

CIRRUSNETWORK

4TH CIRRUS CONFERENCE 2010 - MEETING OF TEACHERS

ICELAND ACADEMY OF THE ARTS

Skipholt 1, 105 Reykjavik, Iceland. Tel.:00-354-552-4000.

DATES:

Thursday January 21st and Friday January 22nd

BACKGROUND

Reykjavík will host the 4th Meeting of Teachers in January 2010. These meetings have become a regular feature in the activities of Cirrus and are considered valuable contributions to the development of teaching in general and the development of the MA in particular. What is considered of great value with these meetings is the general openness and participation of teachers in the proceedings as opposed to the many organizational meetings that have to be held in networks.

The conferences adhere generally to a similar program, starting early on Thursday morning and ending mid-day Friday, making it possible for delegates to make it home before the working week is over.

Cirrus is a team of 22 institutions of higher education from all corners of the Nordic and Baltic countries founded in 1990. The central activities of the partner institutions are arts, crafts and design, including innovative activities, technical development and artistic practices. In the growing globalization it becomes ever more important to define local specialities through collaborative work. The Nordic-Baltic area is a powerhouse in design with certain characteristics that do not exist in other geographic areas. It is important for the Nordic-Baltic region to preserve and extend this competence in relation to the wider global field of design. Furthermore in the ever more competitive field of design and design education it is important to run a supporting network for the partner institutions to make sure that the proper benchmarking is created and held.

Cirrus is also a space for people to meet - for students and teachers to exchange ideas and knowledge. The Cirrus schools develop their education and research by supporting each other. They collaborate on important up-to date issues together with commerce and industry, culture and other actors belonging in the spheres of art, design and media. Alongside solid aesthetic and design-related skills, we offer the power of creative thinking and strategic and scholarly skills for solving any problem we, or our associates, encounter. This means that we have to be ready to meet challenges because a better world has to be created anew every day and it is the purpose of design to work with the future, projecting scenarios and solutions.

We will follow our now well-tried symposium spirit. We again aim to create an intimate occasion, with opportunities for formal and informal dialogues and create pockets of TIME for delegates to meet each other. Be prepared for lots of active talking, discussion and networking.

Previous conferences have made attempts to look at the following subjects:

Continuum from BA to MA	Sustainability
Space as Interdisciplinarity	Entrepreneurship and Design Policy
Social Responsivity (SRVD)	Design Research and Academic Challenge
Design School Collaboration with Industry	Curriculum Development in MA Programs
Working with Outside Specialists	Industry and Entrepreneurship.
Business	

All these are topics that come up continuously and they will surely be raised in the coming conference. After the meeting of heads in Copenhagen last September we have decided to run the following three parallel seminars:

1. Design Innovation for Gender Equality
2. Post Crisis, How does it affect the Design Schools?
3. A Common Master Program in Design

STRUCTURE

Wednesday 20th Jan

Evening: delegates arrive. Meeting informally at 19.30 in a local restaurant, restaurant Við Tjörnina (specialize in fish), Templarasund 3, 101 Reykjavík (next to parliament building, up one flight of stairs – see map).

Thursday 21st Jan

8:00 - 9:00 Coffee and registration at the dept. of fine arts and art education, Laugarnesvegur 91, 104 Reykjavík (see map).

9:00 Plenum to start the symposium – primer talks.

9:05 Jóhannes Þórðarson, dean Iceland Academy of the Arts: Welcome to the meeting

9:15 Halldór Gíslason, leader of Cirrus: The challenges of the MA programs and the conference.

9:30 Tine Kjølseen, head of department, Danmark Design Skole: Common MA programs in our region.

9:45 Dóra Ísleifsdóttir lecturer in graphic design at Iceland Academy of the Arts: Design in Post Crisis Society.

10:00 Teo Enlund, professor Konstfack, Stockholm : Master of European Design

10:10 Conference arrangements - Jóhannes Þórðarson

10:15 Coffee Break and program clarifications

10:45 First Parallel Session

1. Design Innovation for Gender Equality

(Room announced on site)

Chair: Sóley Stefánsdóttir, research project leader with Annadís Rúdólfsdóttir, head of the Gender Equality Training Programme at the University of Iceland.

Gender equality is a vast subject matter and a keystone in creating real prosperity within society. Our belief and vision is therefore that gender equality should be addressed on a strategic design level. We believe that both the fields of gender research and design make a combined force to influence positive results.

2. Post Crisis, How does it affect the Design Schools?

(Room announced on site)

Chair: Dóra Ísleifsdóttir lecturer in graphic design, Iceland Academy of the Arts with Jonathan Romm, dean, Oslo School of Architecture and Design.

3. A Common Master Program in Design

(Room announced on site)

Chair: Tine Kjølseth, head of department, Danmark Designskole with Halldór Gíslason, leader of Cirrus.

The Nordic design schools within the CIRRUS network want to strengthen their collaborative relations, study programmes and educational relations. In developing this mutual programme the institutions strongly believe that they can enhance the curriculum for the students enrolled in a joint programme. The Nordic MA can take form as cooperation between 2 or more of the Nordic design schools The MA will not be tied to one specific type of product or material.

12:30 Lunch on location

13:30 Second Parallel Session

15:00 Coffee, Networking and Discussions in informal Plenum

16:00 Presentations of findings from parallel sessions. Short reports from activities within discussion groups. One member from each group gives a short report.

