NETWORK 2017
Events & Outreach

50th Anniversary Celebration
Harlyn Thompson Lecture Series
Atmosphere 9
Cultural Events
Food for Thought
Manitoba Masonry Institute Sponsored Lectures
Arch 2 Gallery
Year End Exhibition
Recommended Readings
Diarmuid Nash has enjoyed over 25 years with Moriyama & Teshima, having joined M&T in 1988 after completing work on the Canadian Embassy in Tokyo, a design-build project. A partner since 1998, Diarmuid is particularly skilled and adept at managing complex, aggressive Fast-track, CM/GMP projects that must address the often divergent priorities of diverse user and interest groups and delivering award-winning buildings on Time and on Budget. Diarmuid was Partner-in-Charge of the 2008 Governor General Award winning New Canadian War Museum in Ottawa; and the multi-phase Queenston Plaza Border Crossing Redevelopment. Diarmuid also led the Aga Khan Museum project in Toronto as the Architect of Record; and the design of the new City of Surrey City Hall project in Surrey, BC. Currently, he is leading the MTA team on the new Windsor City Hall and the Union Museum in the United Arab Emirates. Diarmuid brings unique vision and an unparalleled depth of understanding about what creates enduring, landmark places that compel people to visit again and again.

Allan Bell grew up in Pinawa, Manitoba. He graduated from the University of Manitoba with a Bachelor of Environmental Studies in 1982, and in 1987 he graduated with a Bachelor of Architecture from the University of Waterloo.


To celebrate the history of the Environmental Studies / Environmental Design Program, the Faculty of Architecture hosted invited alumni speakers from around the world who represented each of the last 5 decades of graduates from the Environmental Studies/Environmental Design Program.
SARRY KLEIN

March 9, 2017

Sarry is a Landscape Designer who is driven to promote a greater understanding of Landscape Architecture in our urban condition. She believes that our cities should be equally beautiful and ecologically resilient.

Sarry has sat on the CSLA (Canadian Society of Landscape Architecture) – Advocacy Task Force since being a student at the University of Toronto. She was a team member representing the University of Toronto Daniels Faculty in the Barcelona World Landscape Architecture Biennial for Landscape Architecture Schools, winning first place.

Sarry obtained her Bachelor of Environmental Design with a focus in Landscape and Urbanism from the University of Manitoba. She then went on to study at the University of Toronto, where she completed her Masters in Landscape Architecture. Sarry’s opportunity to study abroad throughout Europe and South America during this time has contributed to her interest in the intersection of historic narratives and urban systems.

DAVID CABIANCA

February 15, 2017

David Cabianca completed an undergraduate degree in environmental studies at the University of Manitoba (1990) and a Master of Architecture degree from Princeton University (1995). This was followed by an MFA 2D Design from Cranbrook Academy of Art (2001); an MA in Typeface Design from the University of Reading (2005); and, most recently, an MA in Design Writing Criticism, London College of Communication (2012). His typeface Cardea was released by Emigre Fonts in 2014. In 2012, he was one of the organizers of the AIGA Design Educators Conference, “Blunt: Explicit and Graphic Design Criticism Now.” He has taught at the University of Manitoba, University of Michigan, OCAD University, California Institute of the Arts and Cranbrook Academy of Art and has held a fulltime position teaching graphic design at York University in Toronto, Canada, since 2005. He is currently working on a monograph devoted to the image archive of American graphic designer Ed Fella to be published by Scheidegger & Spiess.

Architects create space for shelter, comfort and pleasure. Most often we think of architecture as a response to a brief, as something needed by the client as we diligently go about our duties in the name providing a service. This talk was about our experience in making architecture, the stories that we use to design, interpret, understand, and associate with architecture, that exceeds the limits we create. This talk is about what it was like to be a student in the Bachelor of Environmental Studies program in the late 1980s and what it means for designing today.

SASA RADULOVIC & JOHANNA HURME

February 9, 2017

5468796 Architecture is a Winnipeg-based design studio established in 2007. Working around a single table, the office unites the diverse knowledge and experience of fourteen young professionals. Together, they believe that every client, user and civic environment – regardless of budget – deserves an outcome that advances architecture.

