

# Lincoln School of Architecture

*Research Newsletter Summer 2013*



UNIVERSITY OF  
LINCOLN



# Welcome

*Welcome to the first issue of the Lincoln School of Architecture (LSA) Research Newsletter, University of Lincoln! The LSA Research Newsletter is published quarterly and aims to give a taste of the excellent and various research activities undertaken by academics and PhD students at the Lincoln School of Architecture.*

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# School information

The School of Architecture offers a dynamic, multi-disciplinary research environment and it is part of the ambitious and growing academic community at the University of Lincoln. Research is, indeed, core at the University of Lincoln and it shapes and inspires the whole University's academic structure: in line with the University's research ethos, the LSA is active in developing cutting-edge local, national and international research partnerships and relations.

The Lincoln School of Architecture is located at the heart of the city of Lincoln, in an award-winning building, designed by Rick Mather, the renowned US-born architect.

Lincoln is a historic town in the East of England, famous for its archaeological heritage and distinctive architecture. Lincoln Cathedral dominates the city at the top of Steep Hill and it is celebrated as one of the finest medieval landmarks in Europe. Together with 11th-century Norman Castle and the cobbled Bailgate, it is a reminder of the city's long and fascinating history.





# School based research events

Following last year success, the International **Summer School in Architecture** run again this year (23 June 6 July 2013). Over the last two years this event has attracted more than 250 students and researchers from 15 countries. The theme for this year was 'Architecture in an evolving world' and has been organised in collaboration with IBEX Knowledge and Culture Exchange Partnerships. Through an exciting and challenging mix of field trips, lectures, seminars and discussions, this summer school looked at issues relating to the visual communication of the visual environment; urbanism and the re-generation of historic city centres; sustainable architecture; the role of BIM in the building industry. If you are interested in taking part to next year summer school or if you just would like to find out more about the event, please contact **Dr Amira Elokaly** at: [aelnokaly@lincoln.ac.uk](mailto:aelnokaly@lincoln.ac.uk).

**Arnaud Dechelle** designed the exhibition '**Amy Winehouse, A Family Portrait**' at the Jewish Museum in London. The exhibition has been co-curated with her brother Alex and sister-in-law Riva. It is an intimate and moving exhibition about the singer and it celebrates her passion for music, fashion, sudoku, Snoopy, London and her family.

The exhibition runs between 3 July and 15 September 2013. You can find out more at: <http://lnkd.in/ZhNYNK>  
<http://lnkd.in/mdfepe> <http://lnkd.in/2UWBTD>.



# Appointments

## The LSA is delighted to announce three new appointments

The LSA is delighted to announce three new appointments over the past months.

### ***PROF. HUGH BYRD***

Hugh Byrd is a Professor of Architecture in Faculty of Art Architecture and



Design. He obtained a PhD in 1981 and became a registered architect in the UK in 1983. Since then he has balanced a career in both architectural practice and academia in Malaysia, New Zealand and the UK. After teaching and

researching at several universities in the UK, he became Professor at the University Sains Malaysia, he then moved on the University of Auckland before taking up the Chair at Lincoln.

His research interests are in the future form of buildings and cities around the world as we enter an era characterized by resource depletion and climate change. These interests have led to funded research, publications and

projects in four main areas: 1) The environmental performance of buildings;

2) The environmental performance of cities; 3) International energy policy;

4) Humanitarian response to settlements hit by natural disasters. Resilient buildings and cities. Hugh is a member of the Pacific Humanitarian Team (United Nations initiative). A consultant

working on the rebuilding of housing in Christchurch, New Zealand.

### ***DR ANNA CATALANI***

After studying BA (Hons) Roman Archaeology & History of Art, University of Pisa, Italy and MA in Museum Studies, University of Leicester, Anna



completed her PhD research in Museum Studies (University of Leicester),

looking at the interpretation and representation of non-Western religious

material culture in Western museums. Specifically, the research focused on Yorùbá traditional religious material culture exhibited nowadays in museums in the United Kingdom.

Before taking up her current appointment as Reader in Architecture at the

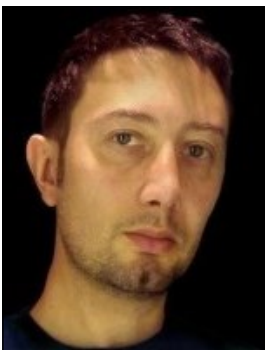
University of Lincoln, Anna was formerly Lecturer in Museum and Heritage Studies at the University of Salford, where she was the Programme Leader for the MA Art & Design. Anna's current research interests are in the fields of

museum and heritage studies, material culture (including the material culture of fashion), collectors and collections, identities and diaspora and cultural and creative tourism.

