

URBAN
PERFORMATIVE
RESPONSE
DEVELOPMENT
LITTLE
LITTON

WINTER
WHEEL

URBAN PERSPECTIVES ON DESIGN LITERACY | SUMMER SCHOOL | 20–21 JUNE 2019

Co-organised by Loughborough University, Leicester City Council, Leicester Urban Observatory, and supported by the Design Research Society

PROGRAMME

Thursday 20 June (Loughborough University)

- 9:30 Welcome
- 9:45 City Design – a Council perspective: [Grant Butterworth](#), Head of Planning, Leicester City Council
- 10:30 Break
- 11:00 Arguing for Aesthetics: Professor Lady [Rachel Cooper](#) OBE, Lancaster University
- 12:30 Lunch
- 2:00 [Market Town](#): Nick Slater, [Radar](#)
- 2:30 How to fabricate the ideal city, using the 1976 Habitat Catalogue and the Milton Keynes Infrastructure Pack: [Gareth Jones](#), Artist
- 3:30 Break
- 4:00 Repositioning Graphic Heritage: Dr [Robert Harland](#) and [Johnny Xu](#), Loughborough University
- 5:00 End

Friday 21 June (Leicester City Council and Maber Architects)

- 9:30 Welcome, [Maber Architects](#), Leicester office
- 10:00 Design Literacy in Practice: [Tim Boxford](#), Maber Architects
- 12:30 Lunch
- 2:00 Design in context – Leicester City Centre (interactive workshop and site visit): [Grant Butterworth](#), City Hall, Leicester City Council
- 4:00 End

KEY LOCATIONS

Loughborough University

RT/025 Fire Station, Ground floor, Civil and Building Engineering (Sir Frank Gibb building)
<http://tiny.cc/imee8y>

Maber Architects

3rd Floor, Silver Arcade, Leicester, LE1 5FA, **Tel:** +44 (0)116 249 2919
<https://www.maber.co.uk/contact/#leicester>

Leicester City Council

Room G.02 City Hall, Charles Street, Leicester
<http://tiny.cc/a4ee8y>

SESSION LEADERS

Grant Butterworth presents a perspective on how the successful redevelopment of a City needs a wide range of design inputs. He will use examples of recent projects, plans and programmes to demonstrate how outcomes can be optimised to the benefit of the city's communities, stakeholders and environment. He will share some of the tensions between competing design objectives and explain how these are reconciled in real life to improve the Quality of Leicester as a Place.

Rachel Cooper challenges delegates to think about design beyond the traditional notion of a service provided by built environment professionals. Personal perspectives, urban design process, environmental sustainability, social concerns, diversity and mixed use, perceptions of place, sensory experience, health, crime, crowding, confidence, and more, will form the basis for an interactive session encouraging delegates to consider the sensory aesthetics of place.

Nick Slater reflects on *Market Town*, an 18 month project that invited architects, artists and designers to respond to recommendations outlined within the *Portas Review* around the future of our town centres. Six projects were developed in Loughborough, a Portas Pilot town, each of which sought playful and imaginative ways to improve the town centre economy. Alongside these commissions there was a pop up shop that engaged the community in the future design and use of the town, and a series of workshops and discussions that sought to further activate the community in engaging with the issues faced.

Gareth Jones talks about his practice-based PhD research at Kingston University in relation to City Club, an ambitious proposal to restore the utopian vision behind Milton Keynes to the city's art gallery. City Club weaves in and around the new MK Gallery building to create a sequence of public spaces that tell a story about art and a city. It includes the foyer, café/bar and auditorium, as well as a playscape, a garden and a new façade.

Robert Harland and **Johnny Xu** ask participants to explore how the communication of heritage impacts on the city. Imagine discovering a dead king under a car park, or the unlikely occasion that your local football team wins the football championship. As if! How might such events impact on the presentation of place? In this session delegates will explore how we experience heritage through graphic objects. Using a framework tool for discussion, participants will be encouraged to think about the role of design in constructing the heritage message.

Tim Boxford leads an interactive session exploring the means by which architects communicate their design ideas. Are 2D drawings an archaic form of visual representation that rely too much on high levels of design literacy? Together we will review an example project represented in different ways, including traditional 2D drawings, 3D views, and Virtual Reality.

Leicester City Council's Urban Design Team will take delegates to review real life development proposals on site and play the role of a Designer/Planner in assessing schemes against existing and emerging Design Guidance and other Policy objectives. The workshop will explore how this Guidance can best be developed to be useful and effective to developers, communities and stakeholders. Delegates will share findings and feedback, and will be compared with real world outcomes in what should be an enjoyable and informative process.

ATTENDEES

Practice

Rebecca Alexander, Urban Designer, Leicester City Council

Grant Butterworth, Head of Planning, Leicester City Council

Tim Boxford, Associate Director, Maber Architects **

Jonathan Casciani, Creative Director, J+O Studio

Richard Crowson, Architect, Watson Batty

Yasir Elawad, Urban Designer, Leicester City Council

Aranvir Gawera, Planning Policy Officer, Leicester City Council

Tom Ipgrave, Development Management, Leicester City Council

Pooja Kumar, Development Management, Leicester City Council

Gareth Jones, Artist *

Martin Jones, Senior Conservation Officer, Charnwood Borough Council

Lisa Richards, Urban Designer, Independent

David Singleton, Landscape Architect, DSA Environment and Design

Jane Tillotson, Associate, Stephen George Architects and Master Planners

Jeremy Trill, Green Spaces Development Officer, Charnwood Borough Council

Hugo Worthy, Curator at The Gallery, De Montfort University

Academia

Alvaro Ardura, Architect & Urban Planner, Escuela Técnica Superior de Arquitectura de Madrid

Chris Carter, Research Manager, Loughborough University *

Rachel Cooper, Professor of Design, Lancaster University *

Vanda Dimitriou, Lecturer in Digital Engineering, Loughborough University

Robert Harland, Senior Lecturer, Loughborough University

Loretta Lees, Professor of Human Geography, University of Leicester

Cyprian I Ozoh, PhD student, Loughborough University

Falli Palaiologou, Lecturer in Architecture and Urban Studies, Loughborough University

Elaine Robinson, PhD Student, Loughborough University

Nick Slater, Director of LU Arts, Loughborough University *

Barbara Whetnall, Academic Librarian, Loughborough University

Johnny Xu, Research Associate, Loughborough University

Ziqi Zheng, PhD student, School of Architecture, Building and Civil Engineering

** Not attending on Thursday * Not attending on Friday