

## THE NEW TENEMENT: TRADITION AND MODERNITY

Friday, 10 May 2013, Mackintosh Building, Glasgow School of Art, 167 Renfrew Street, Glasgow

A one-day conference at the Mackintosh School of Architecture on Friday 10 May 2013 Mackintosh Building, Glasgow School of Art, 167 Renfrew Street, Glasgow G3 6RQ

Organised by Miles Glendinning (University of Edinburgh) and Florian Urban (Mackintosh School of Architecture), in partnership with the Mackintosh School of Architecture and DOCOMOMO-International, and with support from the Architectural Heritage Society of Scotland (AHSS) and the Scottish Centre for Conservation Studies (University of Edinburgh), the conference examined the re-emergence of the tenement as an urban building form.

The tenement has been 'reinvented' all over Europe since the 1970s. The conference focused on the renaissance of this widespread and, until recently, very controversial housing type, which for the purpose of this conference was defined as dense flatted residences on a street block plan. Tenements are particularly prominent in Scottish cities and have been a symbolic battleground in the long-running confrontation of 'history' and 'modernity' in the built environment. There, and in many other European countries, nineteenth-century tenements inspired a variety of new buildings that adapted features such as perimeter block plans, variations of small-scale design, multifunctional spaces, and regional aesthetics to contemporary uses and preferences – in the process synthesising elements of 'tradition' and 'modernity'.

While the New Tenement is now widely accepted as a desirable dwelling-type, the new vision of the city and its inhabitants is subject of on-going debates. This includes questions of difference and local identity as well as ideas about individual responsibility and the role of the state. Against this background, the conference contextualized the international 'tenement renaissance' since the 1970s and its continuation today.

*Because a number of presentations were submitted in PowerPoint form without any fixed text, these proceedings comprise those for which text have been made immediately available. It is intended in due course to add remaining contributions to the proceedings as and when transcribed texts can be sourced.*

### Organizers:

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## Day Programme

### Registration

**Welcome** – Christopher Platt, Head of the Mackintosh School of Architecture, and Florian Urban, Mackintosh School of Architecture

**SESSION 1** – The international tenement renaissance – the historians' view

Moderator: Florian Urban

- Professor Richard Rodger, University of Edinburgh
- Professor Kathleen James-Chakraborty, University College Dublin
- Dr. Katharina Borsi, University of Nottingham

**Lunch break** – speakers' lunch in the Mackintosh Room, Glasgow School of Art

**SESSION 2** – New Tenements – Recollections of Pioneering Actors

Moderator: Raymond Young, founder of ASSIST architects, Glasgow, Theodor Winters, chief executive S.T.E.R.N. Berlin

- Wolfgang Förster, Head of the Department for Housing Research and International Relations with the City of Vienna
- Stuart Gulliver, Professor Emeritus of City Development, University of Glasgow, former director of Scottish Development Agency

### Coffee break

**SESSION 3** – The New Tenement – Current Practitioners and Standpoints

Moderator: Neil Baxter, Secretary, Royal Incorporation of Architects in Scotland

- Christoph Kohl, KK architects, Berlin
- Karen Anderson, Anderson Bell + Christie Architects, Glasgow
- Ken MacRea, Civil Engineering with Architecture Programme Leader, Mackintosh School of Architecture, Glasgow School of Art

**Concluding remarks** – Miles Glendinning

**RECEPTION** - Mackintosh Room