

INVITATION TO CONFERENCE

ARCHITECTURAL INQUIRIES

Theories, methods and strategies in contemporary Nordic architectural research

Teorier, metoder och strategier i nutida nordisk arkitekturforskning

Nordic-Baltic Conference arranged by The Nordic Association of Architectural Research, The Nordic Architectural Academy, The Swedish Research Council Formas, The Association of Swedish Architects and Chalmers Architecture.

April 24-26, 2008 – Chalmers, Göteborg

Architectural research today is in a dynamic situation, challenged by demands for sustainability and integration between architectural, urban and infrastructural issues, rapid technological development and closer interdisciplinary collaboration within the building sector. Design is strongly emphasised as a strategic tool for dealing with complex problems and innovation. The Nordic arena for architectural research forms a diverse and expanding field of considerable international reputation and impact. New theories, methods and strategies now emerge that can generate profound knowledge and be operative in the shaping of future physical environments.

The conference **ARCHITECTURAL INQUIRIES** aims to reflect the forefront of theoretical and methodological approaches in current architectural research. With international keynote speakers and commentators, the conference mainly addresses Nordic and Baltic scholars as well as other actors within design practice, architecture, planning and urban development, research funding and politics.

Keynote speakers: **Adrian Forty**, Professor of Architectural History at the Bartlett School of Architecture, University College, London; **Michael Speaks**, Head of Metropolitan Research and Design at Southern California Institute of Architecture, Los Angeles; **Doina Petrescu**, senior lecturer, School of Architecture, University of Sheffield, cofounder of atelier d'architecture autogérée (aaa), Paris.

CONFERENCE THEMES

1. Lack of theory or new theoretical frameworks?

Teoribrist eller nya teoribildningar?

2. History and historiography: Is there a Nordic architectural research?

Historia och historiografi: Finns det en nordisk arkitekturforskning?

3. Practice relevance versus peer-review publications.

Praktikrelevans kontra vetenskapliga publikationer

4. Integrating design-based methodology.

Att integrera designbaserad metodik

5. New technologies: Impact on research problems and methodology?

Ny teknologi: inverkan på forskningsproblem och metoder

6. Urban research between social sciences and design.

Urbanforskning mellan samhällsvetenskap och design

IMPORTANT DATES

Hotel reservations: March 19, 2008

Registration: March 25, 2008

Deadline for papers + poster ideas: March 31, 2008

(For more information, see below)

WEBSITES

www.chalmers.se/arch/SV, www.arkitekturforskning.net

PRELIMINARY SCHEDULE

Thursday, April 24

09.00-10.00 Registration & coffee
10.00-10.20 Welcome & Introduction
10.20-12.00 Keynote speaker: Adrian Forty
Keynote speaker: Doina Petrescu
Lunch
13.30-15.00 Short introductions by chair persons
Coffee
15.30-17.00 Parallel paper sessions
and discussions

Doctoral students meeting, board meeting,
mingle & presentation of free form posters

20.00 Dinner & Social activities

Friday, April 25

09.15-10.00 Keynote speaker: Michael Speaks
Coffee
10.15-12.15 Parallel paper sessions + discussions
Lunch
13.30-15.00 Parallel paper sessions + discussions
Coffee
15.30-17.00 Panel debate on architectural
research strategies
19.30 Dinner & Social activities

Saturday, April 26

9.30-11.00 5 parallel paper sessions + discussions
Coffee
11.30-13.00 Keynote speakers & chair persons
summarize topics and discussions.
Panel debate & closing of conference
13.15-15.30 Excursion with packed lunch

INFORMATION TO AUTHORS OF PAPERS & POSTERS

Authors have been notified if abstracts have been accepted or not – if you haven't received a message on this, please contact us through the conference mail address.

Papers

Deadline for papers is March 31. Mail your paper to a-inquiries@chalmers.se

Papers shall be delivered on the conference template – available at the website www.chalmers.se/arch/SV.

Papers can be written in English or a Nordic language. The abstract shall be in English.

Please note that papers shall contain at the maximum 30000 characters including blanks, and not have more than 15 pages including images, diagrams etc.

You will have 15 minutes for your oral presentation with an additional 10 minutes for questions and comments from the audience. The papers will be available on a CD and through the website.

Posters

All participants are invited to make a free form research poster (optional form of representation) to be placed in the large indoor atrium in connection to the session halls. An image of the atrium is available at the conference website. We cannot take responsibility for the security or arrangement of the poster but we will try assisting you on site.

If you wish to present a poster, please notify us at the latest by March 31 – indicate approximate space or arrangement needed.

REGISTRATION, CONFERENCE FEES & ACCOMMODATION

Registration

Final and definite registration March 25.

Please register on digital form available on the website www.chalmers.se/arch/SV

Conference fees

Members of the Nordic Association of Architectural Research: 1500 SEK

Doctoral students: 750 SEK

Others: 2000 SEK

Invoice for payment will be sent separately.

Accommodation

We have made preliminary reservations at a choice of hotels. If you wish to use these alternatives, please make your own reservation directly to the hotel on telephone or through email, at the latest on March 19. There are also some youth hostel options. On the conference website www.chalmers.se/arch/SV you will find more information on accommodation.

Contact

Conference email: a-inquiries@chalmers.se

Questions to: Nidal.Yousif@chalmers.se (administration), dyrssen@chalmers.se (general)

Conference hosted by: Department of Architecture, Chalmers University of Technology, SE-412 96 Göteborg, Sweden