#02/01

MA Interior Design
Project Brief
'Thesis Design Project Overview'

Introduction

The 'Thesis Design Project' provides you with an opportunity to undertake an in depth exploration of an aspect of the discipline of interior design that is of particular personal interest to you set within the Platform structure. A sustained period of research, exploration and experimentation should culminate in a sophisticated design project that forms a response to your Platfrom's agenda.

This year there are eight different Platforms each considering a distinct aspect of interior design and each Platform will have a distinct approach as to how that Platform's work is structured. You should be clear from the outset that it is intended that each Platform should produce significantly different project outcomes and within a particular Platform each student's outcome may be quite diferent. You might develop an outcome that is a single project or a number of smaller projects that form a cohesive body of work.

As the intention is that each student's project will explore an aspect of the subject of Interior Design of particular personal interest it is neither possible or desireable to create a project structure that perfectly fits all approaches. Please consider the project briefs you receive in the spirit that they have been devised - they are intended to provide a 'safety net' to help you navigate your way through the project and are not intended to be a 'cage' that inhibits your work.

Each Platform will work in its own way but you can expect more detailed information from your Platform Tutor as the project develops.

The Platforms

This year's eight platforms will be as follows:

Interior Behaviour – Pascal Anson	+	Interior Display - Robert Storey
Interior Detail – Ian Higgins	+	Interior Matter - Ian Hunter
Interior Re-use - Graeme Brooker	+	Interior Urbanism - Vicky Richardson
Nonterior - Kevin Haley	+	Interior Futures – Jenny Jones

Platforms will normally have six or seven students and be led by the Platform Tutor. Four of the Platforms are run by tutors who are permanent members of RCA staff (in the left hand column above) and four of the Platforms are run by visiting tutors (in the right hand column above). Platfroms have been 'paired' so that Platform members will have access to both permanent and visiting tutors.
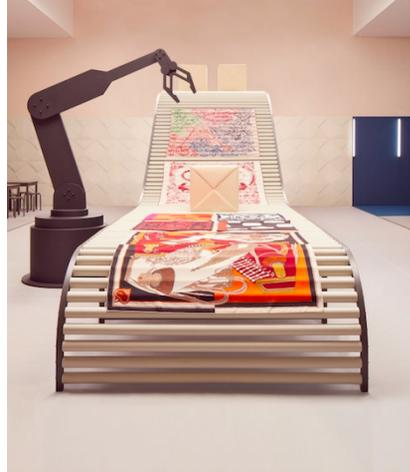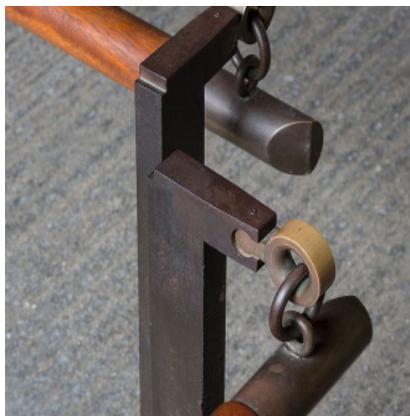
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Interior Re-Use

Each Platform Tutor will prepare a 'Minifesto' that outlines the approach and ambitions for the coming year. You will be provided with these documents during the week commencing 14th October, 2019.

On the 28th October, 2019 each Platform tutor will make a presentation to the year group outlining the Platform's agenda. You will then be asked to indicate the Platform you would like to join in order of preference. By the end of this day each student should be allocated to a Platform and work can begin.

Once you have joined your Platform your Platform Tutor will brief you as to how the Platform will operate and what you are being asked to do. Teaching will normally take place on Mondays and Thursdays and will generally involve a mixture of group and individual tutorials as appropriate.

Although each Platform will have a different approach work will fit within the loose structure outlined below.

