



SMART PRACTICE
CONFERENCE
**NEW WAYS
OF WORKING**
1.10.2019

#smartpractice2019 @RIBA

RIBA 
Architecture.com

With thanks to the Steering Group:

Ana Matic, Scott Brownrigg
Carl Turner, Carl Turner Architects
David Patterson, Make Architects
Lanre Gbolade, L&Q
Michael Walters, AHR
Wendy Charlton, RCKa

Alan Jones, RIBA President 2019-21

Alan Jones is Professor of Architecture (Practice & Education) at Queen's University Belfast, and founder of Alan Jones Architects. His built work is cited in design guides, has received awards and commendations, and has been published across the world. He was joint head of Architecture at Queen's from 2008-16 and has co-edited the book 'Defining Contemporary Professionalism for Architects in Practice & Education' with Rob Hyde. He has been selected to sit on several design quality panels. On the RIBA Council and Board, Alan has championed opportunity for all and a closer and mutually supportive relationship between education and practice.

The first RIBA president to come from Northern Ireland, Alan brings with him a commitment to championing social mobility, a call to embrace change and a vision of working together to achieve progress.



RIBA SMART PRACTICE CONFERENCE 2019

NEW WAYS OF WORKING

09.30am Registration

10.00am **Welcome**
Alan Jones, RIBA President

COLLABORATIVE PRACTICE

10.10am **Keynote: Punching Above Your Weight Through Collaboration**
Tomas Stokke, Director, Haptic Architects

10.35am **Practice Collaboration – How to Get it Right**
Q&A chaired by Lucy Carmichael, RIBA Director of Practice

10.50am **Coffee Break**

11.20am **Disrupting the Procurement Landscape? Lessons on Integrated Project Insurance from the Derby Silk Mill**

Collaborative Procurement Models and Implications for Architects' Liability
Katie Saunders, Partner, Trowers & Hamlins LLP

Integrated Project Insurance – How It Works
Kevin Thomas, Managing Director, IPInitiatives

IPI in Practice – What We Have Learned
Hannah Fox, Director of Projects and Programmes, Derby Museums
Irena Bauman, Director, Bauman Lyons Architects
Gareth McGill, Project Manager, Speller Metcalfe

11.55am **Collaborative Procurement – The Way Forward?**
Chair: Russell Curtis, Founding Director, RCKa

12.15pm **Building Communities**
Jan Kattein, Director, Jan Kattein Architects

12.40pm **Q&A**

12.50pm **Lunch Break**

DIGITAL DESIGN AND FABRICATION

1.50pm **Keynote: Reinventing Material Practices in Architecture**
Prof. Mette Ramsgaard Thomsen, Centre for Information Technology and Architecture, KADK Copenhagen

2.20pm **Q&A**

2.30 pm **Learning from the Product Designer Mindset**
Bruce Bell, Director, Facit Homes

2.55pm **Q&A**

3.10pm **Transforming UK Construction Funding Opportunities**
Innovate UK

3.20pm **Coffee Break**

3.45pm **Client Strategies in Design for Manufacture and Assembly**
Russ Edwards, Design & Technical Director, Lendlease
Tim Carey, National Product Director, Willmott Dixon

4.15 pm **Balancing Standardisation and Customisation in Modular Housing**
PechaKucha with Amber Beare, Design Manager, Urban Splash Modular;
Carl Vann, Partner, PTE; and Wilf Meynell, Director, Studio Bark

4.35 pm **Opportunities in Digital Construction**
Chair: Holly Porter, Director, Surface to Air

4.55 pm **Closing Remarks**
Lucy Carmichael, RIBA Director of Practice

5.00pm **Close of Conference**

COLLABORATIVE PRACTICE

Punching Above Your Weight Through Collaboration

Collaborations between practices, whether large practices and smaller specialists or established and emerging ones, can make good business sense for both parties if managed properly. One side may be able to access specialist design expertise flexibly, while it creates opportunities for the other to work on high-profile projects or gain experience in different sectors. Collaboration can also serve as a useful bulwark in a climate of economic uncertainty and never-ending pressure on fees, in which all practices have to manage their resources with care.

