

# DR. LOUIS VOLONT

## CURRICULUM VITAE

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### Current Activity

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since 08/2022

Postdoctoral Researcher, History and Theory of the City Chair, DFG Research Training Group "Urban future-making", HafenCity University Hamburg

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### Previous Activities

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09/2023 - 12/2023

Postdoctoral Visiting Fellow, Department of Sociology, Uppsala University

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09/2021 - 07/2022

Fulbright Postdoctoral Fellow, Program in Art, Culture, and Technology (postdoctoral research project 'Choreographing the City', coordinated by Prof. Dr. Richard Sennett), MIT

01/2023 - 09/2021

Teaching assistant, Faculty of Arts, University of Groningen  
Role: Assistance in developing the Arts, Culture, and Media program; Teaching assistant for the courses 'Thinking About Art' (BA) and 'Arts and the Public Sphere' (MA)

10/2016 - 01/2021

Doctoral Researcher, Antwerp Research Institute for the Arts (interdisciplinary research project 'Sustainable creativity in the post-Fordist city'), Antwerp University

2011 - 2012

Student assistant at the Centre for Sociological Research

## Academic education

2011 - 2012

Master of Science in Sociology, Faculty of Social Sciences, KU Leuven

2007 - 2011

Bachelor of Political and Social Sciences, Faculty of Social Sciences, KU Leuven

## Memberships

Fulbright Association Belgium-Luxembourg  
Member

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Belgian-American Educational Foundation  
Honorary member

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European Sociological Association (RN37 on cultural sociology)  
Member

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International Sociological Association (RC21 on urban and regional sociology)  
Member

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## Grants

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March 2021                      Support Young Researchers Grant / EUR 1.250  
Entitled 'Developing skills for cultural community research: Theory & practice'. Awarded  
by the Antwerp Doctoral School.

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September 2021 -              Fulbright Postdoctoral Grant / USD 27.000  
June 2022                      Entitled 'Choreographing the city'. Awarded by Fulbright Association Belgium-Luxemburg.

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June 2014 -                      KIEM-Creative Industries Grant / EUR 5.000  
June 2015                      Entitled 'Sustainable creativity in the post-Fordist condition'. Awarded by the Dutch  
Research Council.

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## Professional development

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"Using & teaching social theory"  
Uppsala University, november 2023

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“Speed-reading”  
Antwerp Doctoral School, march 2018

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“Writing academic English”  
Antwerp Doctoral School, november 2017

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“Time management”  
Antwerp Doctoral School, october 2017

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“From research theme to research design”  
Antwerp Doctoral School, september 2017

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## Teaching

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current Department of Sociology, University of Hamburg  
(‘Sociological Theories of Time’, BA; ‘The cultural Sociology of Commoning’, MA)

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past Urban Design Department, HafenCity University Hamburg  
(‘Territories I’, BA; ‘Territories II’, BA)

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Faculty of Arts, University of Groningen  
(‘Arts Sociology’, MA)

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Program in Art, Culture, and Technology, MIT  
(‘Choreographing the City’, graduate level)

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Faculty of Arts, University of Groningen  
(‘Art and the Public Sphere’, BA; ‘Thinking About Art’, BA)

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## References

Prof. Dr. Pascal Gielen, supervisor PhD, Antwerp University  
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Prof. Dr. Monika Grubbauer, supervisor postdoc project, HafenCity University Hamburg  
monika.grubbauer@hcu-hamburg.de  
+40 42817 5246

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Prof. Dr. Gediminas Urbonas, supervisor Fulbright project, MIT  
urbonas@mit.edu  
+1 617 324 6471

# PUBLICATIONS

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Peer-reviewed articles

Volont, L. (2024) (Forthcoming & accepted). Theorizing eco-futures as a cultural fact. *Social Inclusion* 12.

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Otte, H. & Volont, L. (2023). Force fields of Montaña Verde: Spatializing the commons in the city-as-oeuvre. *Space & Culture* 26(4), 543-559.

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Smets, P. & Volont, L. (2022). The politics and aesthetics of the urban commons: Navigating the gaze of the city, the state, the market. *Social Inclusion* 10(1), 84-90.

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Smets, P. & Volont, L. (2022). Institutionalizing non-institutionalization: Towards sustainable commoning. *Frontiers in Sustainable Cities* 4, 1-10.

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Volont, L. & Dobson, T. (2021). The political intricacies of common space: A Rancièrian approach to the Public Land Grab. *Antipode* 53(6), 1853-1872.

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Volont, L. (2021). Urban commoning: Assessment of its aesthetic dimension. *Social Inclusion* 10(1), 141-151.

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Volont, L. (2020). Is common space politically potent? A reflection on Raumlabor's aesthetic gesture. *Forum+ for Art & Research* 28(1), 12-19.

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Volont, L. (2019). DIY urbanism and the lens of the commons: Observations from Spain. *City & Community* 18(1), 257-279.

Gielen, P., Volont, L. & van Andel, W. (2018). Creativity under pressure. *Art & Identity Politics* 19(2), 15-43.

Volont, L. (2012). An uncommon sociology of the commonplace: Elucidation, review and agenda for research. *Secessio* 25(3), 33-45.

## Monographies

Volont, L. (2021) (Doctoral dissertation). *Shapeshifting: The Cultural Production of Common Space*. Antwerp University Press.

