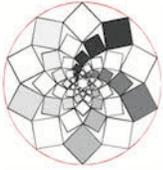


Subject: Re: 2019-8-24 ACSF newsletter
Date: Saturday, August 24, 2019 at 13:49:39 Eastern Daylight Time
From: Julio Bermudez
To: ACSF (NCSU) Listserv
Attachments: image001.jpg



ACSF Architecture, Culture, and Spirituality Forum

2019-8-24 ACSF newsletter

Dear ACSF members,

As usual, you will find in **GREEN** films, articles, design as well as competitions, conferences and grants opportunities related to our areas of interest. This material is prepared by Mike Crosbie and myself but also includes suggestions by members like you. We hope you find it useful.

Before we start, two good news about ACSF members. Let's start with **Nili Portugali** whose film "And the alley she whitewashed in light blue" will be screened (and followed up by a talk) at the *1st Jewish and Christian Mysticism Congress on the "Jewish Kaballa and Carmelite mysticism"* to take place in Avila, Spain (26-29 September 2019). For more information, visit:

<https://www.mistica.es/recursos/noticias-universidad-mistica/i-congreso-mundial-mistica-judia-y-mistica-cristiana>

Second is **Mary M. Griep** who just received a *McKnight Fellowship* for her architecturally based drawings. This fellowship will provide both professional development opportunities and funds for more research travel and exhibitions. Congratulations, Mary! Here is a link to the announcement:

<https://mcad.edu/about-mcad/fellowships/mcknight/2019-mcknight-visual-artist-fellowship-recipients>

Be aware of two important ACSF initiatives that will become active before the next newsletter comes out:

1. The call for participation for our **ACSF 12 Symposium in Fallingwater** (May 27-31 2020). The website and details of the call will go online sometimes by mid to late September.
2. September 1st opens the period accepting proposals of scholars and professionals interested in participating in the year-long **CTI "Religion and The Built Environment"** program (2020-21). For more: <http://www.acsforum.org/acsf-news/>

Julio & Mike

FILM

The Destruction of Memory

<https://destructionofmemoryfilm.com>

Over the past century, cultural destruction has wrought catastrophic results across the globe. This war against culture is not over - it's been steadily increasing.

In Syria and Iraq, the 'cradle of civilization', millennia of culture are being destroyed. The push to protect, salvage and rebuild has moved in step with the destruction.

Legislation and policy have played a role, but heroic individuals have fought back, risking and losing their lives to protect not just other human beings, but our cultural identity - to save the record of who we are.

This Film Tells the True Story of the Women of the Bauhaus

https://www.archdaily.com/920856/this-film-tells-the-true-story-of-the-women-of-the-bauhaus?utm_medium=email&utm_source=ArchDaily%20List&kth=2,689,702

In 1919, the creation of the Bauhaus school in Germany marked an important moment in the history of architecture, one that would ignite innumerable debates about architecture and design for years to come. This school, which later became more of a movement than an institution, faced an array of political resistance throughout its existence, eventually closing its doors in 1933 during the Nazi regime. However, the knowledge instilled by the Bauhaus transcended time and space to travel across the globe and make its mark on cities worldwide.

4 Films to Explore Postmodernism in Architecture and Urbanism

https://www.archdaily.com/921250/4-films-to-explore-postmodernism-in-architecture-and-urbanism?utm_medium=email&utm_source=ArchDaily%20List&kth=2,689,702

"Films have been studied by architects and other professionals who are interested in the field of architecture and urbanism because they offer a more subtle and responsive perspective of our discipline," Finnish Architect and Professor Juhani Pallasmaa tells us. Through its technical and aesthetical particularities, the cinema can go beyond simple representation to be a powerful instrument for conveying ideas and concepts related to architecture and urban space.

GENERAL ARTICLES *(about general social, cultural, etc. issues)*

Famed Yale computer science professor quits believing Darwin's theories

<https://www.thecollegefix.com/famed-yale-computer-science-professor-quits-believing-darwins-theories/>

David Gelernter, a famed Yale University professor, has publicly renounced his belief in Charles Darwin's theory of evolution, calling it a "beautiful idea" that has been effectively disproven.

Podcasts: Are You a Spiritual Searcher?

https://www.nytimes.com/2019/06/21/arts/spirituality-podcasts.html?rref=collection%2Ftimestopic%2FReligion%20and%20Belief&action=click&contentCollection=timestopics®ion=stream&module=stream_unit&version=latest&contentPlacement=7&pgty=collection

Even as organized religion declines, "spirituality's grip" is tight for many, and there are podcasts dedicated to spiritual searching.

