

Lydia Matthews is Professor Emerita of Visual Culture in Parsons Fine Arts program and founding Director of the Curatorial Design Research Lab at The New School. Her work, which often involves participatory walks and socially-engaged projects, explores how contemporary artists, artisans and designers foster critical democratic debates and intimate community interactions in the public sphere, often in response to a variety of urgent global and local conditions in their daily lives. She has lectured and curated numerous exhibitions, community-based urban festivals, and multidisciplinary pedagogical exchanges in Post-Communist countries (Georgia, Kazakhstan, Czech Republic, Kyrgyzstan), Turkey, Greece and New York.

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