SCHEDULE

DARK MATTER.

REVISITING THE ARCHITECTURE OF COAL IN POST-WAR EUROPE

ACME
Architecture of Coal in Modern Europe

5 + 6TH NOVEMBER 2026

DARK MATTER:
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THURSDAY 5TH 16:30 OPENING | EXHIBITION AND KEYNOTE

FRIDAY 6TH MORNING + AFTERNOON; PARALLEL SESSIONS | DRINKS RECEPTION | PANEL DISCUSSION

THURSDAY 5TH NOVEMBER

16:30 DOORS OPEN

17:00 WELCOME BY PROFESSOR GARY A. BOYD, PRINCIPAL INVESTIGATOR OF THE ACME PROJECT, FOLLOWED BY KEYNOTE FROM DR ŁUKASZ GALUSEK
FROM COAL DUST TO LIGHT: UPPER SILESIAN MODERN ADVENTURE
Q&A TO FOLLOW

19:00 DINNER FOR SPEAKERS (DUNNE & CRESCENZI)

FRIDAY 6TH NOVEMBER

09:00 REGISTRATION

09:30 OPENING & HOUSEKEEPING

	ROOM A	ROOM B
BLOCK 1:	POWER + TERRITORY	SENSING + REPRESENTATION
09:40	DR ERIC NAY ONTARIO COLLEGE OF ART AND DESIGN UNIVERSITY (OCADU) *ON SVALBARD: COAL'S PARTICULAR SPATIAL AND IMAGINARY LEGACY IN THE ARCTIC*	DR PIERRE JOLIVET RISEBA UNIVERSITY OF APPLIED SCIENCES, RIGA *LISTENING TO EXTRACTION: COAL, SOUND, AND THE SENSORY INFRASTRUCTURE OF MODERNITY*
09:55	DR REBECCA JANE MCCONNELL UNIVERSITY COLLEGE DUBLIN *THE LONGWALL: MACHINES THAT MADE EUROPE*	PROFESSOR ILYA KALININ HUMBOLDT UNIVERSITÄT ZU BERLIN *THE SOCIALIST LAW OF ENERGY EXCHANGE: FOSSIL BASE AND CULTURAL SUPERSTRUCTURE [COAL AND SOCIALISM]*
10:10	PROFESSOR LOUISA IAROCCI UNIVERSITY OF WASHINGTON, SEATTLE *BLACK SUNLIGHT: FOSSILIZED NATURE AND THE LANDSCAPES OF COAL*	DAVID GENESTE VRIJE UNIVERSITEIT AMSTERDAM *A TOWERING COALSCAPE: THE 'SINGLE-SHEETED HYPERBOLOID COOLING TOWER OF REINFORCED CONCRETE' AS AN EMBLEM OF CARBON MODERNITY IN THE NETHERLANDS, 1950-1965*
10:25	Q&A	JAMES O. DAVIES HISTORIC ENGLAND *ENGLAND'S COAL-FIRED POWER STATIONS*
10:40		Q&A

10:55 MORNING BREAK (15 MINS)

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	ROOM A	ROOM B
BLOCK 2:	**HOUSING + INFRASTRUCTURE**	**DOMESTICITY + ENERGY**
11:10	**NIALL PATRICK WALSH** UNIVERSITY COLLEGE DUBLIN *ENGINE OF MODERNITY: COAL AS AN ECOLOGICAL DRIVER OF NEW LIVING IN POST-WAR EUROPE*	**SHAIWANTI GUPTA** ARCHITECT & RESEARCHER *COAL INTIMACIES: KITCHENS AS A MICROCOSM OF BITTERFELD'S POST-WAR INDUSTRIAL LANDSCAPE*
11:25	**ANNA COOKE** UNIVERSITY COLLEGE DUBLIN *ON THE THRESHOLD: MICROGEOGRAPHIES OF GENDER, COOPERATION AND CONTROL IN EUROPEAN MINERS' HOUSING, 1900-1940*	**DR FABIAN ZIMMER** TECHNISCHE UNIVERSITÄT BERLIN *HOME COMFORTS, WARTIME SCARCITY AND THE MATERIALITY OF ENERGY, GERMANY 1914-1918*
11:40	**DR VERONIKA VICHERKOVÁ** CZECH TECHNICAL UNIVERSITY IN PRAGUE *MINING YOUTH HOMES AS A MIRROR OF THE SOCIALIST TRANSFORMATION IN CZECHOSLOVAKIA IN THE EARLY 1950S*	**DR AIKATERINI KARADIMA** TECHNICAL UNIVERSITY OF CRETE *THE HIDDEN ARCHITECTURE OF EXTRACTIVE LANDSCAPES IN POST-WAR GREECE: THE SPATIAL ORGANISATION OF LABOUR AND HOUSING IN PPC LIGNITE MINING AREAS*
11:55	Q&A	Q&A
12:10	LUNCH BREAK	

