

March 31 is the application deadline for enrollment in the next Academic Year, and May 31 for enrollment in the Summer Workshop. Find more information about the Summer School [here](#), and applications [here](#).



AD STUDIOS - PRAHA BUBENEČ RENOVATION

The three AD studios introduced this semester's project: the renovation of the recently abandoned Praha-Bubeneč train station and its surroundings. This location, in Prague 6, is an underdeveloped connection point at the intersection between residential, industrial and recreational areas.

All the projects will be centered at the former train station building, and will be explored at varying scales and with a different focus in each studio. In Dlesk-Duba studio, the long strip of land will be re-imagined as a dance academy. In Wertig-Kopecký studio, AD 6+8 students will develop two adjacent sites which frame the larger area, with a new parking complex and a sports facility complex. In Schindler-Fessler studio, the areas around the station, will be developed into a cultural campus.

Additionally, AD10 Diploma students began working on their final thesis projects, after a semester of Pre-Diploma research. The significant sites include the renovations of a railyard brownfield in Žižkov, the Strahov stadium on Petřín hill, the historical landscape of the Těšnov area, and the underdeveloped riverfront along Smíchov, as well as a new library in Prague 2, a new block typology along the Baroque city wall, and a sustainable redevelopment of the Island of Flowers in Montenegro.



ARCHIP HOSTS - HENNING LARSEN LECTURE

ARCHIP co-organised an Urban Talks event with CAMP - Centre of Architecture and City Planning. The lecture was the first in a series of planned lectures from visiting Scandinavian architects.

Jacob Kurek, a partner in charge of international projects from the Danish architectural studio [Henning Larsen](#), talked about their approach to architecture and specifically their visions of openness in buildings (versus opening hours) and the role of the architect as a conductor or facilitator. He discussed their aim to build communities through architecture and urban planning, and to produce a community-driven architecture which is formed by insights into the life and thoughts of the local people, the history and memories of the place, their landscapes and even the local micro-climates.

In their projects, they integrate a scientific method of calculating the temperature and wind forces, to engineer the local environment together with their spatial designs, in order to maximise the comfort and the usability of the place. Their public spaces also offer an informal space of improvisation, to be used, in a free manner, by the local community. By weaving together the people, the place and the past, their works create new and site-specific cultural identities infused with a flexible public life.



THE COMPETITION - FILM SCREENING

Teachers and students of the Professional Ethics and Preparing for Practice courses held an open screening of the movie "The Competition".

"The Competition is the first film documenting the tense developments that characterise architectural contests. A documentary movie constructed as an almost uncomfortable but intensely fascinating account of how some of the best architects in the world, design giants like Jean Nouvel or Frank Gehry, toil, struggle and strategise to beat the competition."

The informative and emotional film is at times brutal to watch. Students could be heard exclaiming at various times "what?", "wow!", and "no way". Why do architects put themselves through such sleepless and stressful struggle? Unlike most jobs, the architect's work is abstract and speculative, and a complex search for a synthesis amongst many competing forces. The architect's project can always be reworked and improved until the very last moment ... and even then, it could still be better ... The intensity and passion, hard-work and focus of the architect-in-practice comes through in the film. As does the ironically all-too-often fruitlessness of their efforts... was the winner of the competition the one who lost the least, or the one who did not even participate?

FEBRUARY - MARCH

Also this month, students of Contemporary Architecture went for an 'architecture walk', touring villas in Malvazinky. And Shota Tsikoliya, GA+D studio leader, presented Research in the Age of Computational Design as part of A&U Talks at VIPER gallery. ARCHIP will also host an Open House coinciding with Concept presentations (on March 12).

VISITS AND LECTURES