The Value of the Architect

RSAW 25th Anniversary Conference
Friday 30 November 2018
Cornerstone, Charles St, Cardiff, CF10 2GA

Co-hosted by
Supported by
Value [Noun]

1.1 The regard that something is held to deserve; the importance, worth, or usefulness of something.

1.2 The material or monetary worth of something.

1.3 The worth of something compared to the price paid or asked for it.

2 Principles or standards of behaviour; one’s judgement of what is important in life.
Twenty-five years ago, in October 1994, 150 architects, guests and exhibitors gathered in the Metropole Hotel, Llandrindod Wells for the inaugural, not yet Royal, Society of Architects in Wales Annual Conference and Exhibition. Chaired by Robin Nicholson, the conference posed the question Architects: Leaders or Followers? It will be fascinating to see how much the architecture profession has changed in the quarter of a century since then.

Today, following the tragedy of the Grenfell Tower fire, the whole of the construction industry, its procurement processes, lines of responsibility and reporting and the roles of individual professions have rightly come under close scrutiny. For our 25th annual conference, the Royal Society of Architects in Wales addresses these fundamental issues, asking the question ‘What is the value of the architect in today’s challenging economic and environmental conditions?’

With the RIBA’s Ethics and Sustainable Development Commission about to publish its research findings, and the Presidents of the five architecture institutes in England, Scotland, Wales, Northern Ireland and the Republic of Ireland recently committing to five shared principles, we explore how it might be possible to identify and promote the skills and qualities which an architectural training develops. We look at how client bodies view the architecture profession and the changing role of professional bodies, especially when they themselves come under a critical light. We ask what happens when personal integrity becomes hard to maintain in the light of commercial and economic pressures. We aim to explore the core obligations that a responsible professional should embrace and the impact these can have on society and our planet.

In Wales, this has special resonance in the light of the Welsh Government’s Wellbeing of Future Generations Act, described by the United Nations as “world-leading”, offering an opportunity for Wales to use strategic policy to deliver truly visionary action. Our conference will demonstrate how architects can play a crucial role in delivering the Act’s aim to create a vibrant and prosperous Wales for everyone.

Above all, we will celebrate excellent design with exemplars and case studies throughout the programme - and we end with our 25-year old tradition of The Inspiration Hour, a stimulating and rewarding end to an intensive day!
Welcome
Carolyn Merrifield, RSAW President; Director, Downs Merrifield Architects

Chair’s welcome and introduction
Robin Nicholson, Member, Cullinan Studio; Convenor, The Edge
(reprising his role as Chair of the inaugural SAW Conference in 1994)

Keynote address
Lord Dafydd Elis-Thomas AM, Minister for Culture, Tourism and Sport

Setting the scene: The six duties of the architect
Alasdair Ben Dixon, RIBA Ethics and Sustainable Development Commission; Partner, Collective Works LLP

The Value of the Architect: Viewpoint 1
Benjamin Derbyshire, President RIBA; Chair, HTA Design LLP

The Value of the Architect: Viewpoint 2
Flora Samuel, RIBA Vice-President of Research; Professor of Architecture in the Built Environment, University of Reading; Author: Architects Matter: Evidencing and Communicating the Value of Architects

Coffee

The Value of the Architect: Viewpoint 3
Leadership, Innovation, Creativity – An Irish Perspective
David Browne, President RIAI; Managing Director RKD Architects, Dublin

Pause

Question panel chaired by Robin Nicholson

Architect, client and community: Tŷ Pawb
Exploring Wrexham’s new cultural resource bringing together markets, community and the arts, with architect Sarah Featherstone, Featherstone Young Architects and client Jo Marsh, Creative Director, Tŷ Pawb.
13.00 Lunch

14.00 Procuring for value – a report by the Construction Leadership Council recommends major changes to achieve a whole-life integrated industry. Ann Bentley, Author of Procuring for Value report; CLC Lead on Supply Chain and Business Models; Global Director, Rider Levett Bucknall

14.20 Holding on to ethics in practice
Irena Bauman, Director, Bauman Lyons Architects
Author: How to be a happy architect

14.40 Pause

14.45 Question panel chaired by Robin Nicholson

15.10 Launch of Design Circle ‘My Perfect Metro’ app

15.20 Tea

16.00 The Inspiration Hour:
Richard Murphy, Richard Murphy Architects, Edinburgh

17.00 Summary and closing words

17.10 Conference ends

17.15 Conference cocktails; cash bar open to 7pm
The RSAW is the Royal Institute of British Architects (RIBA) in Wales

Royal Society of Architects in Wales
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Images
Cover:
Dunfermline Carnegie Library and Galleries, Richard Murphy Architects; photo: Chris Humphries

Inside and back:
Tŷ Pawb, Featherstone Young; photo: James Morris
Delegate name(s)

Tickets

No of places:

Rates:

- RSAW (RIBA) members advance booking rate
  £99 + VAT (total £118.80)
  (to 04 November)

- RSAW (RIBA) members
  £115 + VAT (total £138)
  (from 05 November)

- Non-member rate
  £140 + VAT (total £168)

- Student rate
  £50 + VAT (total £60)

Chartered Practice group discount

- For groups between 3-5 delegates, please apply 5% discount
  Discount (£) .................................................................

- For groups of 6 or more delegates, please apply 10% discount
  Discount (£) .................................................................

Total £ .................................................................

Payment is preferred via BACS on receipt of an invoice.
If you wish to pay by cheque, please make payable to RSAW (RIBA).
Credit card payments are now processed via RIBA's Wales and West Midlands Finance Hub
Call Sue Spencer on 0121 233 2321.

Organisation/invoice address:

Tel: .................................................................
Email: .................................................................

Please let us know about any dietary or access requirements

Signed .................................................................
Date .................................................................

Please return to:
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029 2022 8987  www.architecture.com/wales

Terms and conditions: Invoices payable within 30 days, cancellations cannot be refunded within 2 weeks of event, replacement delegates accepted. Participation = up to 6 hours CPD for RSAW (RIBA) members, with relevance for core curriculum topics 1, 2, 4, 5, 6, 8, 10. Accommodation list available from RSAW

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