Magic, Philosophy and the Perils of PowerPoint – FORMAT, a New ‘Live Magazine’ investigating the powers of presentation

- 28 June – 11 July, FREE series of events at the Architectural Association School of Architecture, 36 Bedford Square, London, WC1B 3ES
- Experts from multiple disciplines come together to deconstruct the grammar of communication and culture, past and present.
- Website: http://format.aaschool.ac.uk

FORMAT invites you to step into the pages of a ‘Live Magazine’, performed as series of presentations, discussions and screenings, over five FREE events staged at the Architectural Association School of Architecture this summer. [Full listings below]

Presented through a unique mix of anecdote and analysis, seminars and screenings, FORMAT takes on a range of subjects and looks at how they are codified and consumed by professionals and publics.

Come and experience Utopia rapped to a dance-beat, Twin Peaks' relationship to Gulf War I, and how magic designs our delusion and desire.

Shumon Basar, FORMAT’s organiser, and director of the Cultural Programme says: "FORMAT looks at the shapes that discourse takes. We're used to thinking of media coming in 'formats' (R.I.P the CD!), but knowledge does too. These intimate, reflexive sessions of the first issue will look back historically on how knowledge has been formatted into things like disciplines and institutions. Also, we'll be questioning how the present moment - full of uncertainty and sudden transformation - questions received formats of cultural consumption. Paraphrasing the words of Samuel Beckett, 'Format is content, content is format.'"

Full information: FORMAT website: http://format.aaschool.ac.uk/
FORMAT ISSUE 1

Events
All take place at Architectural Association School of Architecture, 36 Bedford Square, London, WC1B 3ES.

28 June, 1830hrs
magic format
presents live levitation, disappearing buildings and dictators’ favourites
with jonathan allen and sam jacob

30 June, 1830hrs
philosophy format
presents diaries, dialogues, Deleuze’s diagram paradigms and the work of Collapse
with oscar guardiola-rivera, robin mackay and alberto toscano. Guest video appearance jacques lacan

6 July, 1830hrs
lecture format
presents the presentational aspect of art, the comic didactic in PowerPoint, the tragedy of serious posturing, and Utopian visions recited to the rhythm of a sweaty dance-floor
with victoria camblin, mark cousins, and tuomas toivonen

8 July, 1830hrs
library format
presents repositories, their classifications, archives in novels, and Abby Warburg’s idiosyncratic shelving system
with charles arsène-henry, anna madeley, françois quiviger and geoffrey streatfield

11 July, 1830hrs
anniversary format
remembers those dates from the past we are not allowed to forget as well as those
never known in the first place. History revised each time it’s recalled from amnesia guest edited by sexymachinery

- END -

Press Information
For further information please contact Susannah Glynn at Kallaway on email Susannah.glynn@kallaway.com telephone 020 7221 7883

Notes to Editors
The Architectural Association School is the world’s most renowned international and influential school of architecture. Since 1847, the AA has pioneered a belief in architecture as a profession, culture and a unique form of human enquiry. The School has for decades been home to students and teachers who have gone on to become worldwide leaders of architecture and share creative ideas.

AA School alumni include Zaha Hadid, Rem Koolhaas, Lord Rogers, Will Alsop, Cedric Price and many others. Through its unique, year-long, unit based system of teaching, direct intervention in cities and its intensively collaborative team based approach to learning, the School brings together disconnected worlds, fresh ideas and inspiring insights. The AA School is celebrated worldwide as an imaginative setting for architectural culture.

- END TO ALL -