

# VI INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON NIGHT STUDIES



LISBOA 9-10 OCTOBER 2025

# VI ICNS

Online-2025

The 6<sup>th</sup> International Conference on Night Studies is an international event that aims to echo frontier research, artistic works and professional practices related to the study of the urban night in multiple contexts worldwide.

This event aims to be a platform for sharing ongoing or recent research, opening a critical and interdisciplinary debate, and boost e-networking, bringing together academia and society.

ICNS.Lx\_6 will be held online from **Oct 9th to Oct 10th, 2025**.

ICNS is a collaborative effort of the International Night Studies Network (INSN) and the LXNIGHTS Research Group with the institutional support of the Centre for Research and Studies in Sociology (CIES-Iscte), the Interdisciplinary Center of Social Sciences at NOVA University Lisbon (CICS.NOVA), the Institute of Sociology – University of Porto (ISUP).

# 9 October

**All times are in Lisbon time (Portuguese Continental Time).**

**9:30 Welcome message**

**9:45 Guest Speaker  
Everywhere is Over**

**Adam Eldridge**  
University of Westminster

**11:00 PANEL 1 – Sound, Memory and Institutionalisation**

*A History of DJing in Portugal*

**Luís Mandacaru.** CESEM - Centre for Music Studies

*Beyond Fado: Exploring the Musical Landscape of Alfama's Santo Estêvão Area*

**Chiara De Dominicis,** Universidade Nova FCSH , Ciências Musicais, INET-md

**Manuel Garcia-Ruiz,** Instituto Universitário de Lisboa, CIES-ISCTE

**Marco Roque Freitas,** Universidade Nova FCSH , Ciências Musicais, INET-md

*Institutionalising Club Cultures: Comparing Amsterdam and Berlin*

**Timo Koren.** University of Amsterdam, Faculty of Humanities, Amsterdam School for Cultural Analysis

**Miguel Neiva.** University of Amsterdam, Faculty of Humanities, Amsterdam School for Cultural Analysis

**Alina Tomescu.** University of Amsterdam, Faculty of Humanities, Amsterdam School for Cultural Analysis

13:00 **PANEL 2 – Tourism, Aesthetics and the Nighttime Economy**

*Tourism After Dark: Mapping the Landscape of Night and Tourism Studies (1998–2024)*

**Piotr Zmyślony.** Poznan University of Economics and Business, Institute of International Business and Economics, Department of International Economics

*From Chinese Poetic Imagery to Cultural Night Tourism*

**Runqi Zou.** The Hong Kong Polytechnic University

**Honggen Xiao.** The Hong Kong Polytechnic University

*Sky tourism: accessing unpolluted atmospheres in inland Australia*

**Holly Randell-Moon.** School of Indigenous Australian Studies, Charles Sturt University

14:00 **PANEL 3 –Night Sensing**

*Lighting the Way: Understanding Nocturnal Mobility and Community Perspectives on Sustainable Illumination*

**Elodie Bebronne.** University of Liège, HEC Liège, HEC Liège Research

**Sabine Limbourg.** University of Liège, HEC Liège, HEC Liège Research.

**Mario Cools.** University of Liège, Faculty of Applied Sciences, Urban and Environmental Engineering - LEMA

*Invisible After Dark: Gendered Dimensions of Nocturnal Agricultural Labor in Morocco*

**Lisa Bossenbroek.** Laboratoire de recherches sur les différenciations socioanthropologiques et les identités sociales

**Hind Ftouhi.** Institut National d'architecture et d'urbanisme, Ladsis

**Sana Benbelli.** Université Hassan II de Casablanca, FLSHAC, Ladsis

*Moonlit Innovations: Reimagining the Full Moon Theatre for Sustainable Performance*

**Yunni Cho.** Laboratory of Integrated Performance in Design (LIPID), School of Architecture, Civil and Environmental Engineering (ENAC), École Polytechnique Fédérale de Lausanne (EPFL)

**Francesco Anselmo.** Architectural Association School of Architecture, Environmental and Technical Studies.

15:30 **PANEL 4 – Night and Lived Experience**

*Exploring nightwalking through videography: Accra and Helsinki*

**Taru Niskanen.** Aalto University, Faculty of ARTS, Department of Architecture

**Christine Mady.** Aalto University, Faculty of ARTS, Department of Architecture

*Reading Night: Mobilizing nightwalking literature as a design resource*

**Claire Downey.** University of Limerick

*Developing Critical Phenomenology of the Night: Analysing lived experiences during precarious times*

**Rupal Bansal.** Nottingham Trent University

16:30 **PANEL 5 – Symbolic and Ritual Nightscapes**

*Night as a space for ritual practice in ancient Greece*

**Ginevra Miglierina.** University of Michigan

*The Opium Nightscape: Cross-Cultural Temporalities and the Sino-British Encounter*

**Yihong Zhu.** King's College London

*The Geopolitics of Light: In Search of Darkness at the Border Islands*

**Ling-I Chu.** National Changhua University of Education

# 10 October

**All times are in Lisbon time (Portuguese Continental Time).**

**09:00 PANEL 6 – Resistance, Festival Politics and Nightlife Economies**

*The World as a dancefloor: Introductory reflections on geopolitics, neocolonialism, and EDM*

**José Angulo.** Universidad de Lleida

**María Giaever.** Independent researcher

*Back to basics? The techno party in a micro-festival context: France and Germany*