Haptic Architect's beginnings in a recession-stricken London first ignited the interest in partnering with other practices. Over ten years, Haptic's workload has expanded and its reputation grown via a series of collaborations, often on major infrastructure projects, among which Istanbul Grand Airport with Grimshaw. For all its benefits, collaboration is not without challenges and getting it right requires identifying the right partners, taking the time to build trusted relationships, while clearly defining responsibilities and ownership.

Tomas Stokke, Director, Haptic Architects

Tomas Stokke is a co-founder of Haptic Architects, whose ethos is to design buildings and spaces that are rigorous in their pragmatism, elegantly composed and above all, have a focus on sustainability, quality and craftsmanship. He has extensive international experience, having previously established and led the Oslo-based practice Arkitekturverkstedet. Tomas has led Haptic's work on several large-scale projects, often designed in collaborative ventures, such as the new government headquarters in Oslo, Istanbul Airport, Oslo Airport City, and the Arctic Circle Airport and Television Centre. @studio_haptic

Lucy Carmichael, RIBA Director of Practice

Lucy is Director of Practice at the RIBA where she leads the programme that supports effective architectural practice and professional standards. Before joining the RIBA in 2013, she worked in architectural practice. From 2003 at CABE she provided design advice on significant development projects, including London 2012, and worked on policy, research and best practice programmes. @RIBA

Disrupting the Procurement Landscape? Lessons on Integrated Project Insurance from the Derby Silk Mill

A model of project insurance in which a client cannot sue the architect and PI insurance is unnecessary may sound too good to be true. But its advocates are predicting it is on course to be used in increasingly significant construction projects. IPI is an essential part of Insurance Backed Alliancing and designed to address the pervasive maladies of lowest cost tendering, risk dumping, quality erosion and adversarial behaviour. IPI's single, multi-party alliance contract caps all parties' financial liability while targeting best-for-project outcomes and incentivising collaboration under a joint 'gain and pain share' to create a genuinely blame-free project. Included in the Government Construction Strategy 2011-15, IPI is currently in the piloting phase. In this session we hear why collaborative procurement models are attracting growing interest, and about the experience of early adopters of the IPI model – the project team behind the transformation of the Derby Silk Mill into the Museum of Making, currently on site and due to open next year.

Katie Saunders, Partner, Trowers & Hamblins LLP

Katie leads the national team advising housing providers and local authorities procuring long term contracts to maintain and improve their housing stock. Katie is often called upon for her understanding of alliancing and partnering forms of contract. Katie is the Vice Chair of the Manchester Constructing Excellence Best Practice Club, a member of the Housing Forum and part of the working group on Stopping Building Failures as a response to the Dame Judith Hackitt review in 2018. @KSASaunders

Hannah Fox, Director of Projects and Programmes, Derby Museums

As Derby Museums' Director of Projects and Programmes Hannah is leading the new Museum of Making project. With a background in collaborative projects that are co-designed to support community needs, Hannah also teaches design-thinking at the University of Pennsylvania Center for Social Impact Strategy and National Arts Strategies. @derbymuseums

Kevin Thomas, Managing Director, IPInitiatives

Kevin is a founding director of IPInitiatives, the creators of the Integrated Project Insurance (IPI) delivery model. A former public and private sector client with a wealth of experience in built environment construction, operation and regeneration, Kevin has developed integrated collaborative working models including the award-winning FUSION approach for Glaxo. He is Chairman of the Constructing Excellence Collaborative Working Champions and member of the Strategic Forum Integration Task Group. @IPInitiatives

Irena Bauman, Director, Bauman Lyons Architects

Irena is a practicing architect and formerly Professor of Sustainable Urbanism at Sheffield University School of Architecture. Her practice and research seeks to help local communities be resilient and adaptive to change. Irena has led several Innovate UK funded R&D projects on climate change adaptation and construction innovation. She founded MassBespoke and is developing Built InCommon, a community-based distributed fabrication model. @BuiltIncommon

