

Futures Fair<sup>08</sup>

15th May 2008 – RIBA, London.

### Welcome

Futures Fair 08 aims to encourage interaction between a wide cross-section of groups and interests. It matches the skills of architects, designers and construction specialists with the predictions of sociologists, economists, technologists and other thinkers.

The future of our towns and cities are increasingly shaped by a variety of socio-economic and environmental factors, which are both local and global in their impact. How we respond locally to these challenges is up to us all. Never has so much seemed to be in play when trying to plot what lies ahead. Futures Fair 08 proposes that those in research and the design and development industries should take 'futures' on, both as a strand of thinking, but also as part of how to do business.

Futures Fair 08 intends to move the debate forward by proposing a co-operative of ideas. Solutions require sustained collaboration between a diverse range of disciplinary fields and the day's agenda will be sought via its audience as much as possible. The fast paced day will include presentations from a host of challenging thinkers and speakers representing leading architectural practices, construction specialists, planners, researchers and designers. The day is structured around a series of lively debate and discussion spaces and looks at the future of a range of themes including: Population, Planning, Energy, Materials, Transport, Leisure and Retail.

Futures Fair 08 follows on from the success of Futures Fair 07 and offers a programme of presentations, break outs, seminars, discussions and 'Futures Links,' speed dating plus, in collaboration with the RIBA Trust, a landmark evening presentation and reception.

Futures Fair 08 is supported by the Department for Innovation, Universities and Skills (DIUS) through Foresight and the Engineering and Physical Sciences Research Council (EPSRC).

# Futures Fair<sup>08</sup>

THE GLOBAL AND THE LOCAL

Building Futures is the RIBA's think-tank on issues affecting the future of the built environment. It was established to create space for discussion about the needs of society from our built environment and, consequently, the built environment professions in 20 years and beyond.

Building Futures aims to address the big picture. How and where will we be living in 20 or 50 years' time, when the climate has changed and cities are bigger than ever? What technologies will architects be using to design buildings and what new materials will they be specifying? How will the inevitable new technologies affect the buildings we all use every day?

The Building Futures programme is ongoing and includes exhibitions, debates, events and research activities. For more information or to get involved please visit [www.buildingfutures.org.uk](http://www.buildingfutures.org.uk) or email [buildingfutures@inst.riba.org](mailto:buildingfutures@inst.riba.org)

Contact details:  
Building Futures  
66 Portland Place  
London  
W1B 1AD

Design: [www.springlondon.com](http://www.springlondon.com)

F  
B U I L D  
T I  
U R E S  
N G  
S

Foresight

Making the future work for you

Zephyr

EPSRC



RIBA Trust



**09.15** Arrival

**09.25** Welcome: **Richard Hastilow, Chief Executive RIBA**

**09.30** **Dickon Robinson, Chair of Building Futures**  
Introduction to Building Futures and Futures Fair 08

## Futures in context

Features leading commentators discussing the impact of economic, political and ethical factors on the future of the built environment.

**09.40** Mary Reilly – Chair, London Development Agency

**09.55** Sir David King – Smith School of Enterprise & Environment

**10.10** Reinier de Graaf – Office for Metropolitan Architecture (OMA)

**10.25** Opportunity for questions, comment and feedback.

**10.45** Break

## Futures links

**11.05** Lively and fast paced session to encourage the audience to inform the day through discussion and interaction with the Building Futures interpretation of Speed Dating.

**12.15** Lunch

## Futures in focus

**13.00** Seminar break-outs focusing on 5 emerging futures themes;

### Energy and Transport

Chair: **John Baggaley** – Projects Director, MVA Consultancy  
**Dr John Wormald** – Managing Partner, autoPOLIS  
**Stephen Marshall** – Bartlett School of Planning, UCL

Notwithstanding increased fuel efficiencies, energy consumption by various modes of travel will still increase to keep pace with our ever expanding demands for travel. How can the urban form and the built environment work to reduce our reliance on unlimited travel?

