

## Health: The Design, Planning and Politics of How and Where We Live

- **Paper / Proposal Title:**

Spaces of Psychiatry

- **Format:**

Presentation in person

- **Author(s) Name:**

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- **University or Company Affiliation:**

Technical University of Denmark

- **Abstract (300 words):**

Spaces of Psychiatry

With the municipal reform of 1970, psychiatry in Denmark was decentralized, as the responsibility moved from the state to 14 counties and 2 large municipalities. The decentralization coincided with widespread critique of psychiatry during the 1960's to 1980's and was initially welcomed - however the rise in homelessness and significant problems with violent patients are issues that has lead some psychiatrists to question current practices. With a new reform in 2007, most municipalities were merged into larger entities and counties were merged into regions. Following this, the so-called Quality Reform of 2009-2010 instituted new forms of management and funding for healthcare. Under the new reform, regions are redesigning mental health care, but still with the main emphasis on day clinics. Quality Reform demands for evidence-based design throughout the healthcare industry also applies to mental health care. New patient groups and conditions challenge and expand the understanding of mental health, for example rising levels of stress among youth, veterans, refugees/immigrants.

This paper will present the initial process of framing a project that examines the current spaces of psychiatry, both the formal spaces – the hospitals and clinics, and the informal spaces – streets and forests, private homes and rooms, homes designed for people with special needs. The project will include comparison with other countries and cultures, and with historical situations. The project will be based on visual registration and analysis, using methodologies developed in previous studies of the spaces of healthcare (somatic), and vulnerable urban areas. Mapping, photo-registration, analytical drawing are expected to inform qualitative interviews with the different stakeholders within the field of psychiatry: patients, next of kin, neighbours, health care professionals and political stakeholders. This early in the process the intent of the paper is to introduce the subject matter and methodological choices to a wider audience.

• **Author(s) Biography (200 words each):**

**Personal data**

Merete Ahnfeldt-Møllerup

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**Education**

2001 (April) PhD, Royal Academy of Fine Arts, Copenhagen

1988 (May) Master of Architecture, Royal Academy of Fine Arts, Copenhagen

**Current and most recent positions**

2017, Lecturer at Denmark's Technical University (Architectural History and Component Design)

2014 – 2017, Head of Masters Program Spatial Design, Perception and Detail, KADK

2004 – 2014, Assoc. Professor, KADK

**Other research qualifications**

2004 – 2010, member of FKK (The Danish Council for Research, Humanities and Communication)

2000-2007 Chairperson of the editorial board, Arkitekten & Arkitektur

### **Academic awards and honours (selection of most recent)**

The Danish National Bank / Jubilee Foundation

Danish Arts Foundation (work grant + The Three Year Grant + a project grant for developing Danish harbours)

Høyen Medal (for critical writing)

### **Scientific focus areas**

Perception of Space – particularly the perceptions of citizens engaging with architecture and urban spaces

The Spaces of Psychiatry

Architectural History

### **International relations (selection of most recent)**

Keynote speech at EAAE 2016 (Delft)

2016 – , member of International Network Programme in the Danish Agency for Science, Technology and Innovation