

ELENI KATRINI

Architect | Researcher | Urbanist

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Eleni Katrini is an architect and researcher, with experience in academia, the public, and third sector. Her research focuses on the fields of commons, sharing, participation, sustainability, and urban ecology. Eleni has worked as a designer & researcher extensively in participatory projects in US and UK, and has taught on topics of urban ecology, sustainability, urban design, and the urban commons.

EDUCATION

- 2013_2019 **Carnegie Mellon University, School of Architecture, Pittsburgh, US**
Doctor of Philosophy
Dissertation Title: "Creating the Everyday Commons; Spatial patterns of Sharing Culture in urban neighborhoods"
Thesis Committee: Vivian Loftness, Cameron Tonkinwise, Matthew Mehalik
- 2011_2012 **Carnegie Mellon University, School of Architecture, Pittsburgh, US**
Master of Science in Sustainable Design
Thesis Title: "Addressing Food, Waste, Water & Energy to yield Urban Regenerative Environments"
Thesis Committee: Vivian Loftness, Erica Cochran, Azizan Aziz
- 2002_2009 **National Technical University of Athens, Athens, Greece**
Diploma of Architectural Engineering
- 2007_2008 **Escuela Tecnica Superior de Arquitectura de Barcelona, Barcelona, Spain**
International Exchange Studies, Erasmus Program, State Scholar (IKY)

RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

Eleni has realized research on urban commons, participation, and ecology through systems thinking approach, both in academia and the third sector. Her research is interdisciplinary combining methods from architecture, design, geography, and sociology – such as case studies, interviews and qualitative data analysis, observation, participatory research, spatial and cartographic mapping, and photography.

- 2017_2018 **Research Director | Participatory City Foundation, London, UK** www.participatorycity.org/
Developed the research and evaluation program for the Every One Every Day project, which aims to scale residents' practical participation in the Borough of Barking & Dagenham. Other responsibilities included writing reports, developing the data protection plan by GDPR, and providing qualitative research methods training.
- 2015-2016 **Conference Curator & Organizer | AUTONOMA, Athens, Greece**
Co-curator of the international conference AUTONOMA; Towards the Collective City that took place in Athens, in July 2016. The conference included 16 international keynote speakers, and over 170 submissions to our CFP, and was hosted by the Onassis Cultural Center. More information here: <http://www.autonoma.gr/>
- 2014 **Researcher | School of Design, Carnegie Mellon University, Pittsburgh, USA**
Part of an exploratory research group which investigated the creation of a Participatory Culture Incubator as part of Carnegie Mellon's new Integrative Design, Arts and Technology Program. Realized interviews with stakeholders, gathered data, and organized a participatory charrette.
- 2012_2013 **Research Assistant | Center Building Performance & Diagnostics, Carnegie Mellon University**
Worked under the supervision of Azizan Aziz on instrumentation, monitoring, analysis and reporting of experiments in the Intelligent Workplace, as part of the EEB HUB project. (www.eebhub.org)

PUBLICATIONS

Peer-reviewed Journal Articles

- 2020 **Radical Housing Journal** radicalhousingjournal.org (under review)
"Spatial manifestations of collective refugee housing – The case of City Plaza", Vol 2(1): 29-53, Section: The long read. (May, 2020) ISSN 2632-2870

- 2018 **Unboxing the Sharing Economy, Sociological Journal Review Monograph, London, UK**
 “Sharing Culture: On Definitions, Values, and Emergence.” *The Sociological Review* 66, no. 2 (March 1, 2018): 425–46. <https://doi.org/10.1177/0038026118758550> (Impact Factor: 2.169)

Articles in Books & Journals

- 2019 **Transient Spaces, CCNY Spitzer School of Architecture, New York, USA**
 “Commoning and Transition”, Harrison, Katrini, Editors: Tsafouli, Wines, Ong ([link](#))
- 2018 **BRACKET Magazine [on Sharing] (publication pending)**
 “Creating the Everyday Commons; towards spatial patterns of sharing culture”, Eleni Katrini ([link](#))

