

JURY REPORT

Drawing of the Year 2017

Theme: Everyday Utopia

Host: Aarhus School of Architecture

Introduction

Once again the international drawing competition 'Drawing of the Year' has attracted numerous drawings demonstrating highly skilled techniques combined with an intelligent, playful and explorative approach to the theme. Artistic drawings from the trained hand that moves us with its personality. The analogue pen mixed with 3D renderings creates drawings that can only be produced with the digital media. Many Photoshop collages with the power of a movie scene. And drawings that fall in between categories and play with our perception and makes us wonder as we explore the drawing.

The approach to the theme is as diverse as the techniques. Is everyday utopia something we can create ourselves in a chaotic world? Is it a world we create away from the society we have now? Is it a new spatial structure for how we can organise our society? An extension and projection of the life we are already living? Or is it a model we strive for, but are unable to reach and maybe a place that might look immaculate as a model, but as reality becomes an alarming and chilly place.

The jury have appreciated the large range of diversity which opened fundamental and intriguing discussions on “What is a drawing?” and “What is everyday utopia?”

We hope that not only the winners and special awards but all the drawings can work as a pool of inspiration for discussions, experiments and wonderings on our many versions of utopias and on drawing as a tool to explore and communicate.

Special mentions

Symbiotic Futurism: Establishing Architecture's Place Within a Progressive Society

Derek Deng / China

University of Auckland - New Zealand

_At first glimpse the grey drawing has a dystopian atmosphere, but a closer look opens for a softer reading of a sustainable agenda. The reference to comforting

textile creates new imaginations of architectures that balance the beautiful drawing between something desirable and scary.

Crossing the Border

Aleksandar Fisik & Dušan Stevanović / Serbia

Faculty of Technical Sciences – Serbia

This beautiful drawing of high technical quality plays with our perception of the flat and three dimensional. Is this Venice? Is it the sea or a pool? Are they tourist or refugees? Why is the earth in the background - and if it is the earth, then where are we? Playing with scale, depth, and symbols the innocent, bright drawing creates questions that lead to a disturbing story behind the little door in the facade wall.

Idyll

Gonzalo Rojas Encinar / Spain

Escuela Técnica Superior de Arquitectura de Madrid – Spain

The drawing depicts a digitally drawn architectural machine. It creates an interlinked universe of corridors, spaces, historical references, everyday situations and architectural elements. It stands isolated on the white paper but implies the possibility of connections. The drawing makes us wonder, imagine and creates stories. A blueprint of the future?

An Activist Artefact

Anthony Chun Ming Ko / Australia

The Bartlett School of Architecture UCL – UK

Placed in nature, we can imagine this Hong Kong apartment complex having been moved out and then begun growing and creating a life of its own - constantly evolving. Combining the architectural elements into a celebration of life, the drawing is inspiring and beautifully made with high skills and craftsmanship, making us curious to explore.

The Grand Tour of EUtopia

Erik Bean / Finland

Aarhus School of Architecture - Denmark

With great craftsmanship, the drawing depicts the dynamic movement of elements at a grand scale. Difficult to analyse with a lot of issues it balances between architecture, climate change, and society. A preventive utopia that focuses on keeping us living happily. Technically it references the drawings of Hiroshige and beautifully presents a project that is both complex and well thought out.

Climatic Clouding City

Xiaobing ZHOU / China

The drawing illustrates an architectural structure as an endless grid greeting the sky. It is a construction of a utopia that is not finished but is a construction of possibilities. The 3D grid is flattened into a poetic, beautiful and intriguing 2D drawing, demonstrating the artistic possibilities of computer renderings.

Archive of Temporality;[RE]CODING THE CITY IN A FESTIVAL OF TIME

Viktor Gekker / Russia

University College Cork - Cork Centre for Architectural Education – Ireland

The drawing is both well composed and exceptionally detailed. Using traditional drawing representations it presents an architectural organism that explodes and intersects. It represents growth and migration - an evolution of architecture with unseen shapes of elements, connected with lines and relations. This utopia celebrates the digital and the nature of the architectural experiment.

Daily Tasks

Kevin Pazik / United States

Princeton University - United States

This almost technical drawing reminds us of the futurist but somehow old fashioned design from the films of the 60s. Though four robots the utopia addresses the old dream of machines taking over the trivial things in life: feeding the dog, the hamster, watering the plant. The drawing is set up almost like an add or a manual and makes us wonder about the role of the everyday tasks in a utopian world.

Prizes

3. Cinderella's Lost Shoe

Ifigeneia Liangi / Greece

The Bartlett School of Architecture, UCL – UK

The drawing is a 3D rendered drawing on historical myths and well-known fairy tales. The collection of odd objects creates a surreal and playful universe. A world that does not exist but which we still recognize - and it invites us to enter and wonder. The drawing itself holds the energy of contradictions. Is it moving? Is it water? It is technically highly skilled and precise and supports the concept. Here

the everyday utopia is a quest - removed from society and normality to follow a dream. Just follow the fish.

2: Amazonia

Richard Morrison / UK

University of Westminster - UK

The axonometric drawing is created digitally and creates a coherent and consistent image of our world organized for shopping and distribution. Our houses are the same, somewhat traditional, but the section gives us a view of the layers of advanced technique and structures supporting this way of living. The concept is overpowering, putting forward a precise idea, and question. It is simultaneously political, architectural, detailed and explained. It is polemical. Our reliance on Amazon is already a reality, and the drawing of everyday utopia becomes an extension of a future life we somehow already live, but whose price and potential we might not fully recognize.

1: The One Day Unit

Charles Weinberg / Belgium & Shai Ben Ami / Israel

Bezalel Academy of Arts & Design – Israel

29 globes organized in a grid depict the numerous possibilities of organizing buildings, animals, and people that create our life and surroundings. Everyday experiences are composed into everyday utopia. The drawing is well composed and works in different scales - from a distance and close up, where the rich details can be explored. Playful and artistic it connects content, message, and illustration into a strong, beautiful drawing. It is open-minded and open-ended. We imagine that the two people on the final globe only went to sleep to wake to continue the story.