



# URBAN FUTURES

Please join us for the upcoming event organised by the research project  
**Urban Futures: Imagining and Activating Possibilities in Unsettled Times**



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## Charles Wolfe: LEARNing the City in Transformative Times

The future of our cities and the urban life has become more hotly debated than ever in the wake of the huge upheaval brought about by the Covid-19 pandemic. Terms such as authenticity, culture, character, and uniqueness are thrown around in discussions about the kind of urban environments we want to live in. But what do they really mean?

Charles Wolfe will address his new book with Tigran Haas, *Sustaining a City's Culture and Character*, which explores how we can understand and respond sensitively, thoughtfully and creatively to the individual needs of each public place, neighbourhood, or city, creating an urban world that is distinctive and desirable to live in.

He will relate examples from the UK and internationally that underline the critical importance of context and offer insightful solutions to blend the past with the future. They include moving a small Swedish city, reviving Irish market towns, and revitalization efforts adjacent to London's Waterloo Station. He will also summarize the book's LEARN method (Look, Engage, Assess, Review, and Negotiate), which provides a comprehensive approach to how we can think about, analyse and implement more effectively a sustainable urban culture and character in transformative times.

**CHARLES WOLFE** is one of the most important voices in multinational urbanism today, offering a fresh perspective on how we maintain the culture and character of our cities. Originally from Seattle, USA, Charles is an international urbanism consultant, author, visiting scholar in Sweden, recent Fulbright specialist in Australia for an award-winning project, and long-time American environmental/land use lawyer. He is founder and principal advisor of Seeing Better Cities Group, has practiced at several law firms, and has served as a long-time affiliate associate professor in the College of the Built Environments at the University of Washington in Seattle. He has written regularly for many publications, including *The Atlantic*, *The Atlantic Cities/Bloomberg CityLab*, *Governing*, *City Monitor*, *Planetizen*, *The Huffington Post*, *Grist*, and *Crosscut*. He currently lives in Newbury, UK. *Sustaining a City's Culture and Character* is the third book in his urbanism trilogy, which includes previous works *Seeing the Better City* and *Urbanism Without Effort*, and features extensive colour photography by the author.

You are invited to a Zoom meeting  
**May 27, 2021 05:30 PM CEST Europe/Zagreb**  
Register in advance:

<https://zoom.us/meeting/register/tJYrc-mqqDwiGtB-WsjxZ0Lo5iod1Npvfvt1>

After registering, you will receive a confirmation email containing information about joining the meeting.

