

## Outreach Project: Lost & Abandoned Spaces

### Background:

Since 2016, The InSitu Festival has been the public face of the Creative Hub 1352. <https://www.creativehub1352.ca/> Engaging with audiences exceeding 2,000 visitors, and engaging with over 500 established, emerging artists and students, the In Situ Festival brought Lakeshore Corridor Communities together in the Mississauga heritage Small Arms Inspection Building for three days of collaboration, celebration, and reflection. COVID19 lockdowns prevented the Creative Hub from physically bringing people together for InSitu 2020; but it did not stop us from creating together. Instead of simply 'putting the Festival online' we reimagined InSitu by World Building. Together with community artists, the Creative Hub created an imagined place called The Lost Museum. As an imaginary virtual space, The Lost Museum became our new platform for co-creations, collaborations, and co-creation - a safe place to foster resilience during a time of loss and uncertainty.

During Fall 2020, The Lost Museum Creative team connected 8 Outreach Artists with community, secondary and post-secondary programs, students, organizations, and other artists. Each Outreach Artist was asked to create an art project with their community partner – inspired by four key words: Lost, Abandoned, Forgotten, Discarded. The Outreach Artists then worked virtually with their partner organization teaching, encouraging, curating, and collaborating in the making of new artwork inspired by lost, abandoned, forgotten, and discarded. The results are the collections now hosted in the various 'rooms' of The Lost Museum. The Outreach Artists were then asked to create a 'character' who they imagined would care for their collection in The Lost Museum. The results are the fabulous portrayals of the Lost Librarian, Lost Architect, The Wayfarer, The Linguist, The Lost Performer, Raheel the Collector, and the Alchemist included in <http://thelostmuseum.ca/>

### Future Collections:

The Creative Hub 1352 is committed to growing and expanding the collections of The Lost Museum. In the Splendorous Study, we are delighted to share the original outreach notes, artist calls and projects that opened the Museum. Thank you to the Outreach Artists for supporting this initiative and sharing their projects. We hope these initial endeavours will motivate educators, artists, and community organizations. Please enjoy learning about The Lost Museum Outreach projects. If you, your class, or your organization would like to use this material, add to a collection, or propose a new collection please contact the Creative Hub 1352 at [info@creativehub1352.ca](mailto:info@creativehub1352.ca)

# The Lost Museum



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**Outreach Artist:** Ken Snell

**Outreach Project Development:** Ken Snell

**Outreach Participants:** Architects, Architectural Technologies, Independent Visual Artists, Sheridan College Architecture Alumni

**Outreach Style:** Invitational call to Architects, Artists, Faculty & Alumni Sheridan College Architect Technology Program

### Curriculum Connections & Possible Future Participants:

Secondary or Post Secondary Architecture, Visual Arts. Environmental Studies, Geography, History. Partnerships with Historical or Heritage Societies, Newcomers Organizations.

**The Project:** Lost Spaces

**The vision:** *Opening thoughts- Voyeuristic rubber necking*  
How do you lose a space?



Do you forget where you put it?  
Do you stop returning to it or just stop daydreaming about it?  
Does its importance simply shrivel and fade?  
Is no longer available or accessible to you?  
Is it lost to you because your parents sold it? Perhaps it belongs to some one else.  
Is it lost through distance or time?  
Has this lost space become fragmented like an incomplete memory of your childhood bedroom?

or

Might it cease to exist? How does that happen?



It might be ripped from physical existence by a tragic accident.

It might be a choice to demolish it, to erase it from existence.

It might simply be that it was abandoned, the people walked away.

If no one misses it or values it or remembers it, is it really lost?



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### The vision:

To experience a sense of loss, we must have at one time formed an attachment to what is no longer there. Deep personal value and a sense of loss are important to the feeling of absence.

Imagine your childhood home, town, or school. If you were to see it today, it will have changed from what you remember. It will be painted, new windows, new roof, trees, and plantings will have grown or been removed or added. This is to say that the house that remains today is not the house of your youth.

