



BEYOND ISM:  
THE **Landscape**  
OF LANDSCAPE URBANISM  
CONFERENCE PROCEEDINGS



**FUSE**  
FUTURE URBAN SUSTAINABLE ENVIRONMENT





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## INTRODUCTION

The aim of this conference was to reposition the relationships between city and landscape, as reflected in the practice and academia of various disciplines. To this end, we sought to revisit the academic discourse concerning Landscape Urbanism, and to engage with subsequent 'isms' as well as looking beyond, in order to enrich and broaden the urban discourse.

The international cross-disciplinary conference, organized by the Swedish University of Agricultural Sciences (SLU), aimed to contribute new and alternative formulations of the relationship between landscape and urbanism by reassessing Landscape Urbanism. Hosted by a landscape architectural institution the conference discussed Landscape Urbanism from a landscape perspective, re-engaging landscape as a "lens" to understand and develop its theory and practice. We invited participants to dig deeper into the concerns motivating the cascade of 'isms' that have proliferated over the last decade: landscape urbanism, ecological urbanism, infrastructural urbanism, process urbanism, biourbanism, etc. To advance a theoretically sound and practically relevant discourse – rather than launch yet another superficially modified urbanism – we had asked participants to take stock of Landscape Urbanism and its closely related theories to identify their strengths, weaknesses and potentials.

The conference brought together advocates and critics of Landscape Urbanism, as well as scholars whose research complements its ongoing discourse. Participants came from around the world; academics and reflective practitioners from disciplines such as landscape architecture, urban and landscape planning and design, architecture, cultural geography, as well as subject areas in the arts and humanities.

The multiplicity of perspectives and backgrounds, both geographical and disciplinary, is mirrored in the themes and questions taken up in the contributions to these conference proceedings. 17 authors followed our invitation to publish their ideas in the proceedings. The contributions have not been peer-reviewed and they have been edited only minimally. The statements express thus solely the authors' opinions. Together, the papers reflect authentically the diversity of contributions and the vibrant range of ideas and theories but they also make an excellent read individually. We thank the authors for their papers, and all conference participants for contributing to such an inspiring and intellectually engaging conference.

Caroline Dahl, Lisa Diedrich, Gunilla Lindholm, Vera Vicenzotti & Nina Vogel