Conference Proceedings

- 2019 **The City as a Commons, University of Pavia, Italy**
 “Creating the Everyday Commons: Spatial Patterns of Sharing Culture”, Eleni Katrini
- 2017 **XVI Biennial IASC Conference ‘Practicing the Commons’, Utrecht, Netherlands**
 “Spatial Attributes of Sharing Culture practices”, Eleni Katrini
- 2016 **PhD by Design – Instant Journal #4 – Idea of self in practice-based research, Sheffield, UK**
 “Creating the Everyday Commons; Putting together the fragmented self”, Eleni Katrini
- 2016 **Design Principles and Practice Conference Proceedings, Rio de Janeiro, Brazil**
 “The Vacant Home Tour”, Eleni Katrini, Kenneth Chu
- 2015 **2015 IASC Thematic Conference on Urban Commons, Bologna, Italy**
 “Creating the Everyday Commons; Sharing as means of self-organization versus business as usual”
- 2015 **Housing – A Critical Perspective Conference Proceedings, Architecture, MPS, Liverpool, UK**
 “Synergies of a Shared Household”, Eleni Katrini, AMPS conference; Housing – A Critical Perspective, University of Liverpool, England, April 08-09, 2015 ([link](#))
- 2014 **3rd Think Space Unconference MONEY Proceedings, Zagreb, Croatia**
 “PITTSBURGH, A CITY IN TRANSITION; a review of David Harvey’s ‘Rebel Cities’ and the civic organizational structure in the city of Pittsburgh”, Eleni Katrini, Think Space, 3rd Program Cycle Proceedings, 2014, pg. 97-110, ISBN: 098-953-7939-04-5
- 2013 **3rd Annual International Conference for Urban Studies & Planning, Athens, Greece**
 “Addressing Food, Water, Waste and Energy yields in Urban Regenerative Environments”, Eleni Katrini, “Architecture Anthology I; Sustainable Design”, Edited by Fatih A. Rifki, Athens Institute for Education and Research, 2015, pg. 169-182, ISBN: 978-618-5065-81-2
- 2013 **Nature of Spatial Practices, 1st Annual Graduate Student Conference, Penn State, US**
 “Toolkit for Urban Regenerative Environments”, Eleni Katrini

Reports (selected)

- 2018 **Participatory City Foundation, Developmental Evaluation Report, London, UK**
 “Made to Measure, year 1 Report for the Every One Every Day initiative in Barking & Dagenham”, Britton T., Katrini E., Purohit R., Defriend N., Michonski K., Timmers N., Gamble J., Tatham J. ([link](#))

GRANTS

- 2017 **Agriterra Grantee, XVI Biennial IASC Conference, Netherlands**
 Support grant to selected presenters of the XVI Biennial IASC Conference ‘Practicing the Commons’
- 2016 **ProSEED / Crosswalk Grant, Carnegie Mellon University, US**
 Eleni Katrini (PI), Leading a team of three research assistants to develop a framework for Urban Ecology with a publication and online blog. Grant was awarded from Carnegie Mellon University’s Office of Provost (\$2,500).

- 2016 **GUSH Fund Award, Carnegie Mellon University, US**
Eleni Katrini (PI), Research grant for fieldwork and interviews of doctoral research, "Creating the Everyday Commons", awarded by Carnegie Mellon University's Office of Provost and Graduate Student Assembly (\$750).
- 2015 **Onassis Foundation Special Sponsorship for Scholars, Greece**
Eleni Katrini, Aristodimos Komninos, Sponsorship award (2015-2016) from the Onassis Foundation to realize the international conference "AUTONOMA; Towards the Collective City" in Athens, Greece (€10,000).
- 2015 **Neubauer Grant, Fels Institute of Government, US**
Kenneth Chu, Eleni Katrini, Grant in support of the outreach initiative of Vacant Home Tour (\$4,500)
- 2015 **Public Policy National Challenge, Finalist Award, Fels Institute of Government, US**
Kenneth Chu, Rene Cuenca, Eleni Katrini, Karlee Turkaly, Shawneil Campbell, Finalist grant to support the development and realization of Vacant Home Tour (\$5,000)

AWARDS & SCHOLARSHIPS

- 2014_2017 **Onassis Foundation Scholarship, Greece**
Three-year scholarship by the Onassis Foundation in support of doctoral research
- 2017 **Pennsylvania Chapter of the American Planning Association (APA) Excellence Award, US**
Millvale Ecodistrict Pivot Plan, in collaboration with Christine Mondor, EvolveEA founder
- 2015 **Community Development Award 2015, Pittsburgh Community Reinvestment Group (PCRG), US**
Vacant Home Tour project (co-founder) wins the Community Development award for 2015 ([link](#))
- 2014 **Gerondelis Foundation Scholarship, US**
Graduate Scholarship in support of doctoral research
- 2014 **Environmental Design Research Association (EDRA) "Great Places" Planning Award, US**
Upper Lawrenceville Visioning Plan, in collaboration with Christine Mondor, EvolveEA founder
- 2013_2014 **School of Architecture's Graduate Student Tuition Fund (GSTF), US**
Carnegie Mellon University fund for academic year 2013-2014
- 2011_2012 **Fulbright Scholarship, Greece**
in support of pursuing a Master of Science degree in Sustainable Design at Carnegie Mellon University
- 2012 **George W. Anderson, Jr. Graduate Student Award, First place, Carnegie Mellon University, US**
The project "Polykatoikia in Piraiki" was awarded for its commitment to detail and community
- 2006_2007 **Scholarship from the State Scholarships Foundation (IKY), Greece**
in support of international exchange study in Barcelona, Spain

