

TOWN ANYWHERE

26 SEPTEMBER 2023
10.30-16.30

STRASBOURG, FRANCE



We are going on a journey together into the future, to imagine and build a thriving 'Town Anywhere'... Are you ready?

Town Anywhere is a hands-on creative visioning process that brings potential community futures to life through time travel, visioning, conceptual placemaking and co-creation.

Town Anywhere has been developed by a team of UK-based artists, supported by [Transition Network](#), and has been experienced by changemakers and communities across the UK over the last ten years.

This September, the live Town Anywhere experience comes to central Europe for the first time!

Join us for this unique participatory experience, alongside [Placemaking Week Europe 2023](#).

"Town Anywhere is an extraordinary exercise. It invites us to step into the future, to reimagine and rebuild the world, and to then inhabit it. One of the most magical things I've ever been part of. Give your imagination a treat!"

– Rob Hopkins, Transition Network



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If we can't imagine the future we want, then we can't set a course to achieve it.

A civic imagination crisis is blocking many of us from envisioning the future we want to strive for. At a community level we need to rebuild our collective imagination capacity, so that we can imagine a better future and design for it together.

Town Anywhere is an inspiring 1-day workshop process that supports participants to develop imagination, collaboration and co-creation capacities.

Town Anywhere brings people together to imagine, build and then inhabit a positive vision of how thriving communities could be in 2030 - places where all beings can genuinely live and thrive within planetary boundaries.

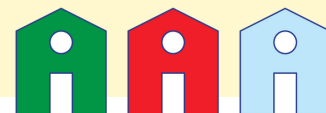
Using immersive future scenarios, large scale model-making and timed challenges the Town Anywhere process helps participants to play and practice community visioning, ideation and storytelling in a virtual, but tangible, environment.

Participants explore 2030 at street and neighbourhood levels. Then they work in small groups to develop actions and ventures across a range of areas, including: goods and services, food, governance, finance, infrastructure, civic networks, learning, celebrating, public space, health and wellbeing.

By the end of the workshop, the new residents of Town Anywhere 2030 have created a physical representation of the thriving town we are all longing to live in. Collectively shaping and inhabiting this potential future strengthens our enthusiasm and resolve to go on and make it real.

"Easily the best community visioning experience I have ever been part of."

- John Thackara, Writer and sustainable designer



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THE PROCESS

The Town Anywhere process safely, constructively and playfully opens up inspirational and holistic thinking in communities and participants about possible futures, following these key phases:

- Time Travel to the future
- Creating home, meeting your neighbour, sharing stories
- Exploring what we can do together at street and neighbourhood levels
- Going to Town and leaving requests for community developers
- Identifying our role in Town Anywhere, and who we can work with
- Designing and making initiatives in 3D with cardboard, string, sticks, tape and imagination
- Filling in the Town Anywhere Charter
- Official Town opening celebration
- Walkabout - Exchanging, connecting, pledging
- Reflection, harvest and grounding

WHO SHOULD JOIN?

Town Anywhere is a process in which everyone is welcome and where everyone can learn and have fun!

This edition of Town Anywhere is designed for an international mix of people, from a range of professional backgrounds, who are interested in innovative approaches to placemaking and community development. We hope that once you have experienced this international Town Anywhere process, you might wish to collaborate to bring the approach back into your community.

If you are coming to Placemaking Week Europe 2023, joining Town Anywhere will offer you a wonderful warm up for rest of the festival. You can also enjoy a significant registration discount. You will be able to go straight from Town Anywhere to the opening of Placemaking Week Europe on the evening of Tuesday 26 September.

[Register Now!](#)



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LEARNING OBJECTIVES

Through participation in the Town Anywhere process, you will:

- Develop your civic imagination and community collaboration capacities
- Grow confidence to imagine and explore thriving futures, and to initiate more transformative changes in your neighbourhood/towns/community.
- Work with international collaborators to generate ideas for creative community projects that better address social and ecological challenges.
- Be enthused to organise similar Town Anywhere workshops back home (with some additional training and support).
- Meet and exchange with an international network of people committed to creating impactful community placemaking and neighbourhood transformation processes.

[Register Now](#)

ABOUT US



The Town Anywhere event will be led by [Ruth Ben-Tovim](#), one of the UK artist team that created this process. Ruth specialises in designing and delivering tailor made participatory arts projects and processes in community, environmental, education and regeneration contexts. These participatory interventions inspire people to unearth their own imaginative and instinctive power to shift how they see the world and their place within it.

This Town Anywhere experience is supported through the PLACE project (Placemaking for Citizen-led Missions in SE Europe), which is led by [Korimako](#), together with [Placemaking Europe](#), [KLIK](#) and [PUSH](#). The PLACE project is funded through the Citizens, Equality, Rights and Values programme of the European Union. The PLACE project supports work on placemaking and [Civic Imagination Regeneration](#) as part of the [Thriving Communities](#) initiative, which is helping communities to create radical enough change to thrive in the 21st century. We bring you Town Anywhere also in association with [Transition Network](#)



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REGISTRATION

The participation fee for the Town Anywhere event is €90. We are pleased to offer a special rate to all attendees of Placemaking Week Europe of €60.

25% discount applies for all advance registrations before 11 September.

[Register Now!](#)

"It was, truly a moving experience. I got magically drawn to one subject that I thought I had no talent for, but soon got into the flow and was solving and creating with the others at a fabulous speed. The storytelling was essential, we need to have strong emotional experiences with each other before we can move to the practical stuff"

- Participant in London, UK

PRACTICALITIES

The Town Anywhere event will be held at:

Kaleidoscoop: 5 Rue de la Coopérative in Strasbourg France from 10.30-16.30 on Tuesday 26 September.

The workshop will finish in time to get to the opening of Placemaking Week Europe by public transport.

The event will be held in English.

Fruit, coffee, tea and water will be provided during the event. Participants should bring a packed lunch for the 'town picnic' and a contribution to a shared celebratory dessert.

Further details will be provided following registration.

Questions?

[Get in Touch](#)



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