

Subject: re: ACS book reviews, notes, design work, and conference opportunities
Date: Friday, February 12, 2016 at 20:28:36 Eastern Standard Time
From: Julio Bermudez
To: (Architecture, Culture & Spirituality Forum) ACS

Dear ACS members

Some book reviews related to ACS issues, new sacred/cultural design work, and conference announcement that may be of your interest. This material comes from either ACS members who sent them to me to share with you all or my own searches of the web.

Julio

Two books reviews that appeared in the New York Times that cover "utopia", which is the topic of our coming ACS 8 symposium in New Harmony, this June (<http://www.acsforum.org/symposium2016/>)

DREAM CITIES Seven Urban Ideas That Shape the World by Wade Graham
http://www.nytimes.com/2016/02/07/books/review/dream-cities-by-wade-graham.html?emc=eta1&_r=0

Paradise Now: The Story of American Utopianism, by Chris Jennings
<http://www.nytimes.com/2016/02/07/books/review/paradise-now-the-story-of-american-utopianism-by-chris-jennings.html?emc=eta1>

New publication: **Manifest #2: Kingdoms of God**
<https://vimeo.com/144224628>

<http://www.manifestproject.org/buy/manifest-2-kingdoms-of-god>

After two years in the works, issue #2 now available!

Contributors include: Jorge Silvetti and Graciela Silvestri, Tatiana Bilbao, Marlon Blackwell, Kathleen John-Alder, Ian Quate and Colleen Tuite (GRNASFCK), Antonio Petrov, Andrew Chesnut, Brett Culbert, Lynnette Widder and John Caserta, Sergio Galaz, Austin Granger, Molly Hunker, Andrew Kovacs, Assaf Evron, Nicola Pezolet, Mark Hogan, Mara Lepere-Schloop, Jaffer Kolb and Ang Li, Jacob Boswell, Aidlin Darling Design, Alfonso Architects, Frank Harmon, McCoy Architects, Riccardo Tossani Architecture, Daniel Bonilla Arquitectos, Ross Barney Architects, Brian Healy Architects, and BNKR Arquitectura.

Churches outside the law when offering sanctuary to asylum seekers
<http://www.smh.com.au/federal-politics/political-news/churches-outside-the-law-when-offering-sanctuary-to-asylum-seekers-20160203-gmlagz.html>

These Chinese cities begin life with empty streets and skyscrapers
<http://www.pbs.org/newshour/art/these-chinese-cities-begin-life-with-empty-streets->

[and-skyscrapers/](#)

As Great as the Burj Khalifa and the Eiffel Tower: Santiago Calatrava's Vision for Dubai's Next Icon

<http://architizer.com/blog/santiago-calatrava-dubai-tower/>

The Future of Churches Conference

Lyon (France), October 20-22, 2016

Deadline: Apr 30, 2016

If the religious fact has deeply shaped the western universe and its urban environment until a recent date, religious heritage reuse is one of the first immediate consequences of social contemporary evolutions.

Faced with the secularization phenomenon – which generates increased sale, transformation or destruction of places of worship – religious heritage has to face the challenge of functional and architectural mutations in unprecedented proportions. In decades to come, thousands of buildings in Europe and in North America will have to be converted to new uses. This is an increasingly growing phenomenon and today, thousands of churches in Scandinavia are concerned, but also in Germany, in Belgium, in France and in Italy. If approaches for conversion and transformation of religious buildings have been developed for many years in Northern Europe or in North America, such reflections are still at an early stage in southern countries of catholic tradition. This soaring phenomenon must be apprehended in terms of urban renewal issues, densification and sustainable development. The secularization process of western societies is a predilection topic for researchers in human and social sciences, but studies focusing on the consequences of the contemporary decommissioning of places of worship are rare, and those focusing on the way to ensure a reconversion of this building rarer still.

On one hand this conference aims to lay the foundations for a theoretical reflection on an international scale with the intention of measuring the extent of the decommissioning phenomenon of places of worship and its impacts at religious and social, economic and touristic, cultural and heritage levels, and on the other hand to study the conditions of intervention and transformation of churches. Our interest will be more specifically directed towards the establishment of methods and protocols for intervention in the dynamics of conversions. Presentations will focus especially on the architectural project, given the specific problems caused by the reuse of cultic heritage, and on the flexibility potentials of these buildings in terms of social and environmental developments. A set of theoretical, programmatic, architectural and urban planning proposals will be drawn aiming at raising the awareness of professionals, managers but also institutional stakeholders and associations.

The conference, which takes place in Lyon from the 20th to the 22th of October 2016, will mainly propose two types of sessions: oral presentations of twenty five minutes each and round tables.

Terms submission

Submissions should be sent before April 30, 2016, on the website :

<http://avenireglises.sciencesconf.org/>

They should include a title, an abstract of 3 000 characters (spaces included) and a presentation of the author (scientific activity and/or professional, institutional affiliation, publications and email address).

Submissions can be made either in French, Italian or English. All proposals will be anonymously reviewed by the scientific committee.

**Conscious Cities: Architecture and Neuroscience
Conference**

1st to 1st March 2016
London, United Kingdom

Website: <http://www.museumofarchitecture.org/conference.html>

Contact person: Rujana Rebernjak

Conscious Cities is a one-day conference that aims to explore the relationship between neuroscience and architecture by bringing together neuroscientists, architects, engineers, planners and developers.

Organized by: Museum of Architecture

**Crossdisciplinary Perspectives on Urban Space
Conference**

27th to 28th June 2016
Florence, FI, Italy

Website: <http://crossdisciplinaryurbanspace.com/call-for-paper/>

Contact person: Giulio Giovannoni

The conference is conceived as an opportunity for critical discussion on the topic of urban space from different disciplinary perspectives.

Organized by: University of Florence - University College Cork

Deadline for abstracts/proposals: 15th February 2016

**Exploring Sexuality and Spirituality
Conference**

6th to 8th July 2016
Oxford, United Kingdom

Website: <http://www.inter-disciplinary.net/critical-issues/gender-and-sexuality/exploring-sexuality-and-spirituality/call-for-participation/>

Contact person: Rob Fisher

This conference aims to create a space for inter-disciplinary explorations of the commonalities of sexuality and spirituality.

Organized by: Inter-Disciplinary.Net

Deadline for abstracts/proposals: 26th February 2016

**Collective Intentionality X
Conference**

31st August to 2nd September 2016
The Hague, Netherlands

Website: <http://www.collintx.org>

Contact person: Titus Stahl

The International Social Ontology Society (ISOS) invites contributions to its tenth conference. Collective Intentionality X is an interdisciplinary conference concerning collective intentionality in particular and social ontology more generally.

Organized by: International Social Ontology Society

Deadline for abstracts/proposals: 15th May 2016

**Cars In/Of Culture: Mobility, Materiality, Representation
Conference**

13th to 15th September 2016
Oxford, United Kingdom

Website: <http://www.inter-disciplinary.net/critical-issues/ethos/cars-inof-culture/call-for-presentations/>

Contact person: Rob Fisher

The automobile in its entirety not only invites numerous interdisciplinary approaches, but first of all, it constitutes an interdisciplinary object, a palpable prism overlooking a variety of social, environmental, technical and political landscapes.

Organized by: Inter-Disciplinary.Net

Deadline for abstracts/proposals: 1st April 2016

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"leap and the net will appear"