Approaching the city through its public art.
Development of Monere project in Lisbon.

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This work deals with the problems of setting up a database of public art in Lisbon, within the Monere project. This project covers several cities in different European countries, with a wide range of specificities on public art and urban policies. This presentation will focus on Monere’s initial phase, the inventory, in the particular case of Lisbon. The investigation follows the methodologies used by CerPolis, such as applying direct observation to the urban space, taking photographs of the works and building a simplified database with the aim of organizing the information geographically. Considering the variety and quantity of the aesthetic elements in the city of Lisbon, several questions arise. These questions address mainly to subjects such as the choice of elements for consideration and their organization into categories. In order to draw up the inventory, a certain criteria has been established relating to the city’s history and urban policies, the context in which the work was produced, the purposes behind, and the concepts of private and public. The current inventory will be the basis for a more complete systematization of the gathered data, and can be used as an instrument for research and further studies relating public art and urban development in Lisbon. The problems and the solutions that were found in this work can provide some guidelines for the development of the Monere project in other cities of Europe.