

Shaping the city together

Creating a child-friendly city through shared use of public space – a district map shows possibilities

More than 150 temporary and long-term implementations for child-friendly neighbourhood designs were realized during the project period of Metamorphosis. The majority can be classified into the following categories:

OPEN STREETS

Temporarily closing roads to motorised traffic is the same as opening them to people. Regardless of whether the roads closed to motorised traffic are in front of a school or in the neighbourhood, the quality of life increases. The existing space is considerably expanded, space is not only used in a new way but can also be conquered in a playful way. This offers a variety of possibilities, including hybrid zones, crystallization points or interventions in public spaces. Streets become living space and the identification with one's own city increases. Temporarily used public space can serve as a test for a permanent redesign without great risk.

- 1 Santa Lucia
- 2 Bakaliko
- 3 die scharbe
- 4 Printi
- 5 MANAGERIE
- 6 Haarschneiderei

- 7 Himal Hemp
- 8 Galerie JO
- 9 Offline Retail
- 10 tag.werk
- 11 DA LOAM
- 12 Capperi il locale

HYBRID ZONES

From 2017 to 2019, five areas in the district of Lend were temporarily converted into hybrid zones between one and seven days. Hybrid zones are areas in public space where private and public space meet and blur into each other. Examples include neighbourhood breakfasts, living room settings on the sidewalk in front of houses or on parking lots. A subtle transition zone is created where social contacts and interaction with neighbours and visitors are encouraged. This creates a strong sense of personal responsibility and strengthens one's appreciation of their own neighbourhood.

Hybrid zones also offer an opportunity for small and medium-sized enterprises to get in touch with their customers more easily. They can become more accessible to a wider audience. It is important to encourage local businesses to take action on the streets. The more often a hybrid zone is created, the more diverse the implementations become.

public and private space blur together

Cities can be a colourful and lively playing field for new designs

On request, we are happy to offer knowledge transfers, tours of the district, meetings with local actors and workshops on various topics.

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GRAZ 2017-2020

METAMORPHOSIS

Reclaiming the road for education and movement

LIVING LABS

Within the framework of Metamorphosis, the area in front of three schools in the district of Lend was converted several times into Living Labs. Between one day and one week, the traffic in the street in front of the schools was calmed down and transformed into an area for educational purposes and a space for play and leisure activities. In total, over 80 teachers and 1000 students were involved in the Living Labs. Besides gaining space for the school and its students, these activities had a positive effect on the traffic behaviour of all participants. Traffic behaviour has demonstrably changed, and more children come to school now on foot or by bike rather than by motorised transport.

CRYSTALLIZATION POINTS

Crystallization points are places in public space that are designed collectively and thus significantly increase the quality of stay. In this case, primarily places are used which have no specific use but are centrally located. From installations, to urban gardens or even living room settings, many things are possible. The involvement of different partners, such as schools and companies, in the design, implementation and use provides the necessary input for function and use. Participation in the development process promotes identification with the location and the neighbourhood as well as a strong sense of community during the use of such crystallization points.

creating community meeting places from unused spaces

INTERVENTIONS IN PUBLIC SPACE

Interventions in public space offer various possibilities to bring colourful life to streets and squares. There are no limits to the creative freedom. This also offers children the opportunity to curiously explore the neighbourhood. The number of interactions between people who use the space in everyday life, such as when passing by or strolling, increases, and a critical but solution-oriented debate is encouraged. Examples are street galleries (exhibitions in public space), performances, sports in public space, discourse and various workshops.

Parking spaces can also be used for such interventions. Through legal tools such as "Space Transformers", they can become a recreational area, stage or even a playground. Playing with permitted transformations, such as converted bicycles, enables the reclaiming of public space.

design of a common living room

History and development of the district of Lend

The district of Lend, especially the area between Lendplatz and Südtirolerplatz, has undergone significant changes in recent years. For a long time, the former workers' district was considered a "run-down" district with a negative image. In the course of the structural change of the 1980/90s, many small, traditional-industrial production and craft businesses had to close down. The result was a high vacancy rate. The empty spaces and low rents attracted young creative people, small shops, businesses, restaurants and first co-working spaces.

Lendwirbel: Mine is yours is our public space!

In 2006, local actors had the desire and the idea to create a neighbourhood festival in connection with music, art and discourse. Rather naïve, with a certain lightness of being, Lendwirbel was born. Since 2008, the Lendwirbel Network has grown rapidly and has become a kind of social movement. Lendwirbel has not initiated or organized the development of Lend in the last 20 years. Rather, it can be seen as a dynamic bottom-up movement of the people who are active, live and/or work in Lend.

Metamorphosis, an EU project to make streets, squares and neighbourhoods more child-friendly

The number of children in public spaces is a very important indicator of quality of life and sustainable neighbourhoods. In collaboration and with the active participation of children, the CIVITAS Horizon 2020 project Metamorphosis has made neighbourhoods, streets and squares more livable. The project started in 2017 and ran for three years. In addition to Graz, six other European cities were involved in the project. Metamorphosis aims to transform car-friendly neighbourhoods into child-friendly ones. Through intense cooperations with schools, a diverse programme for young people was created – parking lots became recreation areas, streets became playgrounds and the entire neighbourhood was transformed into a common meeting place for the young and the old.