Gareth McGill, Project Manager, Speller Metcalfe

Founded in 1995, Speller Metcalfe has grown to a national contractor, with offices in the West Midlands, South West and London. Working across the private and public sector and priding itself on being a forward-thinking contractor, Speller Metcalfe has taken the lead in delivering some of the industry's most innovative projects, including UK and world firsts in IPI, BREEAM and BIM. @SpellerMetcalfe

Russell Curtis, Founding Director, RCKa

Russell is a founding director of RCKa, a London based architectural practice that specialises in innovative residential, community and commercial projects. RCKa was winner of the RIBA London Emerging Practice of the Year in 2015 and has won two Housing Design Awards. Russell is a founding director of Project Compass CIC which campaigns for better procurement of public buildings, a trustee of the Architecture Foundation, and a Mayor's Design Advocate. @russellcurtis

Building Communities

Architecture as a civic practice arguably goes back to the beginnings of the profession. How can architects today deliver social value, considering the conflicted recent history of regeneration? Jan Kattein believes that an inclusive approach to regeneration is possible and can bring benefits to local people. Having built up an extensive portfolio of high-street and other regeneration projects, he considers architecture as a tool for engendering economic, cultural and educational benefits, and as a catalyst for strengthening community ties and networks. Navigating conflicting interests and views while helping develop a joint vision for a place – and orchestrating its implementation in a participatory process – offers complex challenges but equally significant rewards. Jan calls on architects to accept wider accountability for the impact of their work, while on the other hand grasping the opportunity to regain a central role that has been increasingly eroded.

Jan Kattein, Founder, Jan Kattein Architects

Dr Jan Kattein is an architect and lecturer who understands architectural practice as a form of agency. Projects like the High Road Leyton regeneration programme, the King's Cross Skip Garden and Blue House Yard are making a civic contribution, creating

educational-, cultural-, and economic opportunities. Jan's work has won a range of national and international awards, including a commendation at the 2018 MacEwen Award, and is helping to re-define the role of the architect in urban regeneration. @JanKatteinArch

DIGITAL DESIGN AND FABRICATION Reinventing Material Practices in Architecture

Computation is in the process of changing our understanding of the characteristics and behaviours of materials, opening the door to reconceiving their application in architecture. By enabling the processing of new levels of complexity and the simulation of material behaviour in computational design models, the traditional understanding of materials as static and circumscribed moves towards one of interdependence and contextual. At the same time, the potential for a new lightweight and adaptive architecture emerges as recognition of the environmental impact of construction looms increasingly large. Mette and the team of researchers at CITA pursue a rethink of the materials architects are working with, investigating new materials such as bio-polymers; how to employ textiles in structures; and how to optimise conventional materials, such as steel, in order to do more with less.

Prof. Mette Ramsgaard Thomsen, CITA, KADK Copenhagen

Mette is Professor of Digital Technologies and in 2005 founded the Centre for Information Technology and Architecture (CITA) at the Royal Danish Academy of Fine Arts, School of Architecture in Copenhagen. A pioneer in the interface between digital design and architecture, her research focuses on the

profound changes that digital technologies instigate in the way architecture is thought, designed and built. Recent projects focus on advanced modelling concepts examining how machine learning and big data can become solutions for highly interdependent materials systems. Mette's recent collaborative project 'Isoropia' was exhibited at the 2018 Venice Biennale. @CITAcp

Learning from the Product Designer Mindset

Digital fabrication, bespoke design and agile onsite manufacturing have helped Facit Homes carve its niche in the one-off housing market. Keen to maintain control over the whole build process, co-founder Bruce Bell set out to 'manufacture' buildings using digital design information and a portable CNC router. With a background in product design but running architectural practices, Bruce was greatly frustrated to not get what he was expecting when a contractor interpreted the drawings. This sparked his interest in the manufacturing side of production design, which ensures quality and precision. Rather than take on the role of contractor, the aim is to control construction through a manufacturing process, and to constantly increase the level of control and accuracy. Today, the practice is a recognised trailblazer in digital home manufacturing.

