

## **LONDON FESTIVAL OF ARCHITECTURE 2010:**

The UK's largest celebration of architecture returns to the capital 19<sup>th</sup> June – 04<sup>th</sup> July

**Festival Highlights** (\*See hub backgrounders for further event information)

Weekend 1, June 19 - 23

**CENTRAL: NASH RAMBLAS** 

RIBA London is opening the festival with a West End hub that celebrates John Nash's key north-south route between two Royal Parks (Regents Park and St James's) uniting a wealth of architectural, historical, cultural and commercial offers. Nash Ramblas highlights the origins of the route in the early 19th century and explores contemporary, as well as the future, plans and potential for this area as a major pedestrian destination.

Highlights of Nash Ramblas programme include:



**Duke of York Steps** – A fascinating and totally unique showcase of the potential for renewable energy at work. A team of architects and the Royal Engineers have developed a lift concept that uses water weights to counterbalance a lift cart, powered by renewable energy sources pumping water back to refill the system.



**Regent Street Windows:** A selection of Regent Street's best known shops including Banana Republic, Anthopologie, COS, Oasis and Austin Reid team up with a selection of London's hottest architects to create a series of visionary window displays set to rival the world famous Christmas lights. In addition, Liberty will also hold an in-store design treasure trail.



**Speakers Crescent:** Housed in a landmark pavilion on Park Crescent RIBA host a two-day programme of diverse talks and conversations. **Nash Saturday** takes in talks and stories inspired by John Nash, the Georgian city and contemporary London particulars while **International Sunday** features presentations and debate from global practices as far ranging as Colombia, Poland and the Netherlands.



**Nash Ramblas iPhone App:** A comprehensive guide to the key architectural and festival sites along Nash's route. Produced by RIBA especially for the Festival, the app includes specially compiled galleries featuring rare archival images that provide unique access to the heritage and stories behind some of London's most famous sights.



**Following Nash:** An open-air exhibition charting the history of the streets and spaces we know today from the early 19th century, through to its 20th century reconstruction, its additions and embellishments. The exhibition presents an open exploration of how the route might be further enhanced as a central pedestrian artery for 21st century London.











**50 Years of London Architecture:** An iconic photographic exhibition illustrating a cross section of new architecture in London over the past five decades. The exhibition has been organised by the Architecture Club, Ken Powell chairs the curatorial committee.

Festival highlights continued...

Weekend 2, June 26 – 27

**EAST: HIGH STREET 2010** 

The second weekend focus is the section of streets that stretch from Aldgate to Stratford and represent the last 6km of the London 2012 Olympic Marathon, as well as a wider streetscape and regeneration strategy. The High Street will host a series of activities in collaboration with Design for London as a local delivery partner.

Highlights of High Street 2010 include:



**The V&A**: is hosting 1:1 - Architects Build Small Spaces – a series of full-scale architectural installations around the museum exploring the power of small spaces, in commissions from seven architects of international renown. In collaboration with The Architecture Foundation, talks from Rural Studio and Jeremy Till, a workshop with Rintala Eggertsson, and a special Friday Late of music, performance and events take place for the LFA.



**Hyperlympics with feld72:** Uses the communication and unifying power of sports to discover the potential of the High Street. The whole area of the High Street will be used as a temporary Pre-Olympic-Playground with a variety of competitions focusing on the 'sporty' potential of the city structure.



**We Love Store Street**: Will see Store Street's South Crescent closed to traffic and temporarily pedestrianised over three days of the Festival (Friday 25 June – Sunday 27 June), creating a physical manifestation of the Love Your Street theme. The street will be turfed over and transformed into a temporary urban pocket park, creating space for people to sit and interact. A temporary pavilion will provide a platform for performance, be it talks, music, theatre or dance.



**Rafael Vinoly:** The New York based architect gives a public lecture about his two latest London projects, Battersea Power Station and No: 20 Fenchurch Street aka 'the Walkie Talkie' and touch on aspects of his lifelong career in architecture and his projects that span the world



**Blueprint Big Breakfast**: Hosts its fourth series of thought provoking symposiums with London's leading urban thinkers. It's all done in an informal atmosphere, over a full English breakfast, providing an inspiring, thought-provoking start to the day during the Festival. Speakers include; *Kirsty Wark, Janet Street-Porter, Ken Livingstone* and *Cecil Balmand.* 









More..

