

books: high stakes, high hopes; infrastructures of freedom; **film:** everynight life

discussants: hanna hilbrandt, sophie oldfield, nitin bathla, stephanie briers, christian schmid

DUAL BOOK LAUNCH
Oldfield and Briers

GROUND ING SOUTHERN URBANISM

collaborative research in Cape Town

Join us for this dual book launch and short film screening advocating for collaborative urbanism. *High Stakes, High Hopes: Urban Theorising in Partnership* by Sophie Oldfield and *Infrastructures of Freedom: Public Light and Everynight Life on a Southern City's Margins*, by Stephanie Briers share the value of co-producing southern urbanism through collaborative neighbourhood research in Cape Town, South Africa. Together, this work engages Southern city realities and celebrates ways *doing* collaborative research and urban theorising.

Organized by the Chair of Sociology, D-ARCH, ETH Zürich & ZAZ Bellerive, Zentrum Architektur Zürich

19:00
23.11.23
ZAZ
Bellerive

program
short film
(10min)/disc
ussion/aper
with dj
undar8ed

GROUND ING SOUTHERN URBANISM

through collaboration in Cape Town

In **High Stakes, High Hopes**

Sophie Oldfield tracks the building of urban theorizing in a decade-long urban research and teaching partnership in Cape Town, South Africa. In arguing for collaborative urbanism, Oldfield reflects on what was at stake in the partnership, its creative evolution, methodologies and epistemologies. She traces the ways community activists, residents, students, and the author worked together, re-framing research and teaching in neighborhood questions and commitments. In doing so, the book demonstrates how urban theorizing can be reoriented in activism and urban struggle as sites of valid knowledge making. It contributes to an archive of alternative kinds of urban knowledges, experiments that work to inspire more varied forms of urban theorizing and writing.

In **Infrastructures of Freedom**,

Stephanie Briers sheds light on the impact of inadequate public lighting in self-built communities in Cape Town. In democratic South Africa, where infrastructure provision still reflects deeply embedded notions of citizenship, informal neighborhoods with minimal infrastructure provision face challenges beyond access to basic services and opportunities. Fear, the feeling of being forgotten, and living in undignified conditions are among the powerful experiences darkness brings about in these neighborhoods. The book not only reveals these experiences of everynight life, but takes a step further: it considers how the co-production of a solar public lighting project within a community improved everynight life and suggests ways for infrastructure to more successfully articulate citizenship.