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Eleni has taught studio and lecture-based courses in the US and UK, on the topics of urban ecology, sustainability, urban design, and the urban commons. She has also provided technical and pastoral support to students of different education levels, from bachelors to doctoral studies. In class, Eleni's pedagogical approach is participatory with 3 main goals: building student confidence for participation, understanding & helping students to overcome challenges, and supporting learning from the convergence of diverse perspectives.

- 2019 **MAUD Thesis Supervisor | School of Architecture, University of Sheffield, Sheffield, UK**
ARC6982 Urban Design Project 3: Running a thesis module on the topic of 'Urban Commons & Space' in collaboration with Professor Doina Petrescu and supervising 11 Masters in Urban Design students
- 2015_2016 **Adjunct Faculty | School of Architecture, Carnegie Mellon University, Pittsburgh, USA**
48-713 Urban Ecology Graduate Course at Carnegie Mellon University
Designed and taught the graduate Urban Ecology course for Masters in Urban Design students
- Curator | Urban Ecology Platform & Publication, Carnegie Mellon University, Pittsburgh, USA**
As part of the Urban Ecology course, an online platform and publication was developed as a learning tool that documents innovative sustainable urban systems and how they can advance local communities ([link](#)).

- 2015 **Studio Instructor | School of Architecture, Carnegie Mellon University, Pittsburgh, USA**
 48-405 Advanced Option Studio for 4th & 5th year undergraduate students at Carnegie Mellon University
"The STEAMbox: Architects as Inventors New Building Type" directed by Vivian Loftness
- 2014_2015 **Organizer & PhD Representative | SoA Colloquium Series; Graduate Students' Presentations**
Organized the Colloquium series; a weekly event for masters & doctoral students to meet, present their work and exchange ideas, under the role of PhD representative in the School of Architecture at Carnegie Mellon University.
- 2014 **Teaching Assistant | School of Architecture, Carnegie Mellon University, Pittsburgh, USA**
 48-729 graduate course "Productivity, Health and Quality of Buildings" directed by Vivian Loftness
- 2011_2018 **Invited Critic**
I have been an invited critic to various masters and bachelor studio reviews at Carnegie Mellon University, University of Pittsburgh, London School of Architecture, University of Sheffield, and National Technical University of Athens School of Architecture.
- 2009_2011 **Modelling Software Instructor**
Teaching seminars of 3d Studio Max & AutoCAD to Architecture and Interior Design students in Athens, Greece. The classes included drafting, modelling and the basics of rendering.

INVITED LECTURES

- 2020 **Public Practice Webinars, Public Practice, London, UK**
Engagement at Distance: How is covid-19 changing the way councils engage with communities? ([link](#))
- 2018 **Design for the Cultural Commons Program, The Cass, Metropolitan University, London, UK**
"Towards the Collective City", Eleni Katrini
- Designing the City Together! (Stadt gemeinsam gestalten!), Gruppe Planwerk, Berlin, Germany**
"Scaling Participation in London: Presenting the Every One Every Day project", Eleni Katrini
- 2016 **Teaching & Learning Summit, Eberly Center, Carnegie Mellon University, Pittsburgh, USA**
"Urban Ecology course; Blog as a tool for Class Engagement and Beyond", Eleni Katrini ([link](#))
- 2015 **Center for Advanced Spatial Analysis (CASA), The Bartlett, UCL, London, UK**
Presentation: "From Designing a Solution, to Co-designing a Process", Eleni Katrini

DESIGN PRACTICE

Starting from an architectural education and background, Eleni has expanded her practice to strategic, participatory and transition design, operating at different scales. Transition design – a new area of design research and practice by Carnegie Mellon's School of Design – focuses on design-led societal transition toward more sustainable futures. As such, over the last 7 years Eleni has worked on design projects that involved from organizations to urban communities, designing both spaces and systems towards sustainable futures.

