

Built Environment

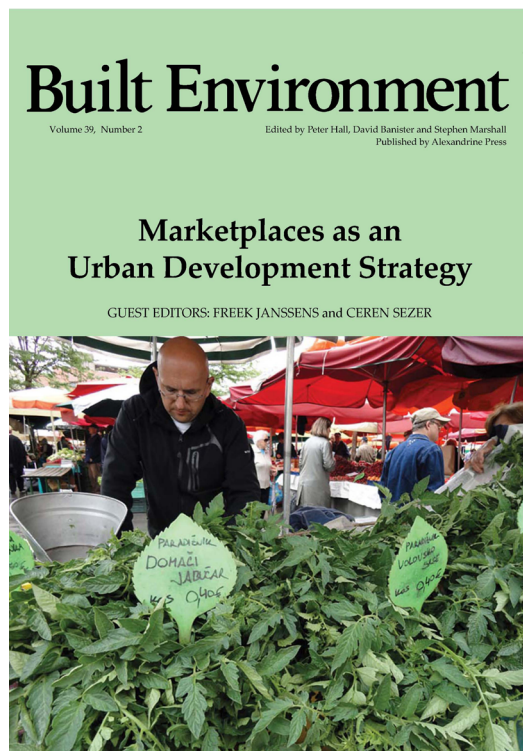
Volume 39, number 2, 2013

Marketplaces as an Urban Development Strategy

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Marketplaces are a great deal more than the commercial gathering places that city authorities sometimes take them to be. They are flexible spatial and temporal organizations that provide vivid and inclusive public spaces. As sites of interactions of flows of people, goods and information, they facilitate an improvised and spontaneous synergy of people and communities, which is at the core of the everyday life of the city.

The editors' ambition in this issue is to stimulate a useful and collaborative conversation – amongst academics as well as planners and designers – on the role that marketplaces can play in today's cities.



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