Further information can be found on the homepage: www.metamorphosis-project.eu



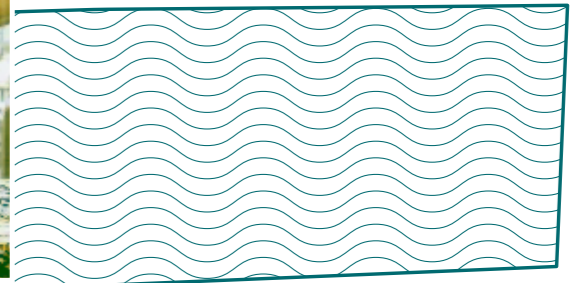
An inspiration for city makers

Kaiser-Franz-Josef-Kai

Murinsel



DESIGN YOUR OWN T-SHIRT
print workshop before and at tag.werk



Hauptbrücke

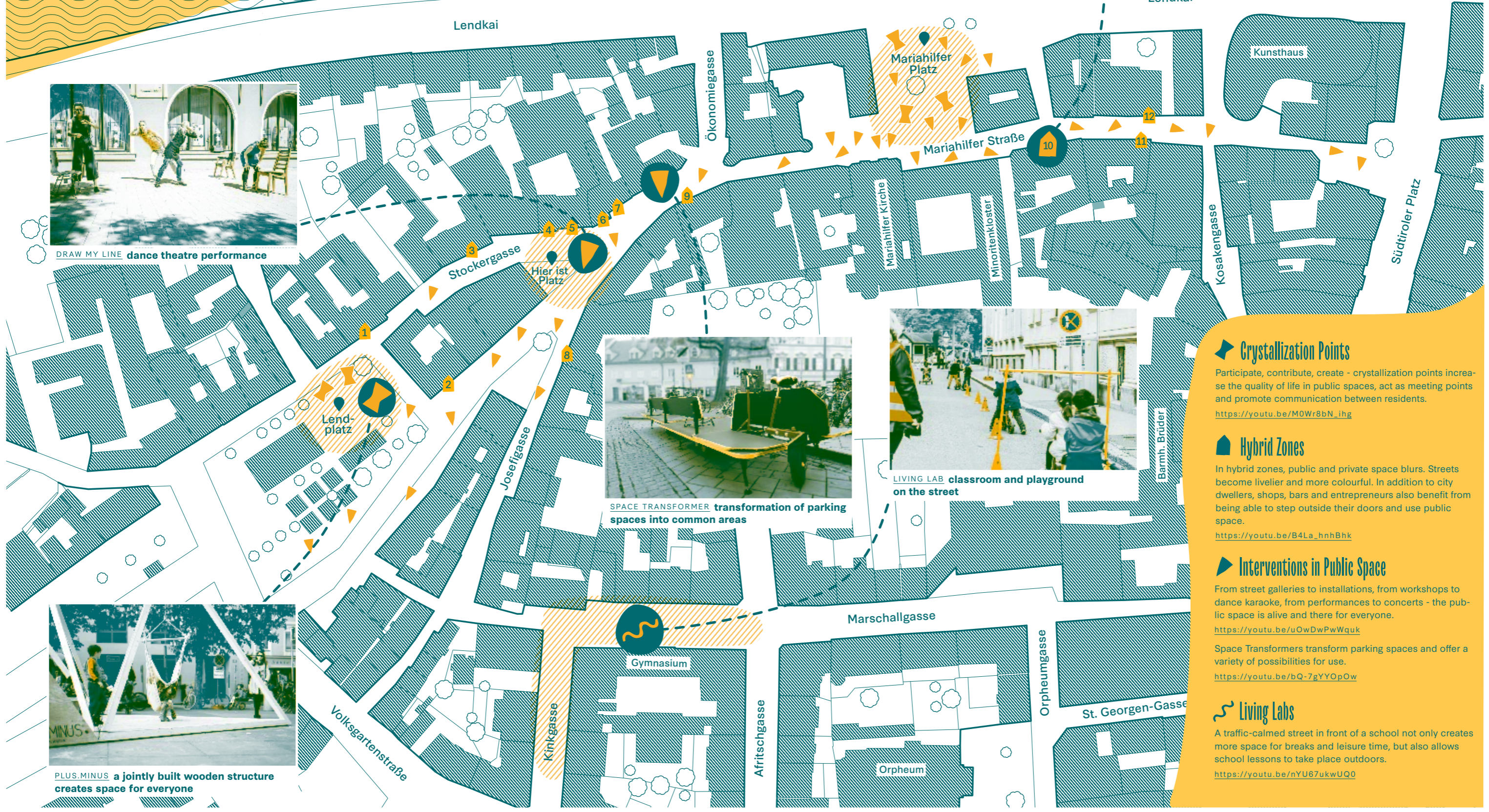
NORTH

Lendkai

Lendkai



DRAW MY LINE dance theatre performance



SPACE TRANSFORMER transformation of parking spaces into common areas



LIVING LAB classroom and playground on the street

Crystallization Points

Participate, contribute, create - crystallization points increase the quality of life in public spaces, act as meeting points and promote communication between residents.
https://youtu.be/M0Wr8bN_lhg

Hybrid Zones

In hybrid zones, public and private space blurs. Streets become livelier and more colourful. In addition to city dwellers, shops, bars and entrepreneurs also benefit from being able to step outside their doors and use public space.
https://youtu.be/B4La_hnhBhk

Interventions in Public Space

From street galleries to installations, from workshops to dance karaoke, from performances to concerts - the public space is alive and there for everyone.
<https://youtu.be/uOwDwPwWqk>
Space Transformers transform parking spaces and offer a variety of possibilities for use.
<https://youtu.be/bQ-7gYYOpOw>

Living Labs

A traffic-calmed street in front of a school not only creates more space for breaks and leisure time, but also allows school lessons to take place outdoors.
<https://youtu.be/nYU67ukwUQ0>



PLUS.MINUS a jointly built wooden structure creates space for everyone