

Ralph Erskine at 100  
Humane sustainability  
Accidental yet transformative

# arq

architectural research quarterly



CAMBRIDGE  
UNIVERSITY PRESS

LILLA TORGET sedd från  
hund-entrepert till Bruttgard

<b>Editor-in-Chief</b>	<b>Adam Sharr</b> E. adam.sharr@ncl.ac.uk
<b>Editor-at-Large</b>	<b>Richard Weston</b> E. richard@richardwestonstudio.com
<b>Editors</b>	<b>Samuel Austin</b> E. samuel.austin@ncl.ac.uk <b>Martyn Dade-Robertson</b> E. martyn.dade-robertson@ncl.ac.uk <b>Graham Farmer</b> E. graham.farmer@ncl.ac.uk <b>Stephen Kite</b> E. kites@cardiff.ac.uk <b>Katie Lloyd Thomas</b> E. katie.lloyd-thomas@ncl.ac.uk <b>Juliet Odgers</b> E. odgersj@cardiff.ac.uk
<b>Editor Reviews + Insight</b>	<b>Edward Wainwright</b> E. edward@publisharchitecture.com
<b>Associate Editor Reviews + Insight</b>	<b>Jessica Reynolds</b> E. Jessica@vppr.co.uk
<b>Editorial Assistant</b>	<b>Ashley Mason</b> E. arq@ncl.ac.uk
<b>Art Editor + Design</b>	<b>Angela Ashton</b> E. design@angelaashton.co.uk
<b>Editorial Board</b>	<b>Simon Allford</b> Allford Hall Monaghan Morris, UK <b>Andrew Ballantyne</b> Newcastle University, UK <b>Peter Blundell Jones</b> Sheffield University, UK <b>Carlos Eduardo Comas</b> Universidade Federal do Rio Grande do Sul, Brazil <b>Richard Coyne</b> University of Edinburgh, UK <b>Thomas Fisher</b> University of Minnesota, USA <b>Wayne Forster</b> Cardiff University, UK <b>Brian Ford</b> University of Nottingham, UK <b>Tony Fretton</b> Tony Fretton Architects, UK <b>Elizabeth Hatz</b> KTH Architecturskolan, Sweden <b>Susannah Hagan</b> Royal College of Art, UK <b>Susanne Hofmann</b> Die Baupiloten, TU Berlin, Germany <b>Louisa Hutton</b> Sauerbruch Hutton Architects, Germany <b>Mari Hvattum</b> Oslo School of Architecture and Design, Norway <b>David Jenkins</b> Foster and Partners, UK <b>Momoyo Kajjima</b> Atelier Bow-Wow, Japan <b>David Leatherbarrow</b> University of Pennsylvania, USA <b>Hannah Le Roux</b> University of the Witwatersrand, South Africa <b>Tarla MacGabhann</b> MacGabhann Architects, Ireland <b>Niall McLaughlin</b> Niall McLaughlin Architects, UK <b>Mary McLeod</b> University of Columbia, USA <b>Michael Ostwald</b> The University of Newcastle, Australia <b>Simo Paavilinen</b> Helsinki University of Technology, Finland <b>Alan Powers</b> University of Greenwich, UK <b>Jane Rendell</b> Bartlett School of Architecture, UCL, UK <b>Jonathan Sergison</b> Sergison Bates Architects, UK <b>Mohamed Sharif</b> König Eizenberg Architecture, USA <b>Koen Steemers</b> University of Cambridge, UK <b>Robert Tavernor</b> London School of Economics, UK <b>Jane Wernick</b> Jane Wernick Associates, UK <b>Iain Boyd Whyte</b> University of Edinburgh, UK

**arq: Architectural Research Quarterly** (issn 1359-1355) is published four times a year in March, June, September and December. Four parts form a volume. The subscription price which includes print and electronic access (but excluding vat) of volume 18 is £257.00 (US \$432.00 in USA, Canada and Mexico) for institutions; £50.00 (US \$77.00 in USA, Canada and Mexico) for individuals and £34.00 (US \$57.00 in USA, Canada and Mexico) for students, which includes print only, ordering direct from the publishers and certifying that the journal is for their personal use. Single parts are £78.00 net (US \$120.00 in USA, Canada and Mexico) plus postage. EU subscribers (outside the UK) who are not registered for vat should add vat at their country's rate. vat registered members should provide their vat registration number. Japanese prices for institutions (including ASP delivery) are available from Kinokuniya Company Ltd, P.O. Box 55, Chitose, Tokyo 156, Japan. Orders which must be accompanied by payment, may be sent to a bookseller, subscription agent or direct to the publisher: Cambridge University Press, Journals Fulfillment Department, UPH, Shaftesbury Road, Cambridge CB2 8BS, UK; or in the USA, Canada and Mexico: Cambridge University Press, Journals Fulfillment Department, 100 Brook Hill Drive, West Nyack, NY 10994-2133. Copies of the journal for subscribers in the USA, Canada and Mexico are sent by air to New York to arrive with minimum delay.

