



THE HONG KONG INSTITUTE OF ARCHITECTS
REPORT On A.I.
2024

CPD SEMINAR

Professional
Practice



Organised by Board of External Affairs (BExA)

Architecture in the Age of Artificial Intelligence

06.05.2024 (Monday)
7:00pm - 8:15pm

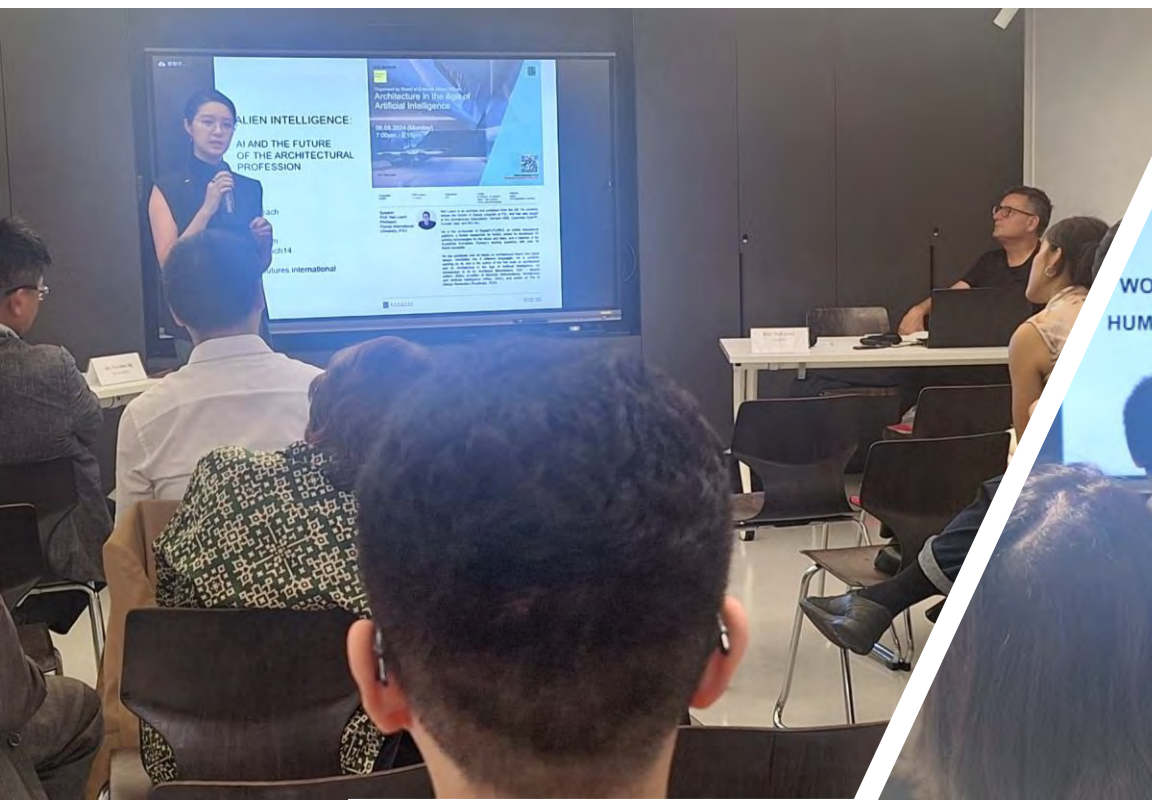
Speaker:
Prof. Neil Leach
Professor,
Florida International
University (FIU)



Neil Leach is an architect and professor from the UK. He currently directs the Doctor of Design program at FIU, and has also taught at the Architectural Association, Harvard GSD, Columbia GSAPP, Cornell, IaaC and SCI-Arc.

He is the co-founder of DigitalFUTURES, an online educational platform; a former researcher for NASA, where he developed 3D printing technologies for the Moon and Mars; and a member of the Academia Europaea, Europe's leading academy with over 50 Nobel laureates.

He has published over 40 books on architectural theory and digital design, translated into 8 different languages. He is currently working on AI, and is the author of the first book on architecture and AI, *Architecture in the Age of Artificial Intelligence: An Introduction to AI for Architects* (Bloomsbury, 2021 – second edition, 2024), co-editor of *Machine Hallucinations: Architecture and Artificial Intelligence* (Wiley, 2022), and author of *The AI Design Revolution* (Routledge, 2025)





1. Utilization of A.I. Tools for Design Brainstorming

- Some leveraged Midjourney as a tool for brainstorming design options.
- Allows for the exploration of a wide range of creative possibilities and idea generation.

