

Welcome to MediTirana! *Mediterraneanisation of Tirana*

100 Ideas for the Western Balkans  
*Designing Urban Imaginaries*

Main Exhibition of the Tirana Architecture Triennale Vol. II  
11.03 - 08.04 2023, Piramida, Tirana, Albania



Imagine Arts & Ideas Initiative in Albania:



Imagine Arts & Ideas Initiative Supported By:



Collaborators:



Urbanthinktank\_next: Hubert Klumpner and Michael Walczak  
Architecture Fund in Albania: Saimir Kristo

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"Welcome to MediTirana!" marks the Tirana edition of the exhibition "100 Ideas for Western Balkans – Designing Urban Imaginaries." Initially introduced as the "Sarajevo Architecture Olympics" during the Days of Architecture, this exhibition has evolved to showcase innovative architecture and urban development projects from the Western Balkans.

In its Tirana iteration, the focus shifts to the burgeoning role of Tirana as the seafront of the Western Balkans. As the dynamic capital of Albania, Tirana has transformed into an urban laboratory, propelling itself onto the global stage as an architecture and lifestyle destination. This exhibition unveils the city's unique character and potential, inviting audiences from around the world to witness the exciting evolution of Tirana's urban landscape.

"Welcome to MediTirana!" invites attendees to explore the vibrant fusion of contemporary architecture and urban planning that defines Tirana. From informality into innovative cityscapes and later to sustainable development projects, the exhibition showcases the city's metamorphosis into a hub of creativity and progressive urban living. By delving into Tirana's architectural palimpsest, visitors will gain insight into the city's journey towards becoming a cultural and architectural landmark within the Western Balkans.

Join us in celebrating Tirana's transformation, recognizing its newfound status as a pivotal architecture and lifestyle destination. "Welcome to MediTirana!" promises a visual and social journey through the architectural stories that define Tirana's role in the heart of the Western Balkans.

## **CALL FOR PROJECTS**

**Deadline: 15.02.2024**

Concerning our search for a catalyst of interconnected dynamic processes, methods, and tools, in the Designing Urban Imaginaries exhibition, we present prototypical case studies within four corresponding sub-chapters: NURTURING, DWELLING, MOVING, and GENERATING. Our society needs a holistic vision focusing on many ecological actions to contribute to global transformation. In several subchapters, the invited protagonists show the enormous potential for change in selected areas of our everyday lives: what we eat and how we nurture the environment (NURTURING), how we build and dwell (DWELLING), how we move (MOVING), what we generate and how we can re-generate interrupted material cycles (GENERATING), to mobilize active hope through new perspectives. These are presented on a global, regional, and local scale.

A framework for a new kind of design research agenda of relations, thoughts, concrete materials, devices, and information platforms is proposed. This agenda will augment design as a key to the quality of life. However incomplete and open-ended, it provides a necessary forecast—a collection or toolbox of ideas and concrete pilot projects. It calls upon people from various disciplines to collaborate and brainstorm whether there may be scenarios leading us from the present unsustainable situation towards circular thinking and advocacy for radical care. Design confronts us with possible futures. It presents concrete examples focused on choices and our influence on and anticipation of a close spiritual connection between a defiant Earth and humankind's power to understand and change the systems of the Earth. Crimson historians and urbanists coined this Anthropocentrism 2.0.

Our call is inseparable from design thinking that connects all disciplines and schools of thought. At the core of this concerted action stands the idea of collaboration instead of competition when it comes to the future of our climate. This places culture, art, architecture, and urban design alongside science, technology, and politics. Fifty years after the publication of the last Whole Earth Catalog, we propose a starting point for developing guidelines that will provide „access to a toolbox for the 21st century.“ This agenda is about concentrating on the Earth as a whole.

This exhibition concept is to build and archive innovative ideas, both practical and metaphorical while starting in Vienna and going to Shenzhen, its goal is to constitute a view of the Western Balkan with a first stop in Sarajevo and now in Tirana. Now, after testing on two continents, ready to build an archive about the tendencies of next-generation architects and urban designers, its goal is to help distribute the shared knowledge gathered around it. This is a transferable concept as many of the design solutions and ideas can also be applied to the Western Balkan and Tirana, where the exhibition is now taking place.

**Send submission to the following mail: [info@tiranatriennale.com](mailto:info@tiranatriennale.com)**

**Specify sub-chapter: NURTURING, DWELLING, MOVING, and GENERATING**

**Title of Project:**

**Description of the project concept:**

**Applicability of Prototype in Tirana location (Google pin):**

