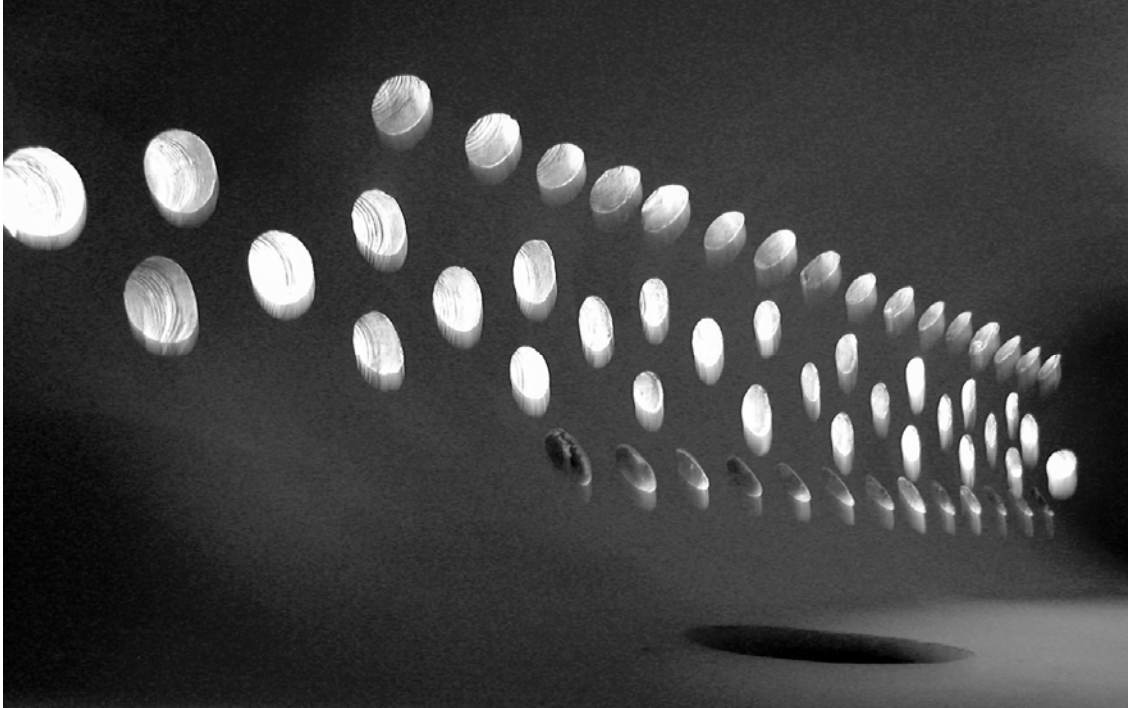


Architecture and Phenomenology
Second International Conference, Kyoto Seika University, Japan
June 26, 2009 (Friday) to June 29, 2009 (Monday)

Call for Papers



In continuation of the First Architecture and Phenomenology Conference, which was held in Haifa, Israel during May 2007, the Second Architecture and Phenomenology Conference explores diverse relationships between phenomenology and architecture. The committee members of the Conference invite papers on the relation between architecture and phenomenology, and on phenomenological interpretations of architecture at various levels. Phenomenology has been one of the most productive and inspirational arenas of thinking in the discourse of contemporary architecture since the 1960s. Despite criticisms made by other schools of philosophy such as neo-Marxism, structuralism, post-structuralism, post-colonialism and so forth, phenomenological lessons on life-world, language, perception, body, creation and ethics inspired consistently leading architects and writers in architecture. This Second International Conference on Architecture and Phenomenology seeks to open a new chapter in the history of phenomenological scholarship and practice in architecture. The Conference will revisit how phenomenology has been understood and employed in the scholarship and practice of architecture and urbanism. It will explore architectural and urban lessons of recent development in phenomenology itself such as the ideas of 'being given' and 'saturated phenomenon' by Jean Luc-Marion and 'generative phenomenology' by Anthony Steinbock. Lastly, the Conference will engage with the contemporary situation in which discourses on materiality, sustainability, and digital design and fabrication claim to have opened new arenas in the manner that we apprehend and design environments. The

Conference investigates how phenomenology offers itself as a valuable lens through which the openings and limits of these discourses can be evaluated.

