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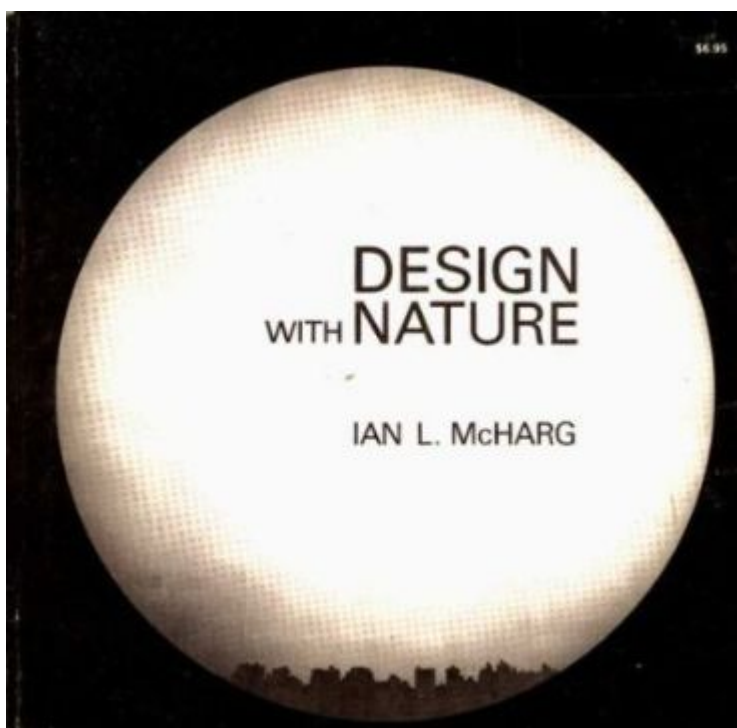
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IFLA NEWS #102

50th YEAR'S LEGACY OF 'DESIGN WITH NATURE' BY IAN McHARG



Rethinking Nature, Design and City in the 21 Century

50th Year's Legacy of 'Design with Nature' by Ian McHarg

In 1969, Ian McHarg published *Design with Nature*, which became the most celebrated landscape architecture book of the twentieth century. McHarg's critical thought on the environmental issues faced in Glasgow, where he was born, formed his original passion for writing this celebrated work. Through the following half century, both the environmental and social challenges witnessed in the world's industrialised, and post-industrial cities diversified as a consequence of rapid global urbanisation. The question therefore remains: how do we 'Design with Nature' in the 21st century? To answer this expansive question requires the type of opportunities provided by British Council Newton Fund's research link programme.

In 2017, 34 landscape academics from the UK and Brazil were selected to attend Re-naturing Cities: Theories, Strategies and Methodologies workshop in Goiania, Brazil, organized by University of Portsmouth and University of Goiânia. The selected peer-reviewed papers were published in *Planning Cities with Nature* (Lemes de Oliveria & Mell, Eds., Springer, 2019), which



A picture looking at the central urban space in Brasilia are well greened, but where are the people?

(Source: Ying Li)

More recently a subsequent Newton Fund workshop focusing on Rethinking the 'green' city: Contributions to environmental and sociocultural interpretations of urban development was held in April 2019 in Brasilia organized by University of Manchester and University of Brasilia. The main discussion presented focused on the role of design, development and management in improving people's health and well-being, ecosystem equilibrium, economic development and ensuring the resilience of these services in the face of increasing global climate change. I was lucky enough to attend both workshops.

While in Brazil, amazingly, I imagined what Ian McHarg would say if he came to present with us? What he would feel looking at the public spaces in Brasilia? Probably he would identify what was missing from modernism urban planning: Nature. But "nature" is not the only aspect of greening our cities. With this being a McHarg anniversary year I wondered how his ideas could help fill the gap, with our next generation 'McHargs' from the world. This encouraged me to organize a research seminar on *Beyond Green: Rethinking Nature in Urban Public Spaces*, on the **12th June 2019** at **University of Gloucestershire, UK**. Similarly, in the USA, *Design with Nature Now Conference* will be held on **21 -22 June, University of Pennsylvania**.



*A picture shows a group of people enjoy the shadow in Three Powers Plaza in Central Brasilia
(Source: Ying Li)*

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About the Author

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April 2019 in Berlin. Since 2015, an artificial peninsula made of Elbsand has formed the green centre of the eastern Hafencity in the Elbe metropolis. The spectacular topography with its wild tree population creates a variety of spaces. Where public life is increasingly shifting into open space, various spaces for a wide variety of uses are offered in a concentrated and well zoned manner. [Press Release](#)

HIGHLIGHTS

- Young Landscape Architects competition 2019. „Landscape as a collective memory“. Deadline for submitting contributions [17 June 2019](#). [More](#)
- The Future Park Design Ideas Competition: New Public Space for Melbourne. [ENTRIES OPEN 31 May, 2019](#). [More here](#)



PROGRAM IS LAUNCHED!

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UPCOMING EVENTS WORLDWIDE

- **Fédération Française du Paysage General Assembly**. 14-15 June, 2019. Versailles, FRANCE. [More](#)
- **Association of Pacific Rim Universities Sustainable Cities and Landscapes Hub (APRU SCL) Conference & Student Design Competition**. August 29 through September 1, 2019. University of New South Wales in Sydney, AUSTRALIA. [More](#)

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- National Landscape Architecture Congress | SAPM. "Dynamic Landscapes". 7-9 November. Guadalajara, MEXICO. [Read more](#)

IFLA REGIONAL CONFERENCES 2019

6th IFLA Africa Symposium

LANDSCAPE, LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTS AND SUSTAINABLE CITIES

11-12 October, 2019. Tunis. [More](#)

IFLA Americas Regional Conference

INTERNATIONAL WEEK OF LANDSCAPE

"Feeling, thinking and acting in order to build a better future is the mission we are leading"

3-9 November, 2019. Valparaiso- Viña Del Mar - Santiago, Chile.

30th IFLA Europe General Assembly and CTLA Landscape Architecture Congress

LANDSCAPES AS A COLLECTIVE MEMORY

6-10 November, 2019. Antalya, Turkey. [More](#)

IFLA Asia Pacific Region Conference and Exhibition

COMMONS SENSE

7-9 November, 2019. Cebu City, Phillipines. [More](#)



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