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Press Kit  
Berlin, 14.2.23



Kotti-Shop, Konzeptskizze: Kotti L'Amour, © Kotti-Shop

# Kotti-Shop/ SuperFuture

Forms of Negotiation

16.2. – 13.5.24

BERLINISCHE  
GALERIE  
MUSEUM OF  
MODERN ART



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Kotti-Shop, Konzeptskizze: Kotti L'Amour. © Kotti-Shop

## **Kotti-Shop/ SuperFuture** **Forms of Negotiation**

**16.2. – 13.5.24**

“Kotti-Shop” is an art and project space which has been based since 2008 on the ground floor of the Neues Kreuzberger Zentrum at Kottbusser Tor. Here in the middle of Berlin, Julia Brunner and Stefan Endewardt alias Kotti-Shop/SuperFuture have welcomed in their neighbours to establish a shared artistic practice. Apart from passing time together, this includes such things as big outdoor installations, joint playground design and the weekly format “collage-based coffee time”. The art is process-driven, closely rooted within the urban setting and emancipatory in purpose. It values the neighbourhood’s multiple voices, understands public space as a common asset worth protecting and promotes shared processes of creativity and negotiation.

At the Berlinische Galerie, Kotti-Shop/SuperFuture will use audio-visual montage to showcase their methods and the conditions in which they work. Enlarged drawings of the area around Kottbusser Tor station are displayed on sails of cloth. The space is structured by a black grid that also serves as a display. Arranged in three chapters, neighbourhood issues are addressed in audio tracks, drawings, collages of urban space, photographs and texts from the Kotti-Shop/SuperFuture collection. These reflect the changes taking place in the urban environment, flagging up both the conflicts and the potential. The installation also offers space for workshops and events. Visitors are invited, through a variety of formats, to pass time here and to contribute their own drawings to the “endless city”, an open exhibit. The museum has gradually been expanding its education and outreach work over the last ten years, forging its own networks in the vicinity. The project by Kotti-Shop/SuperFuture builds on this commitment here in the exhibition rooms.

### **Kottbusser Tor as a point of spatial reference**

Urban space is both the reason and the theme for the art created by Kotti-Shop/SuperFuture. The Neues Kreuzberger Zentrum (NKZ), where the project space is housed, was completed in 1974 and provides homes for more than 1,000 people. It is located on the north side of Kottbusser Tor, a piazza where several trams and metro rail lines cross. This is a relatively small space for a transport node, a residential area and a habitat to coalesce. The place bears the marks of different urban planning strategies from different eras: some social housing dates from the 1960s and there were once proposals to route an urban motorway through here. In the 1980s, the spatial fabric was much influenced by an approach known as “soft renewal”. Gentrification has begun making itself felt

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in recent years. Rents in the adjoining streets have risen, and as new industries move in they are forcing out structures that had evolved over time. This is not a homogeneous neighbourhood. Quite the reverse: numerous microcosms exist here side by side. Artistic work by Kotti-Shop/SuperFuture takes its cue from the neighbours of the building that houses the art and project space, but it also addresses developments in the broader urban environment.

## Social fabric

Outside Kotti-Shop, set slightly back from the street, there is an important spot for local residents. The buildings frame a courtyard with space to play, meet and pass the time – an “urban living-room”. It offers an opportunity to step out of solitude and come together, and in this way it promotes mutual care and support. Neighbourhoods are random clusters of different individuals. They constitute a socio-spatial fabric, and it is not unusual for different lifestyles and opinions to rub shoulders. One essential aspect of the artistic work at Kotti-Shop/SuperFuture is the time spent together, when relationships develop and ideas take shape. Art production becomes a way to build community. It forges a basis for the neighbourhood to organise and to defend its own interests – such as by planning and designing the playground in the courtyard. The plurality of attitudes and concerns are taken into account. This is about valuing the multiplicity of voices and negotiating the way forward. Julia Brunner and Stefan Endewardt as Kotti-Shop/SuperFuture create a framework for this to happen and function as mediators.

## Artistic practice

Over the years, Kotti-Shop/SuperFuture have become an integral part of this neighbourhood fabric. Through their artistic work they hope to give something back to people in the area and build resilience. The art projects have collective authorship – they are joint works. The installation at the Berlinische Galerie features art produced by individuals from the neighbourhood over the last 15 years. Their theme is the shared urban space. The decision to work only in black-and-white and without colour establishes a clear formal framework. It makes it easier for many to take part, no matter what their skills or previous knowledge of art may be. Drawings and photographic elements can be combined simply, while production is fast and inexpensive and can be carried out anywhere. A variety of methods and techniques have evolved over time, including tracing urban views on a light table,

compiling collage from photos, drawings and text, and recording audio tracks. In these ways, participants can express their thoughts and hopes about community living and the city.