Bruce Bell, Founder, Facit Homes

Bruce Bell is the founder of Facit Homes and creative force behind the company. He has been taught by and worked with some of the world's best architects and artists such as Ron Arad, Norman Foster and Antony Gormley. @FACIT_HOMES

Client Strategies in Design for Manufacture and Assembly

Design for Manufacture and Assembly (DfMA) is an approach that facilitates greater offsite production under factory conditions, thereby allowing buildings to be constructed more quickly, safely, and more resource-efficiently. The granularity of solutions varies and may include volumetric or panelised 'flat pack'. The UK government, as the largest single client of the UK construction industry, has confirmed that it will be adopting 'a presumption in favour of offsite construction by 2019 across suitable capital programmes, where it represents best value for money'. Calling for a step change in productivity and build quality, offsite and modular techniques are promoted as a future industry standard. Increasingly, private client organisations are investing in DfMA capacity, but shifting the supply chain wholesale to a DfMA approach is challenging. Where do clients see the greatest potential, what solutions are suitable for what context, and what do architects need to know to access opportunities in DfMA?

Russ Edwards, Design & Technical Director, Residential, Lendlease Europe

Russ is a qualified architect with over fifteen years in award winning architectural practice, including eight years at dRMM. Russ joined Lendlease in 2017 and is tasked with ensuring quality across the residential portfolio, including responsibility for digital design and Lendlease's DfMA strategy in Europe. Prior to joining Lendlease, Russ was Design Director at affordable housing developer Pocket Living, where he initiated their pioneering use of volumetric off-site housing. @russedwardsLDN

Tim Carey, National Product Director, Willmott Dixon

As National Product Director, Tim has overall responsibility for a portfolio that covers product improvement, off-site manufacturing, design, innovation, digital construction, planning and quality, while delivering significant productivity improvements. Tim is both the chairman of Buildoffsite's Governing Forum and a member of the Construction Leadership Council's Steering Group for Innovation in Buildings. @buildoffsite

Balancing Standardisation and Customisation in Modular Housing

Custom-build housing – offering a prospective buyer choice over the internal layout, the number of bedrooms, or the materials and finishes – is becoming increasingly popular. At the same time, modern methods of construction enable more time and cost-efficient building and increased quality control through standardisation of components and processes. How and where standardisation can be employed to greatest effect, while offering choice where it counts most to the consumer, will be explored through three modular designs. House is Urban Splash's modular housing range, with plans to scale up delivery significantly. PTE's Beechwood West sought to strike a sensitive balance in responding to the local context. Studio Bark's U-Build system aims to empower the average person through a self-build approach that offers truly affordable housing with minimal environmental footprint.

Amber Beare, Design Manager, Urban Splash Modular

A qualified architect for over 20 years, Amber has been involved in all aspects of the design and development process from feasibility through to her current role as a design lead in a modular manufacturing environment, where her key challenges are maintaining design integrity and quality alongside the required standardisation and productivity. @urban_splash

Wilf Meynell, Director, Studio Bark

Wilf is a founding member of Studio Bark, Studio Bark Projects and one of the pioneers of the recently launched U-Build construction system. He believes that the very best of architectural manifestation is born from the combined understanding of people and nature. He has an eye for detail and loves working with innovative, natural and locally sourced materials, culminating in a unique understanding of low energy construction techniques. He developed expertise in 'true self-build' by leading on collaborative live-build projects throughout his career. @StudioBark

