Brutalist speculations and flights of fancy

WESTERMAN, Julie

Available from Sheffield Hallam University Research Archive (SHURA) at:
http://shura.shu.ac.uk/4652/

This document is the author deposited version. You are advised to consult the publisher's version if you wish to cite from it.

Published version


Copyright and re-use policy

See http://shura.shu.ac.uk/information.html
Walks, Symposium and Book launch  Tickets £20/£10 (concessions)

Brutalist Speculations and Flights of Fancy is a publication plus a day of exploration of six of Sheffield’s Brutalist buildings. Starting with guided walks to some of the buildings, followed by a symposium, book launch and reception, the day will explore proposals and enquiries, speculations, and flights of fancy based around the position that these six Brutalist building hold in Sheffield today.

In his book ‘A Guide to The New Ruins of Modernism’ architectural commentator and Guardian journalist Owen Hatherley says that Sheffield ‘just doesn’t seem to know how good it is’ and that its modernist architectural heritage is ‘what make Sheffield different from Leeds, or Manchester, or Birmingham’. Twenty artists and writers from Sheffield and Berlin have been invited to contribute to the publication, to consider the position that these buildings hold now (part of a much loved landscape or irrelevant, robbed of their utopian ideals) and speculate on their possible futures (for this project budgets are without ceiling, building regulations hold no barriers). These extraordinary
buildings are sometimes forgotten, often reviled, loved, misunderstood, and contested, but form a vital part of Sheffield’s architectural heritage.

The project, curated by artist and lecturer Julie Westerman, includes the following artists:

**Artists**  From Berlin: Christl Mudrak, Dominique Hurth, Olivia Reynolds with Jon Moscow, Ines Lechleitner, Irene Pätzug, Antonia Low, Oliver Zwink, Valentin Hertweck, Peter Klare, Stephan Husch, Yuen Fong Ling. From Sheffield: Michelle Atherton, Chloe Brown, Matthew Harrison, Jaspar Joseph-Lester, Professor Sharon Kivland, T C McCormack, Penny McCarthy, Becky Shaw, Gary Simmonds, Hester Reeve, Andrew Sneddon, Julie Westerman.

**Writers & Speakers**


Steve Pile  Professor of Human Geography, the Open University and author of *Real Cities: modernity, space and the phantasmagorias of city life.*

Professor Jane Rendell  Professor of Architecture and Art, and Vice Dean of Research at the Bartlett, UCL, an architectural designer, historian and writer. Books include *Site-Writing* (2010), *Art and Architecture* (2006), and *The Pursuit of Pleasure* (2002)

**Timescale**

10.30 Registration

11am – 12.30  Guided walks to Park hill Flats and some of the city centre buildings

12.30 – 2.00 Book launch – *Brutalist Speculations and Flights of Fancy* (plus lunch break – lunch not provided but can be pre-booked at registration and catered by Site Canteen)

**Symposium**  Three consecutive panels led by Professor Steve Pile, Professor Jane Rendell, and Owen Hatherley

2.00 Professor Steve Pile, with Sharon Kivland, Michelle Atherton, Hester Reeve

3.00 Professor Jane Rendell with Jaspar Joseph–Lester, Andrew Sneddon, Chloë Brown

4.00 Owen Hatherley with T. C McCormack, Penny McCarthy, Gary Simmonds

5.00 Plenary session  6.30pm Optional dinner to continue the days discussion.