

Subject: Re: ACS news, information, announcement and more.
Date: Tuesday, July 11, 2017 at 20:13:54 Eastern Daylight Time
From: Julio Bermudez
To: Julio Bermudez

On Fri, Jun 30, 2017 at 3:55 PM, Julio Bermudez <bermudez@cua.edu> wrote:

Dear ACS members

Below are announcements, news, information, and opportunities that may be of your interest. As usual, this material was prepared with information provided by other members and myself.

ACSF BOOK (2015) now in paperback -----

The book "**Architecture, Culture and Spirituality**" (Barrie, Bermudez, & Tabb, eds) published in November 2015 by Ashgate is now available in paperback through Routledge (Ashgate was bought by Taylor & Francis) and therefore at an accessible price = \$ 39.96 (it was originally released only in hard cover). This book comprises 17 chapters written by ACSF members that were selected out of our first 4 symposia. For more, visit

<https://www.routledge.com/Architecture-Culture-and-Spirituality/Barrie-Bermudez/p/book/9781472441713>

OPPORTUNITIES -----

Call for papers for **FARU 2017** (10th International Built Environment Research Conference)
University of Moratuwa, Sri Lanka -- 08th – 10th December 2017

“Design that cares”

-an inter-disciplinary approach to making built environments efficient and meaningful-
Faculty of Architecture Research Unit (FARU) of University of Moratuwa, Sri Lanka and National Science Foundation (NSF) of Sri Lanka are jointly organizing the 10th international research conference on architecture/built environments in Colombo between 08th – 10th December 2017. The conference will provide a forum for researchers, academics, practitioners and students in the areas of architecture, built environment, planning, building economics and integrated design.

Authors are invited to submit abstracts written in English within 300 words in areas related to the theme and sub themes of the conference.

Scope and call for papers

FARU 2017 highlights the significance of architecture (built environment) in caring environmental, physical, energy, socio-cultural, and economic concerns and needs, and thus the quality of life of people. Annual 10th International Conference of FARU in 2017 invites contributions on research and intellectual developments as well as on innovative case studies in the following areas:

- Environment and energy
- People, socio-cultural and physical context
- Technology and materials
- Cost, management and life cycle
- Urban environments, planning, urban health and climate
- Integrated design

Venue

FARU 2017 will take place in Blue Waters, (20 Kms from Colombo and 6 Kms from the University) a five star resort hotel designed by renowned Sri Lankan architect Geoffrey Bawa.

Conference host

Faculty of Architecture Research Unit (FARU) of University of Moratuwa will be the main organizer of the conference. National Science Foundation of the Ministry of Science and Technology will be the co-organizer of the conference.

Abstract submission

Please click on the "Abstract submission" on the conference website <http://www.mrt.ac.lk/foa/faru2017/index.php> Follow instructions for submission on line. Alternatively, you can submit your abstract to faru@uom.lk

Abstracts of about 300 words are invited to be submitted for double – blind review. Do not include the author details with the abstract. Once the abstract is submitted through the Conference Management System and via e mail, an "Identification Number" will be allocated for each submission. Selected authors will be invited to submit a full paper for a further review.

Abstracts must be submitted by 20th July 2017.

19-20 September 2017 - Design Research Network 2017 Call for Delegates

Drawing | Phenomenology: tracing lived experience through drawing

Drawing Research Network Conference 19th-20th September 2017

Conveners: TRACEY School Members, Loughborough University

The conference aims to investigate and consider the role of drawing as a means to explore and trace our lived experience of the world. This theme relates to a growing area of current research being undertaken by researchers within the School of the Arts, TRACEY School Members Group. The research stems from an interest in what many practitioners/theorists acknowledge as fundamental attributes of drawing: that it is an intimate and immediate process and medium capable of recording the trace of the drawer's thoughts and bodily movements. The act of drawing is said to reduce the space between the drawer and the drawing, leaving marks on the surface regardless of erasure, subsequently creating a visible trace of both the process of making and the drawer's thoughts. The conference aims to discuss and debate these widely accepted attributes of drawing to question whether and/or how drawing really can be thought of as phenomenology.

