

Pelin Tan

pelintan@gmail.com

academia.edu/PelinTan

act.mit.edu/people/fellows/pelin-tan

Basic Information

Nationality: Turkish citizen

Birth Place & Date: Hilden/Germany, 01.01.1974

Country: Turkey

Languages: Turkish, English, German

Research Areas

Critical spatial practices, Contemporary Architectural&Art Theory, Research Methodologies, Design Pedagogies.

Academic Appointments

- 2020 Spring** Visiting Researcher Bard College Human Rights and Curatorial Studies Prog., New York.
- 2019 Winter** Visiting Prof. in Residence, Art & Film School, Lofoten Island, Norway.
- 2018 Autumn** Visiting Associate Prof., Architecture Faculty, University of Cyprus, Nicosia.
- 2016 Jan.- July** Visiting Associate Prof., Hong Kong PolyU School of Design – MA Prog., HK.
- 2013 Sept. – 2017 Sept.** Associate Prof. / Vice-Dean, Architecture Faculty, Mardin Artuklu University, Turkey.
- 2011 – 2013** Assistant Prof. / Vice-Director, New Media Dept., Faculty of Communication, KHAS University, Istanbul.
- 2008 – 2009** Guest Professor , Art Academy of Nürenberg, MA in Architecture and Urban Studies, Germany.
- 2001 – 2011** Teaching&Research Assistant Art History Dept., Istanbul Technical University, Turkey.
- 2006-2007, Autumn** Lecturer, "Urban and Territorial Discourses in Contemporary Art" undergraduate course, History of Art, Architecture Faculty, Berlin Technical University, Germany.
- 2006 -2007, Spring** Lecturer, "Space Politics in Contemporary Art: 1970s -1980s", undergraduate course, History of Art, Architecture Faculty, Berlin Technical University, Germany.
- 2003 – 2004, Spring** Lecturer, "Contemporary Art at the Age of Globalization", undergraduate course, Exchange Lecturer – Socrates Teaching Mobility (ITU), History of Art&Architecture Department, Trier University, Germany.

Education

2011 Postdoc Research

Affiliated Researcher/Fellow, Program in Art, Culture and Technology (ACT), School of Architecture and Planning (SA+P), Massachusetts Institute of Technology, Cambridge

Research: "Methodology in Artistic Research: Artistic Research as Knowledge Production"

Prof.Ute Meta Bauer - Director

2003 – 2010 Phd

Art History, Inst. of Social Sciences, Istanbul Technical University, Istanbul - Turkey

Thesis: "Locality as a Discursive Concept in Recent Socially Engaged Art Practices" (in Urban Context)

2006 – 2007 Ph.D Research (DAAD), Art History Dept., Berlin Humboldt University, Berlin

Thesis: "Locality as a Discursive Concept in Recent Socially Engaged Art Practices"

Co-Advisor: Prof.Susanne von Falkenhausen

2001 – 2003 Master

MA in Art History, Inst.of Social Sciences, Istanbul Technical University, Istanbul - Turkey

Thesis: "Contemporary Art after 1990s and Globalization"

1992 – 1996 Bachelor

Sociology, DTCF, Ankara University, Ankara - Turkey

Graduation Thesis:"Postmodern Theory: Lyotard,Giddens,Touraine,Baudrillard,Jameson, Harvey

Fellowships/Research Residencies

2020 Sharjah Film Platform Short Film Production Grant awardee.

2019 - 2020 6th Recipient of Keith Haring FArt&Activism, Bard College, Human Rights, NY.

2020 -2021 Senior Researcher, Center for Arts, Design and Social Research, Boston

2019 - 2020 Research Fellow, Center for Arts, Design and Social Research, Boston

2017 - 2018 BAK contemporary art - Utrecht, Fellowship research grant, Netherlands

