



Urban Rooms, Civic Schools & City Learning

Past—Present—Future

09 May Symposium
10:00 - 18:30 Room 6.02
09-18 May Exhibition
The Bartlett School of Architecture

A symposium on Urban, Civic, City Learning Spaces
Book symposium at urbanrooms.eventbrite.co.uk
Financial support from the Architecture Projects Fund
of The Bartlett School of Architecture, UCL



urban lab



UCL

Programme

One-day symposium at UCL to discuss the past, present and future of 'urban rooms' and 'civic schools' in the UK to inform the vision for UCL's Urban Room at its new campus in the Queen Elizabeth Olympic Park, Stratford. This event brings together practitioners and thinkers of different generations who have worked engaging people with their surroundings in order to discuss further action. It will uncover their history, discuss its current iterations and explore future possibilities.

Agenda

Welcome

10:00 – 10:10 Sol Perez Martinez, Clare Melhuish & Jane Rendell

Panel 1 - Past

- 10:10 - 10:30 Urban Studies Centres and other civic pedagogy experiments – Sol Perez Martinez
- 10:30 - 11:15 Panel presentations. Chair Sol Perez Martinez
Eileen Adams (Bulletin of Environmental Education)
Chris Webb (Notting Dale Urban Studies Centre)
Lynne Dixon (Hammersmith & Fulham Urban Studies Ctr)
Sue Ingham (Hammersmith & Fulham Urban Studies Ctr)
- 11:15 – 11:30 Break
- 11:30 - 12:00 Tony Fyson (Bulletin of Environmental Education)
Joan Kean (Architecture Workshop Newcastle)
Jeff Bishop (BEE collaborator and Community Planner)
Brian Goodey (BEE collaborator and Prof Urban Design)
- 12:00 - 13:00 Discussion. Respondents: Catherine Burke, Ken Worpole
- 13:00 – 14:00 Lunch

Panel 2 - Present

- 14:00 - 14:15 Farrell Review Urban Rooms - Max Farrell
- 14:15 – 14:30 Urban Rooms Network – Diane Dever
- 14:30 - 15:30 Panel presentations. Chair Jane Rendell
Rebel Space - Resolve collective (Akil Scafe-Smith & Gameli Ladzekpo)
Lansbury Micro Museum - V&A (Catherine Ince)
School of Civic Action - Public Works (Andrew Belfield)
Liveworks Urban Room - Sheffield University (Masa Sorn)
Rabbits Road Institute - Create London (Hadrian Garrard)
Mobile Museum - Verity-Jane Keefe
- 15:30 - 16:00 Discussion. Chair Prof Jane Rendell

16:00 – 16:30 Break

Panel 3 - Future

16:30 – 16:45 Urban Laboratory – Clare Melhuish, Ben Campkin

16:45 - 17:15 Urban Public Engagement in East London and the Future of Urban Rooms: Clare Melhuish, Sam Wilkinson (UCL), Briony Fleming (UCL), Catherine Ince (V&A), Christine Gaspar (CUP) Chair Ben Campkin.

Close

17:15 – 17:30 Sol Perez Martinez & Clare Melhuish

17:30 – 18:30 Reception drinks

Organisation

Organised by Sol Perez Martinez, UCL Urban Laboratory, Prof Jane Rendell, Clare Melhuish and Ben Campkin. With the assistance of Rachel Tyler, Jordan Rowe and Katarina Krajciova. Financial support from the Architecture Projects Fund of the Bartlett School of Architecture, UCL