## Book chapters

Volont, L., Manganelli, A. & Grubbauer, M. (2024) (Forthcoming). Theorizing conflicts in urban future-making. In M. Grubbauer, A. Manganelli & L. Volont (Eds.), *Conflicts in urban future-making*. Transcript.

Lijster, T., Volont, L. & Gielen, P. (2022). Cultural commoning in the city. In Volont, L., Lijster, T. & Gielen, P. (Eds.), *The rise of the common city: On the culture of commoning* (15-32). ASP Editions.

Volont, L. (2018). Who steals the goose from off the common? In P. Gielen & N. Dockx (Eds.), *Commonism: A new aesthetics of the Real*. Valiz.

Volont, L. & Dujardin, A. (2014). De start van een loopbaan als kunstenaar/creatieve professional: Een sinecure? Definitie, determinanten, motieven. In A. De Brabandere & J. De Boe (Eds.), *Starten in een creatieve loopbaan*. Lannoo.

## Edited volumes

Grubbauer, M., Manganelli, A. & Volont, L. (2024) (Eds.) (Forthcoming). *Conflicts in urban future-making*. Transcript.

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Volont, L., Lijster, T. & Gielen, P. (2022) (Eds.). *The rise of the common city: On the culture of commoning*. ASP Editions.

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Dujardin, A., Rajabaly, H., Volont, L., De Brabandere, A., De Boe, J. & De Ghellink, Q. (2014). *Starten in een creatieve loopbaan*. Lannoo.

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## Policy reports

Volont, L. (2015). Creativity, labor and remuneration in the European creative industries? *Arts in Society Research Centre & Société Mutuelle des Artistes*.

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Volont, L., Dujardin, A. & Rajabaly, H. (2013). Socio-economische kenmerken van veelverdienende kunstenaars. *Société Mutuelle des Artistes*.

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## Societal science communication

Volont, L. (2020). The commons as alternative? <https://www.kunsten.be/nu-in-de-kunsten/louis-volont-over-ruimte-en-commons/>.

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Volont, L. (2020). Commoning club culture. <https://en.lintfabriek.com/>.

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# WORKSHOPS AND PANELS

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Presentations at academic symposia and conferences

July 2023: 'Maker of space, master of time: A tempology of the future-maker'. Keynote lecture at the symposium 'Topologies of agency'. Lauenburg, Germany

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December 2023: 'Future-making: A Hamburgian tale of time and performance'. Keynote lecture at the 'Sociology higher seminar'. Uppsala University, Department of Sociology

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April 2022: 'The notion of community in activist urban praxis: A theory'. Keynote lecture within the lecture series 'Artistic research conversations'. MIT, Program in Art, Culture & Technology

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March 2022: 'Space for art in Flanders and Brussels'. Keynote lecture at the research day 'Space for arts and culture'. Antwerp Research Institute for the Arts

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September 2019: 'Spatializing the commons in the city-as-oeuvre'. Conference presentation at the RC21 urban sociology conference. India Centre, New Delhi

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September 2017: 'DIY urbanism and the lens of the commons'. Conference presentation at the RC21 urban sociology conference. University of Leeds

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March 2017: 'Commoning culture in design and architecture'. Keynote lecture at the symposium 'Public participation in art & design'. Hasselt University

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November 2016: 'Iconoclasm in Antwerp and Berlin'. Conference presentation at the conference 'Framing street art'. Université Nice Sophia Antipolis

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Participation in public  
debate

April 2022: 'The notion of community and its discontents'. Interview at the 'Urban political podcast'. Spotify

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September 2018: 'Commons, culture and art in the public sphere'. Participant in the public panel 'The city as a laboratory for creativity'. Library of Berchem, Antwerp

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September 2018: 'Sustainable creativity'. Participant in the public panel 'Fair arts & cultural policy'. Arts Centre Canal, Brussels

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June 2018: 'Creativity as a value'. Keynote at 'Utrecht summer school on crossovers between art and culture'. University of Utrecht

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March 2017: 'How free is the artist?'. Keynote at debate evening 'Sustainable creativity in Belgium and the Netherlands'. Arts centre De Balie, Amsterdam

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March 2015: 'Precarity and creative labor'. Participant in the public panel 'Cultural policy in Flanders and Brussels'. Community centre DeBuren, Brussels

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Organised symposia

February 2023: 'What is the urban? What is interdisciplinarity?'. A two-day seminar on urban ontology and interdisciplinarity in urban research; main organizer. HafenCity University Hamburg

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June 2021: 'Urban design and city politics'. Plenary session at RC21 urban sociology conference, on artistic agonism; co-organizer. Antwerp University

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June 2021: 'The politics and aesthetics of the urban commons'. Thematic session at RC21 urban sociology conference, on cultural commons; main organizer. Antwerp University

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March 2020: 'Space for arts and culture'. A one-day research symposium on the marketization of artistic production spaces; main organizer. Antwerp Research Institute for the Arts

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June 2018: 'City aesthetics and citizenship'. Summer school on urban representation in literature, film and visual arts; co-organizer. Antwerp University

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November 2017: 'Artistic constitutions of the common city'. A two-day symposium concerning architectural and theatrical activism; co-organizer. Antwerp University

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September 2017: 'Making public domain'. A two-day symposium concerning arts, the public sphere and agonistics; co-organizer. Arts centre Extra.City, Antwerp