office for Metropolitan Architecture (OMA), Rem Koolhaas is one of the most influential architects and thinkers of the past three decades. Koolhaas is the founder of AMO, a think tank focused on social, economic, and technological issues. He is a recipient of the Pritzker Architecture Prize and the author of such landmark books as Delirious New York: A Retroactive Manifesto for Manhattan and S, M, L, XL. He is Professor in Practice at Harvard’s School of Design, Department of Architecture.

The New Museum presents Cronocaos, OMA’s installation that asserts the critical position of preservation in architecture and urbanism. The exhibition will take place at the New Museum’s 5,600 square foot, partially renovated ground floor space at 231 Bowery. It includes historic objects and photographs, analysis of the rapid growth of preserved urban and natural territories, and a take-away display of OMA’s projects spanning thirty-five years. Cronocaos redefines this underexplored theme as one of urgency within and beyond architecture’s disciplinary boundaries.

Lead sponsor: American Express

Thursday, May 5, 1:00–3:00pm
The Heterogeneous City
Panel Discussion
$10. The Great Hall at Cooper Union, 7 E. 7th St. (between 3rd and 4th Aves.)

The heterogeneous city is the stimulating city: diverse, complex, tolerant. The ideal heterogeneous city has a kind of dynamic equilibrium; the real one is frequently, if not constantly, involved in struggles over terrain and influence. A panel of activists, artists, and analysts discusses why heterogeneity is so crucial to great urbanism, what threatens it, and what it takes to sustain it.

Vito Acconci Visual artist and performance pioneer Acconci has, since the late 1960s, turned his attention to architecture. His practice, Acconci Studio, is known for its rethinking of public space and the public responsibility of the built environment.

Jonathan Bowles Director of the Center for an Urban Future, Bowles oversees a public policy organization that works to improve the overall health of New York City. He has written extensively on key economic trends, diversification, and the importance of small businesses to large cities.

Rosaline Haggerty Recipient of the MacArthur Foundation Award, Haggerty is the founder of Common Ground, a non-profit organization dedicated to finding solutions to homelessness in cities throughout the US. Common Ground operates and develops housing facilities across the country.

Suketu Mehta Professor of Journalism at NYU, Mehta is the award-winning author of Maximum City: Bombay Lost and Found, an extraordinary historical portrait of “the biggest, fastest, richest city in India.” He is currently working on a nonfiction book on contemporary immigrants in New York City.

Moderator: Jonathan F.P. Rose Founder of Rose Companies, a green real-estate development, planning, consulting, and investment firm, Rose also chairs the MTA’s Blue Ribbon Commission of Climate Change. He is a Trustee of the Urban Land Institute and Co-Chair of its Climate and Energy Committee.

Thursday, May 5, 4:00–6:00pm
The Networked City
Panel Discussion
$10. The Great Hall at Cooper Union, 7 E. 7th St. (between 3rd and 4th Aves.)

The networked city is the efficient city. Virtually all urban systems are networked, from the streets to the water supply to security and surveillance—and new networks, mostly virtual, are superimposed on our lives every day. Does this interconnectedness make us more vulnerable as well as more effective and efficient? A panel of media theorists and technology visionaries considers the impacts and implications of our networked lives.

Adam Greenfield Managing Director of UrbanScape, an urban systems design firm, Greenfield is former head of design direction and user interface for Nokia. He is the author of Everyware: The Dawning of the Age of Ubiquitous Computing and the forthcoming The City Is Here for You to Use.

Natalie Jeremijenko New-media artist and engineer Jeremijenko is an Associate Professor in Visual Art/Computer Science/Environmental Studies at NYU where she develops strategies that employ new technologies to track and remediate environmental changes.

Anthony Townsend Research Director of the Institute for the Future, a nonprofit research group, Townsend researches the impact of new technologies on cities and public institutions. He is a member of the National Foreign Trade Council’s Global Information Forum Brain Trust.

Moderator: Joseph Grima Editor-in-Chief of Domus magazine, Grima is an architect and former director of the Storefront for Art and Architecture. He teaches at Moscow’s Strelka Institute for Media, Architecture, and Design and is the co-founder (with Pedro Reyes) of the Urban Genome Project, dedicated to “mapping the code on which cities are written.”

Thursday, May 5, 7:00pm
The Networked City
Keynote Address: Jaron Lanier
$10. The Great Hall at Cooper Union, 7 E. 7th St. (between 3rd and 4th Aves.)

Author of the bestselling You Are Not A Gadget: A Manifesto, Lanier has long been associated with Virtual Reality research and founded VPL Research, the first company to market VR products. He has served as a Scientist of Advanced Network and Services and as Lead Scientist of the National Telecommunications Initiative, a coalition of research universities studying advanced applications for Internet. He has recently served as Scholar at Large for Microsoft and currently acts as their Partner Architect.

Friday, May 6, 2:00–4:30pm
The Reconfigured City
Presentation and Discussion
$10. The Great Hall at Cooper Union, 7 E. 7th St. (between 3rd and 4th Aves.)

The reconfigured city is the adaptable city, one that can continually rethink and remake itself without destroying its fundamental character. In this series of presentations, two architects, an artist trained as an architect, and an entrepreneur talk about how we can adapt, hack, amplify, and more productively use what...
Robin Chase  Founder and CEO of GoLoco, an online ride-sharing community. Chase also founded and is the former CEO of Zipcar. Currently she leads Meadow Networks, a consulting firm that advises city, state, and federal government agencies on wireless applications in the transportation sector.

Elizabeth Diller  Founder of Diller Scofidio + Renfro, Diller is a Professor of Architecture at Princeton University. She and her partner Ricardo Scofidio were the first architects to be awarded the MacArthur Fellowship, and their practice is currently leading the design of the High Line and the redesign of Lincoln Center.

Frank Duffy  Founder of DEGW, an architectural firm devoted to strategic consultancy that helps businesses create social-scientifically informed workplaces. Duffy is also the author of Work and the City, which tracks the symbiotic relationship between modern architecture and office design.

Pedro Reyes  Architect and artist Reyes’s work is part shelter and part sculpture focusing on the interplay between physical and social space. He is (with Joseph Grima) the co-founder of the Urban Genome Project which is assembling an index of tools for improving the urban environment.

Michael Nutter  In early 2009 Mayor Nutter launched Greenworks Philadelphia, a 15-point plan to make Philadelphia the greenest city in the United States, with initiatives in areas including green jobs, local food, recycling, and energy conservation. In 2010, Philadelphia won the 2010 Sustainable Community Award from the U.S. Chamber of Commerce.

Anna Dyson  Host of Peabody Award-winning Studio 540, a co-production of Public Radio International and WNYC, Kallipoliti is a practicing architect, engineer, and theorist. She is the founder of Eco Redux, an innovative architectural and design resource.

Mitch McEwen  Founder and Director of Superfront, McEwen is dedicated to the promotion and exhibition of radical contemporary architecture. She is an Adjunct Assistant Professor at Columbia University’s GSAPP.

Elizabeth Diller

Saturday, May 7, 2:00–4:00pm
World Café: Report Out
Workshop Session 2
Free, New Museum Theater, 215 Bowery

Moderators and participants from World Café Session 2 regroup for a “report out.” Moderators present the results of the workshops followed by a lively discussion amongst participants.

Ticket Information
Tickets for each event may be purchased at: festivalsofideasnyc.com
A Festival Concierge Pass is available for $45, guaranteeing your entry to all events occurring May 4–6. Workshops that take place on May 7 are not included in the Festival Concierge Pass.