

<b>Zeitschrift:</b>	Trans : Publikationsreihe des Fachvereins der Studierenden am Departement Architektur der ETH Zürich
<b>Herausgeber:</b>	Departement Architektur der ETH Zürich
<b>Band:</b>	- (2023)
<b>Heft:</b>	43
<b>Artikel:</b>	A meander walk in the Tagliamento (Italy) : 22 March 2023, 11:30 to 12:00 am
<b>Autor:</b>	Lerjen, Marie-Anne
<b>DOI:</b>	<a href="https://doi.org/10.5169/seals-1051765">https://doi.org/10.5169/seals-1051765</a>

### **Nutzungsbedingungen**

Die ETH-Bibliothek ist die Anbieterin der digitalisierten Zeitschriften auf E-Periodica. Sie besitzt keine Urheberrechte an den Zeitschriften und ist nicht verantwortlich für deren Inhalte. Die Rechte liegen in der Regel bei den Herausgebern beziehungsweise den externen Rechteinhabern. Das Veröffentlichen von Bildern in Print- und Online-Publikationen sowie auf Social Media-Kanälen oder Webseiten ist nur mit vorheriger Genehmigung der Rechteinhaber erlaubt. [Mehr erfahren](#)

### **Conditions d'utilisation**

L'ETH Library est le fournisseur des revues numérisées. Elle ne détient aucun droit d'auteur sur les revues et n'est pas responsable de leur contenu. En règle générale, les droits sont détenus par les éditeurs ou les détenteurs de droits externes. La reproduction d'images dans des publications imprimées ou en ligne ainsi que sur des canaux de médias sociaux ou des sites web n'est autorisée qu'avec l'accord préalable des détenteurs des droits. [En savoir plus](#)

### **Terms of use**

The ETH Library is the provider of the digitised journals. It does not own any copyrights to the journals and is not responsible for their content. The rights usually lie with the publishers or the external rights holders. Publishing images in print and online publications, as well as on social media channels or websites, is only permitted with the prior consent of the rights holders. [Find out more](#)

**Download PDF:** 18.02.2026

**ETH-Bibliothek Zürich, E-Periodica, <https://www.e-periodica.ch>**

# A Meander Walk in the Tagliamento (Italy)

## 22 March 2023, 11:30 to 12:00 am.

### Marie-Anne Lerjen

Crick, crack, clack... the stones under my advancing feet collide, clack, crack. Fine music. Slowly I put one foot in front of the other in the wide riverbed of the Tagliamento in northern Italy. A light wind is blowing. The sun sheds a warm light. Wide silence. Click, clack. In the transition to the sand, the steps become almost inaudible. Crack. Washed-out pieces of wood break under my soles. I let my gaze wander and see, widely scattered, others walking as well.

A little before that, we followed our guide chattering in a crowd. From our overnight stop along populated roads, over the high bridge at the narrow spot between two towering hills, on the grassy path between fruit trees. Arriving at the edge of the riverbed, a wide landscape opens up with sand, stones, small shrubs. Here we stopped.

We are on a seminar trip with the Chair of Philip Ursprung in the Friuli-Venice region in the north of Italy. Under the title «Desire Lines. Following the Last Alpine Wild River», we are following the longest unregulated river in the Alps from its source to its mouth. It meanders, in ever-changing loops, in the wide riverbed towards the sea. We align ourselves with the direction of the river, the river shows us the way.

Now we are here, at the edge of the riverbed where we will be walking all day. A short rest. We look for shade, drink, the calls go back and forth, the conversations continue. Then we gather and I take over.

I am a walking artist. For more than 10 years I have been exploring the possibilities of walking in a group.

A



B



C



A–C Meander Walk, 22 March 2023. Image: Tobias Woottton

Scores developed for specific places and contexts provide the experimental framework for experiences of deepened perception. I have been invited to propose a «walk» here as well. I introduce myself and present the following score:

«WALK SLOWLY, BUT STILL HEAD TO THE ADRIATIC SEA.  
SPREAD, BUT STILL BE AWARE OF THE GROUP.  
DON'T TALK.  
TAKE WITH YOU THE WORD *TO MEANDER*.  
YOU HAVE 30 MINUTES.»

40 people slowly start moving, begin to spread out leisurely. Where are we? -----

A whoop with an echo gives the signal to gather again. We reassemble downstream. Half an hour is up. Church bells start chiming in the widely scattered villages. We break the silence, exchange ideas. How do we begin to feel and know where we are?

– I felt the silence immediately. But also the heat, the weight of my backpack. Then my eyes opened to the plants near the ground, tiny animals in the sand. I began to tune into the riverbed. – I could no longer lift my gaze from the ground. The stones drew me in. I remembered how I had collected stones with my father back then. – I felt like a child again. Playfully eager to discover. Astonished. – I followed the sinks, the rises, followed past movements of the river water. – Suddenly I was aware of my own sounds, the rhythm of each step, the texture of the ground. – I could draw, sketch, without anyone looking over my shoulder. – I suddenly had time for my own experiences, letting the ground guide me, alone, yet connected. – I touched the wet sand, took off my shoes, walked barefoot. – I felt great joy, lost myself in daydreaming while strolling around. – Suddenly I found myself in this large scale, the body became my reference. – I realised that this landscape was

completely formed by water, even though we didn't see the water yet.

Many voices come together.\* They show that not only the group has expanded in this riverbed, but also the outer and inner perception of each individual has expanded. Half an hour of walking silently in the riverbed of the Tagliamento opened up space and immersed us deeply into the place.

\* Many thanks to Jean-Jacques, Linus, Sophia, Luis, Wiktoria, Liam, Caspar, Alica, Greta, Tina, Martino, Samuel, Sophia, Robin, Areti, Luna, Majella, Meret, Nora, Gian, Jonas, Lucas, Ivana, Andrés, Tim, Lauro, Tancrède, Joshua, Zoé, Vico, Mona, Linn, Tiago, Lorin, Oliver, Philip, Tim, Sabine, Tobias, Johanna, Stefano, Debasish.