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IASTE 2010 DECEMBER 15-18 BEIRUT, LEBANON HOSTED BY AMERICAN UNIVERSITY OF BEIRUT

TWELFTH CONFERENCE OF THE INTERNATIONAL ASSOCIATION FOR THE STUDY OF TRADITIONAL ENVIRONMENTS

This IASTE conference seeks to study how tradition inspires and informs changing concepts of Utopia in theory and space. Utopian theories and plans emerge from a complex symbiotic relationship with traditions that are based on notions of the ideal. Indeed, utopias cannot be understood without understanding the traditions from which they develop. At its etymological root, utopia embodies both the theoretical paradox of an ideal place, *eu-topia*, and a non-place, *ou-topia*, rendering it an impossibility. As an ideal place, utopia relies on tradition, but as a non-place it attempts to negate it. Although most utopias have spatial manifestations, they often attempt to harness and make static the traditions used to create these spaces. The geographies of utopia physically ground tradition, but tradition simultaneously controls these very same geographies. This contemporary moment of economic crisis necessitates a re-examination of this dynamic. The word “utopia” is no longer as commonly referenced in professional practice as it was a few decades ago. However, architects, planners, and politicians continue to look for and disseminate notions of ideal forms. Regulated by ethnicity, religion, or race, the identity enclaves of many modern nations use territory to perpetuate the vision of a perfect community based on specific traditions. The continuation and strengthening of tradition, cloaked in the language of utopia, may thus be seen to provide the focus for new gated communities in the developing world, the dreamscapes in cities around the Persian Gulf and the Pacific Rim, and the faux-colonial homes in American suburbs. On the other hand, there is an emerging discourse that reconceptualizes utopia itself, not as a product but as an open process aimed at transforming, rather than transcending, the existing condition. This conference will focus on the theme of utopia and tradition in the twenty-first century with papers in three different tracks.

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Every year, the Jeffrey Cook award is given to two presenters at the IASTE conference: the author of the best paper by a scholar and the author of the best paper written by a student. The winners will each receive an award of \$1,200 award and, after appropriate review and possible revision, their papers will be published in the *Traditional Dwellings and Settlements Review*. The paper should be concerned with the subject of traditional dwellings and settlements in a manner that challenges traditional scholarship on the subject and engages spatial analysis from an interdisciplinary perspective. We strongly encourage all interested participants to indicate that that would like the Award Committee to evaluate their papers.

REGISTRATION INFORMATION

Please refer to our website (<http://iaste.berkeley.edu>) to find instructions on how to register for the conference. Registration fees are \$400 (including a special discounted individual IASTE membership fee). Students are eligible for reduced fees of \$200. **These fees include entrance to all conference sessions and plenary sessions, the registration packet with conference preliminaries and program, all conference receptions, and a half-day excursion to the Beirut Central District.** All conference presenters must register in order to participate in the conference and be included in the final program. Registration must be completed no later than July 16, 2010. After July 16, conference fees will increase to \$500 and \$250, respectively.

CONFERENCE SITE AND HOTEL ACCOMMODATIONS

The conference will be held at American University of Beirut’s West Hall with accommodation at nearby hotels. In order to be able to obtain special room rates, reservations should be made online, over the phone, or through email at the conference hotel:

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If space is no longer available in either conference hotel, please contact IASTE for other suggested accommodations.

POST-CONFERENCE TRIPS

Two optional one day trips are offered at participant’s expense to Byblos and Tripoli, **OR** to Baalbek and Anjar, on Sunday, December 19, 2010.

A two day/two night trip to Damascus, Syria, is also available on Monday, December 20–Wednesday, December 22, 2010.

KEYNOTE SPEAKERS

Michael Dear, University of California, Berkeley
Hinterland Aesthetics: The Possibility of Environmental Design in Suburban Urbanism
Ghassan Joseph Hage, University of Melbourne
Dwelling in Utopia
David Pinder, Queen Mary, University of London
Rupture and Recovery: Utopia, Tradition, and Spatial Avant-Gardes
Ananya Roy, University of California, Berkeley
The Agonism of Utopia