### Retail and Leisure

Chair: **John Worthington** – Co-founder, DEGW  
**David Dalziel** – Managing Director, Dalziel & Pow  
**Alistair Parker** – Development Consultancy Team, Cushman Wakefield

Globally, are places like Dubai already the ultimate in retail-leisure destinations? Locally, is the rising popularity of concept stores and imported festive markets an indication that it is no longer enough just to sell products to entice consumers? Must places and shops also provide unique experiences?

### Smart Materials

Chair: **Bobbie Johnson** – Technology, The Guardian  
**Robert Thompson** – Research Associate, Royal College of Art  
**Prof. Peter Walker** – Director of the BRE Centre in Innovative Construction Materials, University of Bath

High performance and smart materials are repositioning themselves to provide 'eco' benefits. Will they adapt to all places and all climates to provide the key to sustainable design? Or is it time to reconsider the low environmental impact qualities of traditional and local building techniques?

### People and Planning

Chair: **Andrew Curry** – Director, Henley Centre Headlight Vision  
**Dr Ayona Datta** – Cities Programme, London School of Economics  
**Reinier de Graaf** – Partner & Director, OMA & AMO

Is there enough thought of 'people sustainability' in city planning? As patterns of global migration become ever more complex and fluid who will actually be living in these cities of the future, and what services, habitations, demands will they have? Who are we planning for?

### Land Systems

Chair: **Prof. David Fisk CB** – Imperial College  
**Prof. Paul Selman** – Department of Landscape, University of Sheffield  
**Roland Grzybek** – Water Management Planning, Halcrow Group

Demand on land will only increase into the future as we face the prospect of having to harvest its natural energy yet at the same time maintain its ecosystems, provide open countryside yet find places to build new homes. How can we better manage and interpret natural systems, so to better face these seemingly conflicting challenges?

## Futures forum

### 14.20 Visionaries in Collaboration

Encouraging sustained futures thinking.

Chair: **Prof. John Beddington** – UK Government Chief Scientific Advisor  
**John Wood** – Professor of Design, Goldsmiths University of London  
**Nicola Gillen** – Director of Strategy, DEGW  
**Tarek Merlin** – Director & Co-founder of Feix&Merlin Architects

**15.45** Close – **Dickon Robinson**

## Futures dialogues

### 18.30 Global Practice in Local Scenarios

**Spencer de Grey** – Fosters and Partners  
**Saskia Sassen** – Prof of Sociology, Columbia University, New York

The evening explores the nature of global architecture. What do we mean by this term and what are the various binding issues uniting practice around the world? How does an international approach to building address its immediate audience and in what context is it placed? The Global or the Local?

**20.00** Drinks reception and Close.

# Futures Fair<sup>08</sup>

**Thursday 15 May 2008, RIBA London.**

**£90 + VAT (£105.75) payable to RIBA**

Fee includes VIP information pack, automatic registration to the Building Futures events database, lunch and refreshments and ticket for the evening lecture with the RIBA Trust.

**Discounted rate £75 + VAT (£88.15)**

Includes all of the above and is applicable for all RIBA & BPF Members, Foresight FAN Club members, researchers and students.

Proof of eligibility required.

Please complete booking form and return to:

**Mike Althorpe Futures Fair Co-ordinator**

Building Futures RIBA 66 Portland Place London W1B 1AD  
Email: [mike.althorpe@inst.riba.org](mailto:mike.althorpe@inst.riba.org) or faxback 020 7307 3720

### I would like to book

Full Name ..... Title .....

Organisation .....

Address .....

..... Postcode .....

Telephone / Fax .....

Email .....

Confirmation of your place will be sent by email

I am claiming the discount (tick box) please include proof

**I enclose a cheque for £**

Card details

Card Type

Card Number

Expiry ..... Start ..... CVV .....

Any cancellation after May 1st will be non-refundable. All information is correct as of time of print.

**Please state your first and second choice of afternoon break out** (tick box)

Energy and Transport

Retail and Leisure

Intelligent Materials

People and Planning

Land Systems

Evening lecture with RIBA Trust

I will be attending (tick box)