**Laura Lasserre.** École Normale Supérieure de Lyon

**Guillaume Robin.** Université Paris Cité

*Troubling the Spectacle: Co-operating Alongside Nocturnal Nonhumans*

**Julie Vulcan.** Western Sydney University

**10:00 PANEL 7 – Rethinking the Night from Southern Europe: Epistemologies, Inequalities, and Urban Futures**

Convenor:

**Begoña Aramayona**

Night Working Group leader – International Night Studies Network (INSN)  
Spanish Open University – UNED; Department of Social and Cultural  
Anthropology & Centre of Gender Studies (CEG)

*Speakers*

**Enrico Petrilli.** University of Turin

**Giacomo Tomasella.** University of Padova

**María Giaever.** Independent researcher

**Emanuele Giordano.** Université de Toulon

11:30 **PANEL 8 – Nocturnal Narratives: Building Worlds of Experience and Encounter**

Convenors:

**Nick Dunn.** Lancaster University

**Claire Downey.** University of Limerick

*Speakers*

**Nick Dunn.** Lancaster University

**Marion Roberts.** University of Westminster

**Sophia Abidi.** Université Sorbonne-Nouvelle

14:00 **PANEL 9– Urban Nightlife, Inequality and Gentrification**

*Who has a right to the city at night? An exploration of ordinary versus spectacular nightlife*

**Cara Chellew.** McGill University, School of Urban Planning

*Chueca by night: when the lights go out*

**Gonzalo de Blas.** UAM

*Sexual Geographies and the Gentrified City: An exploration of the regeneration of historical red-light districts in London's Kings Cross*

**Katelyn Owens.** University of Kent

*Transnational dialogues for night governance in contemporary Italy*

**Eleonora Diamanti.** John Cabot University, in Rome

15:30 **PANEL 10 – Queer Night Spaces and Counter-Cultures**

*Are you Being Served? Exploring Alcohol-Free Nightlife Spaces for LGBTQIA+ Communities*

**Beth Meadows.** Glasgow Caledonian University

*Queer Tejana Nightlife in the U.S. Southwest*

**Rosanne Sia.** University of British Columbia

*Writing (in) the dark: opacity, autoethnography and the limits of academic knowledge at the queer rave*

**sér vales.** Universidade Nova de Lisboa, Faculdade de Ciências Sociais e Humanas, Instituto de Etnomusicologia – Centro de Estudos em Música e Dança

## *Special session: Night Working Group (INSN)*

### **Rethinking the Night from Southern Europe: Epistemologies, Inequalities, and Urban Futures**

Convenor:

**Begoña Aramayona**

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**Enrico Petrilli.** University of Turin

**Giuseppe Tomasella.** University of Padova

**María Giaever.** Independent researcher

**Emanuele Giordano.** Université de Toulon

As part of the activities developed under the Night Working Group (INSN), this special session explores the night in Southern Europe as a critical lens through which to examine informal economies, urban conflict, governance, sociabilities and shifting forms of labour. While nightlife studies have gained academic traction, they have predominantly developed from perspectives outside Southern Europe, often overlooking the region's distinct sociopolitical dynamics shaped by histories of dictatorship, fragile welfare states, structural dependence on tourism, and Mediterranean rhythms of sociability. These dynamics often manifest in the night, not only through leisure and social life, but also through various forms of nocturnal work and informal practices conducted during dark hours.

This session brings together seasoned researchers working on the night across Spain, Portugal and Italy to reflect on shared epistemological and methodological approaches, as well as on the opportunities to broaden and diversify the global field of night studies through Southern European perspectives. Rather than focusing solely on limitations, the roundtable emphasizes the value of grounding analysis in the region's distinctive sociopolitical dynamics. The session also invites dialogue on how the region's unique configurations of inequality, informality, and resistance shape nocturnal life and urban governance, and explores how these situated knowledges can contribute to more plural and context-sensitive understandings of the night.

Organized around four axes—epistemologies, inequality, governance, and future perspectives—the session aims to generate critical conversations and foster potential collaborations. It asks: What does studying the night from Southern Europe reveal about broader urban and social processes? How can Southern European perspectives deepen our understanding of the night within global night studies?

## ***Special session: Architecture & Urbanism Working Group (INSN)***

### **Nocturnal Narratives: Building Worlds of Experience and Encounter**

Convenors:

**Nick Dunn.** Lancaster University

**Claire Downey.** University of Limerick

*Speakers*

**Nick Dunn.** Lancaster University

**Marion Roberts.** University of Westminster

**Sophia Abidi.** Université Sorbonne-Nouvelle

Cities are multivalent and this seems even more evident at night when identities and boundaries become blurred. Darkness, meanwhile, is situated, plural, and partial. Its presence in urban environments varies enormously depending on a context influenced by the associations, meanings, and values ascribed to it. Thus, different urban nights are shaped by the nocturnal narratives that are constructed with and through them. This is a reciprocal relationship whereby such narratives are, in turn, shaped by the urban nights that provide the conditions for their voices and expression. In this session, we reflect on the ways different stories concerning urban nights are framed by experiences and encounters across the nocturnal city. By doing so, we aim to examine how these narratives shape places after dark and signal new pathways for designing urban nights and rethinking the relationship between architecture and darkness. Therefore, the session will consider work that articulates creative expressions of being in the nighttime city, opening the dialogue to various design approaches and speculative modes of inquiry. Overall, our panel continues the ongoing investigations of the Architecture and Urbanism Working Group of the International Night Studies Network towards convivial, equitable and sustainable nights.