	ROOM A	ROOM B
BLOCK 3:	**LABOUR + GOVERNANCE**	**EXTRACTION + REPAIR**
13:40	**DR EMMA CAMPBELL** UNIVERSITY COLLEGE DUBLIN *ARCHITECTURES OF OCCUPATIONAL LUNG DISEASE: THE PNEUMOCONIOSIS RESEARCH UNIT, LLANDOUGH, AS A POST-WAR EUROPEAN CASE STUDY*	**DR JOERG REKITTKE** UNIVERSITY COLLEGE DUBLIN *EPHEMERAL GIGANTISM: REVERSIBLE STRUCTURES OF BROWN COAL OPENCAST*
13:55	**JACOPO ZANI** ETH ZURICH *UNRULY MOVEMENTS: COAL, MECHANIZATION AND WORKERS' MIGRATIONS IN THE CAMPINE MINING SITES, BELGIUM*	**PROFESSOR LUCA CSEPELY-KNORR** UNIVERSITY OF LIVERPOOL *THE ECONOMIC USE OF INDUSTRIAL WASTE, CONSCIOUSLY SCULPTURED: COAL, POWER, ASH AND ENVIRONMENT*
14:10	**DR ANDREW SEATON** UNIVERSITY OF MANCHESTER *RECLAIMING LAND FOR THE FUTURE: COAL, ENVIRONMENTALISM, AND POPULATION IN POST-1945 BRITAIN*	**DR PIOTR LANGER** CRACOW UNIVERSITY OF TECHNOLOGY *POLISH COAL MINING THROUGH THE EYES OF AN ARCHITECT AND URBAN PLANNER - REFLECTIONS ON THE CURRENT STATE IN THE CONTEXT OF WESTERN EUROPEAN EXPERIENCES*
14:25	Q&A	Q&A
14:40	AFTERNOON BREAK (15 MINS)	
BLOCK 4:	**KNOWLEDGE + HERITAGE**	**MEMORY + AFTERLIVES**
14:55	**DR TABASSUM AHMED** UNIVERSITY COLLEGE DUBLIN *THE ARCHITECTURE OF COAL RESEARCH IN MODERN EUROPE*	**DR IRIS BURGERS** VRIJE UNIVERSITEIT AMSTERDAM *CARBON AMNESIA: THE ERASURE OF DUTCH URBAN COAL-GAS INFRASTRUCTURE, 1959-1980*

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	ROOM A	ROOM B
15:10	**DR SILKE HAPS** DEUTSCHES BERGBAU-MUSEUM BOCHUM *FROM THE RUHR REGION TO THE WORLD: THE FUTURE OF PREFABRICATED HOUSE CONSTRUCTION HAS ALREADY BEGUN*	**JOANNA SOKOŁOWSKA** UNIVERSITY OF WROCŁAW *POST-SOCIALIST, EXTRACTIVE LANDSCAPES AND ECOLOGICAL IMAGINATION IN CONTEMPORARY ART*
15:25	**EWA WOJTOŃ / ŁUCJA ZAWADZKA** COAL MINING MUSEUM IN ZABRZE + INTERNATIONAL CULTURAL CENTRE IN KRAKOW *COAL AS A CATALYST FOR TRANSFORMATION: UPPER SILESIA FROM THE 18TH TO THE MID-19TH CENTURY*	**JOSEPH OWERS / PROFESSOR TOM JEFFERIES** QUEEN'S UNIVERSITY BELFAST *BANAL MONUMENTS: COAL, MEMORY AND EVERYDAY LIFE IN POST-EXTRACTIVE LANDSCAPES*
15:40	Q&A	Q&A
16:00	DRINKS RECEPTION	

17:00 PLENARY PANEL DISCUSSION: CHAIRED BY PROFESSOR GARY A. BOYD

PROFESSOR TOM AVERMAETE
ETH ZURICH
AN EXPERT IN ARCHITECTURE AND THE WELFARE STATE, WITH PARTICULAR KNOWLEDGE OF THE BELGIAN CONTEXT.