- 2019_Present **Senior Regeneration Manager, London Borough of Newham, London, UK**
Developing a Town Centre Strategy for the London Borough of Newham through research and co-design.
- 2015_2018 **Co-founder | Autonoma, Athens, Greece**
Autonoma is an open collective of architects, urban designers, and engineers, with the mission to study and advance urban environments through innovative collective processes, technology, and action-based research.
- 2015 **Co-founder | Vacant Home Tour, Wilkinsburg, PA**
Co-founder of the Vacant Home Tour program that shifted the perception of blight from a problem to an opportunity in collaboration with residents. The project was a collaboration between Carnegie Mellon University and Wilkinsburg's Community Development Corporation.
- 2014 **Planning Designer | Sasaki Associates, Boston, MA, USA / www.sasaki.com**
Worked on urban design and planning projects in Shanghai, as well as campus design of Ohio State University

- 2012_2014 **Project Manager & Researcher | EvolveEA, Pittsburgh, PA, USA / www.evolveea.com**
 Worked on sustainable, participatory urban planning, visioning, and design projects with local communities. Organized community workshops, analyzed ethnographic data, and put together reports.
- 2009_2011 **Junior Architect | Aris Zambikos GR_405, Athens, Greece / www.ariszambikos.com**
 Worked both individually and in 2-3 members-groups on projects of renovation, interior design, and housing complex. Collaboration with other designers, architects and construction teams.
- 2008_2009 **Designer | Olive 3 Architects, Athens, Greece / www.olive3.gr**
 Worked in groups mainly in renovations, interior design and furniture design both for residential and commercial buildings. Supervised construction drawings for a hair salon retrofit.
- 2007_2008 **Designer | Maria Karakitsiou Architects, Athens, Greece**
 Worked on large projects of two hotel complexes in Mykonos and Sikinos islands as well as in single family residences. Specialized in drawing details and Greece's building regulations.

DESIGN WORK EXHIBITIONS & EXPOSURE (selected)

- 2015 **Vacant Home Tour on Press & Media**
 The Vacant Home Tour Project has received increased attention from the press, among which are "Next City", "Pittsburgh Post-Gazette", "Pittsburgh Tribune" & "Governing Magazine" (link). In 2015, a WQED documentary "Renewal & Reality: Why Not Wilkinsburg?" also presented the project (link).
- 2015 **Piraeus & Utopia, National Technical University of Athens Exhibition, Piraeus, Greece**
 "Ecological Explorations; Block of Flats in Piraeus", Eleni Katrini
- 2015 **Athens Photo Festival, APHF:15, The Photobook Exhibition, Benaki Museum, Athens, Greece**
 "People who Share" Photobook exhibit; the photobook presented a set of interviews with people who share a house along with presenting a set of exercises realized with them.
- 2012 **7th Biennale of Young Greek Architects, Athens, Greece**
 "Urban Camping Project", Eleni Katrini, Mara Papavasiliou, Dimitris Papageorgiou, Ilda Oikonomidi
- 2011 **Puerto Rico Design eXchange Exhibition, Puerto Rico**
 Honorable Mention of "Urban Camping Project" under the category Architecture Professional, Eleni Katrini in collaboration with Mara Papavasiliou, Dimitris Papageorgiou, Ilda Oikonomidi
- 2011 **EME3 Publication "Work in Progress: Global Problems, Local Solutions", Barcelona, Spain**
 "Urban Camping", Eleni Katrini, Mara Papavasiliou, Dimitris Papageorgiou, Ilda Oikonomidi, (link)
- 2010 **"Stealing the Still" Personal Photography Exhibition, Alba Art Vitrina, Athens, Greece**

PERSONAL SKILLS & QUALIFICATIONS

Languages Greek (mother tongue), English, Spanish

Certificates Technical Chamber of Greece, Professional License of Architect Engineer (#122532)
 Registered Architect in UK (ARB 0904581)
 SEED (Social Economic Environmental Design) Certified Professional
 Future Faculty Program graduate, Eberly Center for Teaching Excellence and Educational Innovation, Carnegie Mellon University

Software Expertise ArcGIS, Atlas.ti, AutoCAD, Rhinoceros, 3d Studio Max, Adobe Suite (Illustrator, Photoshop, InDesign), Microsoft Office, REMRate, Design Builder, Processing

Other Expertise Qualitative Research & Data Analysis, Workshop Design & Facilitation, Community Engagement, Branding, Digital & Analog Photography, Project Management, Grant writing