#### Copying

The journal is registered with the Copyright Clearance Center, 222 Rosewood Drive, Danvers, MA 01923, USA. Organizations in the USA who are also registered with C.C.C. may therefore copy material (beyond the limits permitted by sections 107 and 108 of U.S. Copyright law) subject to payment to C.C.C. of the per-copy fee of \$16. This consent does not extend to multiple copying for promotional or commercial purposes. Code 1359-1355/2014/\$16.

ISI Tear Sheet Service, 3501 Market Street, Philadelphia, PA 19104, USA, is authorized to supply single copies of separate articles for private use only.

Organizations authorized by the Copyright Licensing Agency may also copy material subject to the usual conditions.

For all other use, permission should be sought from Cambridge or from the American Branch of Cambridge University Press.

Information on **arq: Architectural Research Quarterly** and all other Cambridge journals can be accessed via <http://www.journals.cambridge.org/>

This journal issue has been printed on FSC-certified paper and cover board. FSC is an independent, non-governmental, not-for-profit organization established to promote the responsible management of the world's forests. Please see [www.fsc.org](http://www.fsc.org) for information.

© Cambridge University Press 2014

Printed in the UK by Bell & Bain Ltd, Glasgow

COVER  
Drawing by Erskine  
of one of the  
entrances to  
Brittgården, with  
Erskine's trademark  
balloon  
See pp 234–244

leader	195	<b>Ralph Erskine at 100</b>
letters	197	<b>Performance and style; Reservoir thinking</b>
perspective	205	<b>Architectures of temporal affirmation</b> Randall Teal
	210	<b>Ralph Erskine: an Organic Architect?</b> Peter Blundell-Jones
design	218	<b>Echoes of Erskine: Reflections on the working life of a citizen architect in Byker</b> James Longfield presents his design research – which has emerged from an intersection of personal and professional personas and an engagement with hobbies – that can be seen to echo the approach of Ralph Erskine and his team in Byker
criticism	234	<b>A loyal architecture? Ralph Erskine and the Nordic way</b> Claes Caldenby argues for the continued relevance of the Nordic model of environmental and social sustainability to which Erskine was committed throughout his career, with a focus on four Swedish projects
history	245	<b>The movement of thought in Erskine's writings</b> Michael Asgaard Andersen analyses Ralph Erskine's writings from the 1960s and 1970s, focussing upon their central themes and developments
theory	257	<b>The lily, client and measure of Bruno Taut's <i>Glashaus</i></b> David Nielsen and Anoma Kumarasuriyar contrast the <i>Glashaus</i> ' conventional associations with Paul Scheerbar and Expressionism with their own observations of the importance of the <i>Victoria regia</i> lily, the client's brief and a Gothic proportioning system
	267	<b>The rise of humanitarian architecture</b> Esther Charlesworth explores this emerging movement and reflects upon the designer's role following disaster
environmental design	273	<b>Aarhus Town Hall and the 'other' environmental tradition</b> Dean Hawkes discusses how Jacobsen and Møller's project may be seen as aligned with those of both Asplund and Aalto, as exemplary of the environmental sensibility of Nordic architecture
arq review	283	Architectures of Chance reviewed by Aikaterini Antonopoulou
a letter from...	285	<b>Toronto</b> Hans Ibelings
subscribe		<b>A subscription form, which may be copied, can be found on page 194 of this issue</b>

# architectural research quarterly

## Subscribe now for 2015

# arq

Innovative in conception, unique in breadth and generously illustrated, this pace-setting quarterly publication from Cambridge University Press links, on a global scale, the worlds of architectural practice and research. **arq** regularly includes extensive peer-reviewed sections on design, history, theory, construction, environmental design, education and practice – as well as structures, urbanism and documents. These are supplemented by letters, reports, reviews and an annual index. Each issue opens with a leader and closes with insight, a personal end-piece. In its eighteen year history, **arq** has published work from all over the world: from Chile to Sweden and from Japan to the Netherlands – with a strong representation from the United Kingdom and United States. **arq**, like architecture itself, is all-embracing and written by and for both practitioners and academics. It provides an outlet for all those who wish to disseminate their work to an international audience.

Please enter my subscription to  
**arq: architectural research quarterly, volume 19, 2015**

- £257/\$432 institutions print and electronic  
 £34/\$57 students print only  
 £50/\$77 individuals print only

EU residents only. VAT may be payable at your local rate if not registered.

Our VAT registration number: GB 214 1416 14

If registered, your VAT registration no:

.....  
Total subscription payment £/\$ .....

EU residents only, if not registered  
add VAT at appropriate rate £ .....

Canadian residents, add 7% GST \$ .....

**Total £/\$**

Name .....

Address .....

.....  
.....

### Payment enclosed

- Cheque in sterling or US dollars  
*(payable to Cambridge University Press)*  
 Credit Card – VISA | MasterCard | American Express  
*(delete where applicable)*

Card no .....

Expiry date .....

Signature .....

**Photocopy this page and send your order to:**  
Journals Customer Services, Cambridge University Press, UPH, Shaftesbury Road, Cambridge, CB2 8BS, UK

T +44 (0)1223 326070

F +44 (0)1223 315052

E journals@cambridge.org

**or in USA, Canada and Mexico send to:**

Cambridge University Press, 32 Avenue of the Americas, New York NY 10013-2473, USA

T (914) 937 9600

F (914) 937 4712

E journals\_subscriptions@cup.org

arq18.3