

PRESS RELEASE

Drawing Ambience shows unique collection of drawings by world's leading architects

The last generation of drawing architects

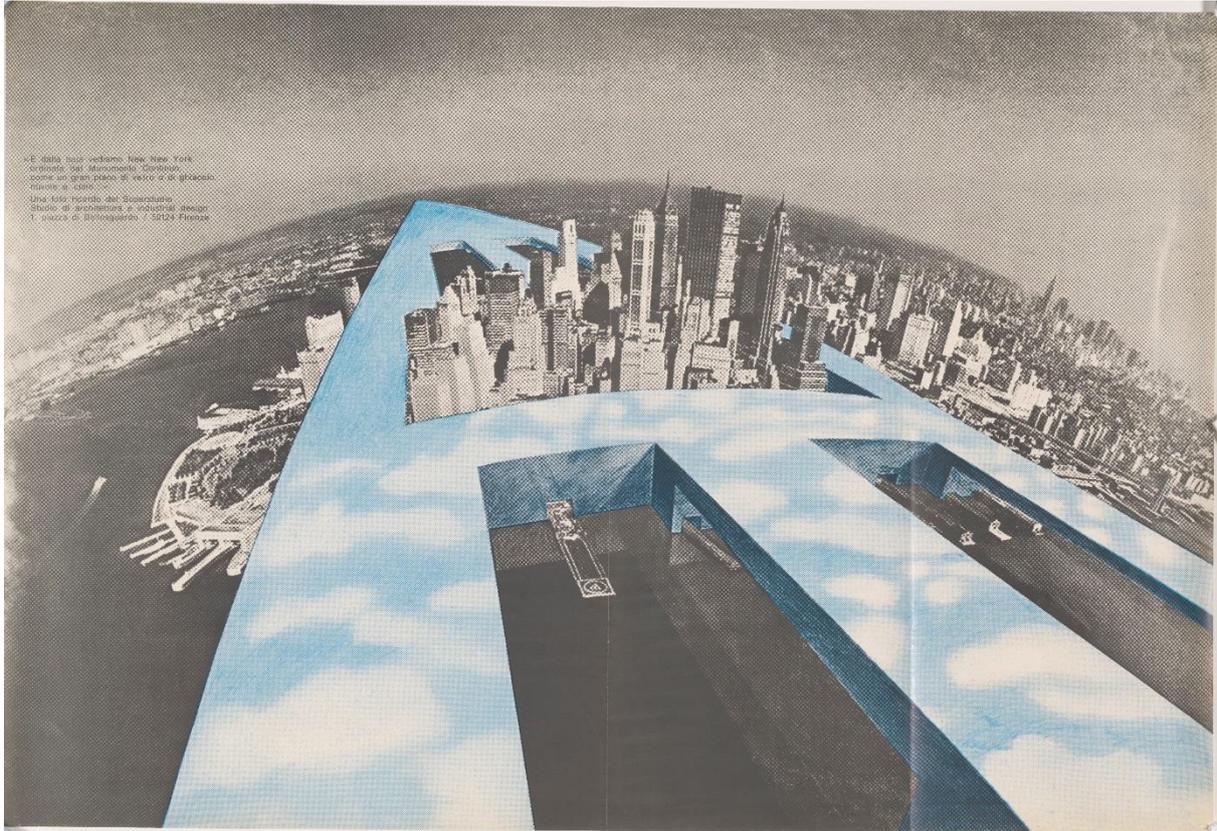
The exhibition **Drawing Ambience: Alvin Boyarsky and the Architectural Association** presents some 50 works on paper by architects and artists collected by the long-term chairman of the Architectural Association School of Architecture (AA) in London, **Alvin Boyarsky**. (from 25/10/2017 to 14/01/2018 at the Flanders Architecture Institute, deSingel, Antwerp - BE)

Boyarsky's collection contains drawings of Rem Koolhaas, Zaha Hadid, Daniel Libeskind, Bernard Tschumi and many more



The World (89 Degrees), 1984 by Zaha Hadid
©Zaha Hadid, Courtesy of the Zaha Hadid Foundation

