

ASD Projects Newsletter

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ASD Projects is the live projects office and RIBA Chartered Practice embedded within the Department of Architecture and Spatial Design at London Met. We provide a supportive professional environment that allows students and staff to undertake consultancy commissions and research projects as well as providing project management support to live projects carried out by students as part of their course work.

This newsletter serves as an update on ASD Projects, providing a taster of what's happened so far, and what to expect in the coming months. We also hope it will act as a further invitation for others to become involved.

Conceived to enhance the existing network of university-community and university-business partnerships. ASD Projects has a commitment to socially engaged design, where students, academics, and practising architects come together to enhance the built environment for the benefit of others.

We are located in room SPE3-06 on the third floor in Spring House if you want to call in and find out more.

News and New Work

London Festival of Architecture: National Architecture Student Festival 08

The National Architecture Student Festival 2008 (NASF) brought together higher education students from across the UK and Europe with pupils from London schools and community groups over the course of the academic year 2007-08 and culminated in a series of temporary 'interventions' in key public spaces at each of the five London Festival of Architecture (LFA) 2008 Hubs.

The directors of NASF 08 were Anne Markey of ASD Projects and Pippa Gueterbock of EDAW. The students' projects were reviewed and prizewinners announced at a Final Review at Goodenough College on 3rd July 2008. Prizes were awarded for those projects that best met the brief's 4 key themes of Reveal, Reuse, Signpost and Inclusive.

The winner in the Reuse category was "Made from Smithfield" by second year architecture students of the Department of Architecture and Spatial Design London Metropolitan University. "Made from Smithfield" was the result of a participation project carried out during the first semester which focused on the daily workings of Smithfield Market leading to a proposal to locate a soap manufacturing facility using by-products from the market located in a disused building on the site.

AJ Small Projects Award

Kingsmead Primary School, a project completed by ASD Projects in 2007, was shortlisted for the Architect's Journal Small Projects Awards 2008 and exhibited at the New London Architecture Gallery in March.

RIBA/London Met Returners' Course

ASD Projects delivered the Pilot RIBA/London Met Returners' Course, aimed at qualified architects who have taken a career break, in Spring House in May 2008. Kieran Long, Editor of The Architect's Journal opened the course and Clare Wright, architect of the Women's Library, spoke about her personal experiences as a returner at a reception at the Women's Library where the course was launched by the University's Vice-Chancellor Brian Roper. The course was well received by all 12 participants and the week of lectures and site visits culminated in a one day design workshops with ASD lecturers as critics.

NENA Women at Work in Palestine

Anne Markey was invited to participate in a British Council regional project in the Near East and North Africa (NENA) region. The three-year project – Women at Work – aims to promote and encourage networking between women in NENA and the UK and to challenge attitudes and opinions on the types of careers that are 'suitable' for women.

In November 2007 a group of six UK women architects hosted five Palestinian women architects in London. Whilst here they visited the Department of Architecture and Spatial Design. The six UK architects were then invited by the British Council to visit the Palestinian Territories in July of this year. A two day international networking conference followed the visit in Amman in Jordan where the Returners' Course was presented.

AJ Kings Cross Charrette

ASD Projects were invited by the Architect's Journal to take part in this year's AJ/Argent Kings' Cross Charrette. 16 Architectural



Tallow soap making experiment in Smithfield NASF 08



Returners' Course May 2008



ASD Projects' proposal at Kings Cross Charrette Exhibition

Photograph courtesy of the Architect's Journal

practices were invited to prepare a masterplan for a site in King's Cross in just 7 hours one day in July. The day culminated in a crit with a jury that included Roger Madelin, joint chief executive of Argent, Bob West, head of urban design at Camden Council and Paul Finch, editor of the Architectural Review.

Research Projects

ASD Projects are currently curating an exhibition of ASD Research and Live Projects which will open in Spring House later this Autumn. The exhibition will showcase work by staff and students of the department.

ASD Projects can support ASD staff and in their applications for funding and research grants to enable them to carry out research projects.

Three ASD graduates, Stefanie Rhodes, Shamoon Patwari and Bo Tang, who were recently awarded the RIBA Boyd Auger Scholarship 2008 will use the facilities of ASD Projects to carry out their research "Art, Urbanism, Architecture: Cultural space-making in Bosnia".

Building Schools for the Future

ASD Projects have been invited by the Department for Children, Schools and Families to partner with RIBA on the delivery of a national programme for design ideas for new school buildings by students at Schools of Architecture in England. The aim of the programme is to explore school design within a freer environment than that currently enabled by the Building Schools for Future procurement process.

ASD's Studio 4 will analyse John Keble School in Harlesden this year and make design proposals for a pilot project for this programme.

Thames Gateway

Raoul Bunschoten and Chora of Unit 8 were awarded an Arts and Humanities Research Council Award earlier this year to develop research carried out within Unit 8. The research focuses on the development of prototypes within the Thames Gateway that can reduce carbon emissions or create local renewable energy as a combination of architectural design and environmental technology.

Oral History Centre in Iran: Building Stories

This research project has made it to the second stage of an Arts and Humanities Research Council funding programme



International Research Centre and Faculty of Architecture, University of Sancti Spiritus, Cuba

"Beyond Text"

The project will culminate in the brief and design for an Oral History Centre for the historic centre of Ghazvin in Iran.

Torange Khonsari's and Sandra Denicke-Polcher of Studio 3, with ASD graduate Anna Page, will collaborate with fellow London Met academics from London Metropolitan Business School on this phased project.

Cuba

Rik Nys of RU2 and Anne Markey of ASD Projects joined a London Met delegation at Universidad 2008, an international conference in Havana, Cuba, where Rik Nys presented designs for a new architecture faculty and international research centre in Sancti Spiritus.

The commission for a feasibility study for a new building arose out of negotiations that London Met had entered into with the Cuban Ministry of Higher Education and the Universities of Sancti Spiritus and Santa Clara in Cuba to establish a new school of architecture for the province of Sancti Spiritus.

Live Projects

Hampstead Theatre

Following the commissioning by Hampstead Theatre of a live project by ASD students to address the disjunction between existing landscaping to the rear of the theatre and a new public space two groups of second year students participated with the theatre's creative writing workshop, local schoolchildren and local community groups as part of their Design: From Participation to Realisation module.

Representatives of the theatre attended a final presentation by the students at ASD at the end of Semester B. The presentations

focused on the idea of moving the theatre into the public realm using stage props, sound and spectacle. A design proposal incorporating elements of these ideas is being developed by module tutors Christina Godiksen and Carl Fraser through ASD Projects. Works are due to start on site later this Autumn.

The Water Trust

Bo Tang and Shamoon Petwari, ASD graduates of Unit 6 in 2008 will be employed by ASD Projects for a year to work on infrastructure strategies for the resettlement colony of Savda Ghewra in Delhi funded by The Water Trust. Other live projects in India that ASD Projects will co-ordinate include the provision of education and health facilities in a series of



Savda Ghewra, Delhi



Hampstead Theatre