



例会要旨 Tokyo's Art Scene in a Global Age

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journal or publication title	Geographical space
volume	9
number	2
page range	242-242
year	2016
URL	http://hdl.handle.net/2241/00151319

Tokyo's Art Scene in a Global Age

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According to Saskia Sassen, Tokyo is considered to be one of the main global economic cities in the world. However, this research does not pay attention to role of creativity and culture and there is, to date, no research on contemporary Tokyo that looks into the conditions and structure of its urban creative scene. The aims of this presentation are two-fold: 1) to obtain an understanding how the concept of the global financial city and can applied to arts, and 2) to use the empirical data in order to develop an understanding of creative practices and urban cultures that takes the role of space and architecture, cultural consumption and cultural freedom into account. These findings will be briefly tested by the author regarding a number of other cities that have been studied, including New York City, London, Beijing, Zürich, and Paris. The main findings of this study will show that the creative milieu of Tokyo can be described as being undercover, as socially and culturally hidden and inaccessible, which constrains the cross-over of practices and spaces, a lack of shaping cultural symbols, but also promotes low tolerance, which is a partial explanation why Tokyo is unable to join the league of global cultural capitals.

Biography

Dr Morgner' research interests include social and cultural theory, global studies of communication and urban changes. His work explores questions of culture, media and globality from an interdisciplinary, sociologically informed perspective, and has taken three main directions: first, work on cultural diversity and cultural inequality in the creative industry; second, on network and homophily effects in global cultural hubs; and third, on the diffusion and localisation of mediated meaning in global events. He has previously held positions and visiting fellowships at the University of Cambridge, Yale University, Hitotsubashi University (Toyko) and the École des hautes études en sciences sociales (Paris). Currently, he works on projects about the globalisation of the arts, international communication and social media and creative industries in Japan.