COOP DESIGN RESEARCH

M SC. PROGRAM

## PERSPECTIVES OF WALKING IN URBAN ART

WALKING AS A TOOL FOR CO-CREATION IN PARTICIPATORY URBAN ART

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## **ABSTRACT**

This thesis has been developed with the main purpose of seeking a method that facilitates collaboration between the artist and the community within the creative process in Urban Art. Further, it has been considered essential, on the one hand, to defend the importance of observing and understanding the urban context in which the artistic work will be developed. On the other hand, it is also encouraged to provide people with a tool for gaining an awareness and appreciation for the aesthetic atmospheres that surrounds them, while they participate in the artistic process itself.

To this end, a theoretical investigation has been carried out on the act of walking - a method studied over centuries as a technique of contemplation and meditation- as well as its role in contemporary art. Different artistic proposals in which walking has been performed in groups have also been studied. The research has so far been concluded with the analysis of a previous personal experience and with the realization of a co-creative walking project based on the studied concepts and referents. This involved various group experiments which were conducted inviting some inhabitants of the city of Dessau, Germany to take part. These experiences were accompanied by their respective interviews by the means of personal insights to be gathered.