

# AUSTERITY URBANISM

Aula Magna, Stockholm University, January 28, 2-5 pm

## JAMIE PECK University of British Columbia

discussion with

CATHARINA GABRIELSSON, KTH and JOHAN LINDQUIST, Stockholm University

Neoliberal austerity measures operate downwards in both social and scalar terms: they offload social and environmental externalities on cities and communities, enforcing unflinching fiscal restraint; they incapacitate the state through the outsourcing, marketization, and privatization of governmental services and social supports; and they concentrate costs and burdens on those at the bottom of the social hierarchy, compounding economic marginalization with state abandonment. The presentation will explore how the systemic dumping of risks and responsibilities to the local scale has become the hallmark of austerity urbanism.

Canada Research Chair in Urban and Regional Political Economy and professor of geography at the University of British Columbia JAMIE PECK is a world leading theorist of urban economy and government. His monographs include *Work Place* (1996) for which he received the *Choice* "Outstanding Academic Book Award;" *Workfare States* (2001); *Constructions of Neoliberal Reason* (2010), and the edited collections *City of Revolution: Restructuring Manchester* (with Kevin Ward, 2002) and *Contesting Neoliberalism: Urban Frontiers* (with Helga Leitner and Eric Sheppard, 2006). His recent work probes creativity policies in Amsterdam, contingent work in Chicago and the influence of conservative think tanks on post-crisis urban policy in New York and New Orleans. Professor Peck is currently developing the notion of austerity urbanism to capture the state of the city in late neoliberal times.



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