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New Museum Announces New Vision for IDEAS CITY

2016–17 Program Will Go to Detroit, Athens, and New York



New York, NY...The **New Museum** announces the **2016–17 edition of IDEAS CITY**—the institution’s high-profile platform that explores the future of cities with culture as a driving force. For its 2016–17 cycle, Joseph Grima, Director of IDEAS CITY, is introducing a **new vision for its program of events**.

IDEAS CITY 2016–17 Program

- IDEAS CITY Detroit: April 25–30, 2016
- IDEAS CITY Athens: September 19–25, 2016, in partnership with NEON Foundation
- IDEAS CITY New York: May 2017

IDEAS CITY Detroit and IDEAS CITY Athens will bring together researchers, artists, and designers in intensive studio laboratory environments to develop ideas and strategies in response to the urgent challenges facing each of these urban centers. Both cities represent something of a paradox in that they each embody a specific condition of exacerbated urban crisis: Detroit is a city emerging from recent bankruptcy while struggling with widespread decay and social inequality, and Athens is the capital of a

nation ravaged by economic depression and strained by a massive inflow of refugees. Yet, precisely for these reasons, Detroit and Athens have become the focus of considerable international attention from both the media and cultural organizations, and they have taken these conditions of crisis as opportunities to reaffirm their positions as vibrant sites of cultural production and innovation.

Building on the success of the initiative's past IDEAS CITY festivals in New York and global conferences from São Paulo to Istanbul, this international program will culminate in IDEAS CITY New York, organized around the event **100 Ideas for the Future City**.

"Born in New York, IDEAS CITY has touched four continents in the past five years and has expanded and built up an extraordinary global network of architects, artists, thinkers, and leaders," said **Lisa Phillips, Toby Devan Lewis Director of the New Museum and Cofounder of IDEAS CITY**. "We are excited to introduce this reenvisioned program to Detroit and Athens, where there are both enormous challenges and possibilities. Building a better future is imperative."

IDEAS CITY Detroit

April 25–30, 2016

IDEAS CITY 2016–17 will launch in Detroit with the debut of an immersive and collaborative **studio laboratory program, open to emerging practitioners working at the intersection of urbanism, art, design, community, and technology**.

IDEAS CITY Detroit will partner with the city's Planning and Development Department to address the **opportunities and challenges of urban reconstruction**. The five-day studio laboratory will be structured around workshops, site visits, lectures, and discussions with local experts, including artists, designers, policymakers, and community members. Participation in IDEAS CITY Detroit will be through an open application process, and forty to fifty applicants will be selected as Fellows by an international panel of artists and curators. During the studio laboratory, the Fellows will live and work together on-site, providing an opportunity for intense collaboration, creativity, and learning. This immersive environment will seed the development of strategies and projects to tackle key urban issues distinct to the city, such as land stewardship, affordable housing, mobility, and historic preservation. IDEAS CITY Detroit will transform and occupy part of the Herman Kiefer Complex—one of Detroit's most iconic abandoned sites—into a hub of cultural exchange and artistic expression with the initiative's architectural partner, Ron Castellano.

IDEAS CITY Detroit will culminate in a high-profile public program, featuring conversations, critiques, artist talks, and presentations by the studio laboratory Fellows and an array of internationally acclaimed thinkers whose work explores the cultural forces that define our cities.

Applications for IDEAS CITY Detroit Fellows will be accepted until January 1, 2016, and the candidates will be informed of their application status later that month. Participation will require a full-time commitment from April 25 through April 30, 2016. **For submission guidelines or to apply, please visit ideas-city.org.**

IDEAS CITY Athens, in partnership with NEON Foundation

September 19–25, 2016

IDEAS CITY Athens is conceived in partnership with NEON Foundation, a nonprofit group devoted to broadening the appreciation, understanding, and creation of contemporary art in Greece. Like IDEAS CITY Detroit, the Athens program will be organized around a global studio laboratory—a five-day series of workshops, site visits, lectures, and discussions with local experts, including artists, designers, policymakers, and community members—followed by a public presentation and a conference. Participants in the laboratory will be selected through an open call process and will work together to develop ideas and strategies that respond to the challenges facing the city of Athens.

IDEAS CITY New York

May 2017

Unfolding around the New Museum on the Bowery and in Sara D. Roosevelt Park, IDEAS CITY New York takes place every two years and is structured as a hybrid of an international conference of speakers and a performance-based urban festival. At its core will be an event titled *100 Ideas for the Future City*, a pitch session featuring projects, strategies, and ideas developed through multiple IDEAS CITY platforms. The program will include proposals produced through the IDEAS CITY studio laboratories (for the 2016–17 cycle, IDEAS CITY Detroit and IDEAS CITY Athens); projects, strategies, and ideas developed by the New York–based partner organizations and nonprofits that have formed the IDEAS CITY community since its inception in 2011; projects presented by invited speakers, including artists, architects, designers, technologists, activists, and civic advocates; ideas collected through the online IDEAS CITY platform by the initiative’s global community; and projects from previous IDEAS CITY cycles that have continued to progress, pivoted, or failed.

The book *100 Ideas for the Future City*, launching at IDEAS CITY New York in 2017, will document the projects and strategies developed throughout the 2016–17 IDEAS CITY program.

About IDEAS CITY

IDEAS CITY is a collaborative, civic, and creative platform that investigates key issues, proposes solutions, and seeds concrete actions. Starting from the premise that art and culture are essential to the future vitality of cities, this international initiative provides a forum for designers, artists, technologists, and policymakers to exchange ideas, identify challenges, and engage the public’s participation. IDEAS CITY brings together thinkers and practitioners from the fields of art, architecture, urban planning, technology, education, and civic government, and fosters collaborations between them. The initiative was cofounded by Lisa Phillips, *Toby Devan Lewis Director*, the New Museum, and Karen Wong, Deputy Director, the New Museum.

For more information, please visit ideas-city.org.

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