

MUSIC SAFARI IN PUBLIC SPACES

SPACE AND PLACE, VIENNA
AUSTRIA



CATEGORIES

S Community spaces where diverse people meet

A Connecting activities & community events

PRESENTER

Eugene Quinn, Space and Place

DESCRIPTION

As a DJ, I play music from the different communities living in some of the more impoverished areas of Vienna. Children are surprised to hear their music played in a public space - even more so from a white man - and they love showing their friends from other cultures how to dance to their music. Parents often follow their kids and people come into dialogue with each other.

MOTIVATION

To bring different communities together in public space, to bring them into dialogue, and to foster cultural exchange.

PROBLEM ADDRESSED

I am to address rising levels of racism and xenophobia, celebrate diversity, and liven up boring public space.

MORE DETAILS

This project celebrates the music of each community and brings people together. They are used to hearing their 'own' music at weddings and house parties, but rarely hear it played in a public space where other Viennese citizens are present. It is a fairly inexpensive way to engage with public space, mixing up Chechen, Syrian, Bosnian, Turkish, Afghan, Sinti, Ukrainian, and Austrian music.

OUTCOMES

People respond well to music and dancing is a very visual experience. Children are proud to hear their music played in a public space; they're astonished that someone took the time to get to know their music.