

The Housing Multitudes Symposium: Crafting Creative Housing Solutions for a Better, Healthier Future

Thursday, January 26, 2023

Workshops 2:00PM - 5:00PM, Lecture 6:30PM – 8:30PM

In-person events

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Photo credit: Harry Choi

Join the Daniels Faculty for this afternoon symposium complementing the *Housing Multitudes: Reimagining the Landscapes of Suburbia* study and exhibition.

Daytime Workshops:

Daniels Faculty, One Spadina Circle, Architecture and Design Gallery

We are uniting urban scholars, designers, planners, community developers and policy specialists to explore how to take some of the ideas of Housing Multitudes exhibition forward. We will be especially focused on what is being forgotten or ignored in the proposed “solutions” to housing shortages and affordability that Ontario’s Bill 23, and Toronto’s Housing Action Plan, seek to address.

The event will focus on two questions:

1. How can “first growth” suburban neighbourhoods and communities transform the physical infrastructure that surrounds them for greater economic, social, and ecological benefit?

2. What planning, finance and design strategies can Toronto leverage to evolve its vast suburban geography in a way that accommodates its housing needs, makes communities more liveable and contributes to the sustainability of the city? And how might we pilot these ideas?

(Speakers to be announced.)

**Evening Lecture:
Daniels Faculty, One Spadina Circle, Main Hall**

The symposium's workshops will be followed by a lecture, entitled *Freedom Schools for Accountable Architecture*, by Jae Shin and Damon Rich, principals of the Newark-based urban design, planning and civic arts practice [HECTOR](#).

Posing questions such as "Where do roads come from?", popular educators in the US Black Freedom Movement have long used discussions about architecture and the built environment to unpack ideas of citizenship, politics, and power. People's observations and analyses of built form offer insights into the surroundings we share and opportunities for collective action to change it. In this lecture, Shin and Rich will share stories from their attempts to learn from this tradition of popular education as a resource for architecture, urban design and planning.

HECTOR, based in Newark, NJ, practices urban design, planning and civic arts. Informed by traditions of visionary architecture, popular education and community organizing, the studio works on landscapes, buildings, development plans and regulations with complex constituencies and competing priorities. Founded by Jae Shin and Damon Rich based on their experiences working as designers within municipal bureaucracies, HECTOR's recent projects include a South Philadelphia neighbourhood park, a youth-centric development plan for a district of 37,000 people on Detroit's west side, and a memorial for ecofeminist Sister Carol Johnston. The MacArthur Foundation has described HECTOR's designs as "vivid and witty strategies to help residents exercise power within the public and private processes that shape our cities."

For more information please contact:

Kayla Kimel
Kriss Communications
kayla@krisscommunications.com