2. Integration of A.I. in Project Development

- Some others incorporated their own project data into A.I.
- Refine its ability to generate design options aligned with their company's established styles.
- Enhance the relevance of the outputs.

3. Benefits of A.I. in Design Processes

- Significantly accelerates the brainstorming phase for design concepts.
- Facilitating discussions and decision-making.
- Enhances overall efficiency.
- Conserve valuable time, allowing teams to focus on higher-level creative tasks.

Issues Raised:

1. Copyright Concerns

- Difficult to define the copyright of the generated drawings
- The origin and originality of these creations are difficult to ascertain, leading to uncertainties in intellectual property rights.
- The ambiguity prompts a need for clarity on whether such outputs could potentially violate copyright laws.

2. Predictability of Design Outputs

- Poses a challenge in terms of predictability.
- As the quality and style of generated designs can differ significantly from previous iterations, it becomes increasingly challenging to anticipate the final product.
- The randomness inherent in these systems may result in outcomes that rely heavily on chance, rather than consistent quality.



HKIA

Annual Conference 2024

Design in the Digital and AI Era

is this the end or just the beginning

Event Highlights

The conference, with the theme of "Design in the Digital and AI Era", aims to delve into the evolving responsibilities of architects amidst the pervasive influence of artificial intelligence on the architectural practice. Key themes to be explored include the impact of AI on design, construction, urban environment and related industries as well as the application of AI and digital technology in present and future architectural workflows. Through insightful presentations and discussions, the conference seeks to uncover the challenges and opportunities these advancements pose to designers and architects, how they inspire adaption and innovation in response to technological progress.

Register NOW



HKIA member



Non-HKIA member

*Priority will be given to HKIA Members if the event is over-subscribed.

Date: 14 June 2024 (Friday)
Time: 09:00 – 18:00 (08:30 Registration)
Venue: Multi-Purpose Hall, City Gallery, Central, Hong Kong
Event Format: Physical & Zoom
Fee: Free
CPD Credit Hour: 6
Language: English / Mandarin

*Simultaneous interpretation to English and Mandarin will be provided

Enquiries: Ms. Stephanie Chung HKIA 2024 Event Secretariat
Contact: +852 2110 5661 Email: stephaniechung@hkia.org.hk

"Design in the Digital and AI Era – is this the end or just the beginning"

explores the evolving role of architects in the face of digital technology and artificial intelligence's influence on the architectural practice.

Keynote Speakers



Prof. Charleston Sin
Professor of Practice
Department of Management and Marketing
The Hong Kong Polytechnic University



Mr. Kaloyan Erevinov
Senior Associate
Zaha Hadid Architects



Prof. Xu Weiguo
Professor and Chair, School of Architecture,
Tsinghua University
Vice Dean of Future Human Habitat Institute,
SIGS in Tsinghua University



Dr. Zheng Hao
Assistant Professor & Associate Program Leader (BSc & MArch),
City University of Hong Kong
Director of Architectural Intelligence Group (AIG)



Mr. Ramon Van der Heijden
Digital Design Director
Arup



Dr. Winnie S.M. Tang, MH, JP
Founder and Chairman
Esri China (Hong Kong) Limited



Ms. Garett Hwang
Director
UNStudio



Mr. Wilber Yuen
Director, Brand & Operations
XKool Technology



Prof. Dr. Sandra Manning
Associate Professor
Architecture, Computational Technologies
School of Architecture and Design, NYIT



Mr. Zee LEONG
Partner
Director of the Intelligent Construction Division
RoboticPlus.AI



HKIA President 2023-24 Ar. Benny Chan delivering welcoming remarks



Guest of Honour, Ms. Bernadette Linn, the Secretary for Development of HKSAR, delivering opening remarks

