



# The

International  
colloquium

# senses of movement

**MODERNITY  
AND MOBILITIES  
IN CONTEMPORARY  
URBAN SOCIETIES**

10, RUE DES HALLES, 75001 PARIS, FRANCE  
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Friday June 13  
through  
Thursday June 19  
2003

Cerisy  
international  
Conference  
Centre

Cerisy-la-Salle,  
Manche,  
France

Colloquium  
organisers:  
François Ascher  
Jacques Lévy  
Sylvain Allemand

Scientific  
committee:  
Sylvain Allemand  
François Ascher  
Alain Bourdin  
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Michel Lussault  
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Modernity confronts societies with an ever wider exposure to movement: social movement, which changes the places and roles of individuals and groups, previously fixed by immutable rules; movement of ideas, which replaces traditions by opinions and choices constructed out of an increasing diversity of experience; movement of timescales, which places the planning process at the heart both of personal and organisational life; movement of sciences and technology, which makes innovation a key element in the dynamics of exchange; movement of information and knowledge, which allows near-instantaneous connection between every point of the planet; movement of goods, which seems almost emancipated from geographical distance by advances in transport techniques; movement of capitals, which “float” electronically from one continent to the next; movement of families, which are composed and recomposed in ever more complex ways; movement of people, who at any age and almost any time, travel ever larger distances.

How can individuals who are constantly on the move form interest groups, establish solidarity, situate themselves in relation to others, maintain shared geographical ties?

How do different societies react when confronted with this multi-mobility modernity? To what extent do they adopt the same solutions or, alternatively, different solutions marked by the perpetuation of different cultural and social traits? Do not different cultural models conflict in the confrontation of mobilities?

It is not the aim of the colloquium to provide simple answers to such large and complex questions. Rather, the objective is to help construct a framework of thought and action for the City on the Move Institute and all those:

- who are working to make urban mobility a generic right, since it has come to govern access to work, the housing, to the family, to education, and leisure;
- who are seeking to make transport a thing of quality, in its resources, its places and its times.

## Thursday June 12

from 15:00 Participants arrive

21:00 CCIC and Colloquium presentation

## Friday June 13

Plenary sessions, workshops,  
free evening

9:30

12:30

Plenary sessions

François  
Ascher

professor at the French  
Town Planning Institute/  
University of Paris-8,  
France

“What moves  
the city”

Marie-Hélène  
Massot

Inrets, France

“What if urban  
mobilities  
continue to  
grow?”

Prospects for  
the next  
20 years”

Pierre Veltz

economist, National Civil  
Engineering School,  
Marne-la-Vallée, France

“The multi-  
movement  
economy”

14:30

18:30

WORKSHOP 1

“Mobilities  
for the twenty-  
first Century:  
Beyond  
Societies...”

14:30

18:30

WORKSHOP 2

“Urban  
mobilities and  
spatialities”

[Workshop contents  
on page four]

## WORKSHOP 1: "Mobilities for the twenty-first Century: Beyond Societies..."

Coordinator:  
**John Urry**  
sociologist, University of  
Lancaster, UK  
"Small Worlds"

With:

**Christian  
Licoppe**  
historian, sociologist,  
France Télécom, France  
"Urban  
mobilities in  
the age of the  
mobile phone"

**Nigel  
Thrift**  
geographer, University  
of Bristol, UK  
"Instant  
mobility"

**Tim  
Cresswell**  
geographer, Hampshire, UK  
"Towards an  
ethics and  
politics of  
mobilities"

**Sharon Zukin**  
sociologist, City  
University of New York,  
Brooklyn, USA

This workshop will look at the repercussions of the new mobilities in contemporary societies. It will consider how the different forms of mobility (mobilities of goods and people, information, etc.) alter social life by extending remote relations. Do these changes threaten societies in their capacity as "communities of destiny"? Are there new forms of life based specifically on movement? Do the changes associated with the expansion of telecommunications and transport networks confirm the emergence of what the sociologist Manuel Castells calls "the network society" ?

How does the networking of the different components of day-to-day life take place ? Can we say that societies as such still exist ? These are some of the questions that will be considered during this workshop.

