

In War's Wake

CRASSH Research Network 2021-2022

“Sedimentary Urbanization: On War, Displacement, and Urban Futures”

This talk revolves around Prof Bou Akar's new research project which investigates how low-income Lebanese families and Syrian refugees gain access to affordable housing in a Beirut south-east periphery. This work is based on an ongoing ethnographic and archival research that Prof Bou Akar started in 2017, where she excavates the intertwined histories and geographies of housing markets, the making of the global city, gentrification, suburbanization, and informality with the histories of militarization, occupation, and displacement that have shaped Doha Aramoun, for long seen as a bedroom periphery of Beirut. She does so by tracing the mutations in two housing modalities (villas and mass housing) across time as geopolitical conditions shifted between the era of nation-building (1950s-60s), the civil war (1975-1990) and its aftermath, and the influx of Syrian refugees after the onset of the Syrian war (2011-). Prof Bou Akar will discuss the concept of sedimentary urbanization, a theoretical lens and method of inquiry that she is developing by theorizing from Beirut about urbanization at a conjunctural moment of local and global contested futures.

Prof Bou Akar is the author of the award-winning book “For the War Yet to Come: Planning Beirut's Frontiers” (Stanford University Press, 2018) and Assistant Professor at the Graduate School of Architecture, Planning, and Preservation at Columbia University.

Keynote lecture

Prof Hiba Bou Akar

(Columbia University, GSAPP)



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5-7pm (UK time)

21 October 2021

Online

Please register:

www.crassh.cam.ac.uk/programmes/in-wars-wake-mobility-belonging-and-becoming-in-the-aftermath-of-urban-conflict

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