UTOPIAN IDEALS VERSUS TRADITIONAL PHYSICAL REALITIES

Articulations of the Ideal
Lineu Castello, Brazil
My Traditional Sweet Urbanism Utopia
Christiane Waldvogel, Switzerland
Plastopia: Giobus Cassus as a Framework for the Conception of Utopia
Chris Harnish, USA
Utopian Components in a Dystopic Community: The Built Pursuit of Utopia in Dennilton, South Africa
Ted Shelton, USA
Automobile Utopias and Traditional Urban Infrastructure: Visions of the Coming Conflict, 1925–1940
Vahid Vahdat Zad and Michael Neuman, USA
Archetype of City Form: Understanding the A Priori Image of Utopia
Conflict, Identity, and the Ideal
Reem Alissa, Canada
The Kuwait Oil Company Town of Ahmadi: A British Utopia in the Arabian Desert, 1948–1961
Fernando Bontempo, Mexico
A Utopian Ideal in Reality: The Huapatera, Michoacan, Mexico
Anna Goodman, USA
Imagining Bidonville: Tradition and the Modernist Utopian Project in North Africa
Izumi Kuroishi, Japan
Utopia from the Bottom Up: A Reclamation Project by Displaced People in Northern Japan
Noha Nasser, UK
The Role of Memory in the Construction of an Islamist Utopian Identity in Birmingham
Ron Smith, USA
Geographies of Dis/Topia in the Nation State: Israel, Palestine, and the Geographies of Liberation

Ecotopias and Sustainable Ideals

Steven Dinero, USA
The “Ecological Indian” Revisited: Evidence from the Arctic
Laurence Lotfin III and Jacqueline Victor, USA
Burns and Jasseries: Situated Utopias
Gihan Hanallah and Riham Faragallah, Egypt
Ecotopia between Traditions and Technology
Giulia Annalinda Neglia, Italy
Ideal Foundation Models of Kashan (Iran) and Traditional Urban Form
James Steele and Rania Shafik, USA
Technological Fantasies for an Ecological Future
Imagining the Ideal
Michael Chapman, Australia
Suitcase Utopias: Problems of Miniaturization and Regulation in the Prosthetics of Transit
Dalia Elkerdany, Egypt
Traditional Hammam: A Utopian Place for Literature
Derren Lowe, Australia
Channeling the Past: Tradition and Politics in Ivan Leonidov’s “Utopian Constructivism”
Jacqueline Power, Australia
Australian Indigenous Interiority and Cosmology
Gunawan Tjahjono, Indonesia
The Vanishing Megalith and Ancestor House: Ideals and Reality of the Sumbanese Architectural Tradition
Nathaniel Walker, USA
Sister Cities: Corporate Utopia and Dystopia in the Twin Metropolises of King Camp Gillette and Fritz Lang
Urban Utopias: Regeneration, Renewal, and Planning
Azza Eleishe, Saudi Arabia
Architectural Heritage Conservation: Preservation, Replication, or Public Participation
Joseph Godlewski, USA
Emerging African Utopia? Tinapa Free Zone and Resort, Calabar, Nigeria
Sharif Shams Imon, Macao
“A Pleasant Home” in the Pearl River Delta and Macao Realities
Hesham Khairy Abdelfattah, Egypt
Engineering Utopia: Policy-Makers and the Utopian Future Vision of Egypt
Yasser Mahgoub, Kuwait
Romanticizing the Past: Utopia and Traditions in the Case of the Silk City, Kuwait
Sofia Shwayri, South Korea
Is This the Latest Modern City or the First of a Future Breed? Sejong, South Korea

Utopian Projects of Placemaking I

Yun Gao, UK
Xishuangbanna in Southwest China: A Fantasized Place and the Lived Experience of the Place
Agnese Ghini and Michele Zazzi, Italy
The Utopia of Decrease: The Project of a Rural-Urban Settlement
Puay-Peng Ho, Hong Kong
Constructing the Peach Blossom Spring: Architecture of Chinese Utopia
Varun Kapur, India
The City as Tabula Rasa Versus the City as Mosaic: Chandigarh and New Delhi
Kishwar Rizvi, USA
Modernism’s Utopia Present: Architecture in Contemporary Dubai
Utopian Projects of Placemaking II
Marwan Ghandour, USA
The Multiple Utopias of the American Midwest
Anne Marshall, USA
Creating a Utopian Indigenous Place: The National Museum of the American Indian
Ann Shafer, Egypt
Mosque as Utopia: Toward a Methodological Framework for the Dynamics of Place
Jing Zheng, Hong Kong
When Traditional Cooperative Dwellings Encounter Utopia: The Tulou of Heheng Village, 1958–1972
Utopias of Domesticity
Joe Aranha, USA
Hidmo: Stone Houses of the Tigry, Ethiopia

