

## Welcome to The Edge

Our Exhibitions this Autumn include four ambitious new commissions and a rich public programme. Parallel (of Life and) Architecture is a season of architecture and art that offers insights, reflecting on Alison and Peter Smithson's practice, their avant garde approaches and collaborations.

The role of architecture in society also features heavily in our annual of the Future City programme, 5 days of talks, walks and workshops exploring urban development in the 21st-century.

In November we turn our attention to engineering with the arrival of the intriguing machines and experiments of Steven Pippin.

Join us to witness and explore a wealth of creative ideas and new perspectives

Jamie Eastman,  
Director of Arts,  
University of Bath

# PARALLEL (OF LIFE AND) ARCHITECTURE



## Contemporary reflections on the ideas and impact of Alison and Peter Smithson

Fri 22 Sep – Sat 4 Nov

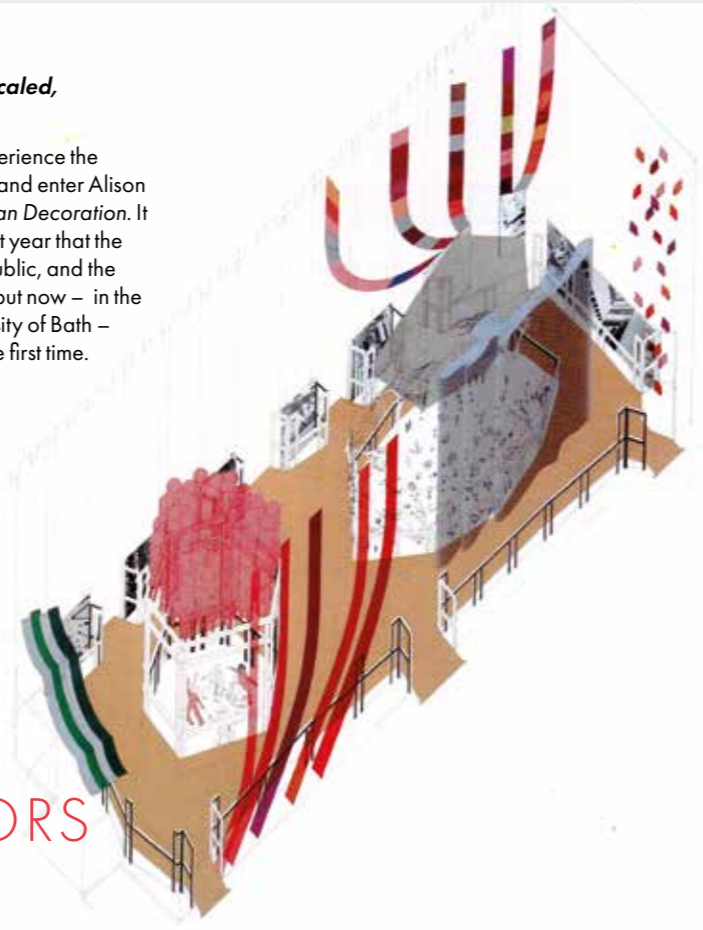
Parallel (of Life and) Architecture invites three 'duos' of architects, artists and designers to respond to the legacy of Alison and Peter Smithson (A&PS), their relationship with the avant-garde and architecture as a 'direct result of a way of life.'

Echoing the methods and collaborative processes of A&PS during their breakthrough phase as architects in 1950s Britain, the resulting commissions offer insight into their research and creative practice. Assemble & Simon Terrill, Warren & Mosley, The Decorators & GOIG each take key developments in the Smithsons' oeuvre as creative departure points including: calculations for collective living (*Scales of association* 1954); temporary structures (*Patio and Pavilion* 1956); and historiographical approaches (*Urban Decoration*, Milan Triennale 1968).

Seen collectively, the exhibition highlights the Smithsons' impact and lasting relevance as radical thinkers. Though concerned with how we lived then, their ideas continue to influence how we live now and undoubtedly will in the future. The exhibition's title is taken from the ground-breaking exhibition *Parallel of Life and Art* organised by the Independent Group in 1953, a collective in which the Smithsons were pivotal members alongside artist photographer Nigel Henderson and sculptor Eduardo Paolozzi.

**COMMISSION**  
*Transformations of the City*  
*Bath: a re-contextualized, re-scaled, re-enactment*

This is a unique opportunity to experience the never-seen 1968 Milan Triennale and enter Alison and Peter Smithson's world of *Urban Decoration*. It was due to the students' revolts that year that the Triennale was never open to the public, and the Smithsons' piece was never seen, but now – in the fitting context of The Edge, University of Bath – audiences can experience it for the first time.



