

WITHIN THE LIMITS OF SCARCITY

www.scibe.eu

RETHINKING SPACE CITY AND PRACTICES

27. FEB. - 1. MARCH 2013

University of Westminster | London

submission of abstracts: 1. NOV. 2012

Call for Papers

Within the Limits of Scarcity: Rethinking Space, City and Practices

Scarcity is often considered as a fundamental condition of human societies. On the one hand, the state of not having enough has been at the bottom of a variety of strategies and techniques to overcome it; on the other, it has served as an explanatory argument for social order, for distribution or for conflict.

Scarcity has accompanied the becoming of the urban condition. Repeatedly, (im-)material shortage has been at the core of the city's struggles. More recently, global economic uncertainty, widespread urban inequality and pressing environmental questions in both North and South, are posing acute challenges to all involved in producing the built environment. Within this scenario, different actors, from architects and other built environment professionals to local authorities and community based organisations, will be increasingly pressured to deploy strategies to work within or against the limits of scarcity.

This conference seeks to investigate the processes through which scarcity is constructed in specific urban settings, shedding light on its setting, emergence and production in the built environment. Moreover, it seeks to understand how the challenges posed by this condition can shape alternative ways of investigating, conceptualising and theorizing city and space so as to inform innovative strategies and challenge the existing normative practices.

Papers could aim to answer one or more of the following questions:

What innovative ways of investigating and explaining the city can arise from looking through the lens of scarcity?

How can the examination of issues of scarcity in the built environment and the strategies emerging within its limits, can inform new ways of thinking and acting around cities and space?

What are the historic and current strategies deployed by the different actors involved in producing the built environment within the limits of scarcity? What lessons can be drawn from them?

What is the role built environment professions in responding to the challenges posed by current conditions of scarcity?

The conference aims to engage a selected group of PhD students in presentations and discussions as a peer-to-peer response, supplemented by keynote speakers and networking sessions. Submissions are encouraged from disciplines dealing with the built environment (such as Architecture, Planning, Geography, Development Studies and related disciplines) in various contexts and from different perspectives. It welcomes papers theorizing or framing the issue of scarcity as well as papers based on case-studies or research by art or design.

Selected papers will be published in the journal *Places* subject to peer review and editorial evaluation.

Abstracts: 500 words

Full paper: 5000 words

scibephdconference@gmail.com

Abstract submission: 1st November 2012

Notification of acceptance: 21st of November 2012

Paper submission: 15th January 2013

Keynote Speakers:

Pier Vittorio Aureli | Architectural Association | Berlage Institute

Camillo Boano | The Bartlett - DPU UCL

Ole Bouman | Nederlands Architectuurinstituut

Erik Swyngedouw | University of Manchester

Preliminary schedule of the conference:

Day I

- 1600 Welcome Reception II Introduction to SCIBE by organizational committee
- 1700 Keynote presentation
- 1800 Networking activity
Drinks

Day II

- 0930 Keynote presentation
- 1030 Session I II 4 presentations and peer-to-peer response
- 1300 LUNCH
- 1400 Session II II 4 presentations and peer-to-peer response
- 1700 Keynote presentation
- 1800 Dinner

Day III

- 0930 Keynote presentation
- 1030 Session III II 4 presentations and peer-to-peer response
- 1300 LUNCH
- 1400 Session IV II 4 presentations and peer-to-peer response
- 1700 Summary and closing remarks

Abstracts of a maximum of 500 words should be sent by
1. November 2012 to: scibephdconference@gmail.com

Organizing Team:

Barbara Elisabeth Ascher

Isis Nunez Ferrera

Michael Klein

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