

17th & 18th December 2012

the production of place

ACE | School of Architecture, Computing and Engineering
University of East London Docklands Campus, London

International conference & workshops: call for papers

The concept of place works across multiple disciplines; as an area of study it requires the application of diverse approaches: merging architecture, urbanism, geography, psychology, as a better means of understanding and responding to places. Critical theorists argue that globally-produced social, economic and environmental conditions are imposed on local places, which are unable to deal with them and maintain their own identity in the process, because of their global provenance.

Place may be defined by activity intrinsic to, and evidenced in, details of the physical surroundings (architectural style, composition, and type) which can be considered as a framing device for daily life. Therefore, can the activities of 'making' and 'doing' that are in and of places, more usefully inform global processes and products?

In understanding the physical characteristics of place on a local scale, globalised understandings of places and their mutability could be challenged. If the world is entirely made up of places, can each place provide a new form of global knowledge?

In this conference, we aim to question the challenges of global problems in relation to the production of place. Focusing on the necessary components to sustain places, how do we decide when to protect, adjust or transform?

[keynote speakers]

Chris Pyke

Ph.D and Vice President of Research, U.S. Green Building Council

Iain Sinclair

Bestselling author of Hackney, That Rose-Red Empire

Felipe Assadi

Dean of Architecture, Finis Terrae University, Santiago de Chile

Tony Fretton

Architect, Tony Fretton Architects, London

[themes]

Global knowledge via local place

By capturing and communicating the characteristics of a place, can place become the means of providing better global practices?

'Making' and 'doing'

What is the appropriate relationship between 'making' and 'thinking'? Can the processes of making and doing create knowledge in their own right?

Insecurity in and of places

How can insecurity be a positive force in the negotiation of places?

[workshops: live production]

15th to 18th December 2012. Docklands campus and other sites

Parallel workshops to the conference will extend the Architecture school's *1:1 live research programme* that for many years has brought together students and public participants together to design and make buildings to real briefs, programmes and budgets. The workshops will run over four days and include fabric formwork concrete construction and other self-build techniques. Delegates will design and make structures, responding to the challenges of particular places, together with staff and students. The work will be presented during the conference.

For examples of previous projects visit www.maasd.co.uk and www.placeresearchlab.org.uk

[submission guidelines]

Abstracts should not be longer than 300 words, and sent by e-mail as Word (doc) or Adobe Acrobat (pdf) files to Place.Conference@uel.ac.uk no later than 16th July 2012.

All abstracts should include the following:

- Paper Title
- Title, First Name, Surname and Affiliation of all authors
- 100 - 150 words biography of all authors
- E-mail address for corresponding author

Abstract proposals will be reviewed by the conference advisory board.

Contact Telephone: +44 20 8223 3260

E-mail: Place.Conference@uel.ac.uk

PRL is recognised as a Research Group of the **Sustainability Research Institute at UEL** and a part of the **London Regional Centre for Expertise in Education for Sustainable Development (RCE ESD)** as a specialist in Place-based education.

