

2009 SSAC Conference – Ryerson University (Toronto)
FROM THEORY INTO PRACTICE: THINKING CRITICALLY ABOUT
ARCHITECTURE, HISTORY AND THEORY
Wednesday, 20 May to Saturday, 23 May, 2009

Conference Themes and Program Highlights

The goal of the conference is to stimulate debate and discussion on the role of history and theory in the making of architecture in Canada. Why do we study architecture? How has the expanded field of knowledge and interdisciplinary studies changed the way we look at issues in architecture and heritage?

Over 40 papers and two panels will be presented over the course of two and one-half days. This year's call for papers elicited a broad response, and sessions will include a number of panels and presentations representing traditional and inter-disciplinary approaches to current explorations of architecture, history and theory in Canada. The papers and panel discussions are scheduled in full-day sessions on Thursday and Friday, with a half-day session on Saturday morning. All paper and panel sessions will all be held at Ryerson University in the Architecture Building at 325 Church Street in downtown Toronto.

The paper and panel sessions will be interspersed with opportunities for networking during site visits and receptions both on and off campus.

Conference Opening – Wednesday, May 20, 2009

6:00 p.m.

Phyllis Lambert Prize/Prix Phyllis Lambert

Each year, the Phyllis Lambert Prize is awarded by UQAM's Institut du patrimoine to a candidate who has submitted the best doctoral dissertation or best master's thesis on the subject of architectural history in Canada, based on the assessment of an independent jury. The conference begins with a public lecture delivered by this year's recipient of the prize.

7:00 p.m.

Welcome Reception

Complementary to conference registrants

Pre-Registration Required

Join fellow delegates for a beverage to kick off the conference.

Day 1 – Thursday, May 21, 2009

All paper and panel sessions will take place in the Architecture Building at Ryerson University, 325 Church Street, Toronto.

8:30 a.m.

Conference Opening – Welcome by Ryerson University and Conference Co-Chairs

8:45 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.

Conference Sessions, Ryerson University, Department of Architectural Science

12:30 p.m.

Lunch at Parish Hall, St. George's Greek Orthodox Church, Bond Street, Toronto

Complementary to conference registrants

Pre-Registration Required

Lunch will be served by the Greek Ladies Philoptochos Society at the Parish Hall of St. George's Greek Orthodox Church, located around the corner from our conference venue. Founded in 1909 by Toronto's early Greek immigrant pioneers, Saint George is the oldest Greek Orthodox community in Canada. Like many architectural landmarks in the city of Toronto, Saint George's Church has seen several changes to its structure over the last century. Built in 1897, the building functioned as a synagogue until 1937 when it was acquired by the parish of Saint George. Following lunch, participants are invited to view the interior of this spectacular church.

2:00 – 3:30 p.m.

Martin Eli Weil Prize Lecture

4:00 – 5:30 p.m.

Conference Sessions, Ryerson University, Department of Architectural Science

5:45 – 7:15 p.m.

Reception at Ryerson University Library, Special Collections Room, 4th Floor Library Building, 350 Victoria Street

Complementary to conference registrants

Pre-Registration Required

Members of the Society are invited to a special reception hosted by the University Library to celebrate the acquisition of a major collection of Canadian architectural material.

Day 2 – Friday, May 22, 2009

8:30 – 10:00 a.m.

Breakfast with the World Congresses on Art Deco at The Carlu, College Park (College and Yonge Street).

Pre-Registration Required

The International Coalition of Art Deco Societies (ICADS) unites over 30 Art Deco societies from around the world through their World Congresses on Art Deco. Held every two years, the 2009 congress is being held in Montreal, May 24 – May 30, however, a two-day pre-congress event is taking place in Toronto. The SSAC will join delegates from around the world in a breakfast at the restored Carlu, “Eaton’s Seventh Floor” at College Park (corner of College and Yonge Streets), located within walking distance of the Ryerson University campus.

10:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.

