About the Wallenberg Studios

The Wallenberg Studios are named after the Michigan alumnus Raoul Wallenberg, B.S. Arch.A.’35, who, in 1944, as First Secretary of the Swedish delegation in Budapest, is credited with saving more than 100,000 Jews from death at the hands of the Nazis.

The Raoul Wallenberg Scholarship fund was established with a generous gift from the Benard L. Maas Foundation. The scholarship acts as a reminder of Wallenberg’s courage and humanitarianism and is aimed at reflecting his ideals. The award gives undergraduate students the opportunity to broaden their study of architecture by including work in distant locations.

Undergraduate students participate in the studio during their last semester. The semester-long competition challenges students to develop proposals that define architecture as a humane and social art, translated into a physical project. The studios are conceived around a theme to be explored collectively and individually, through the diverse methods, agendas, and interests of the faculty team.

The studios are coordinated as a competition to be juried at the completion of the term by a panel of invited guest jurors.

The Raoul Wallenberg studios are annually organized around a critical theme that reflects some aspect of Wallenberg’s humanitarian work. This year, the theme encourages the critical examination of speculative processes, narratives, and critical instances in architecture and design, leading to the design of non-speculative projects.

2009 Theme: Backstages, Sideshows, & Undergrounds

Join Taubman College of Architecture and Urban Planning studio reviews April 23, 24, and 29, 2009 as the college seniors present their final projects for the Raoul Wallenberg Studios coordinated by Assistant Professor of Architecture Mireille Roddier. The review galleries, known as the CMYK Gallery, are located on the third floor of the Art and Architecture Building and are open to the public.

Project Reviews

April 23 & 24

Student Studio Reviews: April 23 & 24, 2009, A+A Building Third Floor Studios

Undergraduate students will be displayed and judged by faculty and outside reviewers, including practicing architects and academics.

Review critics include Stephane Pratte and Annie Lebel, partners in Canadian architecture firm, “Atelier in situ;” Joshua Clover, Professor, poet, and cultural critic at University of California at Davis; Gina Reichert, of the Detroit design collaborative “Design 99”, and Adrian Blackwell, Assistant Professor of Architecture at the University of Toronto.

Studios are listed with the locations, studio professor, and studio topic

Thursday, April 23: 10AM–1PM and 2PM–6PM

East Review:

Mireille Roddier, The Detroit Unreal Estate Agency

South Side C:

Tsz Yan Ng, Territorializing a New State of Exception–Guantànamo

South Side M:

Jason Johnson, CHICAGO SEEDBANK

South Side Y:

Nataly Gattegno, Recombinant Ecologies

Friday, April 24: 10AM–1PM and 2PM–6PM

East Review:

Coleman Jordan, homeless and home-full realities

South Side C:

Britt Eversole, Concrete Surge: A Memorial for the Afghanistan War

South Side M:

Anca Trandafirescu, alternateaccess

West Review:

Steve Mankouche, 1,200 Feet Below Detroit; the Other White City

2009 Wallenberg Competition Studio Reviews and Symposium

2009 Theme: Backstages, Sideshows, & Undergrounds

Project Reviews

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Symposium and Award Ceremony

April 29

Symposium and Award Ceremony: April 29, 2009, A+A Auditorium (Room 2104)

6-7PM Casey Jones, principal at Bloomfield Hills, MI-based architecture firm Jones/Kroloff, will mediate the guests during a symposium reviewing the work.

Joan Ockman—Columbia University

Grace La—University of Wisconsin

Robert Levit—University of Toronto

Mitchell Squire—Iowa State

Brendan Moran—Syracuse University

Casey Jones—Jones/Kroloff, moderator

6:30PM Wallenberg competition finalists announced, recognizing student work that illustrates an exceptional understanding of architecture and the humanities in addition to the Wallenberg scholarship for overseas study of architecture and culture.

7PM Reception to follow

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