The Martin Centre 50th Anniversary Conference
Emerging Architectural Research

13-14 December 2017
King’s College, Cambridge, UK
Scroope Terrace, Cambridge, UK
martincentreadmin@aha.cam.ac.uk - email to register
£50 per day, £25 student rate for both days, including lunch, refreshments & drinks reception
£50 optional formal dinner at Darwin College, including drinks

On the first day, held at Keynes Hall, King’s College, the conference will offer a valuable insight into the beginnings of architectural research at The Martin Centre and beyond. Workshops and a seminar at Scroope Terrace on the second day will provide the opportunity for debate and exploration into the current and future paths of architectural research.

The aim of The 50th Anniversary Conference will be to address the circumstances that led to the emergence of research in architecture in the UK, the USA, and Europe at a time when the foundations of the Martin Centre were being laid. This will provide the background for a wider discussion, between all conference delegates, of the growth in the past half-century, of architectural research in Cambridge and elsewhere. This conference will be a celebration of the work of the Martin Centre, and a platform from which new directions in architectural research can be investigated amongst peers and experts.

Conference Overview

13 December 2017, 8.30 - 17.00
Keynes Hall, King’s College, Cambridge

9.00 Back to the Future, Introduction from François Penz
Setting the Scene: Phil Steadman
Re-inventing Architectural Research in the mid 1960s: Nick Bullock
Environmental Beginnings: Dean Hawkes
Urban Systems: Marcial Echenique
Acoustics Research: Mike Barron & Raf Orlowski
Architectural Computing: Paul Richens
12.00 Panel Discussion
13.00 Lunch
14.00 The Future Present
The Environmental Tradition: Ken Yeang & Susannah Hagan
Cities, Urbanism & Transport: John Ellis & Mike Batty
Keynote Speaker: Carlo Ratti [MIT]
16.00 Panel discussion
18.45 Drinks Reception & Dinner: Darwin College

14 December 2017, 9.30 - 18.00
Scroope Terrace, Cambridge

9.30 Parallel Futures Six sessions will take place in parallel:
1. Conflict in Cities - led by Wendy Pullan, Max Sternberg & Felipe Hernández
2. Risk in the Built Environment - led by Emily So & RobinSpence
3. Natural Materials & Structures - led by Michael Ramage
4. Environment - led by Minna Sunnika-Blank, Yeonsook Heo & Mary Ann Steane with Dean Hawkes
5. Digital Studio - led by François Penz & Maureen Thomas
6. Cities & Transport - led by Ying Jin with Marcial Echenique & Nick Bullock
13.00 Lunch
14.00 Plenary - Looking Ahead: The Next 50 Years
The six groups will present their findings
16.00 Conversations
Patrick Keiller with Ingrid Schröder
Architecture & Cities in the Global South & non-Western Contexts [speakers tbc]
The Role of Research in Architectural Practice [speakers tbc]
17.30 Final Remarks followed by Drinks Reception