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Deadline: 9th September 2012

MASTERCLASS

Fukuoka is re-positioning itself for the global economy of the 21st century. And Fukuoka needs input from designers.



Master Class Program Fukuoka 2011-2013

As part of our long-term collaboration Stadslab European Urban Design Laboratory and Fukuoka Directive Council (Fukuoka D.C.) are pleased to announce our Master Class to be held in October 2012 in Fukuoka, Japan. The Master Class is open to all design and engineering professionals—architects, planners, civil engineers, urban designers, landscape architects, transportation planners, mobility managers—at all levels of experience.

- A Master Class is an exciting 8-day long charrette. You'll come to Fukuoka, meet local designers and stakeholders, interact on a daily basis with other designer participants, and be taught by Stadslab's designers.
- It's not just a theoretical exercise. The results of the Masters Classes will be used by Fukuoka D.C. as they work with the city and local companies to revitalize the city.



Fukuoka, 'the asian capital of architecture'

Fukuoka is Japan's westernmost big city—closer to Shanghai and the Asian mainland than to Tokyo. The city is a major seaport and home to Japan's fourth busiest airport, only minutes from downtown. Like London and Los Angeles, Fukuoka is multipolar.

- Hakata is the transport hub; you can catch bullet trains from here to the rest of Japan every 10 minutes.
- Canal City is Japan's most adventurous retail complex.
- Tenjin is the retail and office hub, awash in top fashion flagships and hip small boutiques.
- From the port, there are direct ferry connections to Korea.
- Local festivals, a reputation for superb Japanese rice wine, and fresh seafood round out the city's appeal.

You can feel the Asian influence at night, when food stalls crowd the sidewalks. Fukuoka is, in short, the most Asian city in Japan. Fukuoka is also home to great cutting-edge architecture. Take in buildings by Rem Koolhaas, Michael Graves, Jon Jerde, Cesar Pelli, Kisho Kurokawa, Emilio Ambasz, Arata Isozaki, Mark Mack, Christian de Portzamparc, Peter Eisenman, and Aldo Rossi, to name a few.

Strengthening Fukuoka?

Building on this heritage, Fukuoka now wants to strengthen some of its greatest assets. The waterfront faces Hakata Bay and has great potential, but it's underutilized right now. Sound familiar? Fukuoka stakeholders have visited cities like Vancouver, Singapore, Hamburg and Amsterdam and know what a great asset a revitalized waterfront can be. The downtown, too, has great potential. It's compact and walkable. Now Fukuoka wants to take the next step and make it exciting, vibrant, and a showcase for sustainable urban planning and design, including transportation design.



Theme - Urban Transportation & Mobility

The Master Class program focusses on Fukuoka as a well-connected and accessible city, owing a 'compact central city and a revitalized port city'. What are the arguments in support of public or private investment in both real estate and infrastructure when public finances are strained and the real estate market is down?

- In what way can connectivity and accessibility play a key role in redeveloping the city to a successful destination? How can the city be connected to its urban region and its wider (international) hinterland, and how can this city made accessible at the same time.
- What urban strategies , particularly regarding integration of land use and transportation, are best suited to nurture creative, business and scientific talent, and sustain economic growth?
- What does it take to give a city the allure it needs to attract successful companies, tourists and residents? How can infra structure (serving public transport, bicycles, cars, pedestrians) be integrated into an attractive public realm?

Dr. Rob van der Bijl, Director of RVDB/ Lightrail.nl (Amsterdam, Netherlands), will lead the Master Clas on Urban Transportation & Mobility. Rob will be providing a special lecture on urban transportation and mobility - addressing all of the six Masterclass themes. Other lectures will be provided by John Mader (Project manager Lend Lease, Japan), Andrew David Fassam (Director of Urban Planning and Design for Singapore's Urban Redevelopment Authority) and Ko Aitani (Associate Professor Urban Planning, Kyushu University).

Connectivity and Accessibility in Fukuoka

- Right now it's split into two competing city centers. Could a new metroline between Tenjin's big commercial district and Hakata with the bullet train station realise its full potential into reforming both centers into a single more competitive urban center?
- The revitalisation of the connection between waterfront, river and the city will be transforming the Susaki Harbour from a key blockage into a catalyst for redevelopment. How can the area be developed to a gateway and transport node, for both ferries and buses in combination with other uses and activities that make the area accessible?
- Rethinking Fukuoka transportation network on all levels (local, regional and international). The central entrances of the city are not well connected and partly dominated by outmoded facilities, but the areas and proximity to downtown are fantastic. Is there more potential here than meets the eye?

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Six Master Class themes to build upon

- Urban Land Use and Transportation: spatial interactions considering the nature, extent, origins and destinations of the urban movements and the set of transport infrastructures and modes that support passengers and freight.
Special theme: 'transit oriented development'.
- Urban Design and Placemaking: formal and functional land use representations with both the economic and qualitative attributes of space such as form, morphology, pattern, public space and architecture.
Special theme: public realm and transportation infrastructure.
- Network Planning and Design: transportation infrastructure operates on a long term, though movements of passengers and freight are highly dynamic; optimise the transit city by enhancing the network with facilities for bicycles and pedestrians (the bike city and the walking city).
Special theme: public transport network design.
- Environmental impact: sustainable development by coping with the supply of resources (water, energy, etc), the economic efficiency and the consumption of space. Realizing a smaller footprint by mitigation and adaptation of the network.
- User requirements: effective traveller information addresses a range of issues to understand user needs to refrain from treating the travelling public as an homogeneous entity.
- Technical issues: elaboration of transportation technologies (all relevant modes), including the need for Smart Intelligent Transportation Systems



You'll have the chance to network with other designers and engineers and you may be able to apply for learning credits in your own country. It'll look great in your portfolio, too!!

- Dates: 5 -12 October 2012
- Accommodations: Rooms in local economy hotels will be provided and are included in the cost (double-occupancy). If you're from the area or have friends, you can stay at home or with friends and pay a discounted rate.
- Cost: With accommodation. EUR 995 or JPY 99,500. Without accommodation. EUR 750 or JPY 75,000. You can pay in either euros or Japanese yen.
- Early bird discount EUR 850 or JPY 85,000 for applications submitted before August 1.
- Teaching Language: English.

How to Apply

Go online and fill in the forms at www.stadslab.eu. The deadline is September 9. After we've received your application, we'll review it and get back to you by email. If accepted, we'll tell you how to pay and send you the welcome package after processing payment.

Further inquiries by Email:

info@stadslab.eu (English) or info@fukuoka-dc.jpn.com (Japanese or English).

The 8-day long charrette is bound to be a great experience

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