

**Brutalism and the Welfare State
Histories of Displacement, 1952-2017**

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THE BRUTALIST TURN

AN INTERNATIONAL
CONFERENCE ON CONCRETE
ARCHITECTURE

14—16.4.2019

**THE BRUTALIST TURN
AN INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE
ON CONCRETE ARCHITECTURE
14—16.4.2019**

Conference Chair:

Prof. Architect Eran Neuman, Azrieli School of Architecture, Tel Aviv University and Azrieli Architectural Archive, Tel Aviv Museum of Art

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Architect Gili Shapira, Azrieli Architectural Archive, Tel Aviv Museum of Art

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PROF. ARCHITECT DIRK VAN DEN HEUVEL

Dirk van den Heuvel is an Associate Professor of Architecture at TU Delft. He leads the Jaap Bakema Study Centre at Het Nieuwe Instituut, Rotterdam. His expertise is in postwar modern architecture and planning, and its related fields of architecture theory and history. His most recent book publication is *Jaap Bakema and the Open Society* (Archis, 2018).

In 2017, van den Heuvel was awarded a Richard Rogers Fellowship from Harvard University Graduate School of Design for his research project "Socio-Plastics," which examined New Brutalism with regard to British welfare state politics. He was the curator of the Dutch pavilion for the 14th architecture exhibition of the 2014 Venice Biennale. Van den Heuvel also curated the exhibition "Structuralism" at Het Nieuwe Instituut in Rotterdam (2014), together with Herman Hertzberger. In 2008, he curated the show "Changing Ideals: Re-thinking the House" for Bureau Europa, Maastricht. Together with Max Risselada, he organized two international exhibitions and publications: "Team 10 – In Search of a Utopia of the Present" (NAi, 2005) and "Alison and Peter Smithson – from the House of the Future to a House of Today" (010, 2004). Other book publications include *Architecture and the Welfare State* (Routledge, 2015, with Mark Swenarton and Tom Avermaete) and *Lessons: Tupker / Risselada. A Double Portrait of Dutch Architectural Education* (SUN, 2003, with Madeleine Steigenga and Jaap van Triest).

He is an editor of the series *Delft Architectural Studies on Housing, DASH* (nai010 publishers) and the open-access online journal for architecture theory *Footprint*, as well as an editorial board member of the Spanish open-access, online research journal *VLC Arquitectura*. He was also an editor of the journal *OASE* (1993-1999). His writings have been published in various international magazines and online media.

BRUTALISM AND THE WELFARE STATE: HISTORIES OF DISPLACEMENT, 1952-2017

My presentation will look into the intersection of New Brutalism and welfare state politics, using the case of Alison and Peter Smithson to unpack some of the dominant myths of the period. I will use some of my recent research findings to hypothesize that when looking at the British state welfare system, we are seeing not so much a universalist project of citizens' emancipation but rather a continuation of disruptive development at the expense of lower-class communities in particular.

It was Kenneth Frampton who suggested a direct link between the New Brutalism and the welfare state in his famed *Modern Architecture: A Critical*