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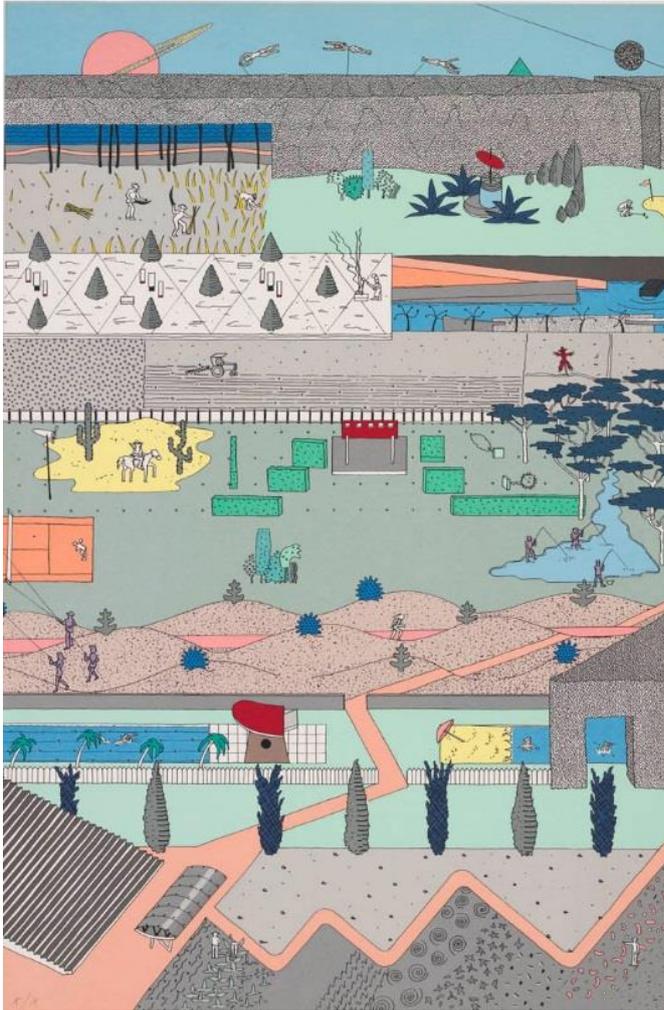
Superstudio, New-New York, 1969, From Il monumento continuo (the continuous Monument)

The second half of the 20th century was a period characterised by accelerated mobility and an international exchange of ideas. This Zeitgeist can be sensed in the presented works, most of which were made in the 1970s and '80s. This was a time during which the international orientation of the Architectural Association School of Architecture, accompanied by a growing interest in drawing, gave a fresh impetus to the search for a new architectural language.

The school is justifiably considered to have been one of the most important melting pots of architectural talent and has produced many Stirling and Pritzker prize winners. The renowned alumni of the school include Rem Koolhaas, Zaha Hadid, Nigel Coates, David Chipperfield, Ben van Berkel, Will Alsop and others. Many graduates returned to the school later as teachers.

The diverse artistic stances, varied techniques, and geographic origins of these drawings and their connections to built architecture point to the significance of Alvin Boyarsky's life-work. Boyarsky was born in 1928 in Canada and studied architecture at the McGill University in Montreal. Following his first experiences of the profession, he completed the postgraduate programme at Cornell University and then taught at the University of Oregon, the Bartlett School of Architecture and the Architectural Association School of Architecture London, the school he later led from 1971 to 1990, as well as the University of Illinois at Chicago. At the AA, he promoted the school's international outlook and revolutionised its study programme through the advancement of its 'unit system' and a great value placed on architectural drawing.

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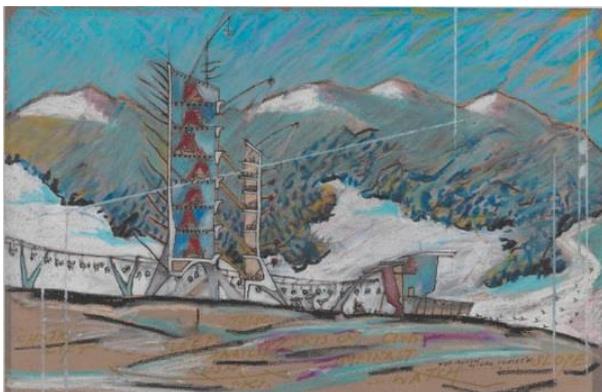


At a time when computer-aided design is the norm, Drawing Ambience reminds us that this was the last time when drawing by hand ruled.

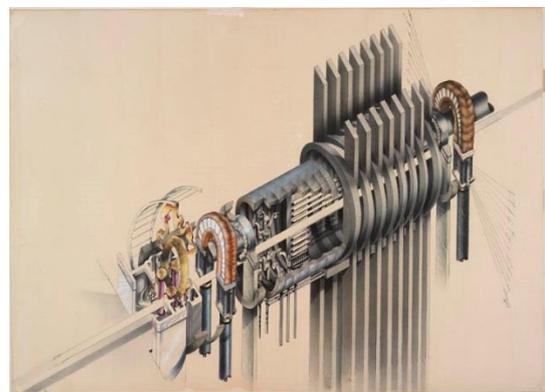
The Architectural Review

The Pleasure of Architecture, 1983 by Alex Wall © OMA

The exhibition shows early works by many significant architects, including Frank Gehry, Zaha Hadid, Daniel Libeskind, Rem Koolhaas and Bernard Tschumi, among others. It gives us a view into their world of ideas realised in the form of drawings. For Alvin Boyarsky, architectural drawing was not only a means of representation or a presentation medium but also a form of architecture.



