

# *Atmospheres and Materialities*

Public Lecture and Research Seminar

**Time:** Friday September 23, 2016, 10.15-15.00

**Venue:** Department of Architecture, Design and Media Technology, Aalborg University, Rendsburggade 14, 9000 Aalborg

**Organizers:** Assistant Professor Ditte Bendix Lang and Professor Ole B. Jensen, C-MUS, and Center for Strategisk Byforskning (CSB)

**Background:** The recent 'turn to materialities' within Social Science, Art, and Architectural Design brings together thoughts on design, materials, and atmospheres. *Center for Strategisk Byforskning* (CSB) and *Center for Mobilities and Urban Studies* (C-MUS) wish to facilitate this research discussion by inviting to a public lecture and a research seminar on *Atmospheres and Materialities*. We have invited Associate Professor Mikkel Bille, Roskilde University to be the key catalyst for this discussion. Mikkel Bille has written extensively on the matter of materialities and atmospheres (e.g. *Materialitet: En indføring i kultur, identitet og teknologi* (2012) and *Elements of Architecture: Assembling archaeology, atmosphere and the performance of building spaces* (2016), both with Tim Flohr Sørensen; and editor of the special issue of *Emotion, Space & Society* on 'Staging Atmospheres' (2015)). The seminar aims to connect the themes of cities and urban spaces with ideas about place, architecture, and mobilities design. It is open to all CSB and C-MUS members, as well as the public lecture is open to students within Architecture and Design and students in the Mobilities Master's Program.

## Program

10.15-12.00 Public lecture: *Atmospheres and Materialities*, Mikkel Bille, RUC (room TBA)

The term 'Materiality' is often used to denote the qualities of tangible objects with related terms such as 'materialism' invoking ethical or scientific positions. Yet in the eagerness to position 'matter' as key to understanding human life in social science, this bias towards tangibility often bypass the lived experience of people: the role of intangible sensuous elements, such as light, and the ability of places to move people emotionally - the atmosphere. This lecture explores how understanding human life at home and in urban areas through a lens of atmospheric materialities offers new ways of dealing not only with designing cities and architecture, but also with politics, social life and understandings of self and other.

12.00-15.00 CSB research seminar (room TBA)

12.00 Research Seminar - *Welcome and Lunch*

13.00 *Around the table* - max 3-minute oral presentations of each participant's interest in the theme (please bring your publications, models, and artefacts)

13.30 *Discussion on Atmospheres and Materialities* - on the basis of the participants' interests and the work introduced.

14.00 *Break*

14.15 *Infrastructures and venues* - common identification of standing conferences, Journals and Publishing Houses of relevance + *Collaboration and joint research project ideas*

15.00 *Goodbye!*

Please sign up for participation in the research seminar part (not the public lecture) at Birgith Skipper Thomsen, Aalborg University, no later than September 16 ([bsth@create.aau.dk](mailto:bsth@create.aau.dk)).