Festival Highlights continued:

Weekend 3, June 30 - July 4

## SOUTH: BANKSIDE URBAN FOREST

The final weekend is defined by the part of Southwark stretching form the riverside to Elephant and Castle and Blackfriars Road and Borough High Street. LFA has teamed up with the Bankside Urban that seeks to enhance public streets, pavements, squares and parks throughout the Bankside area.

Highlights of Bankside Urban Forest include:



**Urban Orchard:** During LFA and beyond the site of 100 Union Street in SE1 will be transformed into an urban orchard and community garden. Built with the help of the local community and an array of other helpful volunteers the garden will regenerate a disused site in Bankside and create a place for exchange between local residents and visitors to the Festival.



The Oikos Project: The Architecture Foundation in collaboration with progressive theatre production company the Red Room will be creating a live build project during the London Festival of Architecture commissioning Berlin-based practice, Kaltwasser and Köbberling to create a theatre made completely from recycled and reclaimed materials.



**Portavilion:** Showcase of Berlin based architecture and art collective 'Raumlabor' and their experimental 'bubbletecture', a mobile bubble shaped tent and social space. The bubble will be touring the parks of five East London Boroughs, as well as setting up camp on the lawns of the Tate Gallery, serving as a temporary performance space for dance projects, workshops and lectures.



**Moss Your City:** Norwegain architectural practice PUSHAK has designed a installation for The Architecture Foundation featuring a spectacular undulating moss landscape. PUSHAK's approach to design is based on understanding local conditions such as climate, materials and resources. The installation takes its inspiration from Witherford Watson Mann's Bankside Urban Forest strategy.



**Food Exchange @ Borough Market:** Based around the elements of "food, community, exchange, knowledge, architecture", the event will gather together chefs, medical herbalists, "guerilla scientists", food historians and story tellers for a series of workshops and demonstrations, all aimed at promoting community spirit through learning and eating.



**Sweet Sculptures:** Model of the tallest NEO Bankside Pavilion and Tate Modern made entirely from sugar cubes. The models, made to a scale of 100:1, will be on show to the public from Friday 2nd - Sunday 4th July.









## More...

Throughout the festival a wide-ranging core programme, and one off, events will be running alongside the main weekend activities. Highlights include:



**Love Your Street:** Is a key capital-wide programme that brings together building and landscape professionals with local communities to pro-actively improve streets, spaces and places. It will also include the design of spaces, reduction of clutter, clean ups and repairs.



**Living Architecture:** An incredibly ambitious architectural project. Living Architecture are building a series of remarkable houses around the UK, available for rent, designed by some of the greatest names in contemporary architecture, including Peter Zumthor, Michael and Patty Hopkins, MVRDV, JVA and NORD. The idea is to give the public a close and intimate experience of what it is like to sleep, eat, bathe and loaf in a house designed by a great architect.



International Student Architecture Festival: Building on the success of the Student Festivals in 2006 and 2008 The ISAF will ask design students from all over the UK and internationally to create a series of site-specific interventions in two key public spaces in London responding to the theme of Reduce, Reuse, Recycle.



International Architecture Showcase: The British Council and the Architecture Foundation are bringing together a broad spectrum of exciting international architecture projects within the International Architecture Showcase programme. This project will see more than 30 Embassies and Cultural Institutes around London presenting a series of exhibitions, installations, events and talks programmes to highlight the dynamic architectural projects that are emerging from their respective countries and to address the theme of the 'The Welcoming City'.



**Sky Rides:** Cycling has always been a big part of the LFA, it's sustainable, fun and a great way to explore the nooks and crannies of the city. This year there is a tour for everyone in the LFA Sky Rides – hosted by some of the urban thinkers of today including **Wayne Hemingway** and **Stephen Bailey**. Tours include subterranean London, French London, green London, football London, sketching London, 17<sup>th</sup> century London.... You get the idea



Talks, walks, books, buildings and dogs: Throughout the festival there will be ample talks, including those from Sir Terry Farrell, Kirsty Wark, Janet Street-Porter, Ken Livingstone and Cecil Balmand. Walks including a Blue Badge guided walk around the Festival's three weekend hub areas, downloadable iPod tours, an iPhone treasure hunt and an audio described tour of the Bankside Urban Forest for the blind and partially sighted. Even dogs get in on the action with the Dogs for Architectural walking tour of Bloomsbury.





