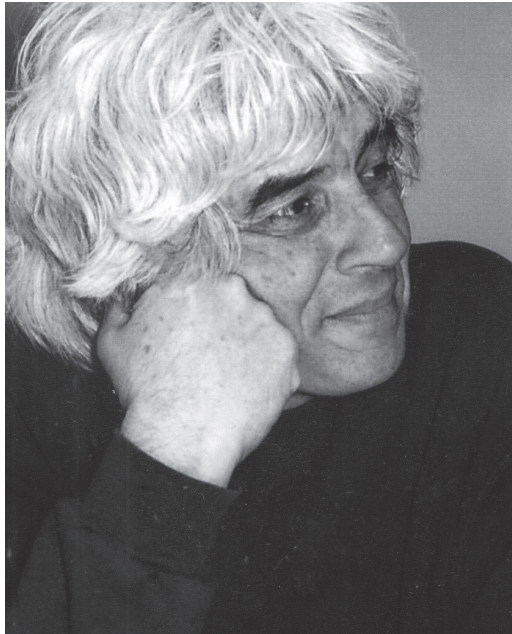


PROFESSOR **JUVAL
PORTUGALI**



Juval Portugali received his BA degree from the Hebrew University of Jerusalem, did his MA studies at the Technion Haifa, and received a London University PhD from The London School of Economics and Political Sciences. His research integrates complexity and self-organization theories, environmental-spatial cognition, urban dynamics and planning in modern and ancient periods.

Juval Portugali, currently a visiting Professor at the Department of Urbanism, Faculty of Architecture TU Delft, is Professor of Human Geography at the Department of Geography and the Human Environment Tel Aviv University. He is the Head of the Environmental Simulation Laboratory (ESLab) and of the Environment, Society and Planning Graduate Program of Tel Aviv University.

His publications include more than 70 research articles and 15 scientific books, among them the following: *Implicate Relations: Society and Space in the Israeli-Palestinian Conflict* (1993), *The Construction of Cognitive Maps* (1996, ed.), *Self-Organization and the City* (2000), *Complex Artificial Environments* (2005, ed.), *Complexity, Cognition and the City* (2011), *Complexity Theories of Cities Have Come of Age* (2012, ed.).

**THE FUTURE IS NOT
WHAT IT USED TO BE.
COMPLEXITY,
COGNITION AND THE
CITY - IMPLICATION
TO PLANNING**

**5TH APRIL 2013, 13:00
UNIVERSITY OF
AMSTERDAM**



According to classical urban theories the future is essentially predictable; location theory is a typical example of a classical urban theory while rational comprehensive planning exemplifies a classical planning theory. Complexity theories of cities (CTC), per contra, argue that 'the future is not what it used to be', or rather what we tended to believe it is, namely, that the future is essentially unpredictable. Can there be a planning theory that is not based on prediction – on our basic ability to foresee the future? The answer is 'Yes!' and 'No!'

'Yes', because in several previous studies it has been demonstrated that a planning system can be built that is not based on prediction but rather on planning rules. 'No', because the human memory is chronesthetic, that is, it enables us humans to mentally travel in time – back to the past and also forward to the future. However, this mental time travel capability is not a matter of choice, it is at once an advantage and a constrain as we cannot be mentally in the present with the implication that even when we are aware of the unpredictability of our cities, we cannot not travel to the future – we cannot not take into consideration the future; we cannot not predict.

Can we reconcile the unpredictability of cities with our inability not to predict?



FROM CITIES OF TO-MORROW TO A TOMORROW FOR CITIES

The Association of European Schools of Planning (AESOP) and the International Federation for Housing and Planning (IFHP) have launched a joint activity within the framework of the Decade of Planning: a series of lectures in 2012-2013 by well known planners and other 'urban thinkers', both academics and practitioners. The idea is to attract not only the planning community but also a wider audience of politicians, community leaders and organizations, business and the media to promote planning as a discipline that can contribute to the quality of life, help find new tools of governance of the urban structures and function as an effective mediator between the many stakeholders.

The aim is to find possible answers to present day and emerging challenges that face planning and planners as a modern discipline in a new role in our contemporary complex and dynamic society. Big name speakers will attract media attention and give us the possibility of presenting planning in more positive, constructive and attractive way.

The connecting element running through the whole series is for the speakers to fill in on aspects of a new vision for planning by taking lessons from the past. Of course, each lecture will be following by a discussion with the audience led by a professional moderator. There is a (case by case) option for sending out the lecture live on the web to capture an even wider audience.

The first two years of lectures will form part of the activities being organised within the framework of both the Silver Jubilee of AESOP (2012) and the Centenary of IFHP (2013).

MORE INFO:

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