## WORKSHOP 2: "Urban mobilities and spatialities"

Coordinator:  
**Jacques Lévy**  
geographer, IEP de Paris,  
France  
With:

**Marcel Smets**  
town planner and architect,  
University of Leuven,  
Belgium

**Vincent  
Kaufmann**  
sociologist, Polytechnic  
of Lausanne, Switzerland  
"The question  
of modal  
choices and  
the political  
and technical  
influences which  
can affect these  
choices"

**Francis  
Jauréguiberry**  
Societies and  
Development Research  
Institute, Paris, France  
"The telephonic  
cocooning  
of the hyper-  
mobile"

**Bernardo  
Secchi**  
town planner  
and architect, Italy  
"Figures  
and forms  
of movement"

**Edward Soja**  
geographer, University  
of California, USA  
"Postmetro-  
politan Nodalities:  
Reshaping  
the Geography  
of Movement in  
Contemporary  
Urban Societies"

The purpose of this workshop is to relate mobility to other spatialities, notably that of the city in general. It will look at the links between the practices and contexts of intra and inter-urban mobility, on the one hand, and the desired models for organising urban space, on the other. For it appears that mobility systems, approached from the perspective of transport networks and methods of travel, are not just a neutral technical mechanism

supporting an underlying activity of urban life or a lifestyle choice. In fact, the options between methods of transport – notably between the car and public transport – relate to the private or public character of the space and practices of the city, to density, to urban mix, to environmental issues, in short to a head-to-head between the "compact city" and the "diffuse city". In other words, we need to consider a complex range of strategic choices,

of which the intensity of mobility is undoubtedly one – but not the only – facet. One possible hypothesis, therefore, is that mobilities are – no pun intended – a good vehicle for approaching the great debates that are on the political agenda of urban societies.

## Saturday June 14 Workshops, plenary sessions, lecture evening

**9:30  
12:30**  
WORKSHOP 1 [CONT.]  
"Mobilities  
for the twenty-  
first Century:  
Beyond  
Societies..."

**9:30  
12:30**  
WORKSHOP 2 [CONT.]  
"Urban  
mobilities and  
spatialities"

**14:30**  
Plenary  
sessions

**Catherine  
Withol  
de Wenden**  
political scientist,  
Centre for International  
Relations Studies, Paris,  
France  
"Citizenship  
and the new  
forms of  
international  
migration"

**15:45**  
**Peter  
Gourevitch**  
political scientist,  
Graduate School  
of International Relations  
and Pacific Studies,  
University of California,  
San Diego, USA  
"Institutions  
in the globalised  
economy"

**21:00**  
Lecture

**Bernard  
Tschumi**  
architect,  
Switzerland-USA  
"Architecture  
of place,  
architecture  
of flow"

# Sunday June 15

Workshops, screening  
and debates

9:30

12:30

WORKSHOP 3

“Mobilities and cultures: anthropology-based comparative approaches”

9:30

12:30

WORKSHOP 4

“Individuals and the generalisation of mobility?”

14:30

18:30

WORKSHOP 3 [CONT.]

14:30

18:30

WORKSHOP 4 [CONT.]

21:00

Screening-  
discussion

“A taxi in Beijing”, a film of Ning Ying (China), attended by the director

Beijing and its urban changes seen from the taxi of Feng De, a young man in the throes of a divorce, who carries in himself different social

categories of modern China: a librarian, a waitress, migrants newly arrived from the countryside, gangsters,... Produced in 2001, A Taxi in Beijing is the second film by Ning Ying, a Chinese director noted for her documentary on day-to-day life in a Beijing police station. Her films meet an urgent need: to show the changes in modern Chinese society, before it is too late ...

Length: 80 mn. The screening will be followed by a discussion with the director.