### ***MR ARNAUD DECHELLE***

Arnaud originally graduated and worked as an Architect in France prior to

completing the MA in Scenography at Central Saint Martins College of Art and Design in London. Across his career Arnaud worked in the fields of



Architecture, Art Installation and Theatre Design before specializing in Design for Exhibitions and Museums.

Over the last 15 years Arnaud has designed and implemented many projects in the UK and abroad, ranging from small temporary exhibitions in major

museums in London to large permanent exhibitions for new museums in Europe. Between 2005 and 2010 Arnaud was one of the Associate Lecturer for the

Master of Arts in Creative Practise for Narrative Environments at Central

St Martins College of Art and Design in London. In 2013 he joined the University of Lincoln as Lecturer in Museum and Exhibition Design.

# Project news

**Dr Behzad Sodagar** (Project Principal Investigator) and **Mr Derek Cottrell** (Project Academic Lead) conducted a two-year KTP research project in association with Longhurst Group. The project (which was completed in January 2013) aimed to develop a predictive modelling tool to assess the best options to achieve higher levels of the Code for Sustainable Homes in an innovative and cost effective way and implement this in the processes and systems of Longhurst Group. Due to its success, the project will be added to the short list from which KTP Case studies will be developed nationally. The project will also be submitted for the KTP national awards in 2014.

In partnership with the University of Manchester (Dr Kostas Arvanitis, Principal Investigator), the Gallery of Costume Platt Hall; John Rylands University Library, Manchester Art Gallery, Manchester Museum and the Whitworth Art Gallery,

**Dr Anna Catalani** was successful in getting a seed-corn grant, from The Manchester City Council Award. The research project focuses on Digital Technology, Smart Cities and Social Inclusion and it intends to evaluate the relevance, reception, benefits and challenges of any digital media-enabled engagement practices of Manchester cultural organisations for older audiences and visitors. The research is considering onsite, online and on-the-move visitor engagement opportunities and related digital media applications.

**MANCHESTER**  
1824

The University of Manchester



# PhD in focus

The LSA PhD student community is a growing, international one. Our current PhD students are engaged in different research projects relating to architecture, museum & heritage and urban spaces. The LSA PhD students benefit both from on going research school-based activities as well as from University-wide initiatives.



The PhD focus for this issue is on **David Younger**, who is working on Theme Park Theory. David started his PhD research project in January 2011, under the supervision of Dr Geoff Matthews. David is looking at the techniques, debates and theories of design specific to the theme park and themed attraction medium. Through his research, David aims to understand how theme parks and the used techniques can create emotion, transport guests, and fundamentally tell stories. Currently David is doing a placement in Glendale, California as an Associate Show Producer at Walt Disney Imagineering.

If you would like to find out more about David and his project, please visit David's blog: <http://www.themeparktheory.com/2011/07/about-author.html>

**We always welcome new PhD students! For further information on studying for a PhD at the LSA, please visit our web-page:**  
<http://www.lincoln.ac.uk/home/course/aaphar8>.

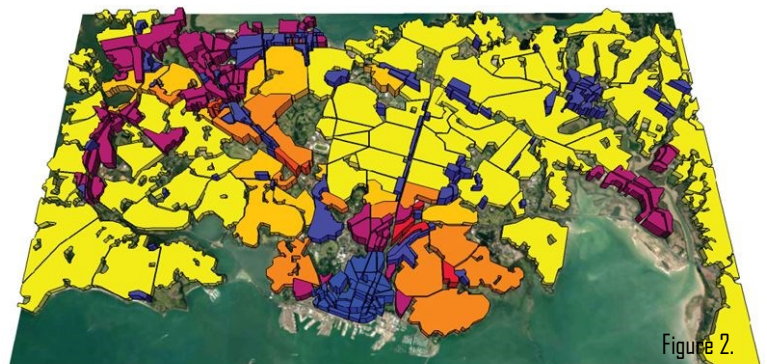
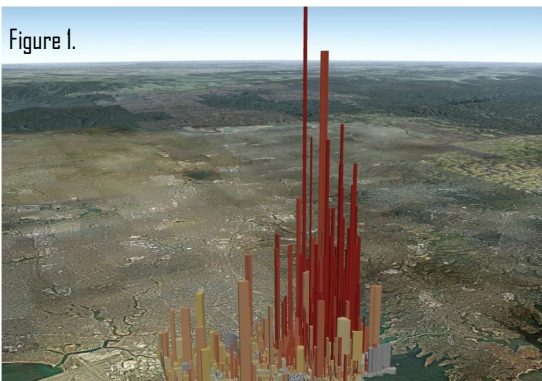