Spiritual Practices That You Can 'Pick and Choose'

<https://www.latimes.com/health/la-he-millennials-religion-zodiac-tarot-crystals-astrology-20190710-story.html>

Have millennials replaced religions with astrology and crystals?

Resting, Reflection, and Recovery

<https://www.patheos.com/blogs/strategicmonk/2019/08/17/practices-from-the-inside-out-reflecting-resting-recovery/>

The author Greg Richardson contemplates the spiritual importance of rest and reflection in recovering our own lives.

Thinking About Death

https://www.nytimes.com/2019/07/25/well/live/living-intimately-with-thoughts-of-death.html?rref=collection%2Ftimestopic%2FReligion%20and%20Belief&action=click&contentCollection=timestopics®ion=stream&module=stream_unit&version=latest&contentPlacement=3&pgty=collection

The writer reflects on the meaning of personal demise (including a “death attitude profile” questionnaire you can complete!).

SPECIFIC ARTICLES *(more directly related to ACSF)*

Day-VII Architecture: How the Architecture of Polish Churches Developed in a Secular Socialist State

https://www.archdaily.com/922363/day-vii-architecture-how-the-architecture-of-polish-churches-developed-in-a-secular-socialist-state?utm_medium=email&utm_source=ArchDaily%20List&kth=2,689,702

In the mid-to-late 20th century, a secular, socialist Poland served as the backdrop for the construction of thousands of Catholic churches. In their book *Day-VII Architecture*, Izabela Cichonska, Karolina Popera, and [Kuba Snopek](#) analyze the paradoxical facets of this architecture born at the intersection of secularity and religion, charting how its development was influenced by liturgical reform, political movements, and the growth of postmodernism.

Socially-Organized Housing: Biophilia, Connectivity, and Spirituality

<https://www.archdaily.com/922149/socially-organized-housing-biophilia-connectivity-and-spirituality>

This time, the proposal focuses on how human health and well-being depend on the geometry of the environment. Check the previously published pieces and the new article, below.

Cathedrals as Amusements

<https://www.nytimes.com/2019/08/13/world/europe/uk-norwich-cathedral.html>

The venerable sacred spaces of England have something new in store for visitors, who might not be expecting to play mini-golf in the nave.

Contemplative and Active Lives are One

<https://www.patheos.com/blogs/ordinarymystic/2019/07/the-contemplative-and-active-lives-are-one/>

Have you fallen into the “Busy Trap”? The author reflects on how contemplative practice might exist within a life of action.

‘Kosher Sex Store’ Combines Intimacy with Spirituality

https://www.washingtonpost.com/world/middle_east/worlds-first-kosher-sex-store-seeks-to-give-intimacy-a-spiritual-revolution/2019/08/03/a33da018-ae22-11e9-9411-a608f9d0c2d3_story.html

The first and only kosher sex store in the world suggests connections between intimacy and spirituality whatever one’s religious beliefs.

Faith on the Road: Vacation Opportunities to Visit Remarkable Churches

<http://www.ncregister.com/daily-news/faith-on-the-road-vacation-opportunities-to-visit-remarkable-churches>

One of the blessings of our Catholic faith is the extensive opportunities to keep our Sunday obligation and to visit some amazing sacred places, too — including on vacation.

Is Feminism Compatible With Architecture and Urban Planning?

https://www.archdaily.com/922613/is-feminism-compatible-with-architecture-and-urban-planning?utm_medium=email&utm_source=ArchDaily%20List&kth=2,689,702

The feminine experience and its contributions in different fields of knowledge have experienced increasing acceptance, being mostly praised. The voice of architects, academics, designers, urban planners and activists has gained strength in view of the relevant reception of issues such as inclusion and gender perspective, in the face of challenges that test the great cities of the world and their inhabitants

More tee, vicar? Rochester Cathedral installs mini-golf course to attract new worshippers

<https://www.itv.com/news/2019-07-30/more-tee-vicar-rochester-cathedral-installs-mini-golf-course-to-attract-new-worshippers-to-the-fairways-to-heaven/>

It's not unusual for golfers to offer up a quick prayer as they approach a crucial putt but Rochester Cathedral has taken seeking divine intervention to the next level.

It's installed a crazy golf course in the nave - to encourage a new generation of worshippers to seek a holy in one.

Ban tourists to protect sacred sites, say Australia's indigenous people

<http://news.trust.org/item/20190809060439-3b1bl/>

From mountains to beaches, Aboriginal groups across Australia are pushing back against public access to heritage sites, in an attempt to preserve areas of historical and spiritual importance.

