

Call for Contribution

WALKING – Thinking in Motion

Symposium and Walkshops

ZURICH June 5-7, 2026
BASEL September 11-13, 2026

WALKING continues in 2026. Following the successful first edition in 2025, two further editions will take place, each consisting of a symposium and walkshops. Each edition has its own distinct program and setting. They can be attended independently of one another. Drawing on Annemarie and Lucius Burckhardt's concept of promenadology, the science of walking, we invite artists, researchers, and walkers to explore walking as a critical, spatial, and artistic practice. > [Full concept](#)

Themes and Formats

The two editions offer an opportunity to experience, shape, and discuss WALKING from artistic, academic, design, or activist perspectives together with others. We welcome a range of formats that expand the classic lecture setting: talks and theoretical reflections, walkshops, lecture performances, audio pieces, project presentations, and experimental formats are all possible.

Thematic Areas (see detailed descriptions on p. 2)

- Walking as an artistic, research-based, and narrative practice
- Walking as an ecological practice and encounter with landscape
- Walking, memory, and spaces of history
- Walking as a political, caring, and resistant practice
- Perception, space, and power. Feminist, decolonial, and inclusive perspectives
- Digital mobility and the future of walking
- Promenadology today. Learning to perceive anew

Conditions

Honoraria: short presentation (30 min): CHF 250 / walkshop (60-90 min): CHF 400 / project presentation (20 min): CHF 200 / keynote (45 min): by arrangement
plus coverage of meals and travel expenses, preferably low-carbon, and one overnight stay if needed.

Organizational Information

Organization: ILEA Institute for Land and Environmental Art

Curated by: Violeta Burckhardt and Johannes M. Hedinger

Support: Lucius and Annemarie Burckhardt Foundation, among others

A selection of contributions from all three editions will be included in the publication *WALKING*, which will appear in the ILEA Books series in early 2027 with ILEA Press at Vexer Verlag.

Submission

Please send your proposal, max. 300 words, together with the form on p. 3 and a short CV by **April 30, 2026** to info@ilea.art.

We look forward to contributions that open up new perspectives on a world in motion, with and through walking.

Thematic Areas. Short Descriptions

1. Walking as an artistic, research-based, and social practice

Walking as an artistic, epistemic, and participatory method: walks as performances, lecture walks, workshops, storytelling, reading traces, writing while walking, and walking as social choreography. Walking becomes a creative and community-building practice that generates new forms of knowledge and experience.

2. Walking as an ecological practice and encounter with landscape

How does walking change our relationship to the environment? Walking is understood here as a mode of ecological perception, an encounter with landscape, and a sustainable form of mobility. This includes tracking, encounters with other-than-human actors, animals, rivers, territories, and walking as a climate and environmental practice.

3. Walking, memory, and spaces of history

Walks as forms of active remembrance, historical experience, and trace-seeking. Walking is understood as a method of memory culture, biographical and collective narration, and engagement with local and global spaces of history.

4. Walking as a political, caring, and resistant practice

Walking as a form of protest, a care practice, and an everyday act of resistance. This area focuses on questions of flight and displacement, the right to movement, the crossing of boundaries, geographic, political, and social, and walking as a solidaristic and politically motivated act.

5. Perception, space, and power. Feminist, decolonial, and inclusive perspectives

Who gets to walk, when, where, and how? Walking is never neutral. This area explores power relations in space, feminist, queer, and decolonial perspectives, and questions of accessibility, embodiment, health, and inclusion. It addresses walking rights, visibility, and barriers in public space.

6. Digital mobility and the future of walking

How do digital technologies shape the way we walk? This area addresses walking in the data-driven city, smart walking, gamification, for example geocaching and walking games, tracking, digital navigation, and surveillance. Walking is examined as a hybrid phenomenon between physical movement and digital control.

7. Promenadology today. Learning to perceive anew

Lucius Burckhardt's science of walking as a contemporary and future-oriented school of perception: how can promenadology be rethought and applied in times of smart cities, the climate crisis, and AI? This area invites critical extensions, practical experiments, and theoretical rereadings of the science of walking.

Submission Form. Call for Contributions

Personal Information

First Name / last name:

Address:

E-Mail:

Phone:

Website:

Institution / Organization

Participation

Which edition would you like to join, in what format, and on which day would you like to present?

- in Person in Zurich Contribution Sat 6/6 Sun 6/7
- in Person in Basel Contribution Sat 9/12 Sun 9/13
- digital / hybrid 6/6 6/7 9/12 13/13

If your contribution is not selected, would you still like to attend the event?

Yes No

Title of contribution:

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Format of contribution:

(for example lecture walk, performative walk, presentation, walkshop, audio work, etc.)

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Thematic Focus:

(Please name one or more of the announced thematic areas, or suggest a new one)

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Abstract: (approx. 250–300 words; use a separate sheet if needed)

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Motivation: What motivates you to take part in the event?

(Your interest and, if applicable, your academic or artistic background. Max. 500 characters)

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Additional Information / Attachments:

- Short CV (approx. 100-150 words):
- Portfolio, optional, link or file