LESSON TRANSCRIPT
Complex intrications of decision making in public spaces

Public spaces mobilise a large number of stakeholders in a wide variety of roles. How do all these stakeholders work together, or even know each other? How does it all fit together?
Sometimes, people are in some way assigned the place and role that they can hold. In a social support project, the cultural stakeholder can be reduced to an occupational artistic activity. Similarly, in the case of a cultural project, the social stakeholder is often reduced to the role of audience provider.

Cultural rights really put the finger on these forms of assignment, of reducing the potential and capacity of each individual to act in their place.
And it's really a question of governance, since it's how do we enter into a relationship. How do we organise ourselves so that each stakeholder can express the place and role they want to play in a joint project?
Through this expression, and here we're really talking about the right to cooperation, it's a question of how we can find forms of synergy in what each person can contribute, rather than always being in competition with each other.

We rarely have the space to formulate our own issues, to share them with others, to find the connections between these issues, to state our interests in being involved in cooperation. We don't all participate with a single goal in mind.
Sometimes, one person's project will invite others to contribute, and this contribution will become part of another project. How do you let go of a form of ownership of your project? These connections can be a real opportunity for more projects.

Sometimes we even talk about the positive externalities of projects. How does our project become other people's project? How does a part of our project become the basis for building a project that gets away from us?

And how can we perhaps let go of the governance of the projects we've initiated?
In a cooperative project, there is often a tacit hierarchy, whether we like it or not. A small association may be up against a large institution. Of course, there's a hierarchy.
Being aware of this and expressing it allows us to put it at the centre of the table and look for our synergies.
Every stakeholder has weaknesses, flaws and strengths. Sharing them allows us to find synergies and strengthen our ability to act.

Everyone is expected to bring the same thing to the table, to ensure a certain degree of fairness. But everyone has different skills, different jobs, and different strengths and weaknesses.
The little guy can be more agile because there's no elaborate decision-making process to get approved. The big guy generally has more financial resources, but sometimes also greater legitimacy in the eyes of different stakeholders.
There's a whole myriad of synergies that need to be harnessed.And we don't want to copy and paste the models of one stakeholder on the action models of another.