Biogs

Christine Gaspar – The Centre for Urban Pedagogy

Christine Gaspar is Executive Director of the Center for Urban Pedagogy (CUP), a New York-based non-profit whose mission is to use the power of design and art to increase meaningful civic engagement. She partners with designers and community organizations to create visually-based educational tools that help demystify complex issues from zoning law to sewage infrastructure. The projects are designed with and for advocacy organizations to help increase their capacity to mobilize their constituents on important social justice issues. CUP's print, audio, video, and media projects, along with tactile interactive workshop tools, are in use by dozens of community organizers and tens of thousands of individuals in New York City and beyond. The projects have been featured in art and design contexts such as the Cooper-Hewitt Museum's National Design Triennial, PS-1, and the Venice Biennale, and recognized with a Cooper Hewitt National Design Award for Institutional Achievement, the Curry Stone Design Prize, and the National Arts and Humanities Youth Program Award. Christine has over fifteen years of experience in community-

engaged design. Prior to joining CUP, she was Assistant Director of the Gulf Coast Community Design Studio in Biloxi, Mississippi, where she provided architectural design and community planning services to low-income communities of color recovering from Hurricane Katrina. She holds Masters in Architecture and in City Planning from MIT, and a Bachelor of Arts from Brown University.

Clare Melhuish - Director Urban Laboratory

Clare is a writer, anthropologist and urbanist, with a background in architectural history, criticism and curatorial practice. She is Director of the UCL Urban Laboratory, and has been researching the role of university spatial development projects in urban regeneration and the production of cosmopolitan urbanism in the UK and abroad. Clare's research draws on ethnographic research methods to interpret and understand architecture and the built environment as social and cultural setting, and the social and cultural impacts of urban development processes. Her specialist areas of interest include Modern Movement and contemporary architecture, postcolonial urban aesthetics and heritage, urban regeneration policy and practice, and housing histories and domestic space, with a focus on the UK, France, Gulf and Caribbean.

Ben Campkin

Dr Ben Campkin is an urban researcher, writer, and Senior Lecturer in Architectural History and Theory at the Bartlett School of Architecture. Ben's cross-disciplinary research focuses on urban decline and 'regeneration' in London; housing, including early twentieth century slum clearances, and the representation and redevelopment of modernist mass housing; London's LGBTQI nightlife spaces, and the use of images in urban change. He is author of *Remaking London* (2013), which won the Urban Communication Foundation's Jane Jacobs Award, and co-editor of *Dirt* (2007), *Engaged Urbanism: Cities and Methodologies* (2016), and the *Urban Pamphleteer* series (2013-). Between 2011-2018, Ben was Director of the UCL Urban Laboratory.

Jane Rendell

Jane Rendell is an academic and writer, who has developed concepts of 'critical spatial practice' (2002/6) and 'site-writing' (2007/10) through such authored books as *Transitional Spaces: The Architecture of Psychoanalysis* (forthcoming 2016), *Site-Writing* (2010), *Art and Architecture* (2006), and *The Pursuit of Pleasure* (2002) and co-edited collections like *Pattern* (2007), *Critical Architecture* (2007), *Spatial Imagination* (2005), *The Unknown City* (2001), *Intersections* (2000), *Gender, Space, Architecture* (1999) and *Strangely Familiar* (1995). She is Professor of Architecture and Art at the Bartlett, UCL. <http://www.janerendell.co.uk/>

Sol Perez Martinez

Sol Perez Matinez, is an architect, researcher and educator. Before living in London, Sol lectured at the Universidad Catolica de Chile and ran an architectural practice where she and her firm partners developed projects for both private clients and the Chilean government. Their last public building was a school which encouraged her research about environment, education and engagement. Sol holds a professional degree in architecture, a master's in architecture and a master's in architectural history. Currently, she is a PhD candidate at the Bartlett School of Architecture and the Institute of Education, UCL while also working as an architecture consultant in Chile and the UK.

Panel 1 – Past

Eileen Adams

For the first 15 years of her professional life, Eileen Adams worked in institutional and organizational settings; for the remaining 33, she has been a freelance consultant working in the UK and internationally. Her career developed as a rich thread of inter-related and interwoven strands of teaching, research, lecturing, consultancy, writing, broadcasting, campaigning, examining, evaluating, mentoring and providing voluntary support for professional organisations. Making connections between art, design and environmental education, the particular emphasis has varied: what has been constant has been the drive to change and improve educational practice and to develop the field. Extending visual literacy in schools has focused on changing perceptions and attitudes, and developing learning and teaching methods. All the work has been linked by the notion of participation: participation in the learning process, participation in environmental design and participation in cultural life. See *Eileen Adams: Agent of Change* (Loughborough Design Press 2016).