## WORKSHOP 3: “Mobilities and cultures: anthropology-based comparative approaches”

Coordinator:

**Michel Lussault**

geographer, University of Tours, France

With:

**John Eade**

sociologist, University of Surrey, Roehampton, UK

“Visitors, Locals and Cultural Meeting Grounds: Explorer Tourism, Pilgrimage and Labour Migration”

**Jean-Samuel Bordreuil**

sociologist, Mediterranean Centre for the Human and Social Sciences, Aix/Marseille, France

“Culture and orchestrations of mobilities”

**Alain Tarrius**

sociologist, anthropologist, University of Toulouse Le Mirail, France

“Globalisation from below”

**Achille Mbembe**

University of Witwatersrand, South Africa

“The mobility of the new South African business class”

**Rogério Haesbaert da Costa**

geographer, Federal University Fluminense de Rio, Brazil

“The myth of deterritorialisation”

Contemporary mobility is usually studied as if it were an universal fact, applicable to every circumstance, and varying only in intensity. What this postulates is the existence of a continuum of mobilities that differentiates societies and spaces according to levels of mobility (a differentiation that includes more or less explicit value judgments on inequalities of development).

In fact, cultures (in the anthropological sense) are essential to be taken into account in differentiating and specifying mobilities both within a single society and between societies.

The workshop will thus focus on mobilities as culturally situate – i.e. arising within specific cultural spaces – but also on the analysis of situations where different cultures are confronted in and through the practices of mobility. Tourism, for example, or certain activities relating to the operation of more or less informal networks of the economy or/and migration, constitute particularly significant problems-situations of this kind. In addition, the workshop will consider the interest in slowness and immobility, breaks, rest, which characterise certain cultural situations and

which denote a rejection of, or at least a non-adherence to, the dominant values of the globalised societies that assign an essential place to the fact and velocity of movement. By combining all these approaches, and considering the varieties of conceptions and practices, it is hoped to obtain a better understanding of the cultural dimension of mobility and, at the same time and symmetrically, of the specific way in which mobility contributes to the creation of cultures shared by social groups, i.e. of societies.

## WORKSHOP 4: “Individuals and the generalisation of mobility?”

Coordinator:

**Alain Bourdin**

French Institute for Town Planning, University of Paris-8, France

With:

**Danilo**

**Martuccelli**

sociologist, CNRS-Clersé/Lille Centre for Sociological and Economic Study and Research, France

“Metamorphoses of the real”

**Patrick Baert**

sociologist, Faculty of Social and Political Sciences, University of Cambridge, UK

“Contemporary society and cultural shifts”

**Mathis Stock**

geographer, Germany

“Societies with mobile individuals: towards a new way of inhabiting? The example of tourism practices”

The way individuals or families manage movement is one of the places where the characteristics of generalised mobility can be observed. In particular, it shows what is meant by perception of the world as a space of mobility, how systems of preference in relation to movement are defined, how

systems of equivalence and decision-making develop and how the act of movement contributes to the construction of a lifestyle. This subtle analysis, especially if compared with other areas of day-to-day life where the processors of generalised mobility are also apparent (family or professional life,

consumption, leisure), facilitates a more precise approach to the figure of modern man. It also makes it possible to take a different approach to questions of town planning and town management, for example urban sprawl, but even more important, the role of mobility-related services in the quality of urban life. The purpose of the workshop is to articulate global analyses of contemporary individualism, studies of behaviour typical of generalised mobility, in particular as regards movement, and outline the repercussions this may have for the management and production of the city.

# Monday June 16

## Workshops, screenings and debates

**9:30**  
**12:30**  
WORKSHOP 5  
“Relations between urban policies and mobilities”

**9:30**  
**12:30**  
WORKSHOP 6  
“Development models and transportation”

**14:30**  
**18:30**  
WORKSHOP 5 [CONT.]

**14:30**  
**18:30**  
WORKSHOP 6 [CONT.]

**21:00**  
Screenings  
“Sound-system”  
by Jérôme Duval,  
“Universal Techno”  
by Dominique Deluze

Lecture  
Jean-Yves Leloup  
journalist, co-author of “Global Tekno, journey of initiation into the heart of electronic music”, France  
“Electronic mobilities, techno nomadism”

Since its emergence in the mid-1980s, the techno music scene seems to have followed different movements of concentration and expansion. Initially, there was a phase of expansion and interchange (whether electronic or physical), between the big metropolises of the western world (New York, Berlin, Paris, Chicago, Detroit, London...), based on new bonds between artists. In parallel, the popularisation of this music gave rise to new forms of mobilities which were reflected by audiences: the conquest of urban wastelands and the growth of a new type of nomadism across the whole European continent.

