

ANOTHER MODERNISM

CONFERENCE ON THE LEGACY OF ITALIAN POST-WAR ARCHITECTURE



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ISTITUTO SVEDESE DI STUDI CLASSICI
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Speakers

STEPHEN BATES - SERGISON BATES ARCHITECTS (UK)
THORDIS ARRHENIUS - ISAK, LINKÖPING UNIVERSITY (SWE)
LUCA MOLINARI - FACULTY OF ARCHITECTURE, SU NAPLES (IT)
MALIN BELFRAGE - WHITE (SWE)
ERIK TÖRNVIST - ETAT ARKITEKTER (SWE)
BRYONY ROBERTS - AHO (NOR)/COLUMBIA UNIVERSITY (US)

Italian post-war architecture is currently of renewed interest and holds a strong influence on contemporary European architecture. This specific post-war architecture is also particularly interesting from a restoration perspective, questioning conventional strategies for conservation of modernist architecture.

Another modernism will present and discuss the legacy of Italian post-war architecture in terms of restoration practice, theory and influence on contemporary architecture.

Abstract

The Italian post-war architecture distinguished itself from the more programmatic international modernism and express a formally complex and historically coloured modernist architecture. This architecture has its roots in both the '30s ideological rationalism, historic architecture and rural building tradition. While clearly modernist this architecture is elaborated and complex, including both experimental geometry and unconventional use of building materials and construction techniques.
A current interest in this specific Italian post-war architecture, as an influence to contemporary architectural practices throughout Europe, is paralleled by a discussion on how to value and restore this cultural heritage today. How are these buildings, closely connected to the political movements of the post-war era, revalued, restored and re-assessed? The discourse spans questions on how to relate to the social program and the political values these buildings embrace and questions on how to critically value complex agents as imperfectness, ageing, decay and patina - the very contradictions of modernism - in terms of restoration strategies.

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