2016 HK Design Trust, Research Grant, Hong Kong

2016, April NTU CCA Singapore, Research Residency

2015, Jan. CCA Kitakyushu, Japan Research Residency

2013 Foundation for Arts, New York, Labor in Art research support grant,

2012 The Japan Foundation Fellowship Osaka City Univ. - Urban Research Plaza

2011, Spring MIT/ACT, Cambridge, Post-Doc Research in Contemporary Art

2011 Koç Foundation / Arter Art Inst., Contemporary Art Research Grant

2011 Office for Contemporary Art Norway (OCA) Int. Curatorial Support with
03-Funding, 2011

2011, Jan GeoAIR, Georgia Curatorial Research in Contemporary Art

2008 Sweden Art Council, IASPIS Contemporary Art Research,

2006 - 2007 DAAD, Germany- Ph.D Research Grant, 2006 – 2007

2005 Central European Univ. Urban Strategies, Summer School Grant, Budapest.

Grant for Art&Film Production

2020 Sharjah Art Biennial, Short Film Grant

2014 Montreal Art Biennial
2013 Bergen Assembly, art biennial
2012 Vancouver art initiatives

Award

2019 - 2020 6th Recipient of Keith Haring Art&Activism, Bard College, Human Rights.
2019 - 2020 Research Fellow, the Center for Arts, Design and Social Research, Boston
2017 - 2018 BAK (basis for contemporary knowledge), Fellowship by invitation, Utrecht,
2016 ADI Culture Award in Design, Barcelona,(For the Curation of the exhibition Adhocracy Athens - Onassis F.)
2016 Keith Haring Art and Activism Nomination (Last Stage Finalist), Bard College Curatorial Studies and Human Rights Dept, New York.
1991 Turkey's Young Promising Poet Award, Milliyet Art Literature Magazine, Istanbul

Research Projects

2020- 2021 "Musa Alami Farm, Jericho", Palestinian Modern Architecture by Center for Arab Architecture, Lebanon & DAAD & Kassel Univ. Architecture Faculty, Germany.
2020 - 2021 "The Care of Seed - an entangled kinship", with Luigi Coppola (Italy), Vivien Sansour (Palestine), Istanbul Design Biennial, 2020.
2018 - "Urgent Pedagogies", with Magnus Ericsson, IASPIS Swedish Art Council
2019 - "Resilient Infrastructures: Post-Anthropocene Research on the Nords", with Prof.Katya Sander, Nordland Art and Film School, Kabelvag, Norway.
2016 - 2018 "Territorial Sea and Contiguous Zone: Threshold Infrastructure of Pearl River Delta Sea", HK Design Trust, 2016, Hong Kong.
2015 - 2017 "Cities and Social Progress" Chapter, 2015 – 2017, Lead Author, Int.Panel of Social Progress, Editors: Saskia Sassen&Edgar Pieterse, www.ipsp.org
2015 - 2017 "Spatial Analysis of Refugee Camps at Southeast Anatolia of Turkey, 2015 - 2017", Mardin Artuklu University – Scientific Research Project Grant (BAP), Mardin – Turkey
2011 - 2014 "Urban Transformation and Case Study of Kağıthane", Architecture Faculty, Istanbul Technical University, Istanbul Technical University – Scientific Research Project Grant (BAP), Istanbul - Turkey. Pelin Tan (MAU) & Özlem Özçevik, (ITU)
2012 "Precariousness, Institutionalism and Autonomy Artist-run spaces and collectives in urban Japan", The Japan Foundation, Osaka Urban Research Plaza.
2007 Public Turn in Contemporary Art, (public panels/debates, artists talks, exhibition, book), invited project curator Pelin Tan, SantralIstanbul, Istanbul Bilgi University, Istanbul, 2007. EU Culture 2000.

Journal Reviewer & Editorial Board Member

Reviewer, Journal of Architecture Faculty, METU (Middle Technical University), Ankara
<http://jfa.arch.metu.edu.tr>
Journal of Islamic Architecture
Reviewer & Editorial Board Member, ARTMargins, MIT Press Journals, Cambridge, (2012-2019)
Reviewer, Footprint, Delft Architecture Theory Journal, Delft, www.footprintjournal.org
Editorial Advisor, SEL Yayıncılık, KentSel (Urbanism Serie), Istanbul

Advisory Board Member

- 2018 -** Kuratorium der Internationalen Bauausstellung 2027 StadtRegion Stuttgart
www.iba27.de
- 2015 - 2018** Anni and Heinrich Sussmann Artist Award, Vienna.
- 2014** Invited to nominate for the “European Cultural Foundation Princess Margriet Award”, an annual prize for artists, critical thinkers, activists, (ECF)
- 2013** Invited to nominate Visible Award 2013 funded by Cittadellarte – Fondazione Pistoletto and the Fondazione Zegna’s Art Projects. (the nomination won the Visible Prize, 2013)
- 2009** Londra Architecture Foundation, İstanbul – London Exchange Program
Advisory Board Member.
- 2008** Skulpturenpark, KunstrePublic, Public Art Institution Advisory Board
Member, Berlin
- 2006 - 2007** Kale Design Center Advisory Board Member, Santral İstanbul, Bilgi
Üniversitesi.
- 2006 - 2007** IVSA - International Visual sociology Association member and member of
executive committee of the organization NY conference, 10-12 August 2007, Urbino.
- 2005** “Shrinking cities – Bauhaus goes urban: A discussion about the future of
urbanism in a three-act interactive performance”, Invited Critic Board Member, Bauhaus
Dessau Foundation, 7.July.2005. UIA – Architectural World Congress, İstanbul.
www.uia2005istanbul.org
- 2004-2005** Invited Advisory Board Member, NowHere Europe, project by
B.Pietromarchi, Fondazione Adriano Olivetti, Rome, Italy.