## Accompanying events and outreach in English

Guided tours in English take place every Saturday at 4:15 pm. No extra charge to ticket-holders. No advance booking required.

[berlinischegalerie.de/en/programme/calendar](http://berlinischegalerie.de/en/programme/calendar)

## Press images

[berlinischegalerie.de/en/press-release/kotti-shop-superfuture](http://berlinischegalerie.de/en/press-release/kotti-shop-superfuture)

## Online tickets

[bg.berlin/en/tickets](http://bg.berlin/en/tickets)

## Social Media

#berlinischegalerie  
#kottishopsuperfutureBG

## Contact Press

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Admission 10€, concessions 6€  
Wed – Mon 10 am – 6 pm  
Tue closed

## Biogra- phies

### **Kotti-Shop**

The art and project space Kotti-Shop was founded in 2008. It is located on the ground floor of the Neues Kreuzberger Zentrum. Exhibitions, performances, film screenings and concerts take place here regularly. What makes Kotti-Shop so special, apart from its wide-ranging programme, is the role it plays locally and its strong links with the neighbourhood. It is a reference point and an activity hub, especially for children living in the Neues Kreuzberger Zentrum. The events, projects and workshops create a framework for the arts community and residents to meet. Themes on and around the “Kotti”, as well as other topics, are addressed in writing, drawing and collage workshops. Kotti-Shop is not just a project space within a fixed architecture, but a springboard for bigger collaborative art projects at home and abroad.

### **SuperFuture**

SuperFuture is a Berlin-based art laboratory which explores the fascinating links between place, society and psychology experimentally by artistic means. Projects often adopt a participatory approach. They engage in an audacious attempt to translate scientific ideas into artistic formats that make them more accessible. The aim is to set up an exchange between theory and practice. The toolkit designed to do this was inspired by theories about place and society.

### **Exhibitions and projects (selected)**

- SpaceLab\_unfolding structures, collective 3-D drawing project, Kotti-Shop (2022/23)
- Kotti L'Amour\_The Circle, participatory artistic collage project and poster exhibition with interventions in the U1 station at Kottbusser Tor (2022)
- StadtTräume, workshop series, Berlinische Galerie (2021)
- Spiel- und Begegnungsraum NKZ, a participatory artistic approach to defining hopes and fundamentals for a place to play and meet, Neues Kreuzberger Zentrum (2019–2020)
- Der Kotti ist kein Ponyhof, a wallpaper installation, Berlin bleibt!, Hebbel-am-Ufer (HAU), former post office (2019)
- Denkbilder der Nachbarschaft, participatory artistic AR exhibition, Namik Kemal Library (2019)
- Mapping the Common Ground, artistic research project and interventions in the urban space, Kottbusser Tor (2018)
- Detroit – Berlin: One Circle, a transphere and hanging-out installation, outdoors, Hebbel-am-Ufer (HAU) (2018)
- Living Archive\_The Choir, “School of Tomorrow”, Haus der Kulturen der Welt (HKW) (2017)
- We decide how we reside 2.0, urban wallpaper, Festival [Trafik\*], Bergerac, France (2017)
- A-P-A\_Kartographien des Zwischenraums, participatory installation for the Kulturagenten-Programm, Berlin, (2017)
- Kotti.FM, radio festival in cooperation with reboot.FM, Wassertormedien, Wearebornfree, West Germany, Berlin (2016)
- BerBer-Shop, multi-media façade installation, Festival [Trafik\*], Alimentation Generale, Bergerac, France (2016),
- Kotti 24/7, mapping on film, 6-channel film installation, Kotti-Shop / Namik Kemal Library (2015),
- Wir wohnen, wie wir wollen, participatory artistic project and collage installation, Wohnungsfrage, Haus der Kulturen der Welt (HKW), Kotti-Shop (2015),
- Spurensuche am Kotti, participatory artistic animation/sound installation, Kotti-Shop (2014),
- Kotti L'Amour, installation at Domestic Utopia, nGbK, Berlin (2013),
- Nail the Colours to the Mast, Berlin (2012),
- a-maze-ing\_ein räumliches Wiki, participatory urban installation, in collaboration with Anne Kohl for the “Promised City” project THE KNOT. Berlin, Warsaw, Bucharest (2010)



## **Julia Brunner**

Julia Brunner (\* 1983) lives in Berlin and tells stories in images and sounds, often together with other people. Her thematic references are urban space, mental space and the ways in which they interweave. One of the questions that she traces in her work concerns shared opportunities for negotiation and creativity. She is centred at Kottbusser Tor, in the art and project space Kotti-Shop and in the neighbourhood around the Neues Kreuzberger Zentrum. She co-founded the Berlin art laboratory SuperFuture.