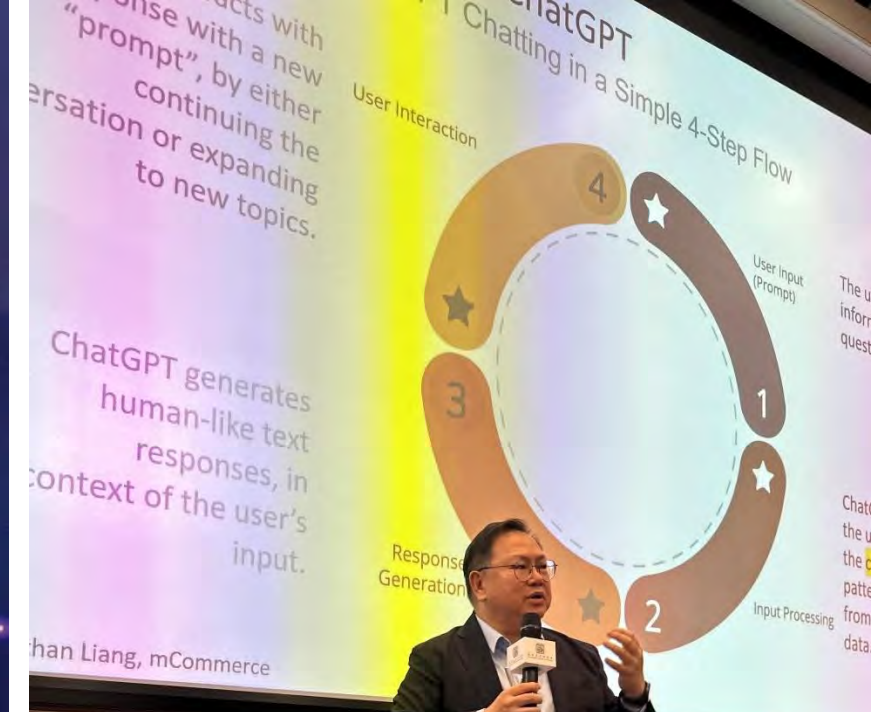


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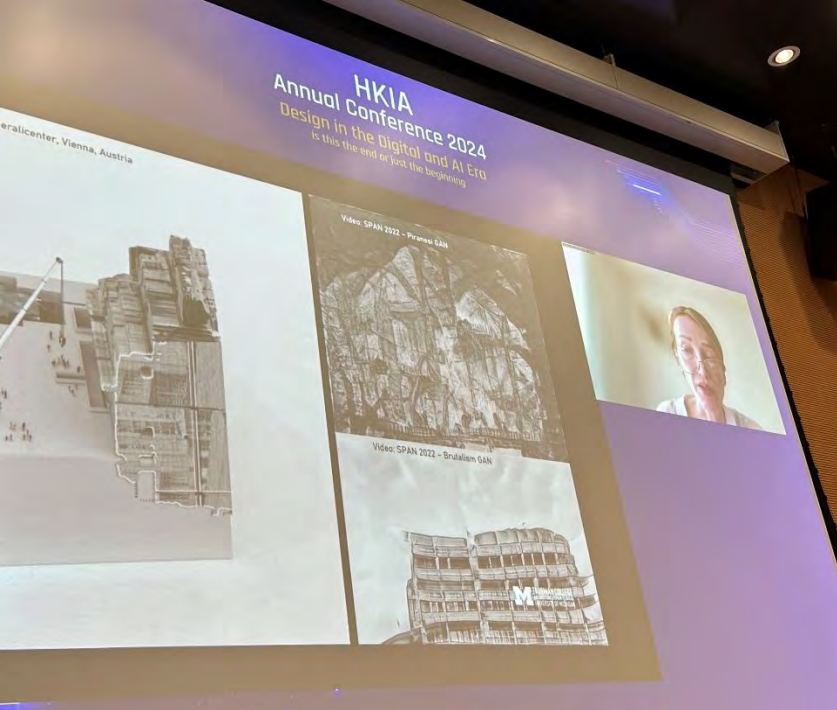
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Over twenty distinguished speakers, renowned in their respective fields, shared their experiences and expertise through engaging presentations and dialogues.







Roundtable Discussion 1

Roundtable Discussion 2

The keynote presentations and round table discussions covered a wide range of subjects, including cross-platform design applications, robotics, smart cities, generative design through AI, and the challenges and implications these advancements have on the architectural profession.





Attended by over 1,000 participants in person and online, from 20 different countries or regions.

Link to conference videos:
<https://www.hkia.net/en/whats-on/1/events/detail/46>