



RE . ASIA
ARCHITECTURE
AS METHOD

EXTENDED DEADLINE

20th January 2017

**Call for Papers for Special Issue of
ARCHITECTURAL THEORY REVIEW
and the
SAH-Asia 2nd International Symposium**

*Please note that the call for papers has been modified to include an opportunity to develop a special issue of the refereed journal **Architectural Theory Review** to be edited by CAMEA.*

We are seeking to explore how the methodological discipline of Architecture can offer a powerful theoretical approach for re-framing the social, cultural and political histories of Asia. Please see the full call for papers on the following page.

Proposals of 300 words are invited for inclusion in the SAH-Asia International Symposium as well as the ATR Special Issue around the theme – *Re. Asia: Architecture as Method*. Accepted proposals will be developed for presentation at the Adelaide Congress, to be held in July 2017, to discuss the proposition and further develop the arguments. Selected papers will be invited for publication in the ATR Special Issue and will need to be finalised by August 2017, following a separate peer review process. Congress participants may choose not to publish, while those unable to attend the Adelaide Congress may still submit proposals for the journal publication. Considering the tight turnaround for publication deadlines, we would request you to indicate your intention to participate in the Congress and ability to meet the August journal deadline.

Please email the abstract with author details and institutional affiliation to amit.srivastava@adelaide.edu.au by **Friday, 20 January 2017**. Please put “Re Asia: Architecture as Method” in subject line.

ADELAIDE CONGRESS
SAH-Asia 2nd International Symposium
(Convenors: Peter Scriver, Amit Srivastava)
1-2 July 2017, Adelaide
CAMEA/The University of Adelaide

Abstracts Due:
~~16 Dec 2016~~
20 January 2017

Re. Asia: Architecture as Method

Conceptions of Asia have shifted decisively over the last two decades. Twenty years since the Centre for Asian and Middle-Eastern Architecture (CAMEA) was established in 1997, yet still in the midst of the perennially fraught spatial politics of national and regional becoming, the intellectual framing of geographies and architectures of difference seems increasingly anachronistic if not irrelevant to the prerogatives of the early 21st century. In the context of this new 'Asian' century – an epoch that has arguably been transformed by the globalisation of modernity/capitalism, and the veritable revolution in communication technologies since the 1990s – long-laboured concepts such as site, place, region and, not least, cultural identity need to be reconsidered by scholars of Architecture and built environment if we seek to advance our tellings of Asia's architectural pasts in ways understandable and relevant to the present.

The inaugural symposium of the Society of Architectural Historians - Asia (SAH-Asia) hosted at the University of Melbourne in July 2016, invited participants to focus critically on the architectural and urban historiography of Southeast Asia as a lens to engage in a broader conversation about 'Asia as Method'. In the second annual SAH-Asia Symposium, to be hosted by CAMEA at the University of Adelaide in July 2017, we seek to resume and extend that conversation, but simultaneously to challenge some of its premises in critically productive ways.

Through a two-ended strategy, the aim, on one hand, is to expand, to shift, and to question the various frames through which 'Asia' may be claimed (regarded, defined, delimited) as a distinctive domain for historical and theoretical inquiry about architecture.

On the other hand, the strategic counterpoint of this symposium is to focus the question of method on a rigorous consideration of how the discipline of Architecture itself, and debates we may have about its proper content and limits, offer distinctive lenses through which architectural scholarship can provide powerful insight – *on/in its own terms* – into the social, cultural and political histories of Asia.

But, how might we do this?

To consider fully and fruitfully what "Architecture as Method" could actually mean we may be obliged to question more closely than usual the disciplinary ground on which we stand. What do we infer when we invoke the term 'Architecture'? Is this simply buildings (houses, temples, monuments, etc.) or, to be more discerning, just a "better class" of such built objects and infrastructure that social processes and cultural practices have produced? Or, is Architecture not also a producer in its own right, a method through which social relations and cultural values are continuously being reproduced if not constructed a-new?

From this standpoint, moreover, the very production of Architecture begs closer scrutiny as we seek more discerning ways to understand these dynamic and integral relationships between the built and the social architectures of past and present-day Asia, where the delamination of physical geographies from the lived geographies of place is increasingly a reality.

In the contemporary context of mobile if not global building culture, for instance, how could we re-engage productively in the study of local architectural knowledges, and the linguistic peculiarities that may lend these unique conceptual nuance and/or critical clarity, not by refuting our extra-disciplinary knowledge of other theoretical frameworks that have dominated Western academe in recent decades, but by returning specifically to the language of architectural tectonics to build a more robust and genuinely synthetic interdisciplinary understanding?

Proposals (300 words) are invited for papers that may explore any facet of the history or theory of the Architecture of greater Asia – from Japan, to India, to the Middle-East – but that will demonstrate (or debate) the potential of rigorous scholarship, firmly grounded within the discipline of Architecture, to give substantive form and structure, *not just illustrative content*, to broader explanations and theories of cultural order and social change.

Please email the abstract with author details and institutional affiliation to amit.srivastava@adelaide.edu.au by ~~Friday, 16 December 2016~~ **Friday, 20 January 2017**. Please put “Re Asia: Architecture as Method” in subject line.

*Participants should note that the SAH-Asia Symposium will be part of a larger scholarly event, the Adelaide Congress 2017 (1-4 July, 2017), which will include the CAMEA 20th Anniversary Plenary and the SAHANZ 2nd PhD Symposium. This will present an opportunity to engage with a broader range of emerging as well as established architectural scholars, and to reflect not only upon Asia-focused research but architectural scholarship in general. Participants could further plan to attend the SAHANZ annual conference in Canberra.

For more information about the symposium and other Adelaide Congress events, please <https://camea-adelaide.org/adelaide-congress-2017/> or e-mail the organisers at: amit.srivastava@adelaide.edu.au or peter.scriver@adelaide.edu.au

Key dates:

20 Jan 2017	Friday	Abstracts due for consideration
17 March 2017	Friday	Draft papers due for refereeing
02 June 2017	Friday	Revised papers due for inclusion
01 July 2017	Saturday	Adelaide Congress Reception and Keynote
02 July 2017	Sunday	SAH-Asia 2nd International Symposium
03 July 2017	Monday	SAHANZ 2 nd PhD Symposium (Day 1) CAMEA 20 th Anniversary Event (Evening Program)
04 July 2017	Tuesday	SAHANZ 2 nd PhD Symposium (Day 2)
05 July 2017	Wednesday	Travel day to participate in SAHANZ Conference, Canberra