Tony Fyson

Tony Fyson was born in the Cambridgeshire Fenlands in 1943. Despite his rustic origins, including eight years of schooling in rural Sussex and voluntary teaching in the Fiji Islands, he made a career focused on the urban environment. With a Geography degree he worked in town planning for Westminster City Council and taught briefly in Further Education in Soho and Harlow New Town. In 1971 he joined Colin Ward in setting up an Environmental Education Unit at the TCPA. There followed a fruitful decade during which curriculum development in secondary schools was promoted through a new monthly Bulletin of Environmental Education (BEE) and various ideas and methods including the use of town trails and multi-purpose community centres. The approach was problem-oriented and often involved

outdoor studies, for which Tony coined the term 'streetwork'. He convened a Council for Urban Studies Centres (of which some 30 centres thrived briefly) while art teacher Eileen Adams brought a new visual dimension to the team's work. Tony moved on to the world of environmental interpretation, running a unit at the then Manchester Poly, before taking the Editorship of RTPI journal *The Planner* for ten years before turning freelance and writing a weekly column until 2011. He now lives in retirement in South Devon and (with friends) has started a not-for-profit Community Bookshop. He is also, as a town councillor, trying to put some planning ideas into practice.

Jeff Bishop

Jeff started as an architect but with interest in wider issues: economics, politics, psychology etc. After a few years in practice he started work at Kingston Polytechnic, teaching and undertaking research, notably on children and the environment. This led into a considerable amount of work on urban studies in schools but also on community participation in planning. In 1975 he joined the School for Advanced Urban Studies, Bristol University. He continued his involvement with urban studies in schools and participation in planning before setting up his own company (BDOR) in 1987, focusing on improving practice in the shaping of sustainable environments. Though then doing less with schools, his work on community participation expanded considerably as an adviser to governments (in the UK but also Italy and the USA) and as a practitioner. Jeff is part-retired and now works mainly on neighbourhood planning with a small Bristol company called Place Studio.

Brian Goodey

b. Essex 1941, first 'foreign' travels to U. of Nottingham in 1960, then to Indiana U. 1963 (Geog. w Political Science). Diverted to North Dakota for a 'Sixties experience where space, geographic education, mental maps, print making and poetry took over. Returned to Centre for Urban & Regional Studies. U. of Birmingham with social development, townscape and tourism research. From 1975 to date in Urban Design team at Oxford Poly./Brookes U. with extensive diversions into Council of Europe environmental education and conservation programmes, and private heritage interpretation. Remain active as Professor Emeritus, Urban Landscape Design + painting and printmaking. 'Cameron-generated' local Northants. volunteer trying to save a library, promoting archaeology etc.

Lynne Dixon

I began adult life as a geographer who first decided to train as a planner rather than teach geography although I hedged my bets by writing my

MA dissertation on Environmental Education which was how I found out about urban studies. So no surprise when I changed track after five years as a planner and trained as a primary teacher. Fairly quickly I was seduced into running Hammersmith and Fulham Urban Studies Centre, followed by some time at a short lived urban studies centre in Bromley. Since 1993 I have worked in local authorities as an adviser in humanities and in primary teacher education at Goldsmiths College and the University of Greenwich. I left paid employment in 2015 and am now spending a lot of time on independent research.