Catherine Eltinger, Mexico
More Mexican than Mexico: Expats and the Traditional Mexican House in Transition
Yasemin Ince Guney, Turkey
The Fate of a Utopia: The Neophyte Turkish Republic Ideal of Single-Family Housing
Maggie Mei Kai Hui, Hong Kong
From Family Rituals to Everyday Living Practice: Utopian Ideals and the “Traditional” Tibetan House
Nancy Um, USA
Reconsidering Red Sea Architecture: Building Traditions at the Hinge between the Mediterranean and Indian Oceans
Visions of an Island Utopia
Lynne Horuchi, USA
A Local Global Utopia: Pre-World War II Japanese Orientalism on Treasure Island
Tanu Sankalia, USA
Production of an “Eco-Urban” Utopia: The Treasure Island Development Plan
Lisa Schrenk, USA
Utopian Visions: Presentations of National Identity at the 1939–40 Golden Gate International Exposition
John Stehlin, USA
On Shifting Ground: Mobilizing Soil, Territorializing Power, and Producing Place on San Francisco’s Treasure Island

Displacement Utopia in Transylvania’s “Saxon Villages”

Alina Hughes, UK
Current Reality and Utopian Reconstruction: New Inhabitants’ Relationship with the Existing Village Fabric and Its Conservation
James Koranyi, UK
The Narrative of Lost Utopias: The Saxon and Anglo-Saxon Edens
Justin Pollard, UK
The Duchy of Cornwall: Beneficent Environmental Patron of a Reimagined European Rural Utopia?
Tom Hughes, UK
Utopian Visions and Retrofit: A Sustainable Future for Romania’s Saxon Villages

THE PRACTICES OF UTOPIA AND THE POLITICS OF TRADITION

Consuming the Past: The Politics of the Museum and Monument
Alessandro Busà, Germany
Rezoning Coney Island: The Reinvention of Utopia
Herlily Herlily, Indonesia
Utopia of Memory: Guerrilla Tour, Tsunami Museum, and the Space of Insurgency in Aceh, Indonesia
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Duanfang Lu, Australia
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Identity and the Politics of Utopia I

Vandana Baweja, USA
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Mohamed Elshahed, USA
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Michael Ostwald and Michael Chapman, Australia
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Tradition and Utopianism in Late Ottoman and Early Turkish Republican Literature
Andrzej Piotrowski, USA
Seeming Paradoxes of Polish Architectural Traditions

Identity and the Politics of Utopia II

Mona Damilji, USA
“New Lights for Aladdin”: Utopian Visions and the Making of Modern Baghdad, 1950–1970
Paul Memmott, Australia
Where the Dreamtime Meets the Market: The Dugalunji Camp at Camooeal
Petros Phokaides and Panayoti Pyla, Greece
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Elena Tomlinson, USA
Becoming European: House Aesthetics and Politics of Inclusion in Postsocialist Romania
Seda Uyanik, Turkey
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Heghnar Watenpaugh, USA
The Utopia of Home: Domestic Architecture, Gender and Nostalgia in Syria

Regeneration and Development in the Neoliberal Era

Khaled Adham, United Arab Emirates
From Paris on the Nile to Dubai on the Nile: The Impact of the Gulf on Cairo’s Vision Plan 2050
Stefan Al, Hong Kong
The Shelf Life of Utopia: Ruining the Las Vegas Strip
Anne-Marie Broudehoux, Canada
Favela Walls: Neoliberalism, Revanchist Urbanism, and the Utopia of Social Equality in Rio de Janeiro
Jia Ching Chen, USA
The Green Leap Forward: Global Environmental Utopia and the Politics of Tradition in China
Faedah Totah, USA
“With You Begins and Ends Creation”: Damascus and the Tradition of the Ideal

Twenty-First-Century Urbanisms of the Ideal

Heba Farouk Ahmed, Egypt
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Mirjana Lozanovska, Australia
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Traditional Influences and Utopian Practices

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THE UTOPIA OF TRADITION