Recent firm recognitions include the Rice Design Alliance Spotlight Award, the RAIC Emerging Architectural Practice Award and the WAN 21 for 21 Award, an international prize whose aim is to highlight 21 architects who could be the leading lights of architecture in the 21st century. The office makes design advocacy an ongoing pursuit through university professorships and various public engagements. In 2012, 5468796 co-curated Migrating Landscapes, Canada’s official submission to the Venice Biennale in Architecture. In 2013, the Canada Council for the Arts awarded 5468796 the Professional Prix de Rome in Architecture for their project, Table for 12, which allowed them to visit and research cities around the world with a thriving design culture. Their work has received a number of awards and honours, including a Governor General’s Medal in Architecture and an RAIC Award of Excellence for both OMS Stage and Bloc_10, Progressive Architecture Awards for Bond Tower and BGBX, and the 2014 WAF Future Project of the Year Award for their shortlisted competition design for the Art Gallery of Greater Victoria.
Harlyn Thompson Lecture Series

MODERN TOWER BLOCKS AND THE 21st CENTURY CITY: RESEARCH, POLICY AND ACTION

Sabina Ali & Graeme Stewart
March 16, 2017

Tower block urbanism is one of the most prolific and contentious global forms of the 20th Century. Yet despite the seeming homogeneity of the type, one size does not fit all, and the Canadian experience of the tower block is in many ways unique. Graeme Stewart and Sabina Ali discussed the case of Toronto - a region where a built legacy of nearly 2,000 modernist tower blocks defines the urban landscape. Through a program of research, policy development and on the ground action, a process of ‘Tower Renewal’ is emerging, shifting our conception of these towers, the vast communities that call them home, and their role in meeting the challenges of 21st Century urbanism.

Sabina Ali is the chair and one of the founding members of Thorncliffe Park Women’s Committee, a group of local residents who came together with a vision of transforming their public space into a place that builds and enriches the community and their neighbourhood. She has been instrumental in revitalizing the local park and creating a healthy, engaged and inclusive community. She is engaged in empowering and building the capacity within the residents, especially women and connecting the community with the rest of Toronto.

Sabina has been an invaluable asset to TPWC. Under her leadership, TPWC attained recognition throughout Toronto. She has been successful in connecting Thorncliffe to the other neighbourhoods in the city by participating in the Doors
Open Toronto, Community Festival and the Winter Fest at Evergreen Brick Works, Toronto Mela, YIMBY Festival, Halal Food Fest, Big on Bloor, Scotiabank Nuit Blanche, Harbourfront Fest, City of Toronto’s Tasty Thursdays, Toronto Fringe Festival and Food & Wine Festival.

Graeme Stewart OAA MRAIC RPP MCIP CAHP is a Principal at ERA Architects, and co-founder of the not for profit research organization the Centre for Urban Growth and Renewal (CUG+R). Graeme was a key initiator of the Tower Renewal Project. This initiative in modern heritage and community reinvestment examines the future of Toronto and Canada’s remarkable stock of modern tower neighbourhoods in collaboration with municipalities across Ontario, the Provincial and Federal Government, Universities across Ontario and NGOs, such as Evergreen and United Way. This collaborative initiative engages in research, policy development and action toward reimagining our modernist landscapes for the 21st Century.

Graeme is also the co-editor of Concrete Toronto: A Guidebook to Concrete Architecture from the Fifties to the Seventies. In 2010, he was recipient of an RAIC National Urban Design Award for his ongoing research and design work related to Tower Renewal, and in 2014 received the Jane Jacobs Prize.

Graeme has studied architecture in Canada and Germany and received his Master of Architecture from the University of Toronto.
Kim Wiese | On February 2 – 4, 2017, the Atmosphere Symposia explored the intangible and overlooked dimensions of design, planning & architecture, those difficult to pin down, document, or record with conventional instruments and methodologies. Atmosphere is the consequence of the projects we make as designers of landscapes, cities, architecture and interiors. Atmosphere is hard to grasp, and even harder to talk about, yet the production of atmosphere, intended or not, is one of our most apparent contributions to the world.

It is something that lingers after the program has changed or the client has left. Though palpable, atmosphere resists registration. So fragile and dependent on the world around, atmosphere is also susceptible to our individual perception. It is not something that can be read or interpreted. It is the embodiment of the content we give our projects and how they meet the world.

