

CONVERGENCE IN DIVERGENCE

EAAC 2012 International Conference on East Asian Architectural Culture
THE CHINESE UNIVERSITY OF HONG KONG 10-12 DECEMBER 2012

CALL FOR ABSTRACTS

Modern study of East Asian architectural tradition began slightly more than a century ago, pioneered by Japanese scholars with ground-breaking research and publications of Itō Chūta (1868-1954) in 1893, and followed by Chinese architects in the early 20th century such as Liang Si-cheng (1901-1972), Liu Dun-zhen (1897-1968) and others. Since then, the field has expanded tremendously both in scope and methodology. What can we learn from the research achievement and experience from this important period of development? The 2012 International Conference on East Asian Architectural Culture at the Chinese University of Hong Kong is organized not only to grasp the current state of the field, but also to project issues into the future. Encompassing a common root in architectural tradition, similar trajectory of development, and much cross-fertilization in the past century, how can we collaborate further in the realm of East Asian architectural studies? Following the four thematic areas as outlined below, this Conference will explore further integration of our knowledge in the field with deepening exchanges while addressing the academic concerns of today. With the overriding premise "Convergence in Divergence: Contemporary Challenges in East Asian Architectural Studies", the 2012 EAAC International Conference aims to provide the opportunity for academia in this vast field of research to face the challenges and look beyond.

Theme 1. Architecture of Interpretation: Historiography of East Asian Architecture

The writing of architectural history has been continually exerting a powerful influence on the built environment. With only around a century's establishment on the study of architectural history in this region, the continuous shift of paradigm caused by social changes has been influencing the selection on what and how to write. In this theme, the writing of history, the interpretation on the construction of architectural history and how such readings inform our current practice on the study of architectural history shall be discussed.

Theme 2. Architecture of Negotiation: Monumental versus the Vernacular

Studies in the monumental and the vernacular architecture have been the two major concerns architectural history across East-Asian regions. Buildings specifically designed for specific and the higher sectors in the society contrasts with the natural evolution of the built environment and have produced two distinctive approaches in architectural discourse. Underlying social forces that shape them may share similar issues such as identity, culture and power. This theme aims to draw papers that bring together the concerns between the monumental and the vernacular, the formal and informal, the physical and spatial, and between the single structure and the settlement.

Theme 3. Architectural Conservation in Practice: From Ideal to Pragmatic

The practices and philosophy of conservation have been continuously evolving. Depending on social and cultural contexts, each case for architectural conservation generates new discussions. Particularly in East-Asia, the fast-paced economic growth results in new developments that confront daily with conservation of historical buildings. Issues regarding conservation ideals in determining the values that lead to actual practices will be the focus of this theme. The continuing negotiation between the ideal and the pragmatic, and the shifting definition of the two, shall be emphasized.

Theme 4. Architecture in Projection: Twentieth Century Architecture and Beyond

Our understanding of the built environment since the early twentieth century should not only align with but also respond to evolving discourse and research in the field. We are at a time where we can reflect on works of the past century and the power of architecture in binding together levels of meaning, identity and culture, with the stakeholders ranging from foreign powers to local persons. In this theme, studies related to the transformation of the society through the physicality of architecture and the construction of images and ideals will be welcomed.

SUBMISSION REQUIREMENTS

Please refer to our website <http://www.arch.cuhk.edu.hk/eaac2012.html> for detailed instructions on abstract submissions which shall be announced soon. A one-page abstract of 500 words and a one-page CV shall be required. For further inquiries, please contact us at eaac2012@cuhk.edu.hk

Proposals for complete panels are welcome. All papers must be written and presented in English. Following a blind peer-review process, papers may be accepted for presentation in the conference and publication in the conference proceedings.

Contributors whose abstracts are accepted must pre-register for the conference. Registration fees payment method will be announced very soon.

Please note that expenses associated with hotel accommodation and travel are not covered by the registration fees. Registration fees cover the conference program, conference abstracts, and access to all conference activities including receptions and keynote panels.

Contemporary Challenges in East Asian Architectural Studies

East Asian Architectural Culture

10-12 DECEMBER 2012



Conference Schedule

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| May 1 | Deadline for receiving abstracts and CVs |
| June 30 | Notification of accepted abstracts for presentation |
| August 30 | Deadline for pre-registration and full paper submissions for conference proceeding |
| December 10-12 | Conference program |

Conference Site & Accommodations

The conference will be held at the School of Architecture, The Chinese University of Hong Kong.

Details of hotel reservations will be announced soon.

Inquiries

Please use the following information when making inquiries regarding the conference.

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Website: <http://www.arch.cuhk.edu.hk/eaac2012.html>

Organizers

School of Architecture, The Chinese University of Hong Kong
Hyperlink: <http://www.arch.cuhk.edu.hk>

Centre for Architectural Heritage Research (CAHR), The Chinese University of Hong Kong
Hyperlink: <http://www.arch.cuhk.edu.hk/index-cah.html>