Joan Kean

Joan Kean became a Chartered Town Planner in 1967 and later trained as an Adult Education Teacher. 1966-73 she was a Senior Planner with Newcastle City Council and was involved in the redevelopment of Byker, with Ralph Erskine Architects, enabling residents to participate in change. That led her to the view that education was an important component to community participation. 1978-80 Town Teacher, Urban Studies Centre. 1980 she joined Newcastle Architecture Workshop as Schools and Community Liaison and became the Director 1983-2000. During which time she served on numerous National Committees and carried out Research funded by Deptmet of Environment into Organisational and Operational Structures to enable Community Participation in the Built Environment. 1992 she was awarded an MBE for services to Environmental Education. After serving as a Trustee of the Field Studies Council she is now an Honorary Vice President of FSC.

Catherine Burke

Catherine Burke is Reader in History of Education and Childhood at the University of Cambridge. She teaches history of education and childhood on the Education Tripos. She teaches on the MPhil / MEd programme and supervises Doctoral researchers. Catherine is an historian currently engaged with cultural and material histories of educational contexts and of childhood in the 19th, 20th and 21st centuries. Her current research examines the relationship between innovation in teaching and the design of formal and informal learning spaces; the view of the child and young person in the design of education; the history of 20th century school architecture and its pioneers. A major focus of the research is bringing an historical awareness to current initiatives to 'transform' education via school building renewal. She has researched and published on the history of school architecture, the participation of children in the design of school, as well as on contemporary school architecture. Catherine's book, *A Life in Education and Architecture. Mary Beaumont Medd 1907-2005* published by Ashgate in 2013, won the History of Education Society UK Book prize in 2014.

Ken Worpole

Ken Worpole is the author of many books on architecture, landscape and public policy, including two collaborations with photographer Jason Orton on the social history and landscape of coastal Essex: *350 Miles & The New English Landscape*. His most recent book is *New Jerusalem: The Good City and the Good Society* (2017). After a false start training to be a civil engineer, he re-trained as an English teacher and taught at Hackney Downs School between 1969 and 1973. He went on to work for a radical bookshop and community centre in Hackney, before moving into the field of urban and cultural policy. A founder member of the think-tank Demos, and of OpenDemocracy, he was described by *The Independent* as 'one of the shrewdest and sharpest observers of the English social landscape.' He has lived in Hackney since the late 1960s with his wife, the photographer Lorraine Worpole.

Panel 2 – Present

Max Farrell – The Farrell Review

Max is a Senior Partner at Farrells, internationally renowned architects with offices in London, Hong Kong and Shanghai, where he has led on high profile projects including Earls Court, Old Oak Common and Royal Albert Dock as well as proposals for low cost, lifting bridges in East London and 21st Century mansion blocks as affordable housing. He is an expert in public affairs and urban planning, establishing feasibility for large scale regeneration then bringing together investors and local authorities to make them happen as he has done at Castle Green with proposals for 15,000 homes and 8,000 jobs by tunnelling the A13 in Barking. Max was Project Leader for the Farrell Review, commissioned by the UK Government, which made sixty recommendations spanning education, outreach and skills; design quality; cultural heritage; economic benefits and architecture policy many of which have been implemented. He is Chair of the Civic Voice Design Awards (the only awards nominated by communities) and a judge for "Making Places" National Schools Competition and Architects Journal AJ100 awards.

Diane Dever – Folkestone Urban Room

Diane Dever is an inter-disciplinary artist/curator/producer who works collaboratively to explore the intersections of public, private and liminal space. Her work seeks to provoke insight into how urban space is experienced, quantified, produced and understood. She does this by making interventions in public space and by curating festivals, projects and events. She is interested in the notions of Civic and Public and how the creation of opportunities in art making or business enables a holistic approach to development that can benefit all. Since 2008 she has led

Folkestone Fringe and in 2015 she was given responsibility for the curation – as a social space - of Folkestone’s Harbour Arm, a one-kilometer-long ferry and railway terminal which has undergone extensive restoration. Folkestone Fringe was commissioned early 2015 to produce an Urban Analysis of Folkestone as a research tool for Folkestone Triennial artists and (an evolving) foundation document for Urban Room Folkestone. Previous projects include Radio Civic Space 2012 for Lisbon Architecture Triennale; Six Lines Some of Which Are Broken 2012, New York, (Radio for Transmission Arts and John Cage Trust); Boat Radio 2012 (pop up digital arts transmission radio station); International Lighthouse Relay 2011. With Jonathan Wright she contributed Pent Houses 2014 to Folkestone Triennial that year.