Ski Station, 1982 by Nigel Coates © Nigel Coates



The Macrophone, 1981 by Jeremie Frank © Jeremie Frank

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PRESS RELEASE

Drawing Ambience. Alvin Boyarsky and the Architectural Association

Co-organized by the Mildred Lane Kemper Art Museum at Washington University in St. Louis and the Museum of Art, Rhode Island School of Design, Providence. It is co-curated by Igor Marjanović and Jan Howard. **Production of the Antwerp edition of the exhibition** Flanders Architecture Institute, deSingel International Arts Campus in collaboration with KULeuven and Piet Zwart Institute, MIARD. **The Antwerp edition of the exhibition** has been initiated and designed by Riet Eeckhout and Arnaud Hendrickx.

exhibition

Wednesday 25 October 2017 → Sunday 14 January 2018 in deSingel (Antwerp – BE)

open Wed → Sun / 14 → 18.00 and during evening performances

closed Mon, Tue and public holidays

admission: €5 (under-19s free) combi ticket with the exhibition [Dom Hans van der Laan. A House for the Mind](#)

tickets on sale at entrance to exhibition

opening

Tuesday 24 October 2017 – opening and lecture at 20.00 at deSingel International Arts Campus

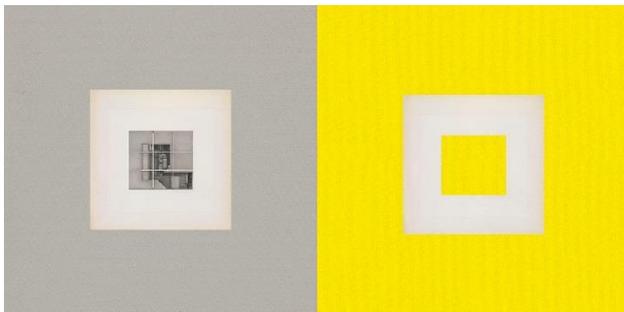
The opening event of the exhibition will stage a conversation between two significant authors of the drawings of the Boyarsky collection: Sir Peter Cook (UK) and Alexander Brodsky (Russia) in the presence of Nicholas Boyarsky. Notwithstanding the indisputable value of what these authors mean to discipline of architecture drawing, Sir Peter Cook and Alexander Brodsky will expand on the meaning they attribute to architecture drawing in their practice. The moderated conversation would be preceded by a lecture by both authors.

admission free, reservations for the opening at www.vai.be/inschrijven

Drawing out: material dialogues with the Boyarsky-collection

Tuesday 28 November 2017 → Sunday 14 January 2018 in deSingel (Antwerp – BE)

Curators Riet Eeckhout and Arnaud Hendrickx invite Belgian artists and architects to go into dialogue with the works from the Boyarsky collection.



The early architecture drawings of the influential architects presented in the exhibition ‘Drawing Ambience’ will be confronted with new or reformed work by: Stijn Ank, Koen Deprez, Riet Eeckhout, Pieterjan Ginkels, Marc Godts, Arnaud Hendrickx, Bart Hollanders, Stijn Jonckhere, Ephraim Joris, Mira Sanders en Cédric Noël, Alex Suarez, Peter Swinnen, Füsün Türetken, Michael Van Den Abeele, Jo Van Den Berghe, Dimitri Van Grunderbeek.

This exhibition is organized by the academic design team ‘Drawing Architecture, balancing on the shoulders of giants’ at KU Leuven. Curation and scenography: Riet Eeckhout and Arnaud Hendrickx.

opening Drawing out: material dialogues with the Boyarsky-collection

Tuesday 28 November 2017 at 7pm in Expo at deSingel (Antwerp - BE)

PRESS RELEASE

catalogue

An insightful exhibition catalogue has been published and is for sale at the Flanders Architecture Institute: [Drawing ambience. Alvin Boyarsky and the Architectural Association](#), Igor Marjanović and Jan Howard, (St. Louis and Providence: Mildred Lane Kemper Art Museum and Museum of Art, Rhode Island School of Design, 2014), distributed by University of Chicago Press.

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All works in the exhibition are from the collection of the Alvin Boyarsky Archive, London, unless otherwise noted, made possible by the generosity of the Boyarsky family.

Drawing Ambience: Alvin Boyarsky and the Architectural Association is coorganized by the Mildred Lane Kemper Art Museum at Washington University in St. Louis and the Museum of Art, Rhode Island School of Design, Providence. It is cocurated by Jan Howard, curator of the Museum of Art, Rhode Island School of Design and Igor Marjanović, professor architecture at the Washington University in St. Louis. The catalogue was published by the University of Chicago Press.

The presentation of **Drawing Ambience: Alvin Boyarsky and the Architectural Association** in Antwerp was made possible with the help of:



The Flanders Architecture Institute's 2017-18 programme is supported by:

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