

## For Immediate Release

### NORMAN FOSTER FOUNDATION WORKSHOP 15-19/01/2018 – DIGITAL X

- Norman Foster Foundation presents its first annual Digital X Workshop with the support of Future Planet Capital.
- The 2018 Digital X Workshop will explore the kinship of Architecture and the Digital World in a week-long event hosted in the Madrid headquarters of the Norman Foster Foundation.
- A distinguished group of specialists will engage with ten selected students from ten universities around the world sharing a common interest in the subject. This year's Atelier mentor is Nicholas Negro Ponte, co-founder and former director of MIT Media Lab.

The first Norman Foster Foundation Digital X Workshop will take place on 15-19 January 2018, supported by Future Planet Capital.

'All things digital are simultaneously local and global, large and small, inside and outside of a given boundary', states workshop mentor Nicholas Negro Ponte. 'The digital world is not crisp; it is porous and diffuse. It brings together previously separate worlds, like those of discovery, invention and expression. It does that because it has become the DNA of each. Architecture does that too.'

What happens when the natural world and the artificial world become one and the same? How does society change when direct brain communication occurs among humans, and between humans and machines? The workshop will focus on this kinship, that of architecture and the digital world, how the two play together now, and how they will change the world together, going forward, discussing things that, outrageous today, will be commonplace tomorrow.

After reviewing applications submitted by hundreds of candidates from around the world, the selection committee awarded ten scholarships to students from the following universities and institutions: Architecture and Geomatics, University of Cape Town, South Africa; Architecture and Urbanismo Faculty (USP), Sao Paulo, Brazil; Bartlett School of Architecture, London, UK; Centre for Urban Science and Engineering IIT, Bombay, India; City Futures Research Centre, University New South Wales, Australia; National University of Singapore (NUS), Singapore; Stanford Department of Civil and Environmental, California, US; Technion Institute of Technology, Tel Aviv, Israel; Technische Universiteit Delft (TU), The Netherlands and Universidad Politécnica de Madrid, Madrid, Spain.

These ten students will develop an essay on theme of Digital X tutored by a group of specialists through a series of seminars and lectures culminating in a five day workshop led by the Atelier mentor, Nicholas Negro Ponte, co-founder and former director of MIT Media Lab.

The Academic Body includes: Ricky Burdett, Director of LSE Cities and Urban Age Programme; Hugh Herr, Co-Director of the MIT Center for Extreme Bionics; Kent Larson, Director of MIT City Science Initiative; Amanda Leveté, Founder and Principal of AL\_A; Greg Lynn, Professor at UCLA School of Arts and Architecture; Farshid Moussavi, Principal of Farshid Moussavi Architecture and Benedetta Tagliabue, Principal of Miralles Tagliabue EMB Architects.

The Digital X Workshop will include seminars, lectures, one-to-one tutoring and architectural tours to learn more about the context of Madrid. Architectural critic and writer Jonathan Glancey will act as the Editor-in-Chief of the workshop tutoring the students to think ahead and to elaborate an essay with their personal view on the subject.

As a way to disseminate knowledge and ideas, the public lectures will be recorded and documented for publication in series of annual books published by the Norman Foster Foundation. During the course of the workshops, participants will have the opportunity to engage with the Norman Foster Foundation's archive and research projects.

# Norman Foster Foundation

## Public Debates

16th January 2018 at Colegio Oficial de Arquitectos Madrid – COAM  
(Hortaleza, 63, 28004 Madrid, Spain)

- 18h00-18h30: Lecture by Nicholas Negroponte.
- 18h30-19h00: Dialogue between Hugh Herr and Kent Larson, moderated by Ricky Burdett.
- 19h00-19h30: Dialogue between Greg Lynn and Benedetta Tagliabue, moderated by Luis Fernández-Galiano.
- 19h30-20h00: Dialogue between Norman Foster and Amanda Levete, moderated by Jonathan Glancey.

## Norman Foster Foundation

The Norman Foster Foundation promotes interdisciplinary thinking and research to help new generations of architects, designers and urbanists to anticipate the future.

We believe in the importance of connecting architecture, design, technology and the arts to better serve society and in the value of a holistic education that encourages experimentation through research and projects.

The Norman Foster Foundation holds the Norman Foster Archive and Library, which provide a window into the larger narrative and history of our built environment through the work of Norman Foster.

The Norman Foster Foundation is based in Madrid and operates globally.

## Future Planet Capital

Future Planet Capital has created the world's first global platform to invest at scale in innovation emerging from leading universities and the "centres of innovation" that surround them. Through a unique series of partnerships, the firm possesses an unrivalled level of access to alumni and technology companies from Cambridge, Harvard, MIT, Oxford, Stanford, Tsinghua and the University of California.

Impact drives returns. By connecting the world's largest investors with its best minds, we aim to profitably address the global challenges of Climate Change, Education, Health, Security and Sustainable Growth. With an advisory board chaired by Lord Norman Foster, Future Planet Capital has deployed over \$100M over the past two years. Now, the Future Planet Fund is being marketed ahead of our first close of June 30th.

Entrepreneur, innovator and investor-led, the Future Planet Fund has been designed to provide access to a diversified global portfolio of de-risked, private, growth-stage companies. Future Planets internationally recognised network combine to link and accelerate the development of its portfolio companies, through the "network alpha" of shared knowledge, relationships, pilot opportunities, market access, and continuation funding.

## PRESS INQUIRIES

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