Part Of The Renwick's Burning Man Exhibit Will Be Burned In The Desert This Year

<https://dcist.com/story/19/08/13/part-of-the-renwicks-burning-man-exhibit-will-be-burned-in-the-desert-this-year/>

Tens of thousands of wooden squares—inscribed with expressions of loss, sorrow, memory, hope—are making their way from the District to Burning Man, and they aren't just metaphorically heavy. The collection weighs nearly a ton.

DESIGN

Competition Winners of the Pavilosta Poet Huts Revealed

<https://bustler.net/news/7366/bee-breeders-announces-the-winning-projects-for-the-pavilosta-poet-huts-competition>

Four winning designs for poet sanctuaries on a site in Latvia are showcased.

Mosque Architect Wins Tamayouz Award

<https://bustler.net/news/7435/rasem-badran-wins-2019-tamayouz-lifetime-achievement-award-for-architecture>

Rasem Badran—a designer of mosques and theorist on how architecture affects the emotional and psychological wellbeing of its users—wins coveted award.

At Notre-Dame, a Statement of Rebirth

<https://www.surface.com/articles/gensler-notre-dame/>

Ravaged by a fire earlier this year, the historic cathedral receives a pop-up place of worship designed by Gensler

ABU DHABI FLAMINGO OBSERVATION TOWER

<https://beebreeders.com/architecturecompetitions/flamingotower>

The Al Wathba Wetland Reserve located 40 kilometers southeast of Abu Dhabi. Established in 1998, it is comprised of five square kilometers of wetlands, salt flats, and fossilized sands and dunes. The reserve is known for an array of plant and animal species, such as the black-winged stilt and the indigenous spiny-tailed lizard. The Al Wathba Wetland Reserve's most notable visitors are the flamingo flocks that migrate here each winter by the thousands. Flamingos stay close to salty bodies of shallow water, build their nests at the water's edges, and search for food within the water.

Pink Seesaws Installed along US-Mexico Border

https://www.archdaily.com/922104/pink-seesaws-installed-along-us-mexico-border?utm_medium=email&utm_source=ArchDaily%20List&kth=2,689,702

Two design professors have designed and built a set of fluorescent pink seesaws along the US-Mexico border, seeking to evoke a concept of unity and play between the two sides. As reported by "The Guardian", the set was installed along the steel border fence on the outskirts of El Paso, Texas, and Ciudad Juárez, Mexico.

SKYHIVE 2019 SKYSCRAPER CHALLENGE COMPETITION RESULTS

<https://beebreeders.com/architecturecompetitions/skyhive2019>

The SKYHIVE 2019 Skyscraper Challenge is the second annual architecture competition intended to generate design ideas for iconic high rise buildings in cities around the globe. As part of this design series, participants are encouraged to incorporate new technologies, materials, forms, spatial organizations, and construction systems in their designs for a skyscraper.

The Best Architecture Projects of 2019 According to Time Magazine

https://www.archdaily.com/923531/the-best-architecture-projects-of-2019-according-to-time-magazine?utm_medium=email&utm_source=ArchDaily%20List&kth=2,689,702

The World's Greatest Places of 2019 list by Time magazine celebrates 100 destinations in the world to visit, stay, eat and drink. Selected by the global team of editors of the publication, the places have been evaluated based on quality, originality, innovation, sustainability and social impact.

GRANTS

Art Seeking Understanding

<http://www.transpositions.co.uk/call-for-proposals-art-seeking-understanding/>

The Templeton Religion Trust is seeking proposals for this new program initiative, "to conceive and design empirical and statistical studies of the cognitive significance of the arts with respect to spiritual realities and the discovery of new spiritual informant."

CONFERENCES

International Congress on Medieval Studies

Western Michigan University, May 7-10, 2020

Special Session- Medieval Ecclesiastical Architecture: Meaning and Sentiment in Stone and Heart

The recent fire at the Cathedral of Notre Dame de Paris has sparked much discussion on the spiritual meaning and sentiment that medieval churches convey and evoke. How is it that medieval church builders had such an acute awareness and innate sense in why and how a medieval church building expresses the faith to the point of personal commitment to the faith and attachment to the building itself? Why and how do the law of belief and the law of prayer relate in essence to the law of building and the law of living (lex credendi, lex orandi, lex aedificandi, lex vivendi)? This session will propose and explore answers.