Akil Scafe-Smith – Resolve Collective

Akil Scafe-Smith graduated from University College London (UCL) with an undergraduate degree in Arts and Science BASc and a masters in Building and Urban Design in Development MSc. His research under a joint fellowship with the UCL Migration Unit and Save the Children UK concerned the sociospatial dynamics of urban camps and refugee mobility between Europe, the Mediterranean and the Sahara. He is currently a Public Practice Associate, an urban designer for Croydon Council and a cofounder of RESOLVE.

Gameli Ladzekpo – Resolve Collective

Gameli Ladzekpo is an Engineering graduate from UCL’s Engineering with Business Finance Integrated Master’s programme. During his degree, Gameli was involved in numerous entrepreneurial activities, winning the UCL Bright Ideas award for student businesses on two occasions. He is currently a Proposition Analyst at Thomson Reuters working on applications of Agent Based Models to simulate financial markets, and a cofounder of RESOLVE.

Masa Sorn – Liveworks

Currently I am working with Dr Tatjana Schneider and Carolyn Butterworth on a trans-national, interdisciplinary project Urban Education Live, investigating how collaborations between universities and cities can lead to future change with a particular focus on co-creative urban planning and governance mechanisms in urban areas. I first joined the SSoA in 2013 as a Research Assistant and PhD student, working with Dr Rosie Parnell, Dr Jo Birch and Dr Maria Patsarika on a Leverhulme Trust funded project Children Transforming Spatial Design: Creative Encounters with Children. My doctoral thesis, completed in 2017, focused on spatial literacy and the nature of communication between children and designers involved in spatial design processes.

Andrew Belfield – Public Works

public works is a not-for-profit critical design practice set up in 2004 that occupies the terrain in-between architecture, art, performance and activism. Together with our interdisciplinary network, we re-work the city's opportunities towards citizen driven development and nurturing their rights over the city. Andy Belfield joined public works in 2014 after graduating from the Royal College of Art. Outside public works he is an Adjunct Lecturer at the Umeå School of Architecture, Sweden.

Catherine Ince - V&A

Catherine Ince is Chief Curator of V&A East, a new museum and collection centre planned as part of a new cultural and education district for the Queen Elizabeth Olympic Park, London. Before joining the V&A Catherine was a Curator at the Barbican Art Gallery where she organised major survey exhibitions and associated publications including *The World of Charles and Ray Eames* (2015), *Bauhaus: Art as Life* (2012), and *Future Beauty: 30 Years of Japanese Fashion* (2011). Prior to joining the Barbican, Catherine was Curator and subsequently Co-Director of the British Council's Architecture, Design and Fashion Department where she organised touring exhibitions, installations, events and collaborative projects about contemporary architecture and design around the world. During this time she was responsible for the British Pavilion at the Venice Biennale of Architecture. Catherine is currently an international juror for the Swiss Design Awards, and a member of the advisory board for the Stanley Picker Gallery and Dorich House Museum at Kingston University.

Hadrian Garrard – Create London

Hadrian Garrard founded Create London in 2012. Create are a multidisciplinary organisation who deliver live projects that explore the complex and shifting relationships between artists and communities in east London. As an associate partner of the Barbican and a National Portfolio Organisation of Arts Council England, Create has commissioned and produced ambitious public projects with artists and collectives including Marvin Gaye Chetwynd, Jeremy Deller, Anthea Hamilton, Ruth Ewan and Assemble. Previously, Hadrian was a Creative Programmer for London 2012, leading on cultural strategy and programming around the Olympics including a £3.5m programme of public projects for east London. This included Frieze Projects East, Jeremy Deller's *Sacrilege* and Radio 1's Hackney Weekend. Hadrian is a board member of projects Create have commissioned including Open School East, Blackhorse Workshop and Company Drinks.

