

## Call for participants

London Festival of Architecture 2019 Symposium at Royal Academy of Arts

The London Festival of Architecture has launched its Call for Participants for the second annual LFA Symposium, organised in partnership with the Architecture Department at the Royal Academy of Arts.

The LFA invites both emerging and established academics, researchers and practitioners whose work explores this year's festival theme of 'boundaries' to apply for participation in the annual LFA Symposium.

Boundaries have always been the fundamental aspect of architecture. Life in cities is governed by both physical and perceived boundaries. We are constrained, ordered and defined by borders, fences and walls that may either make us comfortable or constrain us. For spatial practitioners, however, boundaries are more than a mundane fact of everyday life: they're something to explore and sometimes to be challenged.

The LFA is seeking submissions of original research exploring the role and application of boundaries in architecture. The symposium will group submissions into those exploring 'tangible boundaries' during a morning session and 'intangible boundaries' during the afternoon session. Examples include:

- **Panel 1 topic – Tangible boundaries**
  - Physical boundaries such as borders, fences and walls and their impact on our day-to-day physical experience of the city
  - Critical assessments of the historic importance of physical boundaries, and its renewed relevance and focus today
  - Implications of arbitrary administrative lines on physical space
  - Architectural boundaries, privacy and the body
  - Agency of architecture profession in negotiating and blurring spatial boundaries
  - Role of digital technologies in breaking physical boundaries
  
- **Panel 2 topic – Intangible boundaries**
  - Ways of mapping and decoding intangible boundaries
  - Intangible geographical boundaries such as postcodes or administrative borders

- Bridging invisible lines of separation in between different social groups
- Economic boundaries such as wealth inequality and property prices and their impact on our everyday experience of the city
- Critical assessments of the effects of the ownership of land and the perception of space

The successful applicants will be invited to present their selected work at the second London Festival of Architecture symposium at Royal Academy of Arts on **Friday 14 June 2019**.



The London Festival of Architecture celebrates London as the global hub for architectural practice, debate and experimentation. The LFA is now, by some margin, the world largest annual architecture festival. Through its unique 'Open Call' for events and projects, the LFA acts to democratise the discussion around architecture and our city. Anyone with a passion for architecture and a great idea can propose their own festival events and be part of that debate. The LFA is now launching a separate Call for Participants for the LFA Symposium.

The annual festival returns to the capital from 1-30 June 2019 with a lively and diverse programme of public events across London exploring this year's theme of 'boundaries'. The London Festival of Architecture began in 2004 and continues to attract a vast public audience – well over 600,000 people in 2018 – and a global media audience of millions. The vast majority of events are free, and are staged by a core festival programming team working alongside architecture and design practices and practitioners, leading cultural and academic institutions, artists and many others.

## Background to the London Festival of Architecture Symposium



In 2018, London Festival of Architecture in partnership with the Royal Academy of Arts, established the LFA Symposium as a focal event of the festival that offers a rich exploration of the festival's annual theme. Bringing together prominent architects, academics and commentators, the inaugural symposium entitled '*Does Identity Matter?*' challenged how people connect and identify with their homes, workplaces, neighbourhoods, and the city as a whole. Two expert panels examined how a city's identity can be pulled apart through architectural and spatial interventions, while also delving into the role of architecture in the production of a city's identity. As keynote speaker, Mary Duggan shared her experience on the role of identity in forging a successful presence for her practice, as she was joined in conversation by writer, broadcaster and architecture expert Tom Dyckhoff.

### How to submit

Please submit an abstract of up to 300 words plus a one-page CV, outlining any institutional affiliations, by **Friday 25 January 2019, at 3pm**.

Your CV and abstract should be saved together in one file (as pdf or word document) and submitted via:

[www.londonfestivalofarchitecture.org/symposium](http://www.londonfestivalofarchitecture.org/symposium)

The papers will be reviewed by a panel of experts including representatives of the London Festival of Architecture and the Royal Academy of Arts.

Successful applicants will be notified by **Friday 8 February**.

For symposium enquires please contact:  
[rosa@londonfestivalofarchitecture.org](mailto:rosa@londonfestivalofarchitecture.org)

We welcome international submissions. Funds may be available to assist with travel and accommodation expenses, although it is expected that applicants apply to their own institutions for support in the first instance.