

05 Autumn 2016

CASS Projects (The Projects Office) supports staff and students in the delivery of live projects through the curriculum as well as supporting students in their work related learning.

We are committed to supporting socially engaged creative projects where students, academics and practitioners from art, architecture and design can come together.

This newsletter serves as an update on the work of The Projects Office in 2015-2016, and the exciting projects we are developing for 2016-2017.



Soho Create at French Protestant Church 2015



London Design Festival at The Bank Gallery 2016



Charles Mugisha, Lotus Chairs for The Aldgate Project 2016

Solar Decathlon

Following on from their successful participation in Solar Decathlon China 2013, Postgraduate Architecture Unit 4 were invited to be the sole UK entrant in the first Solar Decathlon Latin America and Caribbean 2015. Elian Hirsch, who had helped to deliver the SD China project joined Cass Projects to project manage and collaborate with students and staff on the design and construction of the low energy house for SDLAC on the Solar Decathlon site in Santiago de Cali, Colombia.

Fabric of the City

Cass Projects supports annual 'cross school projects'; where disciplines from across art, architecture and design are invited to work in parallel. 2014/15's brief considered the effects of the 17th century Huguenot (French Protestant refugee) population in Spitalfields. The projects culminated in an exhibition and symposium last summer curated by Textiles Senior Lecturer Gina Pierce that celebrated contemporary designers in the east end. The exhibition displayed their work that was in response to Huguenot Spitalfields silks introduced to them by the Museum of London.

Soho Create

Work by Interiors students from their Huguenot projects was shown as part of the Soho Create Festival in June 2015, and again at the French Protestant Church on Soho Square in July 2016.

Tent

Every year The Cass are proud to showcase some of their best Graduates from Design disciplines at the famous London Design Festival. Cass Projects support the exhibitions with the help of our alumni/ student Projects Assistants. In Autumn 2015 we were able to secure a stand at TENT London, right at our doorstep on Hanbury Street of Brick Lane and organise the exhibition and stand design with our team. This was a very rewarding experience for all graduates as the event is extremely high profile and perfect for a debut exhibition of a young designer/practitioner wanting to start his/ her own practice or find clients. We will continue to support our graduates through the exhibition opportunities.

Aldgate Chairs

The Cass was invited by the City of London Corporation to run a competition for street furniture design. The bright red furniture joins other installations that highlight the public realm changes in the Aldgate area. Charles Mugisha, a BA Furniture and Product Design student won the competition with his modular 'Lotus chairs'. The chairs were selected by Aldgate stakeholders and installed in December 2015.

Toynbee Hall

Cass BA Furniture has worked with Toynbee Hall to design furniture pieces for a permanent exhibition on their history. This opens in 2017 at their renovated building in Aldgate. Cass Projects developed and delivered the brief and a competition to produce furniture designs along with Toynbee staff. Students have been asked to propose 'Furniture for the 21st Century Reformer' in recognition of the founders of Toynbee Hall and the Whitechapel Gallery, Samuel and Henrietta Barnett. Five pieces that have been shortlisted by the Director of Toynbee Graham Fisher have been produced by BA Furniture students. The chair by James Whittam has been selected to be shown in the permanent exhibition.

Hayes

Cass Projects has been working in Hayes since 2012 at the invitation of local MP and Shadow Chancellor, John McDonnell. Projects have developed throughout the town; on the High Street, with local industries, on housing estates and now in and around the Grand Union Canal running through the town centre. This year BA Architecture Studio 3 has worked with canoeing club The Sharks to design a hub venue for both the club and local communities. The Studio



Solar Decathlon house and team in Santiago de Cali, Colombia



Hands On at The Aram Gallery

aims for this to become a built project during this coming academic year.

Hands On

In August 2016 The Aram Gallery hosted an exhibition celebrating the enduring legacy of The Cass as being a part of the creative landscape of east London for over 100 years. Working closely with the Head of 3D, Cass Projects was involved with exhibition design, curating and complete show setup. We exhibited works by a range of students, alumni and staff representing the wide variety of courses on offer, including jewellery, silversmithing, furniture upholstery, and musical-instrument making. Alongside finished products, the exhibition reflected the Cass's dedication to making within its teaching philosophy. A display of hand tools and a wall of experimental ceramic studies gave a taste of the school's workshop atmosphere.

