

CREATIVE ENQUIRY FORUM

Friday 24th November 2023

10:30-17:00, Firth Hall
Firth Court, Western Bank
University of Sheffield

Contamination, dirt and otherwise out of place

This edition of the Creative Enquiry Forum draws on Mary Douglas' concept of 'matter out of place' to interrogate how architectural practices conceptualise and deal with difference, purity and contamination.

Our practices often rely on notions of order to make sense of their doings in the world, passing aesthetic judgement when thinking of materials and the making and unmaking of form itself. Purity marshals materialities that make exploitation and colonisation invisible; Empire and capitalism recruits dirt and difference to justify their expansionist projects. To say someone and something is out of place invokes pasts and persistent presents of inequality and racism, and configures our ideas of the future, often exposing our utopias as betraying the politics of homogeneity.

Event organised and chaired by Luis Hernan, Laura Mark and Emma Cheadle.

All welcome

Teresa Stoppani

Director of Architecture and
Interior Design
Norwich University of the Arts

Maria Mitsoula

Architect, LDN Architects
Independent Researcher
Editor, Drawing On: Journal of
Architectural Research by Design

Edwina Attlee

Senior Lecturer in History
and Theory of Architecture
London Metropolitan University

Juliana Kei

Lecturer in Architecture
Liverpool School of Architecture
Co-Founder, Hong Kong
Design History Networks

Sam Vardy + Paula McCloskey

A Place of their Own
Munster Technological University,
University of Derby

Sepideh Karami

Lecturer in Architecture
Edinburgh School of Architecture
and Landscape Architecture



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Architecture