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K A M R A T A L - P E R I T I

To support members of the profession in achieving excellence in their practice of architecture and engineering in the interest of the community

Time for Architecture

Today is World Architecture Day and for the third year running, the Kamra tal-Periti is organising *Timeforarchitecture*; T4A3 will run until Saturday 20th October and consists of a range of architectural events that should attract both architects and the general public. It forms part of a strategy to create space for debate about architecture on the national agenda.

In choosing the theme *Transmitting Zero Co2 Emission Architecture* to celebrate World Architecture Day, the UIA (the International Union of Architects), aims to demonstrate the ability of architects to contribute to the reduction of carbon dioxide emissions through the ecological design of buildings and cities.

No less than 50% of greenhouse gas emissions come from the construction and transportation sectors. To remedy this, the mobilisation of the world's architects is crucial. It is their responsibility to pass on to future generations a built heritage and urban environment that do not compromise our planet's future and its climate. Through this year's WDA celebration, the UIA hopes to highlight architects' understanding and mindfulness of the current ecological emergency and has invited its Members to set up an agenda around this theme.

This year's events will kick off tonight with an exhibition of Contemporary Maltese architecture together with *Designs*, an exhibition organised by SACES, the architecture students organisation in collaboration with the Faculty of Architecture and Civil Engineering at the University of Malta. This exhibition will run until Friday 19th October, and is located on the first floor of the *Auberge d'Italie* in Valletta, the offices of the Ministry for Tourism and Culture.

On 5th October a Half-Day Seminar in Gozo organised with the *Anhalt* University of Applied Sciences of *Brenburg* with the theme *Landscape Architecture in the Design/Build Process* and will discuss best practice in Europe and its potential impact on the built and rural environment in Malta. On the morning of the 6th October there will be a Children's Workshop at St. James Cavalier. The proposal for this year's children's workshop is *Zero-emission Architecture* and it will seek ways in which sustainability can be explained in simple and effective terms such that children may realise the importance of the built environment and its contribution to a greener environment. The work done throughout the morning will also be exhibited during the *Notte Bianca* celebrations that will be held during the evening of that same day.

On the 7th October there will be a guided tour to the Prehistoric Temples of Tarxien, Ta' Ħaġrat and Ta' Skorba, in collaboration with Heritage Malta. The annual architecture students' workshop will be held between the 19th and 21st October and will be based on the theme *Architecture embraces the Arts*.

The events will come to a close on the third weekend with another in the series of *Architecture Nights* which will feature world-renowned Austrian architect Peter Lorenz of *peterlorenzateliers*, to be held on Saturday 20th October at the *Aula Magna* in Valletta. The theme that inspired this year's events is *The Stuff of Architecture*, or the philosophy behind materiality and what architecture is physically made of. Present for the last weekend will also be the Presidents of the Chambers and Associations of architectural professionals who will also be attending the UIA Regional Meeting which will also be hosted in Malta this year.

In the weeks following *Timeforarchitecture*, the KTP hopes to complete a position paper on Quality in the Built Environment. It will look at our evolving landscape and propose new directions for change to cause real and tangible improvements to the quality of our environment. Then, before the end of the year, architects will meet to discuss change also to the profession and to the way it provides a service to clients and the community. It must become important again to celebrate architecture.

David Felice is the President of the Kamra tal-Periti

For more information about the events marking T4A3 go to www.ktpmalta.com.