Carl Vann, Partner, PTE

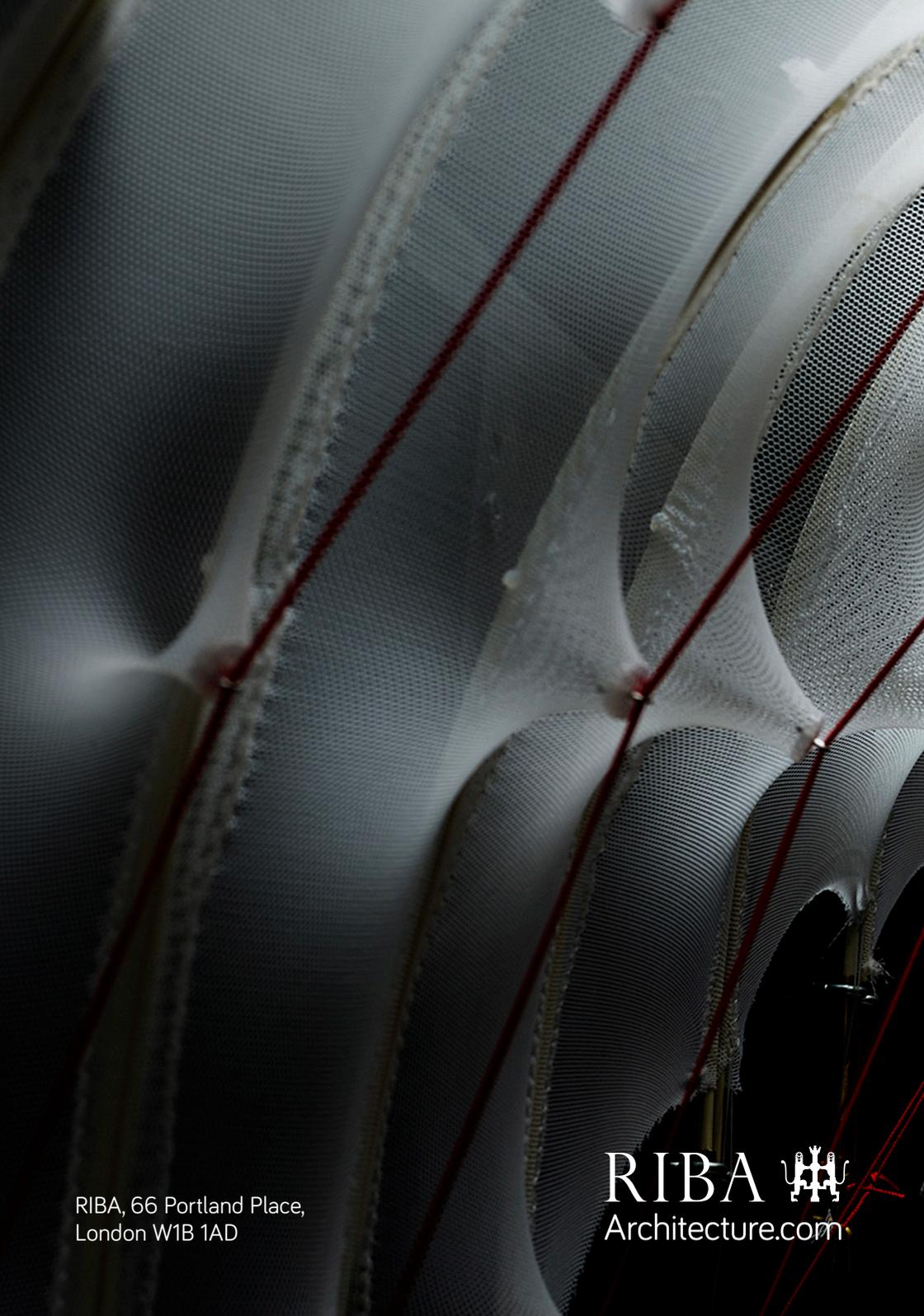
Counting two decades of experience in housing, mixed-use and regeneration, Carl heads up one of PTE's design studios. Several of Carl's current projects are operating at the forefront of residential design innovation including pre-fabricated modular homes, large scale custom-build communities and regeneration projects imaginatively integrating homes alongside workplaces, leisure, education and retail. Carl is a judge for World Architecture News residential projects and a Design Advisor for Essex and the Royal Borough of Greenwich. @PTEarchitects

Opportunities in Digital Construction

Holly Porter, Director, Surface to Air

As Surface to Air's founding director, Holly has over 15 years' architectural experience, exemplified by her extensive portfolio of successful, award-winning projects. Surface to Air specialises in Modern Methods of Construction. Winner of the Offsite Award

for Educational Project of the Year (2018), Surface to Air are known for design excellence in the education, residential and build to rent sectors. Holly is also the Founder of Chicks with Bricks, a quarterly networking event that champions the role women play within the UK's construction industry. @HollyPorter_S2A



RIBA, 66 Portland Place,
London W1B 1AD

RIBA 
Architecture.com