Conference Sessions, Ryerson University, Department of Architectural Science

12:45 – 2:00 p.m.

Annual General Meeting and Luncheon at Ryerson University, Department of Architectural Science

Complimentary to conference registrants

Pre-Registration Required

Over a complimentary lunch, get updated on SSAC activities, hear reports from the executive, and find out how to get more involved in the SSAC.

2:30 – 4:00 p.m.

Conference Sessions, Ryerson University, Department of Architectural Science

4:30 – 7:00 p.m.

Tours and Reception at the National Ballet School of Canada, Jarvis Street, Toronto

Complementary to conference registrants

Pre-Registration Required

Located 10 minutes from Ryerson, the National Ballet School is an award-winning development. The Jarvis Street Campus won a 2007 Institute Honor Award from the American Institute of Architects, only the fourth Canadian building to do so since the AIA first bestowed the awards in 1949. Stage II, the renovation and expansion of the Maitland Street residence, opened in Fall 2007.

Participants will be guided on a behind-the-scenes tour of the complex. Tours will be followed by an early evening reception at the Maitland Street facilities of the School.

Day 3 – Saturday, May 23, 2009

8:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.

Conference Sessions, Ryerson University, Department of Architectural Science

12:30 p.m. onwards

Doors Open Toronto

No Registration Required

Celebrate the 10th anniversary of Doors Open Toronto, Saturday and Sunday, May 23 and 24, 2009. Toronto was the first city in North America to launch this event, based on a successful European program dedicated to built heritage, architecture and design. Developed as a millennium project in 2000 by Toronto Culture, City of Toronto, Doors Open Toronto has since attracted over a million visitors to hundreds of buildings throughout the city.

This year, 175 buildings of architectural, historic, cultural and/or social significance open their doors to the public. Admission is free. At the time of writing this conference program, the building roster had not yet been confirmed. In the past, such notable buildings as the historic Don Jail, the R.C. Harris Filtration Plant, and the Toronto Island Airport Terminal Building were on the program.

A complete Doors Open Map and Program will be provided to you in your registration package, as will a public transit map. But you can also plan your day in advance by visiting the event website. Participating buildings are announced on May 1. Check out

<http://www.toronto.ca/doorsopen/buildings.htm>.

*3:45 p.m. – Ferry to the Toronto Islands (Ward's Island), followed by walking tour of Ward's Island and Closing Banquet at the Queen City Yacht Club, Toronto Islands
Cost: \$80.00 per person.*

Tickets must be purchased in advance.

Please note: Cost of ferry ticket is not included. Ferry tickets can be purchased at the ferry docks at the foot of Bay Street at a cost of \$6.50 for a round-trip fare. Ferries depart the Bay Street docks frequently and return from Ward's Island late into the evening. As there are a number of ferry destinations on the Toronto Islands, make certain to take the boats stopping at Ward's Island.

In keeping with SSAC tradition we have planned a special event for our last night together. The historic Queen City Yacht Club Clubhouse on Algonquin Island will be the setting for our festive closing banquet.

As there are no sessions on Saturday afternoon, participants are invited to make their way to the ferry docks on their own (following their Doors Open touring) and, after a short ferry ride across the harbour, meet up with the group on the Toronto Islands (Ward's Island stop). You will be greeted at the ferry dock and directed to the Ward's Island neighbourhood for a leisurely tour of this historic development. Local guides will be strategically located to provide you with information.

A ten-minute walk will bring us across to Algonquin Island, where we will find our way to the Queen City Yacht Club Clubhouse. Cocktails on the verandah followed by dinner in the upstairs hall will be accompanied by a spectacular view of the Toronto skyline at sunset.

*Casual dress, **especially with extra layers in case of a cool breeze off the water (particularly for your ferry ride)**, is highly recommended.*

Ferries depart the Ward's Island Ferry Dock once per hour and guests are free to make their way to the ferry dock and back to the mainland at their leisure after dinner.