## WORKSHOP 5: “Relations between urban policies and mobilities”

Coordinator:  
**François Ascher**  
professor at the French Institute of Town Planning University of Paris-8, France

**Christine Bauhardt**  
political scientist, Technische Universität Berlin, Germany  
“Im-mobilities? Transport policies for the postmodern European city”

With:

**Francis Beaucire**  
geographer, University of Cergy-Pontoise, France  
“Relations between town planning and transport policies in Western Europe”

**Robert Cervero**  
University of California, Berkeley, USA  
“Traditional urbanism, New technologies, and Mobility choices”

**Lu Huapu**  
Institute of Transportation Studies, Beijing, China  
“Urban planning and choice of transport methods in the big Chinese conurbations”

**Daniel Latouche**  
National Institute for Scientific Research, Montreal, Quebec  
“Mobility and sustainable competitiveness in urban societies”

City development requires a global and long-term vision: because infrastructures last a minimum of several decades; because the regulation of urban dynamics by public authorities demands the involvement of citizens and the agents of development; because the interdependence of functions and different networks is contingent on coordinated investment and sectoral policies. The decisive factor in the development of cities is the maximisation of the potential for real and virtual exchanges, between individuals and organisations, in the economic, cultural, scientific and technological spheres, and in social and political life. These exchanges require the transport of people, information, goods and capital. Since these different mobilities form a system, the performance of that system

requires a global architecture simultaneously capable of handling specificities, complementarities, substitutions and redundancies. The issue for town planning today is to renew these conceptual instruments, so that it can control and exploit the new potentialities in the transport of people, information and goods. The development of the different exchanges is underpinned by increasingly complex and powerful tools of transport and telecommunications. But the growing technicality and cost of these instruments reinforce the credibility and power of the people who produce and manage them. The result is that, by all sorts of networks, systems and methods, transnational and partially “offshore” rationales are transferred to conurbations on the different

continents. This further strengthens local sectoral rationales, in particular in transport, which cease to be a means of development and become an end themselves. The challenge for local authorities is to increase their technical and organisational competencies in order to control the use of these new technologies, and even hybridise them if necessary (adapt them to their local context). The purpose of this workshop is to analyse how cities, faced by the same set of modern issues, but in very different contexts, succeed or fail in finding solutions, compromises, and to what extent they could benefit from a reciprocal exchange of experience.

## WORKSHOP 6: “Development models and transportation”

Coordinator:  
**Michel Savy**  
economist, Observatory for Transport Policies and Strategies in Europe, France

**Alain Rallet**  
economist, University of Paris-11, France  
“e-commerce and urban mobility: reduction or growth?”

With:

**Michael Browne**  
economist, University of Westminster, UK  
“Developments in urban logistics”

**Gérard Serre**  
director of Logistics at Yoplait, France

Director of an SMS company

### Screening

A film on Yamato, the Japanese leader in same-day messaging.

Despite regular references to the “dematerialisation” of the economy, everywhere in the world of the transport of people and goods is continues to grow. Penetrating into every sphere of social life, transport is both a key component in the organisation and operation of land, apparent on every scale, and a revealer of its changes and challenges.

The workshop will look selectively at some of the most recent and problematic aspects of transport development: long-term orientations of a European policy of “sustainable mobility”, the question of uncoupling, globalisation of express messaging networks, information technologies, shopping and distribution (e-commerce), urban logistics, reduction in transport use by major industries, development of new services, the Japanese “takyubin”. These themes belong both in the private sphere of businesses, consumers and communication, and the public sphere of adaptation to external effects and regulation. In addition, the examination will include the viewpoints of professionals and researchers.

