

**Disruption in
design during
a time of
crisis**





- exposure + vulnerability
- access + safety



exposure
vulnerability

access
safety

People waiting outside a testing clinic in Khayelitsha, South Africa, practice social distancing. Reference: Nardus Engelbrecht/Associated Press

This case is based on a presentation by **Kathryn Ewing (PhD)** as part of the 2020 series, POST-COVID-19 PERSPECTIVES FOR ARCHITECTURE hosted by STADIO Higher Education, Open Architecture and the Architectural Education Forum Africa.

Disruption in design during a time of crisis forms part of the live online session *Perspective 2 - How Has COVID-19 Impacted How We Design Urban Spaces for Live, Work and Play?* chaired by Mphethi Morojele of MMArchitects.

STADIO

Open Architecture



Kathryn Ewing is a Senior Lecturer and Convener of the Urban Design Programme at the University of Cape Town. Kathryn has architectural, urban design, planning and research experience working through a multidisciplinary approach in Southern Africa. She is currently a non-executive Director of VPUU. Kathryn's work focuses on safe cities, participative design and public space, building on lessons from design practice in African cities.



- Gugulethu, Cape Town
SOUTH AFRICA





- break down the walls of impossibility



break down the walls of impossibility

overground frameworks
tangible spaces
reimagined publics
flexible solution/s
long-term change + transformation

transitory time of change
intangible systems
experimentation
innovation and inventiveness
underground networks

take a step back -
reset / reframe



“ How do we design in a time of uncertainty? How do we design for resilience that allows an area or neighbourhood to continue to function beyond a pandemic, fire, flood or daily crime to deal with ”

1

**PRODUCTIVE
PARTNERSHIPS**

- Rethinking methodology:
co-designing
-

2

**SAFE[INFORMAL]
NEIGHBOURHOODS**

- Reframing of 'informal settlements'
 - Implementing an area-based approach
-

3

ACTIVE FRAMEWORKS

- Public realm as transformative and safe
 - Crafting the public realm as transformative
-



education

Education [ECD's + schools]
reviving the focus of community in the neighbourhood

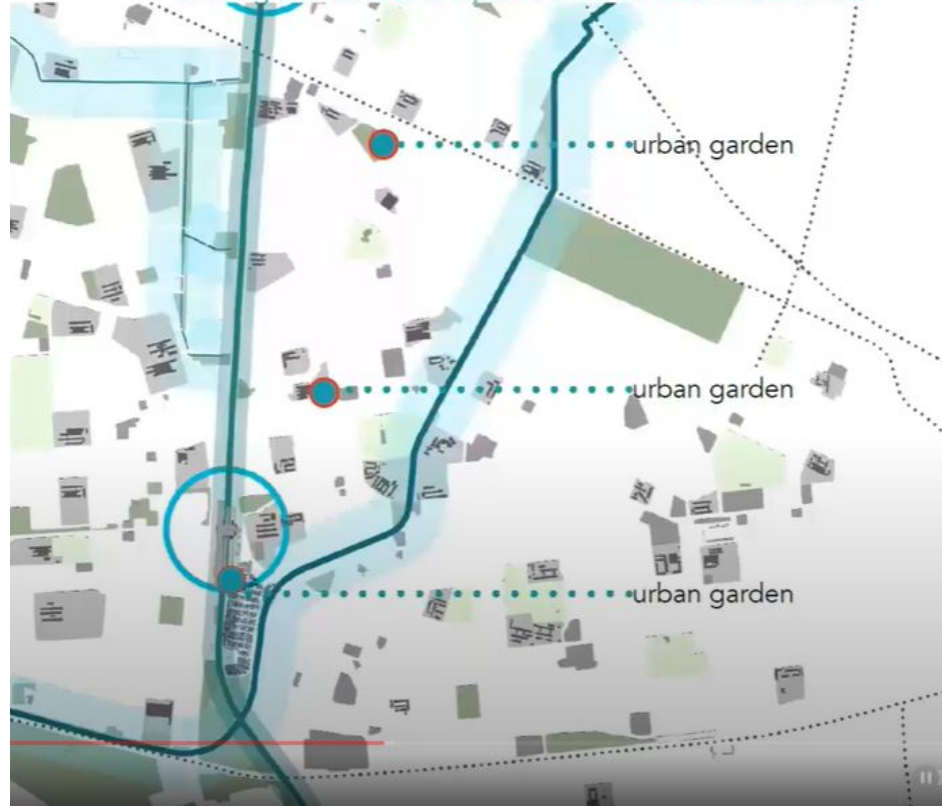




food security

Food security [urban gardens]

shifting the idea of the production of land in the micro



livelihood

Livelihood [spazas]

building on local knowledge + questioning housing





pause... replay



How do we teach design beyond the academy,
in an online world? What did 2020 highlight?

landing off grid

engaging local knowledge

shifting curriculum & pedagogy

extracting & [re]marking

Designing and transforming urban place in the south

crafting & applying design practice

- How do we teach design beyond the academy in an online world? What did 2020 highlight?

Additional Supporting Materials and Resources

- The recording of the session can be accessed [here](#). [32:00 – 48:00]
- <http://www.apg.uct.ac.za/apg/kathryn-ewing>
- <https://vpuu.org.za/>



Learning for Resilience

Educating for a resilient future

<https://www.learningforresilience.com/>