## THE DECORATORS & GOIG

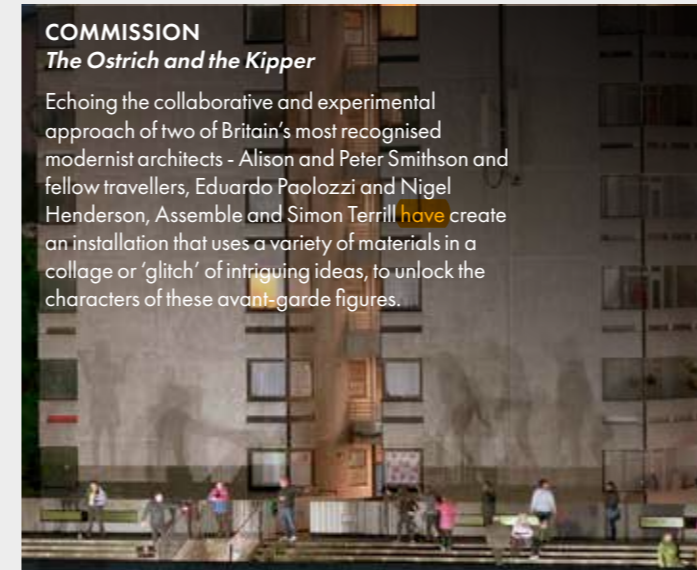


## ASSEMBLE & SIMON TERRILL



**COMMISSION**  
*The Ostrich and the Kipper*

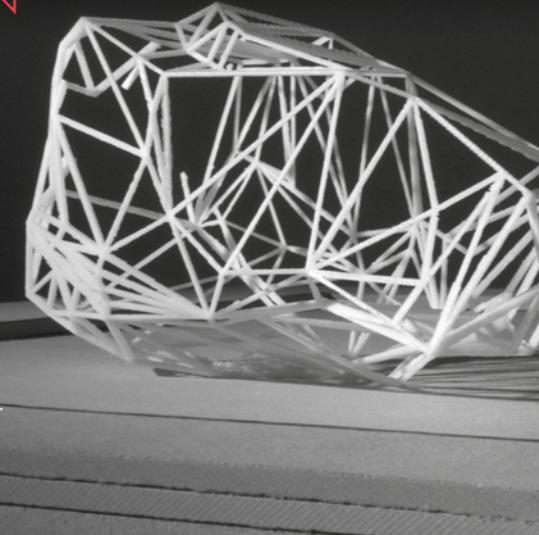
Echoing the collaborative and experimental approach of two of Britain's most recognised modernist architects - Alison and Peter Smithson and fellow travellers, Eduardo Paolozzi and Nigel Henderson, Assemble and Simon Terrill have create an installation that uses a variety of materials in a collage or 'glitch' of intriguing ideas, to unlock the characters of these avant-garde figures.



## SOPHIE WARREN & JONATHAN MOSLEY

**COMMISSION**  
*A Nodding Acquaintance – A structure for talking while standing and leaning*

The Smithsons developed 'cluster' housing blocks to engender social relations within 'streets in the sky.' Warren and Mosley bring the streets down to earth, rescaling the cluster to the figure as a structure for talking and idling whilst sitting, leaning and standing. The installation references the street party, shifting social values and notions of nationhood from post-war to the present day.



## EVENT PROGRAMME

### FILM

Mon 30 Oct

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### SPECIAL EVENT Robin Hood Gardens Remembered

Fri 3 Nov

An evening considering the much debated demolition of Alison and Peter Smithsons' Robin Hood Gardens in London; a social housing offering scheduled for demolition. How will Robin Hood Gardens be remembered once it's gone? Please also see a full programme of event listings at [edgearts.org](http://edgearts.org)



### SYMPOSIUM

Alison and Peter Smithson: Ideas & Impact

Sat 4 Nov, 11am – 4pm, Theatre

Featuring leading international architects, artists and thinkers this symposium investigates the legacy and impact of British architectural pioneers Alison and Peter Smithson across urbanism, habitation and education.

Alison and Peter Smithson saw architecture as a direct result of a way of life, responsive to the demands of contemporary living. This approach permeated their designs for the University of Bath including the University theatre (1990) in which this symposium will take place. The event also launches a re-print of Peter Smithson's celebrated pamphlet *Bath: Walks Within the Walls* from 1971.

Speakers include Simon Smithson and Peter Salter (2017 RIBA award winner and project architect for Alison and Peter), Assemble, Christine Boyer, David Turnbull, Keith Bradley, Juliet Bidgood, Dr Amy Frost (Bath Preservation Trust) and more.

This event is designed to appeal to audiences with a specialist or broad interest.