# Tuesday June 17

Plenary session with feedback on workshops and debates, round-table, free afternoon, round table evening

**9:00**  
Feedback  
on workshops  
and discussion

**10:30**  
**12:30**  
Round-table  
led by  
**Michel Savy**  
economist, Observatory  
of transport policies  
and strategies in Europe,  
France  
“Is movement  
sustainable?”

With:

**Alain Lipietz**  
economist, The Greens,  
France

**Christian  
Dellacherie**  
trade unionist, CGT, France

**Hervé  
Mariton**  
MP for the Drôme,  
UMP, France

One percentage of  
additional growth  
generates new mobility  
flows and therefore  
further congestion and  
pollution. Hence the

need to find alternatives that break this  
automatic link. This is the principle of  
decoupling that transport specialists have  
recently begun to promote in the context of  
sustainable development, and which will be  
the subject of debate at this round table.

**21:00**  
Round-table  
led by  
**Sylvain  
Allemand**  
journalist, France  
“On the margins  
of modernity:  
immobile and  
hypermobile  
populations”

With:

**Dana  
Diminescu**  
sociologist, Institute of  
Human Sciences, France

**Xavier  
Emmanuelli**  
former Minister, founder  
of the Samu Social,  
France

**Eric  
Le Breton**

Lecturer at the University  
of Rennes-2, Laboratory  
for Human and Social  
Science Research/LARES,  
France  
This round-table will  
look at mobilities in  
populations living on the  
margins of society.

Either because they are excluded due to  
precarious living conditions and/or problems  
of access to areas of employment and of  
leisure. Or out of choice. While the first group  
raises the question of the right to mobility and  
invites innovative solutions regarding  
accessibility, transport costs and mobility aid  
services, the second group (street-people or  
cross-frontier migrants) adopts methods and  
practices of mobility that society sometimes  
has difficulty in understanding and accepting.

# Wednesday June 18

Plenary round-table, workshop, free evening

**9:00**  
**12:45**  
Round-table  
led by  
**Jean Lebrun**  
France Culture, France

Summing up  
by  
**Jacques Lévy**  
geographer, Paris Institute  
of Political Studies,  
France

“Companies:  
the agents  
of movement”

What are the  
potential and  
limitations of current

transport systems? Do the globalisation and  
the change of scale that they imply mean that  
local and regional territories are destined to  
dissolve into continental-scale systems of  
production? What solutions exist for  
sustainable growth? Can economic dynamics  
be “uncoupled” from those of the mobilities  
of persons and goods? Will new technologies  
significantly alter the development of  
transport in the medium and long term? Will  
the developing countries experience transport  
growth as rapid and in the same form as has  
occurred in the developed countries? Will the  
imperatives of sustainable development affect  
transport development, especially in cities?  
These are some of the questions that will be  
examined in this round-table.

“The governance  
of mobilities”

Transport,  
and especially  
infrastructure

choices, are the focus of many social issues  
and of a multitude of debates, not to say  
conflicts. The different questions that arise  
from this will be the theme of this round-  
table: what are the new emerging economic  
and social needs for today’s urban transport?  
How can we reconcile the economic and  
social necessity to facilitate travel in cities  
(which now increasingly function at a quasi-  
regional scale), with the environmental  
constraints of sustainable development?  
How can we reconcile the interests of  
metropolitan entities (notably their  
infrastructural needs) with the interests of  
“locals” and smaller social and institutional  
entities (villagers, districts)?  
How can we reconcile participative  
democracy with representative democracy in  
relation to transport?

With:

**Jean-Marie  
Bockel**  
mayor of Mulhouse, France

**Jean-Martin  
Folz**  
president of PSA Peugeot  
Citroën, France

**Anne-Marie  
Idrac**  
chairman of the RATP

**Georges  
Mercadal**  
vice-President of the  
National Commission for  
Public Debate/CNDP,  
France

**Wolfgang  
Schuster**  
mayor of Stuttgart,  
Germany

**René Zingraff**  
joint-Manager of  
the Michelin companies,  
France

**15:00**  
Workshop  
to formulate  
a charter  
for the city  
on the move

# Thursday June 19

Participants departure

## PRACTICAL INFORMATION

Colloquium with simultaneous English and French translation.  
Summaries of papers are posted on the CCIC web site ([www.ccic-cerisy.asso.fr](http://www.ccic-cerisy.asso.fr)).  
In situ: breakfast: from 8 AM;  
lunch: 12:30 PM (noon, on Thursday 19 June);  
dinner: 7:30 PM.  
The workshop venues will be posted during the colloquium.

