

## Interior – inferior – in theory? (Berlin, 17–18 May 18)

Deutsches Architekturzentrum und Wissenschaftsforum Berlin, May 17–18, 2018

Carola Ebert, BAU International Berlin - University of Applied Sciences

### INTERIOR – INFERIOR – IN THEORY? Contemporary Positions in Interior Design Theory

International conference organized by BAU International Berlin – University of Applied Sciences, Prof. Dr. Carola Ebert, Chair of Interior Design, History and Theory of Architecture and Design, in cooperation with Architektenkammer Berlin, Bund Deutscher Innenarchitekten, European Council of Interior Architects and Netzwerk Architekturwissenschaft.

The conference brings together interior design researchers and educators from different countries to discuss contemporary theoretical positions within/about the discipline.

What constitutes interior design/interior architecture? How may interior design's relationship to architecture and design be defined and reflected theoretically? How is this discipline, which for decades has been classified as "emerging" or "relatively young", taught, researched and understood professionally in different countries? How has this changed over time?

Taking theory building to be one of the most important acts of defining a discipline, the conference wants to draw connections between interior design theory and its historiography, historical research in interior design/interior architecture, and disciplinary conceptions as they are embodied in interior design programs and professional institutions in different countries.

Given interior design's status as an "emerging" discipline, often taught only at universities of applied sciences or, in some countries, not even established as a university subject, the title "Interior – inferior – in theory?" refers to the notion that interior design lacks a historically grown body of research and, especially, a theory of its own, and instead largely relies on architecture and design theory.

Free admission with registration  
[www.interior-theory.org](http://www.interior-theory.org)

### PROGRAMME

#### THURSDAY 17 MAY

9:30 Coffee and registration

10:00 Welcome and Introduction

Hans-Dieter Klingemann, President BAU International Berlin; Andrea Mannel, Architektenkammer Berlin; Vera Schmitz, BDIA; TuuTõne-Kristin Vaikla, ECIA, Estonia; Carola Ebert, BAU International Berlin

10:30 INTERIOR DESIGN, HISTORY, IDENTITY, EDUCATION

Chair: Carola Ebert, BAU International Berlin, Germany

Edward Hollis, University of Edinburgh, UK

Interior History: Practices for the Future of an Emerging Discipline

Inge Somers, University of Antwerp, Belgium

Interior - Accelerating - in Theory!

Nikolaas Vande Keere, Koenraad Van Cleempoel, Universiteit Hasselt, Belgium

Traces from Within

13:00 Lunch break

14:00 INTERIOR DESIGN THEORY

Chair: Graeme Brooker, Royal College of Art, UK

Lois Weinthal, Ryerson University, Canada

Gauging Interior Time

Robert Alexander Gorny, TU Delft, Netherlands

On Boundary-Drawing Practices

15:20 Break

16:00 EXTENDING THE PERSPECTIVE ON THE INTERIOR

Chair: Yvonne Poßguß-Zander, BAU International Berlin, Germany

Liz Teston, University of Tennessee, USA

Public Interiority

Alison Snyder, Pratt Institute, USA

We Emerged and Expanded, Stop Apologizing

17:20 Break

18:00 KEYNOTE

Graeme Brooker, Royal College of Art, UK

The Story of the Interior

FRIDAY 18 MAY

09:00 Coffee and registration

09:30 Introduction

09:45 INTERIOR DESIGN EDUCATION - AN INTERNATIONAL PERSPECTIVE

Chair: Graeme Brooker, Royal College of Art, UK

Dominic Haag-Walthert, Ralph Stoian, Hochschule Luzern, Switzerland

## The Future of Interior Architecture is Interdisciplinary

Goze Bayram, Irene Pasina, Prince Sultan University, Saudi Arabia

The role of Women in Interior Design in Saudi Arabia

Santi Centineo, Polytechnic University of Bari, Italy

Come out of the box and overcome the 'interiority' complex

Maria Olivera, Emyle dos Santos, Victor Carvalho, Universidade Federal da Bahia, Brazil

Interior design and its trans-disciplinary roots: for an updated approach

11:15 Break

## 11:30 THE INTERIOR BEYOND ARCHITECTURE

Chair: Carola Ebert, BAU International Berlin, Germany

Deborah Schneiderman, Pratt Institute; Amy Campos, California College of the Arts, USA

Beyond the interior

Elita Nuraeny, Universitas Indonesia, Indonesia

Of Interiority and Psychogeography

Javier Martin, BAU International Berlin, Germany

From Structural to Superficial. Limits and Contradictions in the Discipline of Interior Architecture

12:45 Lunch break

## 13:45 INTERIOR PRACTICES

Chair: Constantin von Mirbach, BDIA

Nerma Cridge, Cambridge School of Art, UK; Sophie Ungerer, University of Brighton, UK

A Question of Complexity not Scale

Raymund Koenig, University of Lincoln, UK; Zakkiya Khan, University of Pretoria, South Africa

Ensembles of taste goods: Moodboards as Interiorist Practice

Rosie Scott, Victoria University Wellington, New Zealand

Interior Practice - Conditions, Forces, Gestures, Framings (or how to talk about how we do)

15:00 Break

## 15:30 REUSE AND RECONFIGURE

Chair: Graeme Brooker, Royal College of Art, UK

Ulrika Karlsson, Einar Rodhe, Konstfack University of Arts, Crafts and Design, Sweden

A live interior

Parastoo Eshrati, Ehsan Masoud, Iran University of Science and Technology, Iran

Mind the Gap: The Role of Interior Designer in Adoptive Reuse Projects of Iran

Bie Plevoets, Universiteit Hasselt, Belgium; Markus Berger, Rhode Island School of Design, USA;  
Sally Stone, Manchester School of Architecture, UK  
An Interior Approach to Education and Adaptive Reuse

16:45 RESEARCH AND PRACTICE

Chair: Tuuli Kristin Vaikla, ECIA, Estonia

Suzie Attiwill, RMIT University, Australia  
Practice Research PhDs + Interior Design

Anja Dirks, ECIA/studio+, Netherlands  
From theory to practice

17:45 INTERIOR - INFERIOR - IN THEORY?

Chair: Carola Ebert, BAU International Berlin, Germany

Final debate

18:30 End of Conference

Reference:

CONF: Interior - inferior - in theory? (Berlin, 17-18 May 18). In: ArtHist.net, Mar 9, 2018 (accessed Jun 30, 2025), <<https://arthist.net/archive/17557>>.