The conference aims to provide a space for discussion, dissemination and the exchange of knowledge. TRACEY is committed to the promotion of practice-led research and the interrelationship of theory and practice. Therefore, the conference schedule includes academic research papers in the mornings and a series of practical drawing workshops in the afternoons, to encourage debate and promote thinking through making.

Registration is now open for the conference and can be booked online

by clicking on the link below:

<http://store.lboro.ac.uk/conferences-and-events/school-of-the-arts-english-and-drama/upcoming-eventssymposiums/drawing-phenomenology-tracing-lived-experience-through-drawing>

ARTICLES & NEWS -----

Mars ain't the kind of place to raise your kids (appeared in the Space Review)

<http://www.thespacereview.com/article/3225/1>

It isn't always easy to trace the origin of an idea that inspires a movement. For decades, science fiction stories featured space colonies before the 1970s, when people like Gerard K. O'Neill began to write and talk about space settlement as a feasible idea. But so far, that idea has mostly existed in science fiction, not reality. The Syfy Channel's *The Expanse*, which recently completed its second season, has probably done more than any recent form of entertainment to keep alive the concept of space settlement.

The Power of Concentration (appeared in the New York Times)

https://mobile.nytimes.com/2012/12/16/opinion/sunday/the-power-of-concentration.html?emc=edit_nn_20170403&nl=morning-briefing&nid=77518273&te=1&referer=

MEDITATION and mindfulness: the words conjure images of yoga retreats and Buddhist monks. But perhaps they should evoke a very different picture: a man in a deerstalker, puffing away at a curved pipe, Mr. Sherlock Holmes himself. The world's greatest fictional detective is someone who knows the value of concentration, of "throwing his brain out of action," as Dr. Watson puts it. He is the quintessential unitasker in a multitasking world.

The changing nature of sacred spaces (appeared in "The Conversation")

<http://theconversation.com/the-changing-nature-of-sacred-spaces-74027>

Congregational membership in the United States is slowly declining. Data from the General Social Survey show that 17 percent of Americans attended a religious gathering weekly in the 1990s. By 2010, this number had dropped to 11 percent. These changes spark new questions about how people's personal religious and spiritual beliefs are changing. They also raise questions about where, if at all, people experience the sacred.

Sacred Songs of the Sikhs (appeared in the BBC)

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/programmes/p050npf0>

The YouTube generation are re-inventing Kirtan, an ancient form of Sikh worship. Kirtan, the devotional singing of the Sikh holy book, the *Guru Granth Sahib*, has traditionally been accompanied by tabla or harmonium. Today, a new generation of Sikhs are uploading their own style of Kirtan to the global diaspora.

The Solacii: Tigre Bailando's Art of Sacred Space (appeared in the Burning Man Journal)

<https://journal.burningman.org/2017/05/burning-man-arts/brc-art/the-solacii-tigre-bailandos-art-of-sacred-space/>

Solace — to give comfort, especially in times of grief or misfortune — is the "primary motivating offering" of The Solacii, says Black Rock City Honorary artist Tigre Bailando. Since 2012, thousands of participants at

various events such as Burning Man, Envision and Rainbow Serpent have witnessed Tigre's artistic process develop through large-scale sacred sculpture. All of his works create a relationship between the art and the human. They have an interactive aspect asking the participant to enter the sculpture, to join the piece and to add their own personal energy to it.

Bid to return Newcastle Cathedral to heart of city life receives six-figure boost (appeared in the UK Chronicle)

<http://www.chroniclelive.co.uk/news/north-east-news/bid-return-newcastle-cathedral-heart-13003847>

A vision to return St. Nicholas Cathedral in Newcastle (UK) to the community hub role it played for centuries has been given crucial initial funding.

The Heritage Lottery Fund has awarded a £358,000 development grant for the cathedral to work up the details of its £5.8m Common Ground in Sacred Space project.

Building a landmark: New Catholic cathedral is 'sacred space' (appeared in the Knoxville News Sentinel)

<http://www.knoxnews.com/story/life/2017/05/26/building-landmark-new-catholic-cathedral-sacred-space/341886001/>

The mother church of East Tennessee's growing Catholic population is soaring into an impressive landmark along Knoxville's Northshore Drive. When it's dedicated March 3, 2018, the \$28 million, 28,000-square-foot Cathedral of the Most Sacred Heart of Jesus will have worship space for 1,200. The building with an impressive eight-sided dome topped with a gold-gilded cross has expanded and reconfigured the West Knoxville property that includes the Sacred Heart School campus.