The 2017 Symposium posed the question: “What are the shared values and challenges framing interdisciplinary design?” Atmosphere 9 Symposium suggested three: Beauty, Memory and Entropy. These are conditions over which designers have limited control, but which we nevertheless desire, succumb to, and cultivate. Beauty, Memory and Entropy represent common aesthetic, ecological, and cultural ambitions of interdependent design disciplines.

Researchers were invited to submit paper proposals addressing one or more of the symposium themes through discussion of specific built works, settings, theories, or pedagogies.

Thursday evening till Saturday afternoon, with over 200 registered participants, the 2017 Atmosphere Symposium offered an integration of speakers, presentations, catered meals and evening receptions, allowing the development of relationships and connections while taking part in critical perspectives and ideas.

The notions of beauty memory and entropy were discussed, dissected and articulated in many ways during the Symposium, similarities and differences were celebrated in the context of cross disciplinary and cross cultural interconnectedness.

The program consisted of keynote speakers:

Dr. Ellen Braae: Professor of Landscape Architecture Theory and Method at the University of Copenhagen, Denmark speaking on the topic of “Excavating Futures” http://umanitoba.ca/faculties/architecture/atmosphere/2017/braae.html

David Leatherbarrow: Professor of Architecture the University of Pennsylvania speaking about “Modification is the Result, Interpretation is the Method, and Time is the Medium” http://umanitoba.ca/faculties/architecture/atmosphere/2017/leatherbarrow.html


Gabi Schillig: Studio for Dialogical Spaces in Berlin speaking on her work and “Spaces of Communication” http://umanitoba.ca/faculties/architecture/atmosphere/2017/schilling.html


Of the 48 abstracts submitted; 24 accepted; 17 presented. Presenters were from as close as our own faculty and as far away as Denmark, Germany and Tunisia http://umanitoba.ca/faculties/architecture/atmosphere/2017/presenters.html
Cultural Events

John Patkau
Patkau Architects
September 15, 2015

David Miller
Milton Parc: Architecture, Photographs and Advocacy
October 25, 2016

Petra Doan
The Tyranny of Gendered Planning
November 1, 2016

Jeremy Nemeth
Just Space: Why Public Space Matters Now More Than Ever
January 12, 2016

Brigitte Shim
Embedded Light
January 19, 2017

Johanna Gibbons
Second Nature
March 10, 2017

Niall Kirkwood
March 23, 2017

Lois Wellwood
Reflection, Translation and Inspiration
March 29, 2017

Johnathan Soto
The Miami Beach EDITION
April 5, 2017
Food for Thought

Winnipeg Design Festival
Challenge what you know...
September 13, 2016

Steel Day
A Look Inside Community Recreation Facilities
September 16, 2016

Dwayne Baker
How Light Rail Impacts Gentrification
October 27, 2016

Erik Arnason & Emily Bews
Travel & Research
November 24, 2016

Guido Zuliani
The Architect’s Gaze
January 30, 2017

Emanuel Jannasch
Counter Computational Missionary Domes
February 7, 2017

Doug Corbett
Canada’s Diversity Gardens
March 16, 2017

Chip Sullivan
The Alchemy of Creativity
March 30, 2017

Shauna Mallory-Hill
Adventures of a Green Building Researcher
April 13, 2017

For more information visit umanitoba.ca/architecture/events
Manitoba Masonry Institute
Sponsored Lectures

The Manitoba Masonry Institute (MMI) supports, develops and strengthens the masonry industry in Manitoba. By working with the design community on education and research, providing technical information, both newly developed and available from existing sources, it is their goal to provide quality of service and life safety to the public. In 2016 - 2017 MMI supported two lectures that brought together professionals, academics, students and master massons for an evening of stimulating discourse. This series is strengthening the bonds between designers and builders and furthering the tradition of building with masonry in Manitoba.

John Ochsendorf
Innovations in Masonry

December 1, 2016

By studying the masterful stone and brick structures of the past, it is possible to discover and invent new forms for the future. This lecture provides an overview of 20 years of historical and technical research which is now opening new possibilities for design. This exploration is exemplified by six new vaults now on display at the Venice Biennale of Architecture.

John Ochsendorf is the Class of 1942 Professor of Architecture and Engineering at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology. He is a founding partner of the engineering firm Ochsendorf, DeJong and Block whose award-winning work was featured in two major installations at the 2016 Venice Biennale of Architecture. Ochsendorf’s research in history, preservation, and design has been supported by a Fulbright Scholarship to Spain (2000), a Rome Prize (2007), and a MacArthur Fellowship (2008).

