

DIALOG awards Michael Evamy Scholarship to Valeria Nuyanzina to explore memory and meaning in architecture

EDMONTON, May 7, 2018 - How can architects and designers help communities understand and identify their complex cultural layers and narratives? Valeria Nuyanzina, a Masters of Architecture student at McGill University, has been awarded \$5000 to find out.

Nuyanzina's research proposal entitled *Stitched Imprints of Living Memory* has been awarded the 2018 Scholarship in Honour of Michael Evamy.

"Through studies of casting, montage and narrative, I hope to understand in detail how architecture and memory have the ability to bring citizens together. Architecture has the potential to activate neighbourhoods by treasuring people's stories, supporting cultural diversity, and evoking creative engagement with memory."

-Valeria Nuyanzina, Michael Evamy Scholarship Recipient

DIALOG's selection committee of the Michael Evamy Scholarship was impressed with Nuyanzina's proposal that aims to understand perceptual qualities of memory and reveals ways in which architecture may be defined through the layered stories of the community's inhabitants.

"The exploration of memory and meaning in architecture and Valeria's proposal to engage the community in her research intrigued the selection committee. It is particularly interesting to explore this idea at a time when more computational approaches to design are becoming dominant."

-Donna Clare, DIALOG principal and selection committee member.

This year, DIALOG received a wide range of proposals that were all very strong and worthy of support. Submissions from across Canada included topics from exploring the role of technology in the architectural studio to understanding how the urban landscape can create a safe environment for low-income women and children in disadvantaged populations.

It was a difficult task for the interdisciplinary selection committee to narrow it down to one recipient, so the committee awarded an honourable mention prize of \$1000 to Samantha Eby from University of Toronto to help fund her research into creating affordable housing models in Canada.



Valeria Nuyanzina, 2018 Michael Evamy Scholarship Recipient

DIALOG established the Michael Evamy Scholarship Foundation to honour the memory of Michael Evamy, a partner instrumental in building its integrated practice from 1966 to 1993. The award provides financial assistance to the selected Canadian student attending a Canadian school of architecture in the second last year of study, in order to undertake a specific research project in a field of interest to them. The intent of the study is to enrich and advance the candidate's personal and professional experience and knowledge on a topic relevant to the practice of Architecture.

The value of the award is \$5000. A secondary amount up to \$3000 is available for project related expenses, including travel expenses, during the course of the investigation. At the end of their studies, the recipient presents their research to all of DIALOG's Canadian studios.

The next call for submissions for the Michael Evamy Scholarship will be issued in January 2019.



Images available for download: <https://www.dropbox.com/sh/y8dwygr6x4ijzwx/AABDSEc3nwQLsj3CATsH8f5Ka?dl=0>

Please credit Valeria Nuyanzina.

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