



Press Release
January 2010

OPEN HOUSE HOLDS ARCHITECTURAL DEBATE AS PART OF MAYOR'S EAST LONDON FESTIVAL

During the Mayor's East Festival (4 March – 9 March 2010) Open House will be holding a debate asking whether the creative industry of architecture today has become more “industry” and less “creative”.

For many years, London has been the home base of many leading lights of contemporary architecture and one of the most vibrant centres of emerging talent in the profession. However, currently there is increasing debate about whether architecture has ‘lost its way’.

In this debate, leading architects, critics and cultural commentators will examine the future of architecture as a creative force considering questions such as:

- In an era of boom and bust, are architects now always putting commercial considerations above design ones?
- Is London getting the buildings it wants and deserves?
- Where are the architects who are prepared to take risks?
- Where are the innovators?
- What does creativity mean today and who are the architects still at the forefront of it, particularly in London?

Confirmed speakers include architect and joint winner of the 2008 Stirling Prize, Alison Brooks, along with Sunday Times Architecture Critic and Editor of the RIBA Journal, Hugh Pearman.

The debate, which takes place on Monday 8 March 2010, is hosted by Allen and Overy LLP at One Bishops Square in East London. It will be open to the public free of charge. For details of how to register for the debate please visit the Open House website: www.openhouse.org.uk

Open House is working in partnership with the Mayor's Culture team to deliver this architecture debate as a feature event for the East Festival.

The East Festival Architecture Debate
8 March 2010, 6.30 – 8.00
Allen and Overy LLP
One Bishops Square
London E1 6AD

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For more information



Moira Lascelles, ING MEDIA
P: +44 (0) 20 7247 8334 E: moira@ing-media.com

About Open House

Open House is an architecture education organisation that works to raise awareness of good design in architecture and the built environment. Through a variety of initiatives, research and resources we reach three main audiences – the general public through the annual Open House London event, children and young people through initiatives such as Junior Open House and Open Up and decision-makers such as councillors in local authorities with the Open House Exemplar programme. Visit www.openhouse.org.uk for information about our recent research and activities.

About East Festival

The East Festival (4 March – 9 March 2010) is curated by the Mayor of London to celebrate the uniquely rich creative mix of East London. East will feature around 100 events across East London inspired by the themes of Architecture, Minimalism, The Asian sub-continent and Travel and Transport. For more information please visit <http://www.visitlondon.com/events/east/index>