Billie Tsien
All That is Solid

March 2, 2017

Billie Tsien was born in Ithaca, NY and received her undergraduate degree in Fine Arts from Yale University and Master of Architecture degree from UCLA. She began working with Tod Williams in 1977. Together, they founded their architectural practice in 1986.

Located in New York, their studio focuses on work for institutions including schools, museums, and not-for-profits—organizations and people who value issues of aspiration and meaning, and timelessness and beauty. Their buildings are carefully made and useful in ways that speak to both efficiency and the spirit. A sense of rootedness, light, texture, detail, and most of all experience, are at the heart of what they build.

Over the past three decades, Tod and Billie have received more than two dozen awards from the American Institute of Architects as well as numerous national and international citations. Most recently, they received the 2013 National Medal of the Arts from President Obama, 2013 Firm of the Year Award from the American Institute of Architects, and 2014 International Fellowship from the Royal Institute of British Architects. Additional recognition includes the American Academy of Arts and Letters’ Brunner Award, Chrysler Award for Innovation in Design, Cooper-Hewitt National Design Award, Municipal Art Society’s Brendan Gill Prize, New York City AIA Medal of Honor, and Thomas Jefferson Medal in Architecture. In 2016, their studio was selected to design the Obama Presidential Center in Chicago.
The CSLA Awards of Excellence celebrate work that is inspiring, exhilarating, and remarkably diverse. View our previous award recipients to experience the ever-expanding range of landscape architecture in Canada today. The Awards of Excellence honour distinctive design, ground-breaking research, sustainable landscape management and much more. Our CSLA landscape architects revitalize derelict inner-city shorelines and fashion pedestrian-friendly streetscapes. They build avant-garde residential gardens and turn brownfields into sustainable parks. They shape our urban landscapes, spearheading city-wide planning and design.

TRANS-PLAN was an international student design competition organized by A2G (Architecture Gallery at the Faculty of Architecture University of Manitoba). The competition is open to all students registered in spatial design and or exhibition design disciplines. The challenge of TRANS-PLAN 2017 was to design an exhibition installation in relation to MEMORY, one of the themes of 2017 ATMOSPHERE SYMPOSIUM (pg. 82), as an immersive and cinematic experience. The winning entry, selected by the jury, was installed and exhibited in the gallery for public viewing during the months of February and March 2017. The winning team was invited to install and present the work during the 2017 ATMOSPHERE SYMPOSIUM.

For this exhibit, Storefront Manitoba asked a dozen local design offices to submit the work that was occupying their current time and thinking. It quickly became apparent a consistent theme of “housing” emerged as the typology for 2016. The twelve projects featured in the exhibition helped capture the design and architecture zeitgeist within Manitoba’s small, tight-knit, and passionate community of practitioners and designers. The housing projects ranged from recreational abodes in lake-country Manitoba, all the way up to multi-tenant condominium projects within Winnipeg’s city centre.

This exhibition intended to bring to the surface a design tool often neglected in favour of other representational features of the project like the plan, the elevation, or the infamous 3D rendering. There is a shift of perception in architecture after the second postwar, where architects gradually distanced themselves from questions of space towards questions of the image and representation. This process made the section assume a secondary role, almost as an afterthought to the design process. The section always comes later in the design process, when in fact it should be developed simultaneously with the plan, and all other aspects of the architecture (structure, materiality, site, envelope, context, program, etc.).
Year End Exhibition
2016/2017
The 2016-2017 Faculty of Architecture’s Year End Exhibition was a cross-disciplinary exhibition that showcased student work from around the Faculty of Architecture. The work was displayed in classrooms, studio spaces, hallways, entrance foyers and lounges. Descriptions of the assignments were posted and both students and professors were on hand to meet and discuss the nature of the work with visitors of the Faculty.

For more photos please visit: http://umanitoba.ca/faculties/architecture/events/2017-2018events/YearEndExhibition2016_2017
Recommended Reading

Karen Wilson Baptist
Associate Dean Academic,
Chair, Environmental Design Program
Associate Professor, Department of
Landscape Architecture

Book Review

Learning to Read Again

The following is inspired by a column published monthly in Orion magazine (www.orionmagazine.org) entitled "Enumeration." I confess that the itinerant pacing of academic administration leaves one (at least this one) somewhat intellectually spent. Reading, particularly the deep engaged reading of academic scholarship, is something I long to do, but struggle to attain the right peace of mind to conduct. So rather than providing readers with a suggestion on what to read I offer this provocation on how to read instead.

