

FUTURE TENANT

For Immediate Release

June 13th, 2016

Media Contact

Dervla McDonnell, Executive Director

info@futuretenant.org

(443)-519-6256

UPCOMING EXHIBITION AT FUTURE TENANT EXAMINES REDEVELOPMENT OF HISTORIC CUBAN ARTS SCHOOL AND US-CUBA RELATIONS

[in]COMPLETION • [in]TRANSITION highlights nine Carnegie Mellon University architecture students' work with Cuban artists, musicians, and drama designers to preserve the character of Cuba's National Schools of Art while re-envisioning this jewel of the Revolution.

PITTSBURGH— In March 2016, experienced architect and CMU architecture professor Hal Hayes, AIA, accompanied twelve students to Havana, Cuba, to get a first-hand look at the international site they studied in class. The site, Cuba's National Art School, *Instituto Superior de Arte*, was originally conceived and founded by Communist government leaders in the early 1960s, but was decommissioned soon thereafter. What's left standing today is a half-complete architectural masterpiece, a precious symbol of Revolutionary Cuba.

Students worked throughout the semester to re-envision the partially completed school, including schools of Drama, Music and Ballet. Their completed designs compliment and build off of the existing structures, which have traditional Cuban architectural elements such as brick archways and terra-cotta tiles, as well as Guastavino's Catalan vaults, which can also be found in Pittsburgh's Union Station. The students accomplished all of this, while accommodating for modern use and full functionality.

[in]COMPLETION • [in]TRANSITION includes full displays of students' architectural designs alongside the rich history of this World Heritage site, a gem of the Cuban Revolution.

This exhibition is free and open to the public. *[in]COMPLETION • [in]TRANSITION* is on view from Friday, July 8th to Sunday, August 28th at Future Tenant's space on 819 Penn Avenue.

An opening reception will be held on Friday, July 8th from 6:00-9:00pm as part of the Pittsburgh Cultural Trust's summer Gallery Crawl event. Complimentary beverages, including beers, ciders and sodas, will be provided to all attendees thanks to the generosity of Future Tenant's sponsor, Straub Beer.

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About the Curator

Hal Hayes, AIA, is a studio professor at Carnegie Mellon University's School of Architecture in Pittsburgh and a practicing architect and urbanist as principal of h3 Architecture in New York City.

Professor Hayes's academic design work is based on parallel development of real-world projects that he is either personally or professionally involved in; the participation of clients, users and professionals working on these projects is incorporated in the students' exploration and design process. The Cuba National Art Schools project developed from his long relationship with New York's Municipal Art Society and the World Monuments Fund, where he has been a consultant for over 15 years on efforts to preserve and redevelop landmark architecture including projects such as the TWA Terminal at JFK Airport in New York.

With exceptionally diverse design experience, Professor Hayes's architecture practice has a particular focus on large, complex buildings, urban developments and megastructures. He was an associate in the New York office of SOM leading architecture and urban design projects and competitions, and a vice president of HOK in that firm's London and New York offices where he led design and planning for transportation and urban design projects in the UK, Europe, the Middle East, India and Africa.

Professor Hayes is deeply involved with the performing arts as a recurring member of the Alvin Ailey American Dance Theater's Special Events Committee, a founding board member of Complexions Contemporary Ballet, and Broadway Cares/Equity Fights AIDS's Dancers Responding to AIDS committee.

Born in Pittsburgh with family in the South Hills, he is an alumnus of Carnegie Mellon and has a lifelong love of Pittsburgh. Always in perpetual motion, he splits his time between Pittsburgh, Manhattan, Fire Island, Southern California and London.

Project participants include Alex Fasciolo, Lex Gernon, Horace Hou, Fah Kanjanavanit, Madhura Karche, Gary Li, Nathan Lutz, Carter Nelson, Matt Porter, Amy Rosen, Trent Taylor, Charmaine Yau, Evan Zajdel, Kathryn Heidemann and Dick Block.

About Future Tenant

FUTURE TENANT is a non-profit art space located in the downtown Cultural District of Pittsburgh dedicated to showcasing the work of emerging artists through exhibitions that offer a cutting edge perspective on the Pittsburgh art scene.

High-resolution images are available upon request. Please contact Future Tenant's Executive Director, Dervla McDonnell, at info@futuretenant.org for images or additional information.

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