ComplexCity
Connecting Experiences
ComplexCity 3.0

From 11-23 February 2020, YUVA organised an annual urban festival to celebrate urban diversity.

**City Walks**
Exploring the city’s oft-overlooked areas on foot

**Living Mumbai**
A film festival with stories from the urban

**Culture Kaun**
A showcase of indigenous lives and traditions through performances

**Equipolis**
An interactive urban exhibition

**Making Mumbai**
A convention to showcase youth action across city spaces

**Bolti Bombay**
Competitions—photography, street play and debate—to promote critical thinking
13 DAYS
19 VENUES
7 PARTNERS
3000+ PARTICIPANTS
Cities & its people

Cities are a cacophony of diverse moods and emotions. From distrust, anger and frustration to hope, love, and promise, cities are the site of multiple aspirations and dreams. They are continuously being shaped, and keep acquiring and building their identities further.
A festival of expressions

ComplexCity draws on the cityscape, inviting every individual to share their experiences of the city with one another. It is a tribute to the city, an acknowledgement and appreciation of and respect for every effort towards city building, and a commitment to continue to co-create the city with one another’s support. The ComplexCity week is rife with expression!

Joy
Ownership
Pride
Sense of belonging
Understanding others
Participation
Listening and speaking
Sharing
Co-creating
Resisting
Feeling safe
Expressing
Togetherness
Boundary-less connections

ComplexCity travels across space, from bastis (informal settlements) to college classrooms, open amphitheatres to mainstream venues, bringing together people from all walks of life for open-hearted conversations and reflections, to work towards more sustainable futures.
Bringing the city together

Exhibiting everyday realities
Listening to unheard voices

Beginning conversations

Engaging freely
“We want to build an inclusive nation where everybody will be treated equally and have equal opportunities”

“My story is similar to the one shown in the film - I struggle everyday but I have not lost hope”

“The topics in the debate competition are related to the present scenarios and situation of cities in our country and hearing different opinions and ideas was very interesting and a learning experience”

“बस्तियों से आनेवाले लोगों के न होने से शहर नियमित तरीके से नहीं चल पायेगा”

“The city walk is meaningful, deeply combined with people’s struggles. It makes me realise we can come to a better collective decision making process about what kind of future we want.”

“Fishing livelihoods are important, but we need development too”

“Let us not be afraid of those who are different from us!”

“It was the first time I saw girls playing football... girls are also gradually claiming their freedom”

“अगर बस्तियों की संख्या को कम करना है तोह शहर में जुगूगांधि क्योंतैयार हो रही है उसके मूल कारण को समझ कर उसपर काम करना जरूरी है ... शहर की वशिमता को एक अलग नजरिया से देखने के लिए यह प्रदर्शन बहुत महत्वपूर्ण है”

“रोज नवी कान्थाक माणसं या शहरात्येत असतात ... तर स्वप्नरस्ता पाया असेलली सर्वसमानरी हो पाहून जा.”
Engaging Discussions

“Agency of youth and agency of women will usher in social transformation”

“ComplexCity allows people to come together, explore and experiment with thoughts and ideas which can shape society”

“I marvel at the fiery youth speeches!”

“ComplexCity is a process of perspective creation.”

“संघर्ष किसका, किसके साथ और कहां हो रहा है?”

“The joyous atmosphere made it impossible to stay uninvolved!”

“शहर आमची आहे!”
Co-creating the city

Reclaiming Spaces

Conversation and connections strengthened through ComplexCity have helped the youth lead a range of diverse city-based campaigns - to claim spaces for play, strengthen their identities, drive peace efforts in the city, help people access their right to vote, help communities access their right to water and more. Change efforts remain ongoing!

Partner with us on ComplexCity! Email at info@yuvaindia.org for more.
Youth for Unity and Voluntary Action (YUVA)

is a non-profit development organisation committed to enabling vulnerable groups to access their rights and address human rights violations.

YUVA supports the formation of people’s collectives to engage them in the development discourse. This work is complemented with advocacy and policy recommendations. Set up in Mumbai in 1984, currently YUVA operates in 5 Indian states.

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