

# Re-Scripting Urban Interactions Through Architecture: Correlations of Brain Function and the Built Environment

Sarah d'Auriol

## **ABSTRACT:**

This thesis applies recent research in neuroscience and behavioral studies to rethink and implement cognitive architecture within the re-design of Place des Fête, Paris—a historical city square turned post-modernist concrete jungle; housing a metro station, monstrous housing complexes, a police station, and commercial establishments—to address urban and cultural isolation to create a community base, which harbors the social interaction of diverse citizens. In order to create urban spaces, which can improve the human experience; it is critical to understand brain function. Valuing the intrinsic human need for nature and the immense influence of biophilic design on human health is a key factor of positive urban experiences. From chemical process to physical and emotional responses, the built environment causes many reactions in the body, both subconsciously and consciously. In urban environments full of negative sensory stimuli, it is important to provide positive architectural experience, which includes spaces encouraging leisure, rest, community enhancement, self-expression, respect, productivity, and growth. The urban re-design of Place des Fêtes is an intervention that maximizes human wellbeing and cross-cultural collaboration through physical experiences.

## **AUTHOR BIO:**

SARAH D'AURIOL

Savannah College of Art and Design