Another unique aspect of the Second Architecture and Phenomenology Conference consists in the fact that it is held in an East Asian country. This venue is particularly meaningful in that phenomenology in the West has shown a great affinity to the traditional and modern East Asian thinking. Most of the phenomenology-based studies in architecture have employed as their references the philosophies of Western thinkers such as Edmund Husserl (1859-1938), Martin Heidegger (1889-1976), Maurice Merleau-Ponty (1908-1961), and so forth. Despite the fact that, in the area of philosophy, East Asian tradition has been studied by many Asian and Western intellectuals, it still remains an uncharted territory of intellectual potential for the discipline of architecture. Accordingly, this Conference will set up a momentous stage not only to balance this tendency, but also to explore the phenomenological tradition of East Asia represented by the Kyoto Philosophical School and its view of nothingness, horizon, body, perception, creation, and art and architecture. Some of the keynote speeches and general paper sessions of the Conference will be devoted to this cross-cultural relationship in phenomenological thinking at the level of both philosophy and architecture.

The Committees of the Conference invite outstanding paper proposals which explore one of the following themes from the perspective of phenomenology:

- 1) Memory and imagination
- 2) Time and place
- 3) Representation
- 4) Material, body, figure and space
- 5) Ethics of in-between, the other and the world
- 6) Digital design and fabrication
- 7) Ecology, nature and culture
- 8) Technology
- 9) Sacred architecture and religious experience
- 10) City
- 11) Historic preservation
- 12) Asian Tradition and/or Cross-cultural encounter between East and West

Submission Guideline

The Committees accept abstracts of no more than 400 words from architects, scholars, philosophers with a keen interest and understanding of art and architecture, and from students in their advanced research stage. The cover page should be prepared separately from the main text of the abstract. This page must include the title of the paper, the name of the author, affiliation, full contact information, and under what theme among the twelve themes listed above (only one theme) the submitted abstract intends to be reviewed. The abstract should be sent to Dr. Juan Manuel Heredia over the email (jh921@msstate.edu) with the subject heading of "Phenomenology Submission."

Important Dates

The deadline for the submission of the abstract is August 31, 2008. Accepted abstracts will be notified by November 1, 2008. The submission of the full paper is due on February 1, 2009. The notification of acceptance of the paper will be made on or before March 15th, 2009. Registration will open on March 15, 2009 and will remain open until May 15, 2009.

Venue and Date of the Conference

The conference will be held in Kyoto, the cultural center of Japan with an impressive volume of distinctive cultural heritage. Kyoto is also the place where the prominent Kyoto Philosophical School emerged and is still in active operation. The Conference will meet at the beautiful campus of Kyoto Seika University in the northern part of the city. Kyoto Seika University was founded in 1968 with the intention of providing a progressive, liberal and humanistic alternative to the heavily-criticized Japanese "production-line" education system of that time. In opening their own private institution, without any foundation, bequest, or corporate support, the founders of Kyoto Seika made a deep personal commitment to their ideals. Since then, this institution has become widely known for its nonconformist liberal social and educational ideals -- innovative philosophies that have been maintained and nurtured as the school has developed.

Review Process

Each abstract and paper will be reviewed by the members of the Committees including the Scientific Committee composed of distinguished scholars in architecture and philosophy.

Participants

Several members of the Scientific Committee will deliver a keynote speech in the Conference. In addition, the Conference will invite major architects of Japan including Sey Takeyama, and Terunobu Fujimori as keynote speakers.

Committee Members (Alphabetical order. Some figures are under contact)

Scientific Committee

Iris Aravot (Technion, Israel Institute of Technology, Israel)
Hubert Dreyfus (University of California at Berkeley, U.S.A.)
Karsten Harries (Yale University, U.S.A.)
David Leatherbarrow (Univ. of Pennsylvania, U.S.A.)
Juhani Pallasmaa (University of Technology, Helsinki, Finland)
Alberto Perez-Gomez (McGill University, Canada)
Dalibor Vesely (Univ. of Cambridge, United Kingdom)
Ryosuke Ohashi (Osaka University, Japan)
Takashi Kakuni (Ritsumeikan University, Japan)

Invited Architects for Lectures

Sey Takeyama (Kyoto University, Japan)
Terunobu Fujimori (University of Tokyo, Japan)

Steering Committee

Iris Aravot (Technion, Israel Institute of Technology, Israel, aravot.i@gmail.com)
Jin Baek (Pennsylvania State University, U.S.A. jinbaek@psu.edu)
Juan Manuel-Heredia (Mississippi State University, U.S.A. jh921@msstate.edu)

Organizing Committee

Thomas Daniell (Kyoto Seika University, Japan, td@thomasdaniell.com)
Stanley Russell (University of South Florida, U.S.A., Russell@arch.usf.edu)