

RE-APPROPRIATION AND REPRESENTATION

CALL FOR SUBMISSIONS

“Do not allow an empty goblet to face the moon”
Bring in the Wine, Li Bai (701-762).

For the ancient Chinese, the imbibing of wine, like the recitation of a poem, is a ritual, an invitation for human subjects to reflect upon the interconnected nature of the transcendent and material world to which they, and the moon, belong. The continuous flow of wine at the banquet table becomes an instrument through which the subject is opened towards a dynamic, reciprocal transformation.

A drawing, as well as the architectural act entailed in the production of the drawing, is akin to an empty goblet waiting to be filled. In design practice, reductive approaches to drawing and representation embrace simplicity and linearity of thought. The proliferation of digital visualisation technology has pushed architectural drawing toward simulation rather than creative anticipation, toward conveying a reality that is inactive and mono-logical. Operating within such a mode, the potential for design as an enquiry to adventure into unknown territories is foreclosed.

Through this call for submissions we are interested in work that renounces the stasis of design implied in such reductive approaches to drawing practices, and instead move towards the reinvigoration of design as a dynamic field of play. In this field, we are looking to elaborate the notion of architecture as a practice capable of questioning established subject-object positions, intrinsically concerned with multiple interpretive potentials. A practice that considers the dialogue between re-appropriation and representation a critical question.⁰¹ Underlining the dynamism of design's process of inquiry, re-appropriation engages with the present by adopting a mediating role between the past and future. Codes from the past and imaginaries of the future are re-appropriated through operations such as re-drawing, re-making, re-writing, re-imagining, re-imagining and re-situating; things are re-presented, given presence again, a new world disclosed by an architectural project.⁰² The interplay between re-appropriation and re-presentation therefore embraces a synthetic understanding of time, where time registered through the objective fact and time registered through the intersubjective event are constantly in tension. And it is within such a conception of time that we propose to layout a banquet table in an 'in-between' situation: in-between the nameable and the unnameable, in-between the archivable and the unarchivable, in-between the fathomable and the unfathomable, in-between the virtual and the actual, in-between film and architecture, in-between boundary and territory, in-between the fictional and the real, in-between the changing and the enduring.

We invite you to this banquet, during a time impacted and interrupted by pandemic, to respond to the theme of Re-appropriation and Representation, and through this precarious terrain of play explore with us such questions as: how does research by design re-iterate and re-articulate territoriality? How does this re-articulation result in the emergence of unstable ground conditions, both literal and figurative? How does research by design perform the embodied dynamism of reality through difference and repetition? How does research by design enact means of inscription that draw on and across the phenomenal world? How does research by design experiment with and cultivate contextual conditions that challenge ideas of process, situation, and representation?

Re-appropriation and Representation is a collaboration between *Drawing On* and the Architecture by Design community at the University of Edinburgh. It offers two pathways by which to respond to this call for submissions. The first offers the opportunity to present work at a symposium, and subsequently develop this work for publication. You are invited to discuss and represent either developed research or work-in-progress using whatever medium you consider most suitable. Whether you attend in person or through digital media we offer you 45 minutes to use in a manner that you believe would be most constructive. We encourage you to see Re—appropriation and Representation as an opportunity to discuss your work with academics and research students in such a way that benefits your research subject and interests, and that propels this work toward publication. You are invited to submit abstracts of no more than 400 words by 31st of July, 2020 for papers to be presented at the symposium on 31st October—1st November, 2020. Abstracts should be submitted by email to architecturebydesign.phd@ed.ac.uk.

The second invites submission of completed papers to *Drawing On* for peer-review with a view toward publication. You are invited to submit complete contributions consisting of full papers of 500 to 4,000 words and associated design material to the editorial team of *Drawing On* (the final wordcount depends on the relationship between textual and visual material). The deadline for these submissions is 30th of November 2020.