1.0 Recall the first thing you remember learning to read. Dick and Jane for me. My mother bid me to struggle through the words. “Figure it out from the context,” she would say. There is very little context in “See Dick run.” I learned to read images.

2.0 My parents loved books and encouraged us to read as children. All books in the household were fair game for young readers, from the Reader’s Digest Condensed Books to the Funk and Wagner Encyclopedia (1957), to the paperbacks in the upstairs bookshelf. These were crime and mystery novels. The lurid covers provided fodder for vivid nightmares.

3.0 I dutifully save “real news” on social media. There are important things to learn, they are posted by intelligent folk and harken from reliable sources. I have 85 articles currently stowed. I promise to savor them one by one.

4.0 Someone once said, “Good writers are great readers.” I am friends with many great writers and I dutifully collect what they are reading in my Amazon.ca wish list.

5.0 I struggle to focus on the letters, to steady the words in each paragraph, to link the concepts, to stimulate continuity and understanding. The query, “What is for dinner?” sharply dices my concentration. If I greet the question with silence, the voices go away.

6.0 I make tea and sit in a chair with good lighting. Loads of laundry punctuate each chapter. I force myself to sit in place until the machine merrily sings.

Allen Tate
Head and Professor,
Department of Landscape Architecture

Reading Recommendations

My book reading falls into three main categories – those that I read for my work, those that I read to review, and those that I read for escape and entertainment. Foremost among my work-driven reading (which tends to be dipping for data rather than cover-to-cover) was The Oglethorpe Plan: Enlightenment Design in Savannah and Beyond (2015) by Thomas D. Wilson. One of its many virtues is to demonstrate that enduring historic places can have remarkable relevance to current practice.


And speaking of books on the bus, the one that I would recommend to every student and practitioner of the design disciplines is Peter Wohlleben’s The Hidden Life of Trees: What They Feel, How They Communicate – Discoveries from a Secret World (2016). It may sound like a tree-huggers handbook but it is, in fact, a series of surprisingly entertaining and practical observations from a German forester. Read it … and you will never look at trees the same way again.
Book Review

“A Space where Making is Entangled with Thinking”

Forty years after inaugurating their now eminently successful architectural practice, John and Patricia Patkau are “beginning again.” So they happily declare in their new book Material Operations (Princeton Architectural Press, 2017). This unique survey features eleven experimental works, ranging from their 2010-11 Skating Shelters for Winnipeg’s frozen Red River, to the 2017 Temple of Light overlooking BC’s Kootenay Bay. Each work is presented more as research than resolution. Initiated in response to serendipitous opportunities and sustained architectural questions, these projects are largely free from usual client-driven constraints, and share a freedom to fail constructively. Released from normative expectations, these projects embrace idiosyncrasies and mistakes as possible beginnings. Eschewing conventional methodologies, they revel in rigorous play.

While this research may be open-ended, certain premises are definitive. As the book’s title suggests, each project begins with a material substance. The Patkaus seek to reposition materiality as foundational to design: “as a source of discrete challenges to apparent possibilities that spur the will, seed the imagination, and exercise critical attentiveness” (p. 14).

On the surface, the building materials are basic: wood veneer, stainless steel, dimensional lumber and knit fabric. The enacted operations are likewise familiar: folding, bending, binding, incising and stretching. Novelty arises in dynamic combination, when matter and action give rise to form. The rubric “material operations” names a mode of practice, whereby forms of enclosure are found by releasing material potential.

The projects gathered in Material Operations are the products of curiosity about worldly phenomena, balanced by constructive doubt that status quo practice can release the full potential of making and dwelling. Each project, as the Patkaus present them, provides a working premise for the next. The pattern reinforces the idea of these seasoned architects as perpetual beginners, while suggesting their intent with this new book is to document their complex lines of thinking as much as making.

John and Patricia Patkau are graduates of our Faculty of Architecture (1972; 1973) and in 2017 were University of Manitoba Distinguished Alumni Award winners.


Lisa Landrum
Associate Dean Research, Associate Head and Associate Professor, Department of Architecture