## INFORMATION AND SUBSCRIPTION:

Secretariat of the CCIC, tel. : 33 [0]2 33 46 91 66  
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[www.ccic-cerisy.asso.fr](http://www.ccic-cerisy.asso.fr)  
Address: Centre Culturel International,  
50210 Cerisy-la-Salle

## INSTITUT FOR THE CITY ON THE MOVE

The Institut pour la Ville en Mouvement was created in 2001 on the initiative of the PSA Peugeot Citroën Group, for the purpose of contributing to reflection, action and innovation with the potential to enhance urban mobility.

The capacity for people, goods or information to move around, and the accessibility of every part of the city, are basic social imperatives, since they increasingly govern access to habitat, to jobs, to culture, to health, to family relations and to leisure.

IVM has, in collaboration with different partners, already undertaken a series of actions or initiated projects designed in particular to:

- enhance the mobility of categories of populations who have difficulty in moving around (the blind, children, jobseekers);
  - study innovative urban transport solutions (in particular the development of intermodality and multimodality and improvement of the urban and architectural quality of the loci of mobility);
  - to enhance knowledge in this field (notably by means of the Chair created in 2001 in partnership with the “City and Environment” doctoral college (National Civil Engineering College, University of Marne-la-Vallée, French Town Planning Institute, University Paris-12, Higher National School of Geography, School of Architecture).
- IVM also operates abroad, particularly in China where problems of urban transport are set to become particularly acute and where

new solutions will need to be invented.  
For more information, visit our website:  
<http://www.city-on-the-move.com>

## THE CERISY-LA-SALLE INTERNATIONAL CULTURAL CENTER

Since its foundation in 1952 by Anne Heurgon-Desjardins, the Cerisy Cultural Centre has carried on the tradition of the “Pontigny Decades”, created by Paul Desjardins, where from 1910 to 1939 many eminent personalities of their time met to debate artistic, literary, philosophical, political and social themes. Among these figures were Bachelard, Copeau, Curtius, Gide, Groethuysen, Koyré, Malraux, Martin du Gard, Mauriac, Maurois, Saint-Exupéry, Valéry, Wells.

The Centre is sponsored by the “Friends of Pontigny-Cerisy”, a non-profit association established in 1972 under French law, currently headed by Maurice de Gandillac. The Association’s purpose is to promote exchange between artists, intellectuals and scholars from all around the world.

Under its current directors Edith Heurgon and Catherine Peyrou, at the historic Château of Cerisy-la-Salle in the Manche, every year the Centre organises a dozen or so colloquia, seminars and workshops. From 1952 to today, almost two hundred such events have taken place, marked by numerous publications. The Cerisy colloquia consider a diverse range of subjects and points of view. They may focus on the culture of the past (e.g. The Renaissance in the 12th century and The Great Century of Russia) or equally on philosophical and artistic movements of the present-day (e.g. Current directions in criticism and The New Novel). In addition, they have introduced a new structure of events, organised around and attended by eminent figures who have included Henri Atlan, Roland Barthes, Yves Bonnefoy, Pierre Bourdieu, Michel Butor, Jacques Derrida, René Girard, Eugène Ionesco, Edmond Jabès, Emmanuel Lévinas, Jean-François Lyotard, Gabriel Marcel, Edgar Morin, Francis Ponge, Ilya Prigogine, Alain Robbe-Grillet, Léopold Senghor, Claude Simon, Jean Tardieu, René Thom, Arnold Toynbee.

The Cerisy audience largely consists of artists, researchers, teachers and students, but equally anyone who wants to participate or simply look on, as more than one aspect of modern thought is freely debated and constructed.