

# Politics of Designing

Politics of Designing is organized in collaboration with  
Danish Doctoral Schools of Architecture & Design (DKAD, [www.dkad.dk](http://www.dkad.dk))  
and the Danish Centre for Design Research ([www.designresearch.dk](http://www.designresearch.dk))

Idea / Concept: Andreas Rumpfhuber

## Date & Location

18.09. - 20.09.2008, Royal Danish Academy of Fine Arts, School of Architecture, Copenhagen

## Topic

Politics of Designing broaches the issue of a possible political practice, and translates it into the field of design and architecture. Architecture and design are interwoven in power-discourses and are placed within a political landscape. With regard to new conditions, means, and methods of production (of architecture and design), this entanglement will be discussed and questioned at the seminar.

The above-mentioned issue is being broadly and intensely discussed in philosophy, sociology and most of all in art-related discourse. For example Toni Negri and Michael Hardt conceptualized the revolutionary concept of the *multitude*, which promises to be the new concept of resistance in a globalized world. For a long time now, the French philosopher Jacques Ranciere have been engaged in the *Politics of*

*Aesthetics*. In her texts and books, Chantal Mouffe negotiates artistic practices in relation to politics. The German philosopher, Peter Sloterdijk, contributes considerably to this debate.

In this intensive discourse on the politics of art (the politics of aesthetics) is nearly non-existent within the field architecture and design. Thus the aim of the PhD symposium is to bring together scholars of various fields, PhD students, artists, designers and architects to initiate a debate on a possible political practice in architecture and design.

## Open Questions

What is at stake? Why must we mobilize politics into design? And how are we able to do this? What are the different ways of doing this? From what kind of different perspectives can it be done? How does the design and architecture landscape shift (by means of production, etc.), and what are the consequences of these shifts at stake.

Is architecture and design only responding to forces from the outside? Or is architecture on the contrary part of reality production? Are we still able to employ the same, traditional means and methods of a modernist architecture in the creative process? Or, if not, how do these means and methods change and shift?

In this respect we also need to ask about the role of research, particularly design research. Is research a form of designed production? Might design research form a new shape of designed production? And how might this shift the architectural landscape?

**The conference will be open to the public.**

**For more information please visit: [www.dkad.dk](http://www.dkad.dk)**

**Thursday, 18. Sept 2008**

**10.00-10.30h**  
**WELCOME**

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Henrik Oxvig & Andreas Rumpfhuber: Welcome

**11.00-13.00h**  
**SESSION 1**

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**Jakob Jakobsen:** Gentrification & Revolt in Copenhagen

**Angela Melitopoulos:** The Blast of the Possible.

**Ines Schaber:** "Hier ist die Rose, hier tanze!"/"Here is the rose, here dance!"

**Moderator: John Palmesino**

**13.00-14.00h**  
**LUNCHBREAK**

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**14.00-17.00h**  
**SESSION 2**

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**Helmut Draxler:** Title to be announced

**Craig Buckley:** Disassembly: *Utopie's* Image Work and the Ambiguous Rehabilitation of Utopia

**Lars Bang Larsen:** 60er Psychedelic Art

**Andreas Rumpfhuber :** Irregular Rhythms: *Bürolandschaft*

**Moderator: Susan Schuppli**

**Friday, 18. Sept 2008**

**10.00-13.00h**  
**SESSION 3**

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**Carsten Juhl:** Aesthetic theory as action and understanding

**Celine Condorelli:** Sorting Things Out

**Pelin Tan:** The Unconditional Hospitality of Space

**Susan Schuppli:** Setting Politics in Motion: The film set as an architecture of contingency

**Moderator:** Craig Buckley

**13.00-14.00h**  
**LUNCHBREAK**

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**14.00- 17.00h**  
**SESSION 4**

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**Jens Haaning:** Design and Fascism in Denmark today – from Bodum to Arne Jacobsen

**Trine Brun Pedersen:** Design, ideology and behavior in the prison

**Maarten Van Den Driessche:** Situational Theory of the Architectural Typology

**Gabi Schilling:** Beneath the Skin

**Moderator:** Angela Melitopoulos

**20. Sept 2008**

**11.00- 13.00h**  
**SESSION 5**

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**Metahaven Design Research:** Virtual Borders

**Zourgane Philippe:** Free Zone

**John Palmesino:** Neutrality

**Moderation:** Celine Condorelli

**13.00-13.30h**  
**LUNCHBREAK**

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**13.30-14.30h**  
**CLOSING DISCUSSION**

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ALL