Advising Phd/Master Thesis and Thesis Board Member

Yasar Engin Ayan, “Twitter, transforming public space and formation of opinion”, Communication
Faculty, Kadir Has University, 2013

Ceren Yancatarol, “Tactical media practices in contemporary art in Turkey”, Communication
Faculty, Kadir Has University, 2012

Yildiz Tahtaci - Master Thesis: “Commoning Practice in Women Centers of Al-Fawar Refugee
Camp (Palestine) and Benusen Neighbourhood (Diyarbakir/Turkey)”, Mardin Artuklu University,
Architecture Faculty, 2017

Mezra Oner - Master Thesis: “The Politics of Trash/Garbage in Urban Space”, Mardin Artuklu
University, Architecture Faculty, 2017

Ashraf Nassab - Master Thesis: “Architect Hasan Fathy and design for poor, participatory design”,
Mardin Artuklu University, Architecture Faculty, 2019.

Hatice Dogan - Master Thesis: “Container Architecture - Appropriation of Earthquake Shelter”,
Mardin Artuklu University, Architecture Faculty, 2019

Songul Geldi - Phd Thesis: “Space&Memory in Post-War Beirut Visual Production”, Defence
September 2019

Serif Toka - Phd Thesis: “Image, Fragments, Architecture in the city of Diyarbakir”, Mardin
Artuklu University, Architecture Faculty, 2017

Fatih Boluk - PhD Thesis: “Infrastructure and China’s Belt and Road Project”, Mardin Artuklu University, Architecture Faculty, 2022.

Oguz Oner - Phd Thesis: Sound walking as a method in urban design, Istanbul Technical University, Architecture Faculty, Urban Planning Dept., Thesis Board Member, June 2020

Elif Cigdem Artan - PhD Thesis: Urban Archives&Video, Metropolitan Studies, Berlin Technical University, Thesis Board Member, February 2019.

Hans Schildermans - PhD Thesis: Making University, KU Leuven - Faculty of Psychology and Educational Sciences, Thesis Board Member, March 2019.

Academic & Professional References

Assoc.Prof.Gediminas Urbanos, Director of ACT, School of Architecture and Planning (SA+P), Massachusetts Institute of Technology, Cambridge urbanos@mit.edu

Prof.Saskia Sassen, Columbia University, Sociology Dept., New York, sjs2@columbia.edu

Prof.Ute Meta Bauer, School of Art, Design and Media College of Humanities, Arts, & Social Sciences, Singapore, UBauer@ntu.edu.sg

Hou Hanru, Artistic Director, Maxxi Museum Rome, [hou.hanru@gmail.com](mailto:hoh.hanru@gmail.com)

Prof.Mark Wigley, Columbia University, Architecture Faculty, maw152@columbia.edu

Prof.David Harvey, CUNY, dharvey@gc.cuny.edu

Curatorial Project / Curatorship

2022 Didier Foustino solo exhibition, MAAT, Lisbon

2020 - Cosmological Gardens, CAD+SR, Spoleto, Italy

2019 - 2020 Curator of Gardentopia Project, Matera/Italy, Matera European Cultural Capital 2019

2019 Pelin Tan & Liam Gillick, I-Dea Project, Matera European Cultural Capital, Matera, Italy.

2016 Co-Curator of Adhocracy – Athens , Barcelona ADI Culture Award in Design, adhocracy.athens.sgt.gr

2015 - 2017 Curator (Turkey), Actopolis – A Translational Lab, Goethe Institute (Led by Athens Goethe) & Urbane Künste Ruhr, Actopolis.net

2012 Associate Curator, Adhocracy - I.Istanbul Design Biennale, Curator Joseph Grima, Istanbul Art and Culture Foundation (IKSV)

2011 Curator, Knut Asdam - Solo Exhibition, DEPO Art and Cultural Center, Istanbul.

2003 -2004 Curator, Luggage from Another Climate, on the City of Rotterdam, Tracer exhibition, WdW/TENT, Rotterdam

Exhibitions (invited as participant)

2020 Istanbul Design Biennial, Istanbul.

2018 “The Fall of Artists’ Republic”, film by Pelin Tan & Anton Vidokle, Extra State, Belgium.

