

Press Release: 6 March 2017

School/Work: Architectural Conversations between Pedagogy and Practice

Exhibition at The Cass Bank Gallery

17-27 March 2017

Private View: 16 March, 6-9pm



Image: Students and tutors at The Cass © Yiannis Katsaris

The Cass, London Metropolitan University presents *School/Work: Architectural Conversations between Pedagogy and Practice*, a new exhibition that focuses on the relationship between the theoretical world of university and the applied world of practice and making in architecture.

The exhibition features the work of five award-winning architects who teach at the school: **Assemble, Caruso St John, Cottrell + Vermeulen Architecture, Feilden Fowles Architects** and **Takero Shimazaki Architects**. *School/Work* presents architectural models, drawings, photography and archival material exploring how studio culture meets academia.

The Cass is known for its “grounded-in-reality” attitude to teaching architecture, which is a direct influence of the many architects tutoring at the school. Each of the exhibiting practices leads an undergraduate studio or postgraduate unit, with their skills as professional architects translating into the diverse teaching and research approaches that contribute to The Cass’s unique character.



Image: Exhibiting projects at *School/Work*. Left: Model of Veemgebouw Strijp S, Eindhoven by Caruso St John. Right: Photograph Takero Shimazaki Architects Curzon Bloomsbury © H el ene Binet.

As part of the curatorial process, the architects were asked four questions about their attitudes towards teaching, life in practice and experiences at the school. These interviews will be shown alongside their own professional work in order to convey the exchanges between pedagogy and practice.

The featured projects in *School/Work* are:

- Granby Winter Garden, Liverpool, England, 2016 by **Assemble**
- Veemgebouw Strijp S, Eindhoven, Netherlands, 2007- on going, by **Caruso St John**
- Broadway Academy, Birmingham, England, and other selected projects by **Cottrell and Vermeulen**
- Feilden Fowles Studio, London, England, 2016 by **Feilden Fowles Architects**
- Curzon Bloomsbury Cinema, London, England, by **Takero Shimazaki Architects**

The exhibition is curated by Rita Adamo, a former architecture student at The Cass who recently curated the *Invisible Architecture* exhibition at Museo Carlo Bilotti in Rome, Italy.

Adamo said of *School/Work*, “Each generation of architects is aware of their predecessors; at The Cass the interaction between the generations invigorates both the established architect’s work and the learning journey of the up-and-coming architects. The collection of selected works in this show will reveal this dialogue between tutors and students, demonstrating how highly these successful practices value their teaching.”

Exhibitor Takero Shimazaki said of *School/Work*: “Teaching, researching and discussions with students mean that you keep re-studying architecture, This inevitably has an important impact on what a practice can pursue. The dialogue with students shapes their projects and also gives us more focus on how the practice can influence wider society, architecture, landscape, cities and the built environment. It’s an inspiring cycle.”

Notes to Editors

Listings

- Title: *School/Work: Architectural Conversations between Pedagogy and Practice*
- Where: The Cass Bank Gallery, Central House, 59-63 Whitechapel High Street, London, E1 7PF
- When: 17 – 27 March 2017
- Opening Hours: Mon-Fri: 11-6, Sat: 11-5
- Private View: 16 March 2017, 6-9pm
- Nearest tube: Aldgate East
- Twitter: [@thecassart](#) #TheCass #SCHOOLWORK

Press Office

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The Cass

The Cass is the Sir John Cass School of Art, Architecture and Design, London Metropolitan University. It is one of six schools within the University. The Cass teaches about 2000 students at Foundation, Degree and Postgraduate level at two buildings in Aldgate. Subjects include Architecture, Creative Writing, Design Studio Practice, Fine Art, Fashion, Furniture, Graphics, Illustration, Interior Design, Jewellery, Painting, Publishing Photography, Photojournalism, Textiles, Theatre and Performance Practice.

There is a strong emphasis on socially engaged Architecture, Art and Design applied to both local and global contexts, a school-wide interest in making and many projects focus on aspects of London. Students at The Cass are encouraged to learn through practice, experiment with process and gain real-world experience in both individual and collaborative projects, engaging with professionals, communities and companies.

Much of the teaching at The Cass is delivered through undergraduate studios and postgraduate units, which are themed study groups within a course led by academics and practitioners. At the start of each academic year, the leaders of each studio- including the exhibitors in *School/Work*- present their studio's themes, position and approach to allow students to choose from a wide range of issues, methods of working and types of projects. Theory is also taught to students via Dissertation studios. There are 69 Studios and Units running in 2016/17. www.londonmet.ac.uk/faculties/the-cass/