

Exhibition Press Release

Architectural Association School of Architecture
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Forms of Inquiry: The Architecture of Critical Graphic Design

8 October to 31 October 2007

AA Gallery & Front Members' Room

Forms of Inquiry presents architecture as seen through the practice of graphic design. The exhibition features works that have originated as self-propelled inquiry, either professional or personal, and have been developed into a myriad of media and forms. The works exhibited share a common desire to reframe the circumstances surrounding graphic design practice at the start of the 21st century.

The exhibition highlights the work of 20 contemporary international graphic designers who were asked to contribute 'inquiries' into architectural subjects, in the form of an influential reference. These inquiries are the foundation for a series of specially commissioned A0 prints, which will be interspersed with existing projects. Exhibited works include Paul Elliman's *Whispering Walls*, a short radio programme to be broadcast from the AA, Jürg Lehni's *Hektor*, a computer-controlled graffiti writer and Radim Pesko's *Sol Lewitt Typeface*. Other participants are: Åbäke (UK), Cornel Windlin (CH), Devalence (FR), Dexter Sinister (US), Experimental Jetset (NL), Hudson Powell (UK/JP), James Goggin (UK), John Morgan (UK), Julia Born (CH), Karel Martens & David Bennewith (NL), Manuel Raeder (DE), Meta Haven (NL), Mevis en van Dursen (NL), Michael Worthington (US), Project Projects (US), TASK Newsletter/Emmet Byrne, Alex DeArmond and Jon Sueda (US) and Will Holder (UK).

A Reading Room situated in the AA's Front Members' Room will make visible the process of debate and exchange. This open library is guest-curated by eight publishers/designers who will contribute a selection of independent scholarly publications, books and zines, both new and historical, exemplifying graphically driven modes of inquiry from around the world.

The exhibition is curated by Zak Kyes, a Swiss-American graphic designer. Kyes is Art Director of the Architectural Association and faculty member at LCC and the AA. The publication accompanying the exhibition is co-edited by Kyes and Mark Owens, a graphic designer and writer working between Los Angeles and New York and a regular contributor to the design journal *Dot Dot Dot*.

formsofinquiry.com

Private view Friday 5 October 6.30pm

Open to the public from Monday 8 October to Friday 26 October 2007

Opening times Monday to Friday 10.00am–7.00pm;

Saturday 10.00am–3.00pm

A series of seminars will run throughout the exhibition period:

October 19: Jürg Lehni, Cornel Windlin

October 24: Radim Pesko, Hudson-Powell (TBC)

October 26: Paul Elliman

TBC: Julia Born

Press images are available from Simone Sagi
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