Verity-Jane Keefe

Verity-Jane Keefe is a visual artist working predominantly in the public realm to explore the complex relationship between people and place. She is interested in the role of the artist within urban regeneration and how experiential practice can touch upon and raise ambitions of existing and invisible communities. She has an ongoing, accidental love affair with Outer London. She currently teaches a MArch design studio with Julia King, as well as teaching on City, Studio Unit 4 on BA Fine Art XD Pathway, both in Central Saint Martins.

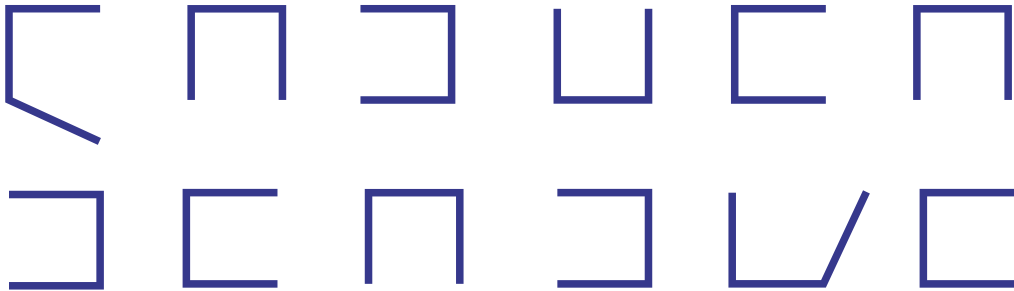
Panel 3 – Future

Sam Wilkinson - UCL Public Art Manager

Sam Wilkinson is the UCL Public Art Manager. She is responsible for the development of Public Art Policy for UCL and the delivery of artists' commissions across the UCL campuses. Her work will involve working with academics and researchers as well as supporting the delivery of the Bloomsbury Masterplan. She is currently, with the project academic leads, beginning to consider the potential for Public Art and Cultural Events at UCL East. Before joining UCL Sam had developed a career as an independent art consultant working with mixed use developers, local authorities and private clients. During 2017 she was part of the curatorial team delivering the temporary commission programme for Hull Capital of Culture and in 2010-2012 worked for the Olympic Delivery Authority Culture Team, during which she was the Curator in Residence with Artist in Residence, Neville Gabie.

Briony Fleming

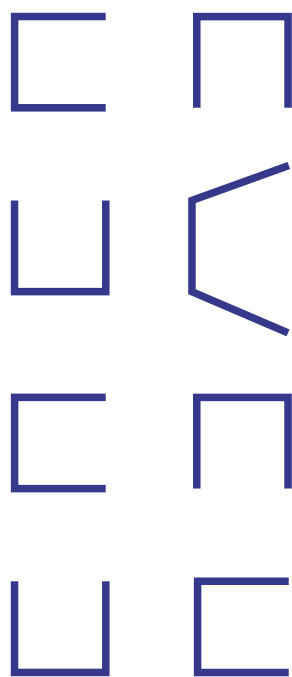
As Public Engagement Coordinator East, my role is responsible for the coordination and development of university engagement activities: liaising between UCL staff & students, as well as communities in east London to broker this. My background is in the charity sector working across communications, fundraising, and capacity building roles. I have worked with and supported diverse communities and projects across East London for the last 10 years. I am looking forward to using this knowledge and existing connections to ensure that UCL East achieves its goal of becoming an open, accessible and publicly engaged campus.



Centre for Urban Pedagogy

Christine Gaspar (NY)

08 May Lecture
18:30 Room G.12
The Bartlett School of Architecture
22 Gordon Street, WC1H 0QB



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