For the full symposium programme and schedule see [edgearts.org](http://edgearts.org). £45 (including lunch and refreshments)

Event kindly supported by **Feilden Clegg Bradley Studios**



## LISTINGS

Event	Type	Dates	Location
Parallel (of Life and) Architecture	Exhibition	Fri 22 Sep – Sat 4 Nov	The Edge Galleries
Walking Utopia	Festival of the Future City	Thu 19 Oct, 3-5pm	xxxxxx
Whose City it It?	Festival of the Future City	Fri 20 Oct, 2-7pm	Assembly Rooms, Bath
The Creative City	Festival of the Future City	Sat 21 Oct, 12.30pm-5.30pm	The Edge
REM	Film	Mon 30 Oct	xxxxx
Robin Hood Gardens Remembered	Special Event	Fri 3 Nov	xxxxx
Alison and Peter Smithson: Ideas & Impact	Symposium	Sat 4 Nov, 11am – 4pm	Theatre
Steven Pippin – Engineered Equanimity	Exhibition	Fri 17 Nov 2017 – Sat 3 Feb 2018	The Edge

Please also see a full programme of event listings at [edgearts.org](http://edgearts.org)

IMAGE CREDITS  
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The Edge, University of Bath  
Claverton Down BA2 7AY

[www.edgearts.org](http://www.edgearts.org) · 01225 386777





THE ANDREW BROWNSWORD GALLERIES  
EDGE ARTS  
UNIVERSITY OF BATH  
Established 1966

As we enter the final month of the University's 50th Anniversary year, we celebrate our affinity with the universe of architecture so evident across our city

# FESTIVAL OF THE FUTURE CITY

Three days of talks, walks and workshops

Thu 19 – Sat 21 Oct 2017

Lectures, discussions, panels,  up pavilions, walks, family events and more  us to explore urban development in the 21st-century. Festival themes include Housing, The Artist and the City and What Makes Architecture Great?

With a focus on the complexities of a place like Bath, a city like Venice with UNESCO world heritage status, how should cities reinvigorate their character and economy when looking to the future?



## FESTIVAL HIGHLIGHTS

### Walking Utopia

**WALK**  
Thu 19 Oct, 3-5pm

See the city afresh in a walk with one of the UK's leading architecture critics, **Owen Hatherley** (*A Guide To The New Ruins Of Great Britain*) as he explores architecture and utopia.

### Whose City is It?

**TALK AND DEBATE**  
Fri 20 Oct, 2-7pm  
Assembly Rooms, Bath

Explore the challenges of preserving architectural heritage whilst creating new buildings, new infrastructure and welcoming new populations. Speakers include **Jim Heverin** (Zaha Hadid Architects) Director of SAVE **Henrietta Billings**, **Andrew Vines** of Historic England (South West), urban design collective **The Decorators**.

The day begins with an opportunity to see how Bath will change through new architecture and development, as well as viewing an updated model of the city, with the Museum of Bath Architecture

### The Creative City

Sat 21 Oct, 12.30pm-5.30pm  
The Edge, Bath University

What makes a city a great place to live? Explore radical housing solutions, the city as artistic inspiration and 21st Century design. Speakers **Anna Minton** (*Big Capital*), **Alex Vasudevan** (*The Autonomous City*), The Design Museum's **Justin McGuirk**, artist **Rut Blees Luxemburg** a photographer and installation artist focusing on urban space and Turner Prize-winning collective **Assemble**.

Talk and panel ticket prices starting from £9 but many events are free.

Full programme and booking: [edgearts.org.uk](http://edgearts.org.uk)

Produced in association with Modern Culture and [www.architectureis.org.uk](http://www.architectureis.org.uk)

**Partners:** Bristol Festival of Ideas and Bath & North East Somerset Council.

# OWEN GRIFFITHS

**COMMISSION**  
*Harvest 2017*  
Garden Terrace, The Edge

*Harvest* is a new temporary open-air meeting and learning space, created using straw bales as building blocks. This exploratory project has developed in response to the legacy of post-war architects Alison and Peter Smithson, their connection to the University of Bath and in particular their installation *Patio and Pavilion*, 1956. Situated in the unique architectural context of the University, *Harvest* will operate as a 'free' space open to all and will host a series of events, discussions and workshops.



# STEVEN PIPPIN

*Engineered Equanimity*

Fri 17 Nov 2017  
– Sat 3 Feb 2018

Steven Pippin is an artist, but also an inventor and engineer whose ambitious experiments, playful exploits and hybrid machines map 30 years of rapid worldwide technological and scientific advancements.

His skill in technological manipulation reveals the inter-relationship between objects, mechanisms and the universe, presenting fallibilities but also possibilities. This approach offers audiences new perspectives on everything from Newtonian mechanics to the production of renewable energy reframed with an autonomous spirit of inquiry.



**THE EDGE EXHIBITIONS AUTUMN 2017**

Art · Research · Adventure  
[www.edgearts.org](http://www.edgearts.org)