Tandemize

Cass Projects were very excited to support Tandemize, a 'not for profit' cross-cultural and cross-disciplinary programme; that supports students and practitioners to develop the social and cultural impact of their creative practice. The project is currently in its 2nd year of running and was founded by Mah Rana. The project is supported by the British Council.

In 2016 Tandemize 2.0 was opened to students and graduates from architecture and 3D Design to explore the possibilities of how cross-cultural learning can be taken into the public realm and encourage public participation. Ten participants were chosen and shortlisted through an open call from The Cass and The Department of Integrated Design part of the Faculty of Architecture at Moratuwa University, Sri Lanka. As part of the programme The Cass hosted visitors from Sri Lanka in a one week London Residency which included workshops, site visits and studio visits. Equally the UK team went on an exchange trip to Sri Lanka. The mix of cultural experiences culminated in a collaborative project that was exhibited/put into practice during London Craft Week 2016.

LOOM

Duggan Morris Architects with their 'The Loom' renovation project invited The Cass, to exhibit student (and staff) work in the building's ground floor foyer exhibition space. As one of their newest projects this is a very exciting opportunity and Cass Projects was more than happy to facilitate the collaboration between our staff, studios and the Loom team. For the first collaboration we have engaged our Textiles and Fashion departments in the project, where they have created a project brief around 'The Loom' theme and had their students working on a brief created specifically for the exhibition. We organised student presentations and selected relevant work to be developed further with The Loom team. The first show will open in Autumn 2016, titled: Making is a timelessly changing and evolving process. (Project brief and title by James Hunting, Course Leader BA Textile Design) The exhibition space at 'The Loom' will be available to us on a rolling basis, so we are expecting more site specific projects from various disciplines to get involved in this wonderful opportunity.

Great Creator

The Great Creator was a UK Graduate Exhibition organised by the British Council in China, Beijing in 2015. With the then operational International Office in Beijing we sent some of our graduates work to China for a grand exhibition, curated by Jimmy Choo, the selection was quite rigorous. The exhibition covered disciplines such as Fashion, Graphics, Product, Jewellery and Textile design and we were able to select a recent graduate or student for each of these areas. It was a high profile exhibition with many hundred thousand visitors so great exposure for The Cass and the exhibitors in question.

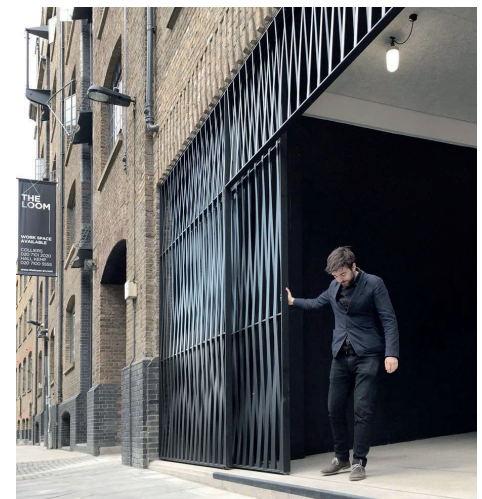
Cass Short Courses

The Cass short courses team have had a busy and exciting year. September 2015 saw the introduction of the AMUSF accreditation on

our well established and ever popular Modern and Traditional Upholstery short course. Congratulations to the Upholstery team and the students for a hugely successful inaugural year, which culminated in an awards ceremony in June, giving students an opportunity to celebrate their achievements. A proud day at for all involved. Continuing our expansion of the short course portfolio, the first year of our Graphics and Illustration was well received and led to some inspirational and very creative work being produced by students. There have also been some new additions to our Jewellery and Silversmithing programme, including Recycle your Old Jewellery and Create a Jewel Using Enamel and this Summer has seen the successful second year of the Portfolio Preparation for 16-18 Year Olds (Architecture, Spatial Design and Interior Architecture). What's next? Well, expect some interesting new Photography short courses launching very soon and we are working on expanding our portfolio in all other areas. Proposals are always welcome so get in touch and remember staff and students get 20% off short courses. For further information, please get in touch. thecass.shortcourses@londonmet.ac.uk



Great Creator Exhibition in China, Beijing 2015



The Loom



Tandemize 2016