Stage One: Project Proposal (6 Weeks)

At the project review at the end of this stage you will be asked to make a presentation that explains your project proposal. Depending on your Platform this may involve identifying a site, a use, both of these things or neither of them. You will be asked to produce an 'artefact' that captures the essence of your proposal and this will be exhibited at the 'Work in Progress' show.

Start Stage: Monday 28th October, 2019.
End of Stage Review: Thursday 5th December, 2019.

Interior Behaviours

Stage Two: Design Development (12 Weeks)

By the start of this stage of the project you should have established the exact nature of your project proposal allowing design work to commence.

Work in this stage of the project will involve the development of design proposals as appropriate for your individual project and your Platform's agenda.

For the project review at the end of this stage you will be asked to communicate and articulate your completed design proposal using methods that are appropriate for your proposal.

Start Stage: Thursday 5th December, 2019.
Mid Point Review: Thursday 27th February, 2020.
End of Stage Review: Thursday 26th March, 2020.

Interior Display

Stage Three: Communication (6 Weeks)

By the start of this stage of the project you should have completed design work allowing you to commence the communication and presentation of your proposal ready for your Final Examination and Show 2020.

Start Stage: Thursday 26th March, 2020.
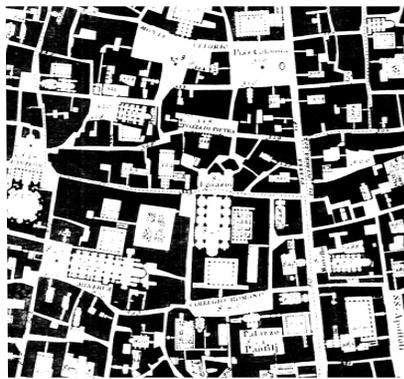Mid Point Review: Thursday 21st April, 2020.
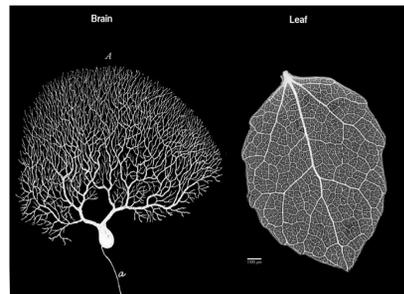End of Stage: Week commencing 1st June, 2020.

Interior Detail

Nonterior

Interior Matter

Interior Urbanism

Interior Futures

Stage Four: Show Preparation (3 Weeks)

Following your Final Examination you will be able to prepare exhibition material for Show 2020.

Start Stage: Week commencing 1st June, 2020.
End of Stage: Week commencing 22nd June, 2020.

Project Reviews

Throughout the year there will be four Project Reviews. Platforms will be combined for these reviews and guest critics will be invited to attend. There will be specific issues which you must address for each project review. Your Platform tutor will provide you with details of what is required for you and your paltform.

The reviews will take place on the folowing dates:

Project Proposal Review: Thursday 5th December, 2019.
Design Development Review 1:   Thursday 27th February, 2020.
Design Development Review 2:   Thursday 26th March, 2020.
Communication Review: Thursday 30th April, 2020.

Work in Progress Show

You will be required to exhibit your project at the Work in Progress show during week commencing 27th January, 2020. This moment will provide a point where a formative assessment of your progress can be made. The External Examiner will visit during this week to meet with you and view your work.

Final Examinations

The Final Examination is the point at which a summative assessment of your work takes place. For the Final Examination you will be allocated thirty minutes to present your work and answer questions from the Examination Panel. The Examination Panel will consist of the following people:

Head of Programme
Senior Tutor
Your Platform Tutor
Internal Moderator (present for a sample of examinations only)

The Final Examinations are scheduled to take place between Monday 1st and Friday 5th June, 2020.

Show RCA 2020

Following your Final Examination you will have completed design work and will then have an opportunity to prepare work for presentation at 'Show RCA 2020'. The exact dates for the show will not be agreed until later but you should expect the show to open in the week commencing 22nd June, 2020.