# Research insights

A spotlight on sustainability  
By Prof. Hugh Byrd

**Sustainability** in the built environment has been hijacked in recent years by prefixes of 'green', 'intelligent', 'smart' and 'eco'. Smart cities, eco-towns and intelligent or green buildings have all been exposed as exercises of building brand image rather than building a secure and sustainable future. These empty signifiers have obscured the urgency with which buildings and cities need to reduce their dependency on energy and consequent greenhouse gas emissions in the process of lighting, heating and cooling buildings and cities. Add to this our dependence on oil for transportation and it is easy to see why the production of buildings and cities is unsustainable unless there is radical change. There have been some important advances in the last 40 years with a gradual evolution from 'energy efficiency' to 'passive design' and now the 'regenerative design' of buildings. Buildings and cities are getting better but new buildings are not replacing the old at a pace that will make any significant difference within the short period of time left before the ecological disaster, caused by climate change, and the economic disaster caused by resource depletion. To try and tackle this, a new area of research is now emerging that focuses on decentralising and decarbonising energy supplies to cities. Measuring and mapping both energy and carbon on an urban scale is beginning to reveal the potential for autonomous urban energy systems. Every city differs in its energy supply mix, its energy demands and consequent carbon emissions. For example, Sydney, Australia, produces all its electricity from coal and the energy demand problem is buildings in the city centre and their dependency on air-conditioning. An audit of energy demand resulted in a 'carbon map' (see figure 1) that has led to a phased programme of generating electricity inside the city using decentralised gas fired generators that not only produce electricity but also chilled water for cooling buildings with significantly less carbon emissions. Another example is Auckland (New Zealand), a city designed around the automobile. The problem there is not carbon from electricity generation, but carbon from transportation. Research into the potential of using rooftop photovoltaics to power electric vehicles has resulted in a 'solar potential map' (see figure 2). The roofs of the city can not only supply electricity for all transportation needs but also provide an excess for the grid. Researching energy supply issues in this way is proving a far more effective way of reducing carbon emissions than tackling a city one building at a time. This as an area for collaborative research between engineers, economists, planners and architects which are all areas of expertise in the University of Lincoln.

Professor Hugh Byrd.





# Research insights

Sam Scorer; a lesser-known architect on the 20th Century  
by Karolina Szynalska

'Would you be surprised to learn that the cathedral city of Lincoln was once at the forefront of the Modern architectural movement? In the 1960s Lincoln saw the construction of the most innovative structures – hyperbolic paraboloids (or hypars for short). This futuristic sounding term describes a double curved surface – a Pringle crisp shape – a continuous plane developing from a parabolic arch in one direction to a similar, but inverted, parabola in the other. The fashion for hypars can be attributed, in part, to the popularity of Felix Candela's experimental buildings in Mexico and, in part, to steel shortages. For ten years in post-war Britain, an executed in-situ reinforced concrete hyperbolic paraboloid was a paramount architectural achievement.

A Lincoln-born architect, Sam Scorer (1923-2003) in partnership with Denis Clarke Hall (his former tutor from the Architectural Association) and Hajnal-Kónyi (a structural engineer) designed what was perhaps the first concrete hypar roof in the UK, for the tank tower at the Charnos lingerie

factory block in Ilkeston (c1959). With the experience gained from this, Scorer had by 1963 designed and built four further concrete hypar shell roofs in and around Lincoln, of which three have since been recognised as being of national importance: Markham Moor petrol station (1959-60) in Nottinghamshire, showroom for the Lincolnshire Motor Company at Brayford Pool (1959-61) and St. John the Baptist church (1963), both in Lincoln.

I have been researching Sam Scorer since 2010. This month *C20* (The magazine of the Twentieth Century Society) published my article titled 'Hypar Pioneer'.

**(Karolina Szynalska is a lecturer in architecture at the Lincoln School of Architecture and an architect at Karaolides Szynalska Architects. Her main research interest is architecture as social practice; cultural of architecture, sustainability, and ethics. Karolina can be contacted at: [kszynalska@lincoln.ac.uk](mailto:kszynalska@lincoln.ac.uk)).**



# Out and about

**The LSA staff is active in disseminating the latest research outcomes at international and national conferences, seminars and lectures. Here it is a selection of the latest staff activity and any upcoming events we will be taking part in:**

Byrd, H. 'Challenges of Extended Mega-Urban Region. The changing face of Southeast Asia and the world' EMUR (2013) Conference. Putrajaya, Malaysia.  
19-21<sup>st</sup> November 2013;

