## INTERVIEW

## Ana Wortman

## Professor of Cultural Sociology, Universidad de Buenos Aires

Interviews were conducted by Giannalia Cogliandro, Secretary General

How can we create more just and less unequal creative cities? How do we make creative cities creative for all citizens? What is your personal view point in relation to Buenos Aires?

If we analyse creative industries and the cultural offer in Buenos Aires, we can say that we are talking about a creative city. It is very significant the increase of young people that studies arts, cinema, theatre and participates in software industries. Besides it is very important the increase of students in theatre, visual arts, galleries, festivals. During the last decade it has been created the Ministry of Culture, recognizing the importance of this area in social life. But unfortunately we find a paradox: this important field couldn't impact on making a less unequal city. We can see inequality has increased during the last decade because of economic policies that let real state get more profits of urban rent. It is very important that people participate in taking decisions of housing and culture.

## What is in your opinion the role of artists, cultural agencies and artistic organisations in preventing culture-lead gentrification in fast changing city landscape?

I think that artists, cultural agencies and artistic organisations have to promote meetings with neighbors, asking what they expect of the arts. It is necessary to know what peoples' demands are in terms of culture and offers.



How do you think we could advance the dialogue between researchers, policy makers and creators working in the field of urban cultural policy and creativity?

It is necessary to create organisms that represent the different interests of the sectors in order to build common interests to promote development. As I have said before, participation is the key to avoid gentrification, and promote less unequal creative cities.