

camea

Adelaide Congress 2021

Nov 7th - 9th, 2021 • Adelaide, AUSTRALIA



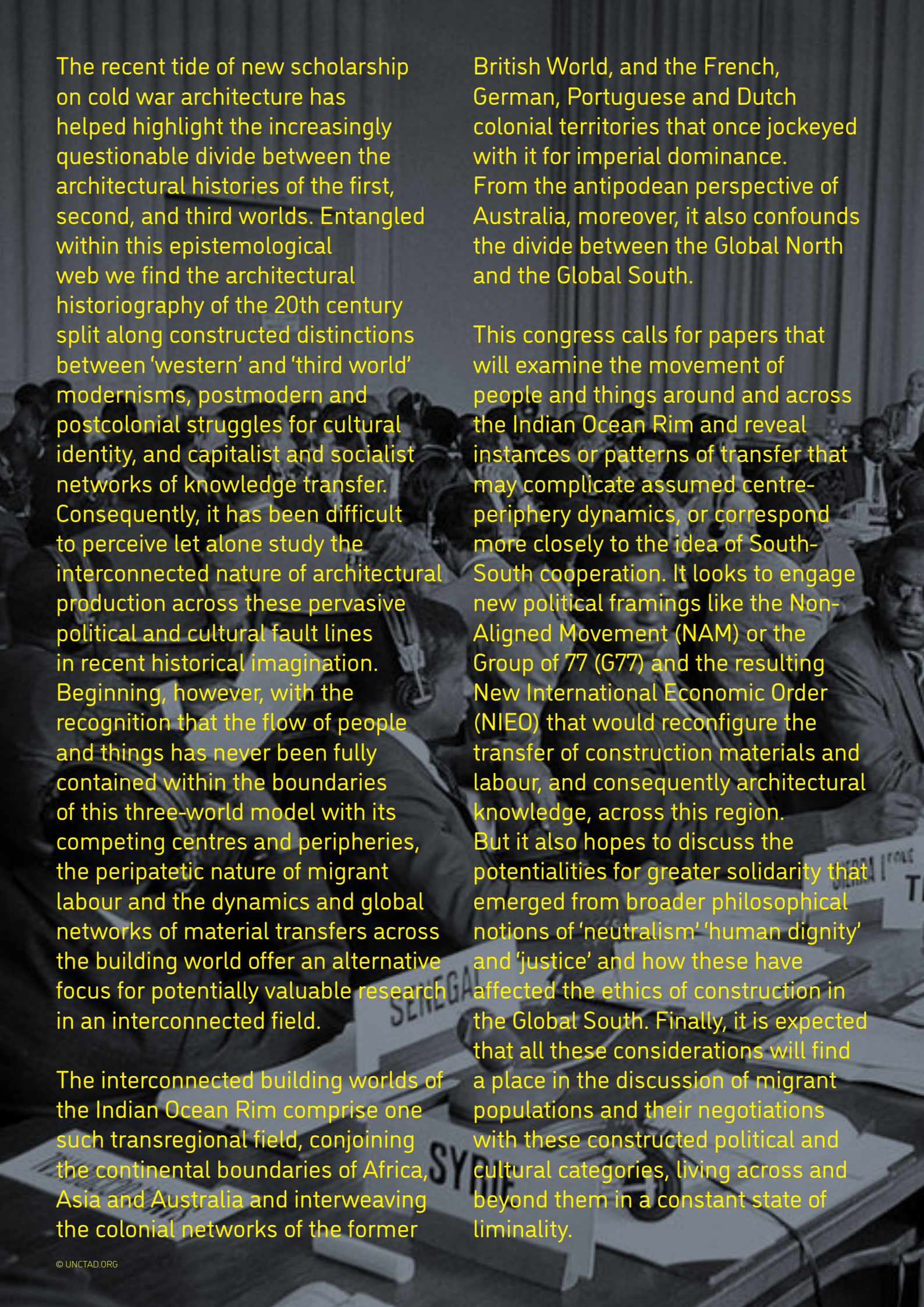
THE UNIVERSITY
of ADELAIDE

MIGRANT LABOUR & MATERIAL TRANSFER: POLITICS OF CONSTRUCTION IN THE INDIAN OCEAN RIM

Abstracts:
20 June 2021

CALL FOR PAPERS

Convenors: Peter Scriver, Katharine Bartsch & Amit Srivastava
CENTRE FOR ASIAN AND MIDDLE EASTERN ARCHITECTURE