2017 Pearl River Delta Fishing Village Heritage - Shenzhen Urbanism&Architecture Biennial 2017, Shenzhen, en.szhkbiennale.org

- 2016** “The Fall of Artists’ Republic”, film by Pelin Tan & Anton Vidokle, Istanbul Biennial, Curator: Carolyn Bakeriev, Istanbul.
- 2016** Autonomous Infrastructure, Pelin Tan & Martha Rosler, Oslo Architecture Triennale, Norway.
- 2016** Institute of Threshold, Pelin Tan & Joseph Grima, Cyprus Pavilion, Venice Architecture Biennial.
- 2014** “Ruins – Oscar Niemeyer’s Fairground, Tripoli”, A Museum Of Immortality, AshkalAlwan, Beirut, Lebanon.
- 2013** “2084/ episode I”, film, directors: Pelin Tan & Anton Vidokle, One Step Forward, Two Steps Back — Us and Institution, Us as Institution, Curated by Biljana Ciric, June 29–August 11, Guangdong Times Museum, Guangzhou, China.
- 2013** Lisbon Architecture Triennale, Lisbon, (participant&author)
- 2007** Innocent Act, StudyoKAHEM, architectural research project in the public house of Kadıköy, 10th Int. Istanbul Art Biennial.
- 2011** Archive Fever”, exhibition: “Brief Histories” curated by Fawz Kabra/Isak Berbic, Sharjah, United Arab Emirates, March 17 – April.

Film/Documentary

- 2020** “*She Who Saw the Deep*” under production, (Directors: Pelin Tan & Anton Vidokle)
- 2019** Matera I_DEA Exhibition interview videos.
- 2012** 2084 Episode I - about the future of art and art history (Directors: Pelin Tan & Anton Vidokle), Commissioned by Vancouver Artist Run Congress, Canada.
- 2013** 2084 Episode II - about the future of art and art history (Directors: Pelin Tan & Anton Vidokle) Commissioned by Bergen Assembly, Bergen, Norway.
- 2014** 2084 Episode III - about the future of art and art history (Directors: Pelin Tan & Anton Vidokle) Commissioned by Montreal Biennial, Montreal, Canada.
- 2016 - 17** Threshold Infrastructure, research documentary, Hong Kong Design Trust, Hong Kong

Keynotes & Talks & Seminars (invited) 2020 - 2019

- 2020 AA London, Public Talk.
- 2020 Architecture and Human Rights, with Thomas Keenan, by Princeton Univ. Architecture Faculty, Fall 2020
- 2020 *Field as Patch/Violence as Scale*, seminar in Goldsmiths Research Architecture, London, 9 June
- 2020 How To Work, Research Festival by Hamburg Experimental Design Faculty, www.howtowork.live
- 2020 De/Archive Workshop, Interflugs, UdK Berlin
- 2020 Commons symposium, Cambridge University, 11-12 June.
- 2019 Whitechapel Gallery, The Rural Assembly program, 21 June, London.
- 2019 “Zones of Conflict: Artists Responding to Socio-Political Realities”, Panel Speaker, Art Basel's Conversations, 14 May, 2019, Basel.
- 2019 “No Lands”, Panel Speaker, Qattan Foundation, Ramallah, Palestine, 11 April
- 2019 “Spaces of Solidarity”, Panel organisers/speaker, 2019 Critical Geography Conference, Architecture Faculty, NTUA
- 2019 “Mediating the Spatiality of Conflicts”, TU Delft Architecture in Netherlands, November 6-9.

