

City Debates 2012

Re-Conceptualizing Boundaries: Urban Design in the Arab World

May 3-4, 2012

Conference Program

Day 1: Thursday, May 3, 2012

[INTRODUCTION COFFEE 9:00-9:30 AM]

09:30 - 10:00 AM	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Howayda al-Harithy (ArD-AUB). Welcome Note and Update on the “Urbanism in the Arab World” Initiative at AUB - Robert Saliba (ArD-AUB). City Debates 2012: Framing Urban Design on the Margins: Global Paradigms and Regional Implications
10:00 - 11:30 AM	<p>Panel 1. Design Networks and Emerging Regional Discourses</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Angus Gavin (Solidere). The Corporate Discourse: New Planning Mechanisms, Design Competitions, Regional Branding - Omar Abdelaziz Hallaj (Aga Khan Award for Architecture & The Syrian Trust for Development). The Cultural Discourse on Regionalism in Urban Design: A Case Study on the Role of the Aga Khan Award for Architecture - Howayda Al-Harithy (ArD-AUB). The Social Discourse: Community Activism, Postwar Reconstruction and the Arab Uprising <p>> Discussant: Nezar AlSayyad (UC-Berkley & IASTE)</p>

[COFFEE BREAK 11:30 AM-12:00 PM]

12:00 - 01:30 PM	<p>Keynote I.</p> <p>Nezar AlSayyad (University of California-Berkley & IASTE). The 'Islamic', 'Arab', 'Middle Eastern' City: Reflections on an Urban Concept</p> <p>> Commentary: Robert Saliba (ArD-AUB)</p>
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[LUNCH BREAK 01:30-02:30 PM]

02:30 - 04:00 PM	<p>Panel 2. Operational Research: Spatial and Ecological Focus</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Christoph Wessling (BTU-Cottbus). Merging the Intercultural and Cross-Cultural: The Case of Joint Urban Design Workshops between Germany and Universities in the Arab World - Thomas Stellmach (GIZ & Uberbau). Aleppo City Development Strategy: An Ecological-Regional Design Perspective - Sandra Frem (Hashim Sarkis Studios). Transforming Nahr Beirut: From Obsolete Infrastructure to Infrastructural Landscape <p>> Discussant: Leon Televizian (LU)</p>
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[COFFEE BREAK 04:00-04:30 PM]

04:30 - 06:00 PM	<p>Panel 3. Operational Research: Social and Speculative Focus</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Peter Gotsch (FH-Frankfurt). Decoding Private Urbanism and Sustainability: Lessons from Neo-Towns - Rabih Chebli (FAFS-AUB & CCES). Environmental Design between Research and Practice: Case Studies by the Center for Civic Engagement and Community Service at the American University of Beirut - Lee Frederix (NDU & AUST). Cultural Infrastructure for the Margins: A Machinic Approach to Nahr Beirut <p>> Discussant: Abdul Halim Jabr (ArD-AUB)</p>
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[COFFEE BREAK 06:00-06:30 PM]

6:30 - 8:00 PM	<p>Keynote II.</p> <p>Matthew Carmona (University College London). Decoding Design Governance</p> <p>> Commentary: Mona Harb (ArD-AUB)</p>
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Day 2: Friday, May 4, 2012

9:00 - 10:00 AM	Panel 1. The Cross-Disciplinary: Intersection and Fusion between Design Disciplines <ul style="list-style-type: none">- Mohamad Kashef (AlHosn University). Theory of Urban Space: Straddling the Divide- Sam Jacoby (AA). Architectural Urbanism: The Operativity of Built Form > Discussant: Carole Levesque (ArD-AUB)
[COFFEE BREAK 10:00-10:30 AM]	
10:30 - 11:30 AM	Panel 2. Sites of Worship <ul style="list-style-type: none">- Giuseppe Cina (University of Turin). Urban Requalification of the Abu Hanifa Mosque Neighborhood, Baghdad- Mohamed Al Assam (Dewan Architects & Engineers). The Urban Renewal of "Holy Shrine" Cities in Iraq: Case studies of Kadhimiya / Baghdad, Najaf and Karbala > Discussant: Sateh El-Arnaout (World Bank)
[COFFEE BREAK 11:30 AM-12:00 PM]	
12:00 - 1:30 PM	Keynote III. Anne Vernez Moudon (University of Washington-UFL). From Research to Practice: Re-Designing the Automobile City > Commentary: Youssef Fawaz (CEE-AUB)
[LUNCH BREAK 01:30-02:30 PM]	
02:30 - 04:00 PM	Panel 3. Sites of Globalization <ul style="list-style-type: none">- Heiko Schmid (University of Jena). Dubai's Economy of Fascination: Urban Growth between Sustainability and Economic Success- Anne-Marie Galmstrup (Henning Larsen Architects). Designing a New Financial District in Riyadh- Caecilia Pieri (Ifpo). Baghdad: A Pending Globalization? > Discussant: Ala Al-Hamarneh (University of Mainz)
[COFFEE BREAK 04:00-04:30 PM]	
04:30 - 06:00 PM	Panel 4. Sites of Contestation <ul style="list-style-type: none">- Momen El-Husseiny (UC-Berkley). Tahrir Square: The Dialectics of Modernity- Rachid Chamoun (SArD-LAU). Reclaiming Beirut's Central District Public Square(s)- Sinan Hassan (ArD-AUB & S.O.S.A). Two Squares and One City: The Umayyad and Abbasid Squares in Damascus > Discussant: Shahira Fahmy (SFA)
[COFFEE BREAK 06:00-06:30 PM]	
6:30 - 8:00 PM	Keynote IV. Yves Lion (Ateliers Lion associés & ENSAVT): Urban Projects in the Arab World > Commentary: George Arbid (ArD-AUB)

[Closing: Robert Saliba (ArD-AUB)]