The recent tide of new scholarship on cold war architecture has helped highlight the increasingly questionable divide between the architectural histories of the first, second, and third worlds. Entangled within this epistemological web we find the architectural historiography of the 20th century split along constructed distinctions between 'western' and 'third world' modernisms, postmodern and postcolonial struggles for cultural identity, and capitalist and socialist networks of knowledge transfer. Consequently, it has been difficult to perceive let alone study the interconnected nature of architectural production across these pervasive political and cultural fault lines in recent historical imagination. Beginning, however, with the recognition that the flow of people and things has never been fully contained within the boundaries of this three-world model with its competing centres and peripheries, the peripatetic nature of migrant labour and the dynamics and global networks of material transfers across the building world offer an alternative focus for potentially valuable research in an interconnected field.

The interconnected building worlds of the Indian Ocean Rim comprise one such transregional field, conjoining the continental boundaries of Africa, Asia and Australia and interweaving the colonial networks of the former

British World, and the French, German, Portuguese and Dutch colonial territories that once jockeyed with it for imperial dominance. From the antipodean perspective of Australia, moreover, it also confounds the divide between the Global North and the Global South.

This congress calls for papers that will examine the movement of people and things around and across the Indian Ocean Rim and reveal instances or patterns of transfer that may complicate assumed centre-periphery dynamics, or correspond more closely to the idea of South-South cooperation. It looks to engage new political framings like the Non-Aligned Movement (NAM) or the Group of 77 (G77) and the resulting New International Economic Order (NIEO) that would reconfigure the transfer of construction materials and labour, and consequently architectural knowledge, across this region. But it also hopes to discuss the potentialities for greater solidarity that emerged from broader philosophical notions of 'neutralism' 'human dignity' and 'justice' and how these have affected the ethics of construction in the Global South. Finally, it is expected that all these considerations will find a place in the discussion of migrant populations and their negotiations with these constructed political and cultural categories, living across and beyond them in a constant state of liminality.

The congress invites papers that will examine patterns or specific cases of labour mobility and transfer of materials and processes within the architecture and construction worlds of the Indian Ocean Rim. Possible topics include, but are not limited to: production and trade of construction materials across the region; impact of policies to promote new economic relations; drivers and impact of labour mobility; innovation transfers in construction processes; inter-governmental exchange of experts and expertise; transnational expansion of architectural firms and construction companies; and re-framing of professional and vocational pedagogies.

The 2021 CAMEA Congress will cap a series of recent and forthcoming conference panels and symposia in various international forums (including the SAH, ICCH, EAHN, and SAUHA) through which CAMEA has been probing the empirical groundwork and the conceptual and historiographical framing of South-South cooperation in architectural production between the colonial and contemporary eras. A definitive edited book addressing this broader historical and cultural phenomenon is currently under preparation for publication with a respected academic press and selected papers from this Congress will also be invited to be developed for inclusion in that volume.

NOTE: The 2021 Congress is planned as a live event to be convened in Adelaide in early November in conjunction with the Oz-Asia arts festival and the annual SAHANZ conference. In the context of the on-going global pandemic, provision will be made for those overseas contributors who are unable to attend physically to participate 'live' online.

Submit your 300 word abstract to camea@adelaide.edu.au by 20 June 2021

KEY DATES:

<u>Abstracts Due</u>	<u>JUNE 20</u>
<u>Acceptance</u>	<u>JULY 2</u>
<u>Papers Due</u>	<u>SEPTEMBER 10</u>
<u>Response</u>	<u>OCTOBER 3</u>
<u>Congress</u>	<u>NOVEMBER 7-9</u>