Those interested in presenting a paper on this topic should consult the Medieval Institute's website for proposal guidelines, forms, eligibility, etc., <https://wmich.edu/medievalcongress/events>. A Congress paper proposal comprises a one-page abstract of the proposed paper and a completed Participant Information Form, submitted to the session organizer by September 15, 2020. (The Participant Information Form notes that would-be paper givers pledge that they will attend the Congress to deliver their papers in person, should they be accepted.) See website for more information. Session Organizer: Richard Nicholas, Ph.D. rnicholas@stfrancis.edu, tel. 815-740-3522

Creativity and Reality. The Art of Building Future Cities

Conference

18th to 19th December 2019

Rome, Italy, Italy

Website: <https://www.iconaconference.com/>

Contact person: organization@iconaconference.com

ICoNA International Conference on Architecture presents the 1st conference on the theme "CREATIVITY and REALITY. The art of building the future cities"

Rome, 18th and 19th December 2019.

Organized by: ICONA2019

Deadline for abstracts/proposals: 15th September 2019

Fashion, Body and Culture International Conference

Conference

15th to 15th February 2020

London, United Kingdom

Website: <https://fashion.lcir.co.uk>

Contact person: Elmer de Vos

Applying diverse methods from across disciplines the conference will explore fashion and style in wide-ranging contexts. It will examine connections between fashion, body and culture and will focus on dress, cosmetics, coiffure and body alterations.

Organized by: London Centre for Interdisciplinary Research

Deadline for abstracts/proposals: 20th October 2019

The Aesthetics of Decay: Creative Modes of Destruction

Conference

22nd to 22nd February 2020

Oxford, United Kingdom

Website: <http://aesthetics.decay.lcir.co.uk>

Contact person: Dr Olena Lytovka

The conference will explore different approaches to conceive decay as an aesthetic phenomenon.

Organized by: London Centre for Interdisciplinary Research

Deadline for abstracts/proposals: 10th October 2019

Somewhere in Between: Borders and Borderlands

Conference

25th to 25th April 2020

Oxford, United Kingdom

Website: <https://borders.lcir.co.uk>

Contact person: Dr Konstantinos Karatzas

The conference will seek to analyse the processes of border-making and border permeability in contemporary societies through various forms. We seek to explore the historical origins of borders and their role in today's global environment.

Organized by: London Centre for Interdisciplinary Research

Deadline for abstracts/proposals: 10th November 2019

Pilgrimages and Tourism International Conference

Conference

13th to 14th June 2020

Oxford, United Kingdom

Website: <https://tourism.lcir.co.uk>

Contact person: Dr Anna Hamling

This conference seeks to explore, analyse and discuss the complex concepts of pilgrimages and tourism. What is a pilgrimage? Do pilgrimages contribute to the sense of community and belonging? Is tourism a transformative experience?

Organized by: London Centre for Interdisciplinary Research

Deadline for abstracts/proposals: 10th November 2019

IFLA-CL WG International Symposium on "Historic Cultural Landscapes: Succession, Sustenance and Sustainability":

18 ~ 20 November 2019 - SNU Seoul, Korea.
Abstract deadlines extended to: 31 August 2019
For more information, direct your inquiry to Rana P.B. Singh ranapbs@gmail.com

DESIGN COMPETITIONS

Design Competition: Visitor Center in a Surreal Landscape
<https://bustler.net/competitions/latest/6727/iceland-black-lava-fields-visitor-center>
The black lava fields of Iceland offer an enchanting and mythological-inspired setting for the design of a new visitor center.

Design Competition: Museum for a Volcano
<https://beebreeders.com/architecturecompetitions/icelandvolcanomuseum>
A call for design ideas for a museum dedicated to volcanoes in Iceland

Exhibit Competition: Calling All Emerging Designers
<https://bustler.net/competitions/6700/emerging-designers-exhibition-request-for-proposals>
University of California, Berkeley, is soliciting work for a Spring 2020 exhibit on emerging designers.

Competition: Designing for Syrian Refugees in Turkey
<https://www.building4humanity.com/b4h-design-competition-2019>
Building 4Humanity is soliciting entries for the integration and inclusion of Syrian refugees in Turkey.

Design Competition: A Contemporary Tower of Babel
<https://bustler.net/competitions/6807/24h-comics-competition-31st-edition-babel>
A 24-hour design competition that takes the biblical Tower of Babel as its departure point to present architectural answers to, social problems, humanitarian causes, or utopian themes of contemporary societies.

Design Competition: The Circle of Life
<https://competitions.uni.xyz/circle-of-life>
A design challenge to reinterpret urban cemeteries, creating common ground for all faiths/agnostic populations to practice their last rites in sustainable ways.

Julio Bermudez, Ph.D.

Professor, Director Cultural Studies & Sacred Space Graduate Concentration

The Catholic University of America
School of Architecture and Planning
620 Michigan Ave NE
Washington, DC 20064

[\(202\) 319-5755](tel:(202)319-5755)
bermudez@cua.edu
<http://faculty.cua.edu/bermudez>

"leap and the net will appear"