PROFESSOR STEFAN BERGER
RUHR UNIVERSITY BOCHUM
A LEADING VOICE IN GERMAN COAL HISTORY AND THE SOCIAL AND CULTURAL HISTORIES OF INDUSTRIAL REGIONS.

PROFESSOR KATHLEEN JAMES-CHAKRABORTY
UNIVERSITY COLLEGE DUBLIN
A LEADING HISTORIAN OF MODERN ARCHITECTURE, WITH PARTICULAR EXPERTISE IN GERMAN MODERNISM, CULTURAL IDENTITY AND THE RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN ARCHITECTURE AND POLITICS.

DR ARIANE MAK
UNIVERSITÉ PARIS CITÉ
WIDELY RECOGNISED FOR HER WORK ON COAL MINING, LABOUR HISTORY, WARTIME PRODUCTION AND THE SOCIAL WORLDS OF MINING COMMUNITIES.

DR DENNIS POHL
TU DELFT
AN EXPERT ON THE RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN ENERGY, POLITICS AND ARCHITECTURE IN THE POST-WAR ERA.

19:00 CONFERENCE CLOSE

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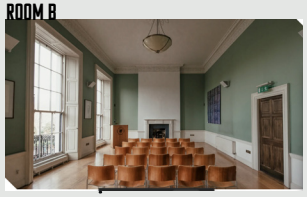
Arriving at the IAA

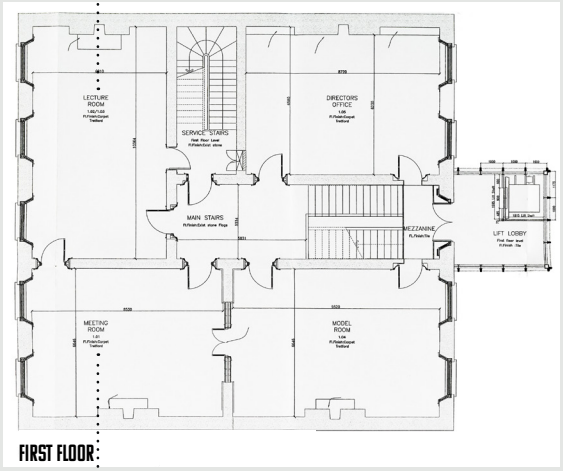
The front door is reached by three stone steps from the pavement to a landing, and then one further step at the front door. Beyond the front door is a glazed lobby. From here you can gain access by ringing the intercom bell marked IAA, which is reached at a height of c. 150cm.

If you are a wheelchair user, or find steps difficult, there is a platform lift which can bring you from footpath level to basement level. You then enter the building via a door with no step and can access all floors using the internal lift which is signposted as you move through the building.

Phone +353 1 663 3040 to use the platform lift.

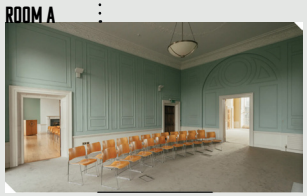
ROOM B





FIRST FLOOR

ROOM A



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ACME TEAM

Professor Gary A. Boyd, Dr Tabassum Ahmed, Dr Emma Campbell, Dr Rebecca Jane McConnell, Anna Cooke, Niall Patrick Walsh and Dr Jack Kavanagh.

SPECIAL THANKS

Invited Guests

Professor Tom Avermaete, Professor Stefan Berger, Dr Łukasz Galusek, Professor Kathleen James-Chakraborty, Dr Ariane Mak, Dr Dennis Pohl

ACME International Advisory Board

Professor Tom Avermaete, Professor Stefan Berger, Professor Carola Hein, Dr Piotr Langer, Professor Imre Szeman.

Irish Architectural Archive

Our esteemed hosts

European Research Council

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