Cohousing Symposium Booklet
Schedule + Speakers

SPEAKERS

Symposium: convivial + friendly discussion

1:30 PM -4:15 PM

Speaker

Speaker

Speaker

Speaker

Hear four speakers bring their unique and valuable perspective on the topic of cohousing to series of talks and a round table conversation.

June 3rd, 2020

Cohousing Symposium
Schedule

1:30 PM — **Speaker**

John McMinn
Professor, UofWaterloo
"Community Responsive Co-Housing"

2:00 PM — **Speaker**

Grace Kim
Principal Schemata Workshop
"Cohousing: staying socially connected in a time of physical distancing"

2:30 PM — **Speaker**

Crystal Byrd Farmer
Community Organizer and Activist
"Building More Inclusive Communities"

3:00 PM — **Speaker**

Adrian Blackwell
Associate Professor, UofWaterloo
"Towards an Architecture of Relations"

3:30 PM -4:15 PM — **Panel**

Round Table
Reflection questions, moderated discussion, and student engagement period.

John McMinn

"Community Responsive Cohousing"

Speaker

(He/Him)

John McMinn is Professor of Architecture at the University of Waterloo School of Architecture and is a graduate of the Architectural Association and McGill University. He has taught and lectured at a

#Teaching

#Participatory Design

#Cohousing

variety of schools of architecture in North America, Europe, Asia and Australia. He is a principal and founder of the Toronto based architectural practice MJ Architecture, whose portfolio includes building and public space design, exhibitions and art installations. He has published widely in journals on contemporary Canadian architecture, and has written books on the cultural dimensions of contemporary sustainable architecture, 41º to 66º: Regional Responses to Sustainable Architecture in Canada, (co-author with Marco Polo) and on Canada's leading engineering practice, Yolles: A Canadian Engineering Legacy, (co-author with Beth Kapusta). He was recipient of the Canada Council Prix de Rome in Architecture and the exhibition, (co-authored with Marco Polo), 41º to 66º: Region, Culture, Tectonics, represented Canada at the Venice Biennale for Architecture in 2008.

*Join **John** as he discusses his current role in a cohousing project. He will explore how architects can engage with community through the design process.*

Hear more from John

Grace Kim
"Cohousing and Affordability"

#Aging-in-place

#Cohousing Architecture

Speaker

(She/Her)
Grace Kim is an award-winning architect and co-founder of Sche-mata Workshop - a full services architectural firm located in Seat-tle, WA.

#Affordability

Her projects focus on building community, social equity, and sustainability.

Grace is also a co-founder of a 9-household cohousing community - that was self-developed as a limited equity, rental model. The 5-story building occupies a 4500sf lot in a very urban neighborhood called Capitol Hill.

Grace serves on the Seattle Planning Commission and is on the Board of Directors for the Housing Development Consortium – a regional advocacy organization for the affordable housing industry.

Grace often speaks on panels about cohousing and affordability and is leading the cohousing movement in North America.

Tune in while Grace demonstrates how the cohousing model is key to creating resilient, caring, communities.

Hear more from Grace

Crystal Farmer

"Building More Inclu-sive Communities"

Speaker

(She/Her)

Crystal Byrd Farmer is an engi-neer turned educator from Gasto-nia, North Carolina. She has been an organizer and speaker as part of the cohousing and polyamorous communities. She became the or-

ganizer for Charlotte Cohousing in 2016 and has been involved in cohousing and the intentional communities movement ever since.

She is the website editor for Black & Poly, an organization promoting healthy polyamorous relationships for people of color. She also serves on the Editorial Review Board of Communities Magazine published by the Global Ecovillage Network-United States.

Crystal is passionate about encouraging people to change their perspectives on diversity, relationships, and the world. She has spoken on numerous cohousing panels and has written articles on creating more inclusive communities.

In this talk, *Crystal will speak to how people building intentional communities can be more inclusive.*

Hear more from Crystal

Adrian Blackwell

"Towards an architecture of relations"

Speaker

(He/Him)

Adrian Blackwell is an artist and urban designer, who teaches architecture at the University of Waterloo. His artwork focuses on the antagonisms and inequalities of existing public and urban spaces. Influenced by anarchist political

philosophy, he creates physical spaces of equality and communication. Since 1998, he has been making a sequence of evolving works titled Model for a Public Space, which have shown at artist run centers and galleries across Canada and in the US. The latest of these are Scaffold and Horizons (Earth and Sky) for the opening year of Toronto's Museum of Contemporary Art and Isonomia in Toronto? for the 2019 Toronto Biennial of Art. Blackwell exhibited at the 2005 Shenzhen and 2011 Chengdu Biennials and Mirror circles for Ba Jin was installed in the 2015 Shanghai Urban Space Art Season. At the 2019 Chicago Architecture Biennial, he made an Anarchitectural Library (against the erasure of the Chicago's common spaces), bringing together publications curated by twenty activist organizations working to preserve the city's common spaces.

*Catch **Adrian's** talk as he explores larger issues of land owner- ship and public space through the lens of two projects he is involved in.*

Hear more from Adrian

Credits

This booklet was created by Vic Mantha-Blythe for the University of Waterloo 2020 Cohousing Symposium