PRESS RELEASE # 1 | Prague, March 16, 2018

## reSITE and Airbnb power a second salon in Prague, this time on tech innovation

reSITE will host the second evening salon from "My City / Your City" series, which was started by a successful event in Berlin last December. The Prague volume, entitled Urban Tech Pioneers, will bring together an international panel of tech innovators from living, mobility, quality of life and startup scenes. The event curated by reSITE in partnership with Airbnb will take place on March 27 at SmetanaQ Gallery and explore the potential of technology for cities and the quality of life.

"Sharing has become fundamental to our lives from an economic, ecological and social perspective. As space and resources become scarcer, how can we more intelligently and inventively use what we have to provide maximum benefit? How does technology and sharing impact our lives in the future of cities? Our collective goal should be to make sharing accessible, make it easier to turn good ideas into startups, and utilize technology more for the benefit of all citizens, to bring more equity, and improve more lives." – Martin Barry, reSITE

"Around the world we've seen how home sharing has opened new economic opportunities for local families and their communities, while transforming the way people experience cities. We are excited to partner with reSITE to explore with tech pioneers in this space how the sharing economy can help cities across the region to empower locals and use existing resources more efficiently." Sofia Gkiousou, Regional Public Policy Manager for EMEA of Airbnb

## Meet Urban Tech Pioneers

The panel discussion '**My City / Your City: Urban Tech Pioneers**' will focus on the intersection of creativity and new technologies enabling a change in the way we live in our cities.

**Szilvia Walter**, the Co-founder of EVA – Extended Visual Assistant, will join us from Budapest. EVA is an EU Top 50 Startup winner currently prototyping AI glasses for the visually impaired. Her startup represents a

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great example of social impact entrepreneurship by improving the quality of life of visually impaired clients. The AI glasses will be a solution for the 20 million visually impaired people in Europe.

**Martin Pejša**, the founder of Creative Dock based in several European cities, will explain their "doers" business model that helped bring to life a wide portfolio of business ideas. In the past seven years, they have rolled out over 100 product prototypes, started 20 startups – four of them offer peer to peer services in mobility, financing and baby care – and have over 250 employees. Creative Dock stresses creativity first and the founder will explain the importance of sharing and collaborative approach for their success.

Regional Public Policy Manager for EMEA of Airbnb, **Sofia Gkiousou**, will join us from London and discuss how new technologies can help bring people closer and create new forms of economic empowerment.

**Rui Coelho**, Head of Invest Lisboa agency, will give the umbrella perspective of a city that made tech innovation part of its external strategy and puts a maximum effort to one simple goal: attract the best talents rising on the international startup landscape to base their business in Lisbon.

The discussion will be held in English and moderated by **Linda Bartošová**, Czech Television reporter and anchor.

The event will take place in the SmetanaQ Gallery space and includes a party and DJ. The Salon is open to social and tech innovators, policy makers, researchers, architects and designers, journalists, students, artists, cultural and municipal leaders, and everybody else who is concerned about a better future for our cities. The entry is free upon registration.

#reSITEsalon

Guests Policy: Rui Coelho Executive Director of Invest Lisboa, PT

Living: **Sofia Gkiousou** Regional Public Policy Manager EMEA, Airbnb, UK

Startups incubator: **Martin Pejša** Founder & CEO Creative Dock, CZ

Quality of life: Szilvia Walter

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Co-founder & CEO | EVA – Extended Visual Assistant, HU

Welcome address and host: Martin Barry, reSITE Andrew Verbitsky, Central & Eastern Europe General Manager, Airbnb

Moderator: Linda Bartošová (Czech TV)

## Program

18:00-19:00	Welcome drinks
19:00	Welcome Address: Martin Barry   reSITE;
19:10-20:30	Panel discussion with international guests
20:30-22:00	Cocktail Party and DJ Sasha Michailidis

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WHAT: My City / Your City | Urban Tech Pioneers VENUE: SmetanaQ Gallery, Smetanovo nabr. 4, Prague 1, first floor. WHEN: March 27, 2018, 6 pm – 10 pm INFO & REGISTRATIONS: <u>Click here</u> FACEBOOK: <u>Follow the event</u> POWERED BY: reSITE IN PARTNERSHIP WITH: Airbnb

## About reSITE

reSITE is a non-profit platform supporting the understanding and synergies of architecture, urbanism, politics, culture and economics. It presents the ideas and projects of internationally renowned experts to professionals and to the wider public, through events, media and consultancy. For the past six years, reSITE became a leading voice in Europe in the field of rethinking urban planning, architecture and urban development, attracting political leaders of inspirational cities to its Prague's flagship event. Being a bottom-up start-up, reSITE connects leaders across disciplines and brings a multitude of side events, debates, film screenings, exhibitions and bike rides for the general public. reSITE was founded in 2011 by Martin Barry, landscape architect, originally from New York.

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Media contact: Radka Ondráčková | <u>radka@resite.org</u> | +420 605 350 814 High-resolution photographs are available upon request.



Founded in 2008, Airbnb is a global travel community that offers magical end-to-end trips, including where you stay, what you do and the people you meet. Airbnb uniquely leverages technology to economically empower millions of people around the world to unlock and monetize their spaces, passions and talents to become hospitality entrepreneurs. Airbnb's accommodation marketplace offers access to millions of places to stay in more than 191 countries, from apartments and villas to castles, treehouses and B&Bs. With Experiences, people can see a different side

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to stay in more than 191 countries, from apartments and villas to castles, treehouses and B&Bs. With Experiences, people can see a different side to a destination through unique, handcrafted activities run by locals, while a partnership with Resy provides access to the best local restaurants in selected countries. All of this is brought together in one easy-to-use and beautifully designed website and app.

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