Publications

Selected Book Chapters

- “An Agricultural School As a Pedagogical Experiment in Jericho: Alami Farm (1949 - 1967)”, *Radical Pedagogies*, Edit: Beatriz Colomina, Ignacio G. Galán, Evangelos Kotsioris, and Anna-Maria Meister, **MIT Press**, 2020
- “Commons and Architecture”, in book Chicago Architecture Biennial, **Columbia Books for Architecture and City**, New York, 2019
- “The Architecture of Entanglement Ontology”, in *Swamps and the New Imagination*, **MIT Press & Sternberg Press**, Cambridge & Berlin, May 2020, Editors Gediminas & Nomeda Urbanos.
- “Architecture Pedagogy in Conflict Territories: Methods of Decolonization as Criticism of Immanence” in Building Critique Architecture and Its Discontents”, in *Towards a Critical Architecture*, A.K.A. Agentur für Kritische Architektur: Heindl/Klein/Linortner, Vienna, **Spector Books**, Germany April, 2019
- “Urban Citizenship and Practice of Commoning”, Castro Varela, María do Mar, Ulker, Barış (eds.) *Doing Tolerance: Democracy, Citizenship and Social Protests*, **Barbara Budrich Publishing**, Berlin, 2020
- “Crosscutting Ontologies”, *Position on Emancipation - Architecture between Aesthetics and Politics*, Luxembourg, Master in Architecture - European Urbanisation - Globalisation, 2018, **Lars Muller Publication**, Berlin, e-book: <https://issuu.com/geographies/docs/finalradgeo1/10>
- “Cities and Social Progress”, Edt.Saskia Sassen & Edgar Pieterse, International Panel of Social Progress, **Cambridge University Press**, 2018
- "The Matter of Scale" in book Superhumanity, Editors: Nick Axel, Beatriz Colomina, Nikolaus Hirsch, Anton Vidokle, and Mark Wigley, **University of Minnesota Press & e-flux Architecture**, 2018
- "The Surplus of Political Action in Urban Space: Artistic research and Heterogeneous Economies”, chapter in Greek, *Radical Geography Notebooks*, Editors: Giorgos Velegrakis & Thanos Andritsos, **Athens**, 2017
- “Waterdams as Dispossession: Ecology, Security, Colonization”, Pelin Tan & Zeynep S.Akinci, *Climates: Architecture and The Planetary Imaginary*, GSAPP, **Lars Muller Publication, Columbia Univ.**, 2016
- “Decolonizing Architectural and Affective Pedagogy”, Re-Production of Social Architecture, Edt.D.Petrescu&K.Togral, **Routledge**, 2016
- Preface (invited), in book Spaces of Commoning, Publication Series of the Academy of Fine

Selected Indexed Articles

- TAN, P. (2021), “Unconditional Hospitality: Art and Commons Under Planetary Migration”, *Journal of Aesthetics and Culture*, Taylor&Francis, London.
- TAN, P. (2020). “Herkes İçin Ölümsüzlük!”: Anton Vidokle Filmlerinde Kozmoz Kavramı. *ARTS: Artuklu Sanat ve Beşeri Bilimler Dergisi* , (3) , 149-164 . DOI: 10.46372/arts.687044
- Tan, P. (2018) “Infrastructure as Symptom: Pearl River Delta Heritage/China” *Infrastructure*, Ediciones ARQ, Escuela Arquitectura, Pontificia Universidad Católica de Chile, 2018 ([SciELO & Web of Science](#))
- “Practices of Commoning in Recent Contemporary Art”, ASAP - The Association for the Study of the Arts of the Present Journal, Special Issue: *the Rules of Engagement: art process and protest*, John Hopkins University Press, 2018
- Tan, Pelin. “Arquitectura en crisis La excepción como una forma de decadencia”, *Arquine Architecture Magazine*, Mexico City, 2018
- "Mimarlık ve Müşterekleşme Pratikleri", *Ege Mimarlık Dergisi*, Sivil Mimarlık İnisiyatifleri Dosyası, İzmir, 2017, Editor Yrd.Doc.Dr.Ebru Yılmaz
- Tan, Pelin. “TransLocal Commons”, *Refugee Heritage*, e-flux architecture, New York, 2017
- Tan, Pelin. “Forms of Decay”, Hu Fang and Zhang Wei | *Untitled (for redundant books)*, curator Ingrid Chu, *Art Asia Archive*, Hong Kong, 2017
- Tan, Pelin. “The Matter of Scale”, *Superhumanity*, e-flux Architecture, *Superhumanity*, a project by e-flux Architecture at the 3rd Istanbul Design Biennial, January 2017 www.e-flux.com/architecture/superhumanity/68689/the-matter-of-scale
- Tan, Pelin, “Architecture in Crisis - Exception as a Form of Decay”, p.118-125, No.92, *Exceptions*, Ediciones ARQ, Escuela Arquitectura, Pontificia Universidad Católica de Chile, 2016 ([SciELO & Web of Science](#))
- Tan, Pelin, “Architecture After Crisis - A Journey Through Contemporary Commoning Practices”, p.114-121, No.91, *Crisis*, 2015, Ediciones ARQ, Escuela Arquitectura, Pontificia Universidad Católica de Chile. ([SciELO & Web of Science](#))