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Q
Has Dublin Changed for the Better?

Open Debate

Thursday 16th October, 6.30pm, Liberty Hall Theatre

The Irish Architecture Foundation
12 East Essex Street, Dublin 2, Ireland
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The IAF is the co-commissioner/curator for the 11th International Architecture Exhibition in Venice from the 12th September -23rd November 2008
www.thelivesofspaces.com

Image: Ellis McDonald, Dublin City Colouring Book for Culturstruction as part of Open House Dublin 2008.



The Irish Architecture Foundation is delighted to present the first **Open Debate** as the opening event in **Open House 2008**. The economic boom of the past fifteen years has undoubtedly manifested itself in an architectural renaissance and the city has seen immense growth and development. But has Dublin really changed for the better?

We are grateful to our panel of impassioned individuals for participating in **Open Debate**. Their knowledge of, and interest in our built environment from economic, political and social perspectives will set the tone for a challenging, provocative and energetic discussion. In addition to the panel, a number of spirited responses will be made from interested individuals. **Open Debate** is your opportunity to have your say: we do hope you will contribute to the discussion.

The Irish Architecture Foundation (IAF) is recording **Open Debate**, and the record will be posted on

the Irish Architecture Foundation website. You may wish also to make contributions to the IAF blog on www.architecturefoundation.ie or to join our online discussion forum www.conversationsaboutarchitecture.ie

We really want your feedback in order to build on and develop **Open House**: there are Evaluation sheets in this venue, and we would be most grateful if you could complete one and hand it back at the end of the event.

Our subject: **Has Dublin Changed for the Better?** Is part of the third annual **Open House** Weekend (Thursday 16 - Sunday 19 October).

Following two successful years, the **Open House 2008** theme *The Changing City and County* will be focusing on buildings, places and infrastructure that have transformed the wider city area - from energy-efficient apartment schemes to landmark civic offices and state-of-the-art corporate headquarters, and from lighthouses and historic

monuments to the original Dublin Airport building. This year's programme features close to 140 buildings and events - almost double on last year - in a diverse, topical and vibrant programme.

Other new aspects of **Open House 2008** include **Open Space**, an extended programme of walking tours; **Children's Open House** with architectural tours and workshops in the National Gallery of Ireland and the Hugh Lane Gallery; and a visual arts programme **Culturstruction**, where four artists have been asked to create site-specific installations/performances to respond to the city's architecture.

All events are free of charge, and only a small proportion will require pre-booking. Over the weekend, buildings will be geographically clustered so that participants can explore them as part of a walking tour of an area or neighbourhood. Dublin City Council is joined this year by Ballymun

Regeneration Ltd and the County Councils of Fingal, Dún Laoghaire-Rathdown and South County Dublin as event partners. Programme content has been devised by Dr. Sandra Andrea O'Connell, editor of *Architecture Ireland*.

A full programme of events is in the **Open House** brochure, available at this venue, and is online at www.architecturefoundation.ie/openhouse. There are many individuals, partners and sponsors who have assisted the Irish Architecture Foundation in the presentation of **Open House** and **Open Debate** to all of whom we extend our sincere gratitude.

Nathalie Weadick

Director, Irish Architecture Foundation

speakers

John Bowman (Chair)

Dr. John Bowman is a broadcaster and historian. He presents current affairs and historical programmes on RTÉ radio and television. He is a past president of the Irish Association for Cultural Economic and Social Relations. His book *De Valera and the Ulster Question: 1971-1973* won the Ewart Biggs Memorial Prize for its contribution to North South understanding.

Ivana Bacik

Senator Ivana Bacik, LLB, LLM (Lond), BL, FTCD, is the Reid Professor of Criminal Law, Criminology and Penology at Trinity College Dublin (previously held by President Mary Robinson and President Mary McAleese). She is Senior Lecturer and also a Fellow of Trinity College, and a practising barrister.

Jay Bourke

Jay Bourke and his business partner Eoin Foyle have created and run some of Ireland's most successful and innovative restaurants, bars and clubs. For the past 15 years they have been trailblazers in their industry, anticipating changing trends in social habits. Sherland Entertainments, their company, enjoys a turnover in the region of 20 million and employs 250 staff. He co-presented *The Mentor* and more recently *The Mentor Revisited* on RTÉ Television with Dr Jeanne Bolger, where the team advised entrepreneurs on the direction of their businesses. Jay holds a Business and Economics degree from Trinity College Dublin.

Ciarán Cuffe

Ciarán Cuffe is a TD and Green Party Spokesperson on Justice, Equality and Law Reform, Transport, and Foreign Affairs. He has degrees in Architecture and Town Planning from UCD, and lectured in Urban Planning at DIT Bolton Street prior to his election to the Dáil. He has campaigned on transport, planning and environmental issues and has published draft laws to tackle noise pollution, and to protect Dublin Bay. He is a member of Amnesty International, An Taisce and the Dublin Cycling Campaign.

Ali Grehan

Ali Grehan was appointed Dublin City Architect in January 2008. She was previously Chief Architect at Ballymun Regeneration and prior to that worked in London with Greenhill Jenner Architects, working on projects for Lambeth Borough and Brixton in particular. After returning from London, she worked in private practice with Richard Hurley, as well as a stint on her own, before joining the architectural team at the Luas. She says about Dublin: "The pace of change has been extraordinary and we need to continue that in a measured way. Don't we want Dublin to be a city for us? And it can be if it is well designed".

Grainne Hassett

Hassett Ducatez Architects, a practice working on strategic urban design and involved in the making of public and private buildings was established in Dublin by Grainne Hassett in 1995. Since inception the

practice has received several architectural awards in Ireland and internationally, most recently the Downes Medal for Architectural Excellence for Brookfield Youth Community Centre in Tallaght, Dublin. The practice has also lectured, published/exhibited built and research work internationally, recently as part of *The Lives of Spaces* exhibit in the 11th Architecture Biennale Venice 2008. Grainne Hassett is undertaking research under the Kevin Kieran Arts Council OPW Bursary for Research in Architecture, and is a Senior Lecturer at the new School of Architecture, University of Limerick and has acted as visiting critic to Yokohama, Turin, Stockholm and Strathclyde Schools of Architecture; formerly design tutor at UCD and DIT Schools of Architecture.

Jesse Jones

Jesse Jones is a Dublin based artist. She is a BA graduate from NCAD and MA graduate in Visual Arts Practice from IADT. Her practice focuses on the imbedded political and social history within everyday life. Recent exhibitions have included a commissioned 16mm film *The Spectre and the Sphere* which premiered at the Project Arts Centre and has since been exhibited at the Institute of Contemporary Art, London. Jesse has created *Psychic Architecture*, a book and audio piece at the National Library for *Culturstruction*, the visual arts programme in this year's **Open House**.

Don Murphy

Don Murphy, originally from Cork, was educated at the Southbank Polytechnic in London, and went to the Netherlands in 1990 to study at the Postgraduate Berlage Institute. Since 1995 he has had his own architectural practice, VMX Architects, together with Leon Teunissen. The office gained its reputation with diverse projects such as the bicycle storage at Amsterdam Central Station, the head offices of The Ministry of North Sea Management, several housing projects, schools and health care complexes. VMX approaches architecture from a pragmatic and optimistic stance. During the past years more than twenty projects have been realised. He regularly lectures abroad and in The Netherlands.

The IAF is funded by:

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The IAF is supported by:

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