

For Immediate Release

NORMAN FOSTER FOUNDATION WORKSHOP 4-8 November 2019 – ROBOTICS ATELIER

- The Norman Foster Foundation presents the third edition of its annual Robotics Atelier, supported by the Rolex Institute. As part of the scheduled programming for the Robotics Atelier, Public Debates will take place in which practitioners that work in different fields related to manufacturing and digital fabrication will participate. This year's public debates will include contributions from Philip Beesley, Adrian Bowyer, Anna Dyson, Frédéric Migayrou, Xavier De Kestelier, Claudia Pasquero and Liam Young.
- The 2019 Robotics Atelier will focus on large-scale 3D printing with recycled plastics. Throughout the week, scholars will design building skins with multiple functionalities embedded within one complex geometrical system.
- A distinguished group of specialists will engage with the ten selected students from ten universities around the world who share a common interest in the subject. This year's Atelier Mentor is Xavier De Kestelier, Principal and Head of Design Technology and Innovation at HASSELL Studio, London, United Kingdom.

Madrid, 08 October 2019

The third edition of the Norman Foster Foundation's Robotics Atelier will take place on 4–8 November 2019, with the support of the Rolex Institute.

'Over the past ten years, designers have been teased by the potential applications of 3D printing. Anything from 3D-printed cars to violins; 3D printing has been proclaimed to be the inception of the Fourth Industrial Revolution' states Xavier De Kestelier. As he puts it, 'Although 3D printing has been a major disrupter in medical sciences, mechanical engineering and to a certain extent consumer products, it could be argued that its true impact on the architecture industry is yet to come.'

This workshop will focus on large-scale 3D printing with recycled plastics. A special challenge is to design a building skin that can have multiple functionalities embedded within one complex geometrical system and, at the same time, that can integrate a variety of functions able to respond to specific environments.

The Academic Body spans a wide range of practitioners that work in different fields related to manufacturing and digital fabrication. This year's Academic Body includes Philip Beesley, Director of the Living Architecture Systems Group, Toronto, Professor at the University of Waterloo in Canada and the European Graduate School in Switzerland; Adrian Bowyer, Founder and Director of RepRap Ltd, Nootdorp, The Netherlands; Anna Dyson, Founding Director of the Yale Center for Ecosystems in Architecture (CEA), New Haven, United States; Manuel Jiménez García, Founding Partner of Nagami, Ávila, Spain; Xavier De Kestelier, Principal and Head of Design Technology and Innovation at HASSELL Studio, London, United Kingdom; Achim Menges, Director of the Institute for Computational Design (ICD), Stuttgart University, Stuttgart, Germany; Frédéric Migayrou, Deputy Director of the Musée National d'Art Moderne, Centre de Création Industrielle (MNAM-CCI) at the Centre Pompidou, Paris, France; Claudia Pasquero, Director and Co-founder of ecoLogicStudio, London, United Kingdom; Liam Young, Director of the Masters of Science in Fiction and Entertainment at Southern California Institute of Architecture, Los Angeles, United States.

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: The Ashesi University, Berekuso, Ghana; The University of Tokyo, Tokyo, Japan; The University of California, Berkeley, Berkeley, United States; ETH Zürich, Zürich, Switzerland; The American University of Beirut (AUB), Beirut, Lebanon; The National Technical University of Athens (NTUA), Athens, Greece; CENTRO Diseño, Cine y Televisión, Mexico City, Mexico; Harvard University, Cambridge, United States; The Institute for Computational Design (ICD), Stuttgart University, Stuttgart, Germany; and the MIT Media Lab, Cambridge, United States.

The Robotics Atelier will include seminars, lectures, one-to-one tutoring and architectural tours. The Atelier will culminate in a five-day workshop led by the Workshop mentor, Xavier De Kestelier, Principal and Head of Design Technology and Innovation at HASSELL Studio, London, United Kingdom.

## Public Debate

Date and time: 5th November 2019 12:30 p.m.- 2.20 p.m.

Venue: Fundación Francisco Giner de los Ríos, Paseo del General Martínez Campos 14, 28010, Madrid, Spain

With the participation of Philip Beesley, Adrian Bowyer, Anna Dyson, Xavier De Kestelier, Frédéric Migayrou, Claudia Pasquero, Liam Young and Tim Stonor as Chair of the Debates.

Limited spaces are reserved for press. If you are interested in attending the Public Debate above, please contact us at [press@normanfosterfoundation.org](mailto:press@normanfosterfoundation.org)

## Norman Foster Foundation

The Norman Foster Foundation promotes interdisciplinary thinking and research to help new generations anticipate the future.

The first mission of the Norman Foster Foundation is to make visible the centrality of architecture, infrastructure and urbanism for the betterment of society. To this end, the second mission is to encourage new thinking and research across traditional boundaries in order to help younger generations anticipate the challenges of future change. In particular, the foundation speaks to those professionals who are concerned with the environment—architects, engineers, designers, urbanists, civic leaders, planners and artists. This is at the heart of the foundation's holistic approach to design and is ever more relevant as populations shift to cities. With the implications of climate change, robotics and artificial intelligence, sustainable design is not about fashion but about survival.

The 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. This is complemented and supported by drawings and models from other significant architects such as Claude-Nicolas Ledoux, Le Corbusier, Mies van der Rohe, Charles and Ray Eames, Buckminster Fuller, Richard Rogers, Zaha Hadid and Tadao Ando.

Through its research initiatives and programmes, the Norman Foster Foundation encourages the transfer of advanced knowledge in a wide range of design fields. The Foundation's educational