GET REAL

This year we will further explore the craft of architectural space creation thru the design and construction of a timber pavilion in Bedford Square. As a unit we explore the management of complexity through real architectural construction because; we like to dream, we like to speculate, to design and to criticize but we also like making things. We like the feel of pencil lead, grease on our hands and sawdust in our hair. We’re productive. We get real.

The unit is essentially a phenomenological exercise in which students pass directly (or vicariously) from the inception of an architectural idea, through development of the idea into a scheme then an architectural design that can be developed and detailed technically then fabricated and assembled. The lesson lies in appreciating the journey and reflecting on all of the decisions taken along the way as well as regretting the mis-judgements and missed opportunities. It’s an architectural experience, a phenomenon (and for many their first.)

Following the success of last years more collaborative approach the unit will again be structured as an atelier working collectively (as a group) for the greater part of second term and the full third term.

First term will focus on skills and idea generation. Each student will develop 25 ideas in 25 days. We will further investigate pattern in a digitally enhanced English ‘arts and crafts’ manner, and we will visit our sponsor FinnForest in Finland to understand the phenomenological origins of our chosen material. A weekend in Hooke Park will act as a workshop induction. At the end of first term four concepts will be selected for further development into design.

Second term will be group work focusing on design and working in small groups the concepts will be developed into pavilion proposals within 3 weeks (SD- Schematic Design). Following this a Jury will select 2 proposals to be developed as fully detailed proposals (DD – Design Development) finally a jury will select the winning pavilion and the unit as a whole will prepare technical drawings (CD’s – Construction Documents).

Third term will consist of a week preparing the logistics of production followed by eight weeks of rural retreat to Hooke Park where we will fabricate the pavilion with intermittent evening lectures ‘al fresco’ exploring the reconnection of design and fabrication known as craft, as well as the occasional bonfire, country walk and beach bar-b-que. Finally we will work with contractors on site to assemble a finished pavilion.

Generally our intention is to progress an ongoing exploration driven by the students of intermediate unit 2 into complexity and craftsmanship using contemporary tolls (computers) thru the construction of a simple (but highly original and ambitious) timber pavilion, under our tutelage. Quite real actually.

First Term (10 weeks)

First term is individual work and will focus on ideas and theory. 25 ideas will be developed by each student over 25 days (1 idea per day). Twice weekly we will pin our ideas on the wall and vote with post-it stickers for the most successful ideas. Authors will not present but voters will explain the reason for their selection. The intent is to develop inertia and attract attention to ‘raise the stakes’ and put forward an innovative and provocative pavilion proposition.

At the beginning of term we will explore 2d pattern as an organisational principle and considered as an effect to develop a specific intentionality in terms of the intended effect before embracing 3d design. Later we will try to translate these 2d effects into a 3d spatial experience. At the end of
the term each student will put forward one idea to a jury who will isolate four ideas for development in second term. The intent is that although a student may not get chosen they will have the surrogate experience of seeing an initial idea put forward and mature into an innovative and original architectural proposition.

A weekend in Finland is proposed to familiarise ourselves with our chosen construction material. At the end of term a weekend at Hooke Park will provide basic workshop induction as well as an opportunity to familiarise oneself with woodworking and an opportunity for the unit to bond as a team. This year each student will use the CNC cutting machine as an introduction to the phenomenology of CNC cutting from a timber sheet material to help inform the development of their propositions as developed in the second term.

week 1 introduction
Pattern studies (2D)
week 2
Pattern studies (2D)  Tutorial 1 Rhino Modelling
Pattern studies (2D)  Tutorial 2 Excel Scripting
Unit trip to FinnForest Finland
week 3
ideas 1,2,3
ideas 4,5  Tutorial 3 Excel Scripting
week 4
ideas 6,7,8
ideas 9,10  Tutorial 3 VB Scripting
week 5
ideas 11,12,13
ideas 14,15  Individual Tutorials
week 6
ideas 16,17,18
ideas 19,20  Tutorial 4 VB Scripting
week 7
ideas 21,22,23
ideas 24,25  Tutorial 5 Rhino Script
week 8
Group Tutorial
Individual Tutorials
week 9 **Ideas Selection Jury**
induction weekend Hooke Park
week 10 definition of groups for second term

**Second Term (11 weeks)**

The second term will consist of group work within small groups of three and then groups of up to six. The first three weeks will be an intense development of the ideas selected in the first term in groups of three the ideas will be developed into design proposals.

A design will be presented to jury in week four and one of the schemes will be eliminated and the unit will restructure as three groups of four. In week eight a jury will select our final scheme and the unit will restructure as an atelier to develop along with our structural engineers Arup final construction drawings.

week 1 introduction
Group tutorials
week 2
Group tutorials
week 3
Group tutorials
week 4 **Scheme selection jury**
definition of groups
week 5
Group tutorials
week 6
Group tutorials
week 7 Group tutorials
week 8 **Design selection jury**
   re-structure as atelier
week 9 meet structural engineer
   technical drawing review
week 10 meet structural engineer
   technical drawing review
week 11 final structural analysis
   order material

**Third Term (11 weeks)**

In the third term we will reform at a fabrication team and move directly to Hooke Park where we will be resident for seven week allowing more time than in previous years to fabricate the pavilion at a more leisurely pace. During our stay in Hooke park we will have visits from visiting critics who will lecture in the existing outdoor pavilion at Hooke introducing greater cultural dimension and opportunity to reflect on the act of building and the role of the craftsman in architecture today.

At the end of term we will deliver the pavilion and erect it in Bedford square for Project review.

week 1 introduction
   project coordination and logistics meeting
week 2 relocate to Hooke Park campus
   fabrication Hooke Park
week 3 fabrication Hooke Park
week 4 fabrication Hooke Park
week 5 fabrication Hooke Park
week 6 fabrication Hooke Park
week 7 fabrication Hooke Park
week 8 fabrication Hooke Park
week 9 2nd year table reviews
   site erection
week 10 3rd year table reviews
   site erection contingency
week 11 external examiners
   open pavilion Projects Review