- How do you capture that loss in a work of art?
- How do you conjure a long-lost space?
- Can you remember the home of your childhood or a special room within it?
- Consider the spaces and places you have lost, discarded, forgotten, or abandoned?

The vision for Lost Spaces can be architectural, personal, historical, spiritual. So individual are our connections to space and place that images of lost, abandoned, forgotten and discarded spaces will evoke multiple layers of responses. Consider. Reflect. Occupy.

### The Details:

I am working on the third iteration of the Creative Hub's InSitu Arts Festival 2021 which will be happening online this spring. The theme "Lost Museum" will have a talented cast of "Lost Curators" welcoming visitors to explore a collection of "Lost Things".

As the museum's "Architectural Archeologist" – or Lost Architect, I will be assembling a collection of authentic architectural creations. These will be uploaded as images to The Lost Museum website as "digital artifacts" - part of a 'special' architecturally themed collection titled Lost Spaces. Artifacts will explore, (either imagined or real), the idea of "Lost Spaces" and inspired by the words Lost, Abandoned, Forgotten or Discarded.

I am looking for evocative, interesting, architectural responses that explore notions of lost, abandoned forgotten or discarded spaces. I am asking you to join in creating and building this 'collection' ... to imagine, design, photograph and build an architectural artifact that resonates with you.

The artifacts can be in a wide range of formats- photographs, drawings, paintings, models (physical or digital, film, poetry, writing. Works must be original and presented in a way compatible with the Lost Museum digital platform – which will be a modified Word Press website. Any media, or multi-media works are encouraged. Architectural drawings, sketches, photography, poetry, and or mixed media. Spaces can be real or imagined. Past, present, or future. Works must be original although digital alterations may be appropriate if the original source is acknowledged. Image files should be standard photo 3:2 ratio 1080 x 720 px. The website building will optimize images for



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### The Details: (continued)

the web. Files should be submitted directly to (Artist Address Here), along with the contributor's name, contact information, title of the submission and a short description of the piece. If you are a professional and wish to have your professional contact information included, please provide.

Images will become part of the permanent collection at <http://thelostmuseum.ca/>

Each image will be presented in the Architectural Atelier page of The Lost Museum. Artist credit, and professional contact information will be included alongside the image of each work on the page. Artists will also be acknowledged in The Lost Museum digital program. Images used in the digital program, or other event promotional material will acknowledge the artist. Participation is voluntary and open to all. Please share this description with your class, classmates, colleagues, family, and friends.

### A Few Ideas & References:



The Bosnian Valley of the Pyramids, Visoko, Bosnia. Pyramid of the Sun, Pyramid of the Moon, Dragon Pyramid.

How do you lose a pyramid? How does it show up in a museum? The Lonely Planet advertising tours, describes the Pyramids as “found under a hill” Is this faceted spur or pyramid? The form of a pyramid exists. There is no dispute but there exists tremendous controversy. Are these natural tectonic forms or manmade? Are these pyramids a hoax, pseudo-science? Or are they remnants of lost place, a lost space?



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### A Few Ideas & References: (Continued)

The Gobekli Temple may well be the world's first temple, thought to be continuously occupied for some 2,000 years about 12,000 years ago. In 1994 Professor Klaus Schmidt recognized the Gobekli stone slabs as dating from the Neolithic Era – The Stone Age – about 10 – 12,000 years ago.

Schmidt described the find as a Stone Age sanctuary – a temple that appeared to have been purposively buried. This would make the Gobekli Temple a major step in the evolution of relation and a human connection with God.

Schmidt postulates the Gobekli Temple may well be the root of all three of the world's monotheistic religions. Why was it lost? How did it become forgotten? Was it discarded? Or Abandoned?

<http://whe.unesco.org/en/list/1572>

<http://www.smithsonianmag.com/history/gobekli-tepe-the-worlds-first-temple-83613665/>