Written questions for debate on Friday will be collected (question box on site).

Evening

Dinner for all delegates at Pearl restaurant, www.perlan.is. Dinner is not covered by the conference.

Friday 22nd Jan

9:30 Arrival and coffee

10:00 Presentations of two models of MA's

Lorraine Farrelly about master program in an English university

Jóhannes Þórðarson about the new proposed master program at Iceland Academy of the Arts

11:00 Panel and questions from the previous day.

Dóri Gíslason introduces questions raised

Coffee

13:00 Summation and Farewell to those that leave in afternoon.

13:15 – 13:45 Visit to the department of design and architecture of the Iceland Academy of the Arts in Skipholt 1, 105 Reykjavík, informal presentation and refreshments. Rest of day for own activities.

Saturday 23rd

On the Saturday there will be an excursion provided there is enough participation. The plan is to go to the Reykjanes peninsula, a visit to the tip of the peninsula, drive to Grindavik, a typical fishing village, visit to the Svartsengi power plant (geothermal power station, unique in its field), and of course a dip into the world famous Blue Lagoon (www.bluelagoon.com). All this followed by a road trip through Icelandic lava landscape. Good clothing and swim-wear required. Sandwiches and drinks provided during tour. Estimated duration of tour from 10AM until 16.30 PM. We estimate that the total cost for the trip is € 50,- depending on the number of participants. Please let us know when you register to the conference whether you will be join us on the trip or not.

‘From the hosts: Iceland Academy of the Arts

We look forward to seeing you all and please keep in mind that we do encourage you, where possible to bring students with you to this symposium. For details of attendance numbers, confirmation of attendance at meal on the evening of the Thursday 17th of January, please contact:

Alma Ragnarsdóttir

international coordinator (alma@lhi.is)

and

Jóhannes Þórðarson

dean (johannes@lhi.is)

Please send us an email (to alma@lhi.is) asap as to indicate to us that you are attending. For practical reasons we have to limit the number of participants. When registering please indicate if you will participate in the tour on the Saturday or not, and also please inform us if there are special diet requests.

HOTEL INFORMATION

Hótel Plaza, Adalstraeti 4, 101 Reykjavík

<http://www.plaza.is/index.php>

The Hotel Plaza is located in the heart of the old city, next to restaurants, shopping and nightlife. The Plaza is well situated for enjoying all that Iceland has to offer. Within walking distance you will find the national theatre, the best selection of restaurants, galleries and museums. 104 well-appointed bedrooms are newly renovated and include telephone, fully stocked mini-bar, and interactive TV, and a hairdryer. Each room has its own FREE high speed internet connection.

Please, book your room no later than January 10. Send and Email to: reservations@centerhotels.com and use CIRRUS as reference.

SGL room 45 € pr.night

DBL room 50 € pr.night

HOW TO GET TO THE ACADEMY?

Use buses no. 12, 3 or 5 from Lækjargata, running every 15 minutes during busy hours on weekdays. Bus no. 12 stops in Laugarnesvegur, 1 min walk from the academy. The bus fare is 280 ISK, please have your coins ready!

Taxi from hotel to the academy: estimated cost is 2000 ISK.

Going by foot will take you at least 30-40 minutes and there is a walking path along the sea-side.

TRAVEL AND PRACTICAL INFORMATION

Information about flights and Keflavik airport

www.icelandair.com
www.icelandexpress.com
www.scandinavian.net
<http://www.kefairport.is/English/>

FLYBUS arrival and departure

Operated all year daily from Keflavik Airport to Reykjavik in connection with all arriving flights. The Flybus is located right outside the Keflavik International Airport. The Flybus brings passengers to the BSI Bus Terminal in Reykjavik near to the capital's centre. From there passengers are brought to some of the major hotels and guesthouses in Reykjavik, including the Plaza hotel. Taxis are also available outside the terminal for any destination. Duration from airport to city bus terminal: 40 - 50 minutes. There are buses from the bus terminal in connection with all departing flights. A pick-up service is available from some of the major hotels and guesthouses in Reykjavik, including Plaza hotel. The day before departure, passengers need to inform the reception desk staff of their hotel that they want the Flybus to pick them up the next day. The Flybus has a special schedule based on departures from the BSI terminal, picking up passengers approximately ½ an hour prior at the hotels.

One way ticket: 1700 ISK (2200 ISK directly to hotel or pick-up)

Return ticket: 3000 ISK (pick up not included)

SWIMMING POOLS

Icelanders have the fortune of having access to an almost unlimited and inexpensive supply of natural hot and cold water, a resource that is becoming scarce in many places around the world. In addition, Icelanders can be proud of the drinking water quality, which is one of the purest in the world. The cold water from the tap is pure spring water, without any additives such as chlorine.

Don't miss our swimming pools!

Near to the hotel: Vesturbæjarlaug and Sundhöllin

Near to the conference venue: Laugardalslaugin

Further information and listing:

<http://www.sundlaugar.is/index.php/en/pools>

Useful links:

Icelandic Tourist Board www.icetourist.is

Visit Reykjavik www.visitreykjavik.is

Weather information <http://en.vedur.is/>

Universal Currency Converter www.xe.com/ucc/

Leifur Eiriksson Air Terminal www.airport.is/English/