What will future houses of worship look like? (appeared in Religion News Service)

<http://religionnews.com/2017/06/14/what-will-future-houses-of-worship-look-like/>

Over the past few decades the concept of a "church" — in fact, of all kinds of religious buildings — has been shifting, some might even say radically transforming, because of big changes in people's attitudes about religion.

Decoding the ancient astronomy of Stonehenge. How the 5,000-year-old monument aligns with the sun (appeared in Vox)

<https://www.vox.com/videos/2017/6/21/15843570/astronomy-stonehenge-solstice>

The Stonehenge monument in England is known for its alignment with the summer solstice sunrise, and it is a popular destination for revelers welcoming the longest day of the year. The inner "horseshoe" of the monument opens toward the point on the horizon where the sun appears on the day in June when the sun's path is furthest North.

The Cave (appeared in Patheos.com)

<http://www.patheos.com/blogs/religionprof/2017/06/steve-reich-cave.html>

The above piece by Steve Reich takes its inspiration from the shared sacred site marking the burial place of Abraham. It is one of the sites in the Holy Land that made the biggest impression on me. On the one hand, Hebron today is a place of serious tensions.

Lost in Light (short film)

(or what we lose with light pollution ---or the goodness of darkness)

<https://vimeo.com/178841667>

When Neurology Becomes Theology. A neurologist's perspective on research into consciousness

(appeared in Nautilus)

<http://nautil.us/issue/49/the-absurd/when-neurology-becomes-theology>

Though I didn't know it at the time, I had run headlong into the "hard problem of consciousness," the enigma of how physical brain mechanisms create purely subjective mental states. In the subsequent 50 years, what was once fodder for neurologists' late night speculations has mushroomed into the pre-eminent question in the philosophy of mind. As an intellectual challenge, there is no equal to wondering how subatomic particles, mindless cells, synapses, and neurotransmitters create the experience of red, the beauty of a sunset, the euphoria of lust, the transcendence of music, or in this case, intractable paranoia.

The Vibrant Colors and Details of Argentine Architecture in 100 Minimalist Photographs (appeared in arch daily)

http://www.archdaily.com/873591/the-vibrant-colors-and-details-of-argentine-architecture-in-100-minimalist-photographs?utm_medium=email&utm_source=ArchDaily%20List

The textures, colors, and details, captured by @hernanmat in these minimalist photographs, show the vibrancy of the patterns and elements characteristic of the local, traditional and popular architecture of Argentina. By photographing and compiling all these elements into one place, the collection becomes in a way a reflection of the different components of Argentine architecture that occupy the collective memory.

In a strange uncanny Australia, how do we know we belong? (appeared in ABC News)

<http://www.abc.net.au/news/2017-06-30/in-a-strange-uncanny-australia-how-do-we-know-we-belong/8668446>

Artist Jonathan Jones, a Wiradjuri/Kamilaroi man, recreated a part of Australia long gone, and reclaimed it as sacred space. This wasn't simply Indigenous space. Jones opened a tear in our universe that would allow us all to find new meaning in what it is to belong. It was a timely riposte to the insult of contemporary politics that seeks to exploit difference. Jones provided a window into the missing piece of our national narrative. As Indigenous leaders seek meaningful political change, the artist reminded us that we need also a story that binds us all to this land.

NEW BOOK

Banaras Reconstructed: Architecture and Sacred Space in a Hindu City (University of Washington Press, 2017).

<http://news.psu.edu/story/472250/2017/06/20/academics/faculty-members-book-tells-story-sacred-city-through-architecture>

The book addresses Banaras, the Hindu center of northern India, and its evolution through architecture and urbanism. A venerated religious site and destination for tourists and pilgrims, Desai grapples with the nature of the city as a built environment and a cultural space. Although the city is described as the oldest living city in the world, its architecture largely dates from after the 16th century, which suggests that the city was rebuilt.

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"leap and the net will appear"

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