## **Stefan Endewardt**

Stefan Endewardt (\* 1976), graduated in architecture at TU Berlin, lives and works in Berlin. His works lend material expression to ideas and studies around the complexity of urban spaces and social fabrics as well as the crossover between structure and action. Endewardt's practice includes collaborative projects and participatory strategies. He is part of the art laboratory SuperFuture. Since 2008 he has led the art and project space Kotti-Shop.

## **Exhibition**

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## **texts**

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Since 2008 the Kotti-Shop/SuperFuture collective have been running an art and project space on the ground floor of the Neues Kreuzberger Zentrum at Kottbusser Tor. Here in the middle of Berlin it has become a meeting-point for local residents where they produce art together. Activities include collage-based coffee drinking, designing a playground, creating big outdoor installations and simply passing time together. The art is process-driven and embedded within the urban setting. It values the neighbourhood's multiple voices, understands public space as a common asset worth protecting and promotes the shared creativity of the community.

Julia Brunner and Stefan Endewardt from Kotti-Shop/SuperFuture have made an installation for the project at the Berlinische Galerie. Enlarged drawings of the area around the public transport node at Kottbusser Tor are displayed on sails of cloth. The space has been structured by a black grid that also carries an audio-visual narrative. Audio clips, drawings, urban collages, photographs and texts from the Kotti-Shop/ SuperFuture collection reflect neighbourhood themes.

This space welcomes workshops and programmes. Visitors are warmly invited to enjoy various formats for passing their time here and adding their own drawings to the endless city.

### **Kottbusser Tor**

Urban space is both the reason and the theme for the art created by Kotti-Shop/SuperFuture. The building where Kotti-Shop is based was built in the early 1970s. It provides housing for more than 1,000 people. One important place for the residents is the courtyard outside the project space. It is set back slightly from the street and offers space to play, to meet and to pass time – an “urban living room”. It enables people to come together, encouraging mutual care and support. Projects at Kotti-Shop/SuperFuture address changes in the urban environment by artistic means. They flag up both conflict and potential.

### **Neighbourhood**

Neighbourhoods are random clusters of different people. They form a social fabric where it is not unusual for different lifestyles and opinions to rub shoulders. One important aspect of the artistic work at Kotti-Shop/ SuperFuture is spending time together. This way relationships develop and ideas take shape. Art production becomes a way to build community. It forges a basis for the neighbourhood to organise and to defend its own interests – such as by designing the playground in the courtyard that is framed by the buildings. This does not rule out taking account of different views and concerns. Quite the reverse: it is all about appreciating the multiplicity of voices.

### **Urban dreams**

Kotti-Shop/SuperFuture projects have collective authorship – they are joint works. The installation at the Berlinische Galerie features art produced by individuals from the neighbourhood over the last 15 years. The theme is shared urban space. The decision to work only in black-and-white and without colour establishes a clear formal framework. It makes it easier for many to take part, no matter what their skills or previous knowledge of art may be. Drawings and photographic elements can be combined simply, while production is fast and inexpensive and can be carried out anywhere. A variety of methods and techniques have evolved over time, including tracing urban views on a light table, compiling collage from photos, drawings and text, and recording audio tracks. In these ways, participants can express their thoughts and hopes about community living and the city.

We invite you to join in. All our visitors are welcome to contribute their own drawings to this endless city. There are a few rules to note – and then you can get started.

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## Press images



Kotti-Shop/SuperFuture, Collage  
© Stefan Endewardt



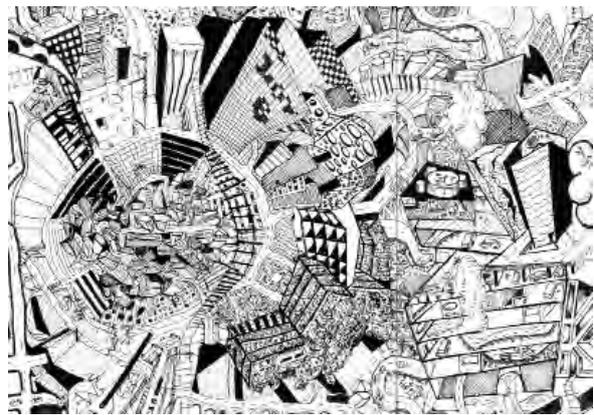
Kotti-Shop, Konzeptskizze: Kotti L'Amour  
© Kotti-Shop



Stefan Endewardt, Nail the Colors to the Mast, 2011  
© Stefan Endewardt



Kotti-Shop, Denkbilder der Nachbarschaft, 2019  
© Kotti-Shop



SuperFuture, Unendliche Stadt, 2010  
© Kotti-Shop

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Kotti-Shop, Konzeptskizze: Collagebasiertes Kaffeetrinken  
© Kotti-Shop



Kotti-Shop, Konzeptskizze: Urbanes Wohnzimmer  
© Kotti-Shop



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Tue closed

## **Contact** **Guided tours**

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