

ATMOSPHERE 10
February 1-3, 2018

FABRICATIONS

UPDATES

CALL FOR PRESENTATIONS NOW OPEN
Proposals due Nov. 1st

www.atmos.ca

ATMOSPHERE 10 explores **Fabrications**. Fabrications implicate diverse artifacts and modes of making, together with the places, practices, contingencies and intentions that enable and contextualize making. In other words, this symposium will examine not simply what, how and why we make, but sites and situations of making. The aim is to explore how cultural and environmental circumstances become meaningful catalysts of design, building, teaching and research. This theme encompasses manifold concerns beyond the digital: complexities of urban and social fabrics; intricacies of environmental skins; potentials of building sites and workshops; as well as the stories and arguments through which we craft shared understandings of our fabricated world.

Social Fabrics

Society has long been conceptualized as a great tangle of human affairs in need of careful unraveling and fine re-stitching. Aristophanes and Plato employed this metaphor of weaving social cohesion at a time when the experiment of democracy was becoming dangerously frayed. More recently, the *topos* describes a city's dense and fibrous web of interweaving events. This session seeks inquiries into material configurations of social interaction and exchange. Topics may cover the intertwining of modern and historic fabrics; patchworks of development; and the interlacing of shifting global cultures with indigenous ways of life.

Mediating Fabrics

Wall assemblies and finishes are increasingly conceived as scintillating surfaces and performatively enhanced skins. This session probes the substantive thickness and interstitial depth of enclosures, which mediate the differences, overlaps and interactions of inner and outer worlds. Papers may push this envelope by unfolding reciprocities of tectonic assemblies and social practices; by revealing how industrially-produced artifacts are adjusted to specificities of place and program; and by exploring expressive attributes of wall assemblies, or the so-called 'fiction of function' in modern architecture.

Fabricating *in situ*

This session invites examination of inhabitable sites and situations of making. The aim is to study how particular places and cultural circumstances serve as meaningful catalysts for fabrication, while cultivating a collective sense of place in the world. Papers may explore various scales and terrains: desktops, workshops, building sites, and regional topographies. Topics may include: the agency of context; the reciprocity between sites of production and sites of realization; and design-build projects enacted as collaborations of makers, materials, and milieux.

Fabricating Truth

As with any art, poetic fiction does not oppose reality, but augments and transforms it. Narrative fabrications, however fabled and fabulous, can make profound aspects of the human condition more intelligible, palpable and interpretable. This session pursues truth as a synthetic construct beyond mere facticity. Papers may explore the interdependent arts of storytelling and building; the productive agencies of language and metaphor; epistemological fabrications bearing on how we construe and construct the human world; as well as ways in which built environments participate in (re)making symbolic order.

CALL FOR PRESENTATIONS

We invite proposals for either 20-minute paper presentations or temporary installations exploring Fabrications via one of the following four sub-themes: SOCIAL FABRICS, MEDIATING FABRICS, FABRICATING *IN SITU*, or FABRICATING TRUTH.

PAPER PROPOSALS should be well grounded in historical, theoretical or creative research, develop compelling arguments and insights around specific examples, and contribute to interdisciplinary knowledge.

INSTALLATION PROPOSALS should include clear intentions, a conceptual framework, and a detailed outline of spatial and material needs. Selected proposals will be eligible for modest financial support, based on appropriateness, merit and a detailed budget. Student proposals are welcome.

Please submit a 300-word proposal by November 1st, 2017 to: abstracts@atmos.ca

Clearly indicate the nature of your proposal (paper or installation), title and sub-theme. Proposals for installations may include up to two additional pages of supporting material in a single pdf. All proposals will be blind peer reviewed. Notice of acceptance will be sent by November 20th. Confirmation of attendance via registration will be required by December 15th.

About Atmosphere

Atmosphere is an annual symposium advancing interdisciplinary research and design. It is a forum to explore the ephemeral, experiential and situational conditions of our shared world. Difficult to pin-down, capture and express, "atmosphere" is enveloping yet recessive. It is what we as designers and interpreters of the built and natural environment strive to understand, generate and meaningfully engage.

Since 2009 the Faculty of Architecture at the University of Manitoba has hosted an annual Atmosphere Symposium. This event brings together researchers, designers and distinguished keynote speakers from around the world. It also gathers students and professors from the five allied disciplines within our Faculty (Architecture, City Planning, Environmental Design, Interior Design and Landscape Architecture); colleagues from other units across the University (including Engineering and Arts); and representatives from Winnipeg's local arts communities and professional associations. The three-day symposium includes invited lecturers, peer-reviewed presentations, exhibitions, student installations, receptions, and numerous casual opportunities for serious exchange.

Each year the Atmosphere Symposium poses a specific yet open-ended theme to draw researchers into a topically oriented discourse. The theme for Atmosphere 10 is Fabrications.

PAST SYMPOSIA

Atmosphere 9 [2017]- Beauty Memory Entropy

Atmosphere 8 [2016]- Water

Atmosphere 7 [2015]- Emergence

Atmosphere 6 [2014]- Action

Atmosphere 5 [2013]- Ecology & Design

Atmosphere 4 [2012]- Experiencing the Everyday

Atmosphere 3 [2011]- Mediated Cities

Atmosphere 2 [2010]- Uncharted

Atmosphere 1 [2009]- Open

The 2018 Atmosphere Symposium is co-chaired by: Lisa Landrum and Liane Veness with the support of the Faculty's Cultural Events Committee and the Centre for Architectural Structure and Technology (C.A.S.T.); web design and graphics support by Tali Budman (ED4 Architecture student); administrative support from Brandy O'Reilly (Faculty of Architecture, Partners Program). Questions? Please contact info@atmos.ca

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