Catalani, A. 'Museums, festivals and the democratisation of culture', *Reclassing Leisure, Critical Perspectives for a new era*, a Leisure Studies Association Conference, Salford, 9-11 July 2013;

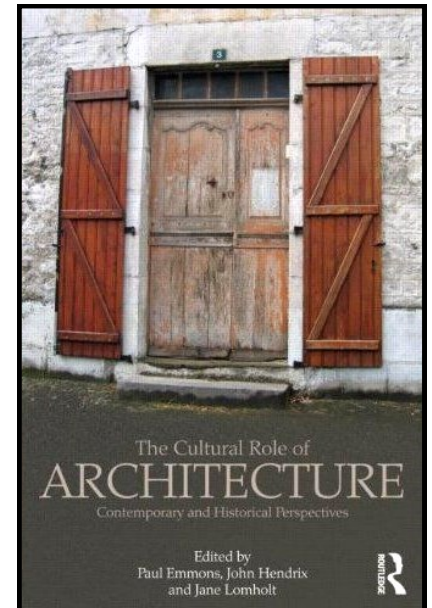
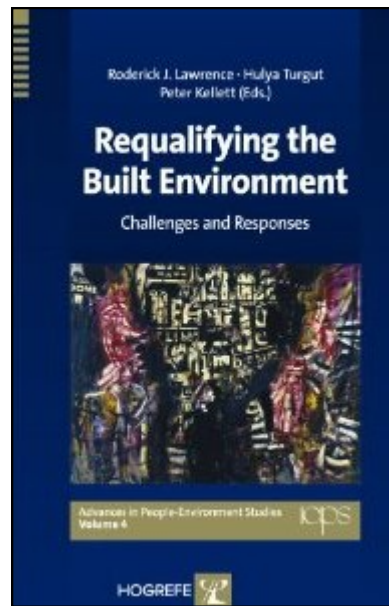
Catalani, A. 'The self and the shoes: fashionable curiosities and identity', *Dressed Body: a Symposium*, University of Sheffield, Sheffield 17 July 2013;

Catalani, A. 'Through the lenses of the Diaspora: the role of the diasporic imagination, local Yoruba identity and museum collections' *IUAES2013 World Congress: Evolving humanity, emerging worlds*, Manchester 5-10 August 2013;

Hendrix, L. S. 'The Enflamed Heart', *Renaissance Society of America*, New York, 27-29 March 2014;

Hendrix, L. S. 'Neoplatonism and English Gothic Architecture', *International Society for Neoplatonic Studies*, Cardiff University, 12-15 June 2013.

# Staff recent publications



**Byrd, H.** Measuring the solar potential of a city and its implications for energy policy, *Journal of Energy Policy*, 2013;

Ahmad, Nur A. and **Byrd, H.** Empowering distributed solar PV energy for Malaysian rural housing: towards energy security equitability of rural communities. *International Journal of Renewable Energy Development*, 2 (1), 2013;

Ho, Anna and **Byrd, H.** The power of suburbia, *Build*, 135, 2013, pp. 74-75;

Cusens, Demelza and **Byrd, H.** (2013) [\*An exploration of design thinking across educational domains\*](#). In: Design Learning for Tomorrow: Design Education from Kindergarten to PhD, 14-17th May, Oslo, Norway;

**Catalani, A.** 'Integrating Western and non-Western cultural expressions to further cultural and creative tourism: a case study', *World Leisure Journal*, 55 (3), 2013;

**Catalani, A.** and Ackroyd, T. Inheriting slavery: making sense of a difficult heritage, *Journal of Heritage Tourism*, Feb. 2013;

**Hendrix, J. S.** (2013). 'The Architecture of Lincoln Cathedral and the Institution of Justice'. in Jonathan Simon, Nicholas Temple, and Renée Tobe (eds.), *Architecture and Justice: Judicial Meanings in the Public Realm*, Farnham, Surrey: Ashgate;

**Hendrix, J. S.** (2013). 'Architecture and Dream Construction', in Elizabeth Danze and Stephen Sonnenberg (eds.), *Gen-ter, Volume 17: Space and Psyche*, Austin: Center for American Architecture and Design;

**Sodagar, B.** Sustainability Potentials of Housing Refurbishment, *Buildings*, Volume 3, 2013, pp. 278-299;

**Szynalska, K.** 'Moor Papilio: A Picturesque Commentary', *The Open Art Journal*, Issue 2, Fall 2013.



*If you would like to find out more about what we do or would like to join or propose any research projects and collaborations, please get in touch with us!*

*We look forward to hearing from you.*



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