

## Building with Light (London, 13–14 Nov 14)

London, Royal Institute of British Architects, 66 Portland Place, Nov 13–14, 2014

Valeria Carullo

'Building with Light: the Legacy of Robert Elwall' is an international symposium on architectural photography organised by the RIBA. The symposium's topics will cover broad research areas such as the historical and contemporary evocation of architectural interiors, buildings, place and landscape; forms of photographic response to genius loci and national identity; the reciprocal influence on and with publishing; and curatorial issues and approaches to architectural photography over time. The presentations and discussions will pay tribute to the late Robert Elwall, founder of the RIBA Photographs Collection and a distinguished curator and author whose influential international history of architectural photography 'Building with Light' has given the symposium its title. Keynote speakers will include architectural photographers and academics such as Geoffrey James, H el ene Binet, I naki Bergera and Hugh Campbell.

### PROGRAM

Thursday 13 November

9.15 – 9.45 Coffee + registration

9.45 – 10.00

Welcome and introduction by Irena Murray, architectural historian and former Director of the RIBA British Architectural Library

10.00 – 10.40

Keynote

Geoffrey James, photographer, Toronto

Title TBC

10.40 – 11.10

Angelo Maggi, IUAV University, Venice

Capturing the Italian Townscape: the anti-idyllic photographs by Ivy de Wolfe

11.10 – 11.30 Coffee break

11.30 – 12.00

Justine Sambrook, Royal Institute of British Architects, London

Ordinary beauty: photography of the everyday

12.00 – 12.30

Andrew Higgott, architectural writer, Birmingham

Eric de Maré: the functional and the beautiful

12.30 – 13.00

Round table / discussion

13.00 Lunch

14.00 – 14.40

Keynote

Hélène Binet, photographer, London

Title TBC

14.40 – 15.10

Gary Winter, English Heritage Archive, Swindon

Getting Value from a Collection: Bedford Lemere & Co at the English Heritage Archive

15.10 – 15.40

Peter Sealy, Harvard University, Cambridge, Massachusetts

After a Photograph, Before Photography

15.40 – 16.00 Coffee break

16.00 – 17.00

Dervla MacManus, University College Dublin

Cathedrals and Cattle – The Photographs of Frederick Henry Evans in Country Life Magazine

Aitor Acilu + Nerea Aranbarri, University of Navarra, Pamplona

Raoul Hausmann: "Mechanical sensibility" in Ibiza

John Schlinke, Roger Williams University, Bristol, Rhode Island

Space and White Space: The Architectural Photography and Advertising of Alside Homes

Marsha Taichmann, Cornell University, Ithaca, New York

The Photographs of Lynne Cohen and the Presence of Absence

Nadya Nilina, Moscow School of Architecture

The photography of Yuri Palmin

Sue Barr, Architectural Association, London

The Architecture of Transit: Photographing Beauty and Sublimity in Motorway Architecture from the Alps to Naples

17.00 – 17.30

Round table / discussion

18.00 – 19.00

Curator-led tour of the Edwin Smith exhibition (max 20 people, register with Valeria Carullo, [valeria.carullo@riba.org](mailto:valeria.carullo@riba.org))

Friday 14 November

9.30 – 9.45 Coffee

9.45 – 10.00

Intro by Gary Van Zante, MIT, Cambridge, Massachusetts

10.00 – 10.40

Keynote

Hugh Campbell, University College Dublin

The façade fills the frame

10.40 – 11.10

Valeria Carullo, Royal Institute of British Architects, London

Image-makers of British Modernism: Dell & Wainwright at the  
Architectural Review

11.10 – 11.30 Coffee break

11.30 – 12.00

Ruth Hommelen, Leuven University, Brussels-Ghent

Building with Artificial Light: Capturing the City and its Architecture  
at Night in the 1920s and 1930s

12.00 – 12.30

Davide Deriu, University of Westminster, London

Architectures of Vision: Photography and the Vertigo of the Modern City

12.30 – 13.00

Round table / discussion

13.00 – 14.00 Lunch

14.00 – 14.40

Keynote

Iñaki Bergera, University of Zaragoza

A parallel and unrevealed discourse: photography and modern architecture  
in Spain

14.40 – 15.10

Alona Pardo, Barbican, London + Elias Redstone, independent curator,  
Paris

Constructing Worlds: Photography and Architecture in the Modern Age

15.10 – 15.40

Emily Bills, Julius Shulman Institute, School of Architecture, Woodbury  
University, Los Angeles

Marvin Rand: Secrets of Los Angeles Uncovered

15.40 – 16.00 Coffee break

16.00 – 16.30

Marco Iuliano, University of Liverpool + Pierluigi Serraino, architect  
and author, San Francisco

Pairs or Peers? Architects and their Photographers after WWII

16.30 – 17.00

Karla Britton, Yale University, New Haven

Robert Damora: Total Architecture and the Pax-Americana

17.00 – 17.30

Round table / discussion

ArtHist.net

17.30 – 18.00

Conclusion

18.00 – 19.00

Curator-led tour of the Edwin Smith exhibition (max 20 people, register with Valeria Carullo, [valeria.carullo@riba.org](mailto:valeria.carullo@riba.org))

Reference:

CONF: Building with Light (London, 13-14 Nov 14). In: ArtHist.net, Oct 10, 2014 (accessed Jun 6, 2026), <<https://arthist.net/archive/8611>>.