AERIAL FUTURES

announcement & open call for papers

AUGUST 15, 2019
Submission Deadline

NOVEMBER 14–15, 2019
Program at Singapore University of Technology and Design

LIVING LABORATORIES SYMPOSIUM

The Aerial Futures: Living Laboratories Symposium examines the confluence of urban elements within the airport landscape—transportation, commerce, public space and technological interfaces—and how Asian airports introduce alternatives for life in transit.

By 2035, it's estimated that air travel in Asia will be greater than Europe and North America combined, with routes in Asia serving an extra 1.8 billion annual passengers. Increase in airport capacity challenges physical infrastructure as much as operations and passenger experience. A trillion dollars is earmarked for airport development in Asia alone in the next 10 years. Unprecedented growth requirements are difficult to meet and concrete alone is not the answer.

Asian airports are ideal for testing new technologies, including construction, immersive digital environments, automated operations and unconventional non-aeronautical programs. From Mumbai to Shanghai, airports across Asia are reinventing the airport as microcosms that resemble complex urban environments, tackling challenges in environmental and commercial sustainability. Airports are leading experimentation and invention in mobility, real estate, and lifestyle, all of which can be scaled up and replicated in cities.

We are inviting industry professionals, academics, and innovators to propose papers for the next Aerial Futures symposium in Singapore, responding to one of the following prompts.

HOW TO APPLY

Please submit your 300-word abstract by August 15, 2019 to info@aerialfutures.org.

Include your name, affiliation, title of paper or position, a C.V. of no more than two pages, and an email address.

TRAVELERS OF TOMORROW

As Asia's middle class rises, vast numbers of first-time travellers are expected to visit Asian airports. This emerging demographic is the world's fastest growing aviation market and is sure to bring new consumer demands and habits to airports. Catering to luxury airline users, established cities like Singapore, Incheon and Hong Kong have turned their airports into high-end shopping malls, while many new locations and routes with low cost carriers have advocated for stripped down terminals.

DIGITAL ECOSYSTEMS

Asian airports use technology in unprecedented ways to improve the passenger experience, including automated kiosks, facial recognition, language localization, and self-service options for passengers. How will these technologies work together? How will the human feature within this constellation? What will come of the data such technology yields, and who benefits from it?

URBAN MICROCOSMS

Airports present perfect environments for controlled experimentation. As microcosms of the urban spaces around them, airports share many elements in common with cities, including intermodal transportation, commerce, public space, culture and technology for user engagement. The hyper-urbanism particular to an airport, in which concerns around safety, access and speed are most pressing, necessitates imaginative approaches. Many airports have transformed from transient spaces to town squares, attractive and stimulating destinations that are more than sites for the hurried traveler to navigate.

THE AIRPORT THRESHOLD

As a threshold, the airport often gives rise to extraordinary spatial practices. Airports are the liminal spaces between sovereign territories and urban ecologies, where complex negotiations related to trade, security, information and mobility play out. These unique choreographies demand inventive approaches to urban planning and design.

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 14

Registration
Keynote
Panel 1: Travelers of Tomorrow
Coffee Break
Panel 2: Digital Ecosystems
Lunch Break
Site Visit TBD
Welcome Reception
Participant Dinner

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 15

Registration
Keynote
Panel 3: Urban Microcosms
Coffee Break
Panel 4: The Airport Threshold
Lunch Break
Site Visit TBD
Welcome Reception
Participant Dinner

LIVING LABORATORIES PROGRAM

Living Laboratories: Singapore is a 2-day program that showcases expert lectures and panels, highlights ground-breaking research, and cultivates discussion and debate amongst meaningful industry connections.

A series of site visits complement the lecture series, offering participants first-hand experience to the most recent and innovative projects in Singapore. Exclusive evening activities will provide high-impact opportunities to connect attendees with panelists and industry thought-leaders.

CONTACT US
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ABOUT
AERIAL FUTURES

Aerial Futures is a non-profit organization committed to interdisciplinary discourse on aerial infrastructure and its interdependencies. As a cultural platform and expert network, we curate salons, think tanks and public programs that provoke timely considerations of our aerial age to imagine the future of a connected multimodal world.

The Aerial Futures agenda fosters leadership and disruptive thinking in an industry that is overwhelmingly technical and transactional. Beyond aviation, our program explores the interfaces of design, technology, policy, social sciences and the extended urban ecosystem that airports are part of.

For more information, please visit
http://aerialfutures.org/living-laboratories.