PRESS RELEASE

BRAVE NEW WORLD
New Visions in Architecture
A programme of lectures and exhibitions

Part II

Phineas Harper
The kids aren’t alright

Monday 25 June 2018, 6 p.m.

The British School at Rome
via Gramsci 61, Roma

Introduced by Luca Galofaro (Associate Professor of Architecture and Design at the University of Camerino, Director of the practice LGSMA and of Campo, a gallery in Rome run by architects).

On Monday 25 June at 6 p.m. Phineas Harper will give the second introductory lecture of Brave New World, curated by Marina Engel. His lecture will discuss the changes in the role of the architect, of architectural thinking at-large as well as societal shifts being brought about by this younger generation of designers.

‘Fetishised and exploited by the very institutions which celebrate them, Millennials stand at a unique political junction. Better educated and more aware of the world than their parents, but materially poorer with fewer opportunities yet greater responsibilities,
they represent more than just a generation, but a potential emerging class force, capable
of instigating profound societal shifts. Millennial architecture practice manifests in a rich
variety of ways around the world depending on its context, but can be seen as a coherent
struggle against macro and micro injustices despite limited means. By charting architec-
tural synergies across increasingly hard borders, we can see not just the shape of contem-
porary practice, but also the possibility of systemic change.’

Phineas Harper is Chief curator of the 2019 Oslo Architecture Triennale and Deputy Di-
rector of the Architecture Foundation in London, Harper is an architecture critic and column-
ist at Dezeen. In 2015, he co-founded Turncoats, a series of architectural debates in London.

Brave New World

Common to a number of young architects and artists is the feeling that the present system
of designing the built environment is not addressing the economic and social needs of their
generation. All the architects in this programme and many others seek to venture beyond the
traditional role of the architect. They often initiate social enterprises that aim to compensate
for the demising role of the state. At the same time, millennials are the first generation to
depend more on their peers than on figures of authority since they are able to access and
share information on the web. They drive the rise of self-initiated projects. Assemble, a prac-
tice in our programme, describes itself as ‘committed to both the practice of making things
and the practice of making things happen.’

This generation is seen as the force behind the new sharing economy and the increase of
both shared working spaces and shared living spaces. Many predict that such digital natives
will have a revolutionary effect on architecture and urban planning and on the way in which
we experience space and that, in turn, will affect how we work, play and socialise.

Brave New World proposes to investigate the nature of some of the changes that are being
brought about by this younger generation of architects and designers. It therefore proposes
a series of questions: What forms do this new vision of architecture take? Are younger de-
signers driven by a renewed social consciousness and more utopian ideal of what can be
done by design? Alternatively, are young designers simply being pragmatic? And what ex-
changes are taking place between British and Italian architects?

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION
Lecture: The kids aren’t alright, Phineas Harper
Curator: Marina Engel
Communications: Natalie Arrowsmith
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FORTHCOMING EVENTS

8 October 2018 Assemble Ways of Listening | Exhibition and round table with the support of the British Council

13 February 2019 Alison Crawshaw, David Knight, Finn Williams e Pooja Agrawal New Publics | Exhibition and round table in collaboration with the Royal College of Art

9 May 2019 Adam Nathaniel Furman, Fosbury Architecture e Jack Self Mean Home | Exhibition and round table supported by the British Council

18 September 2019 Rowan Moore Just what is it that makes millennial architects so different, so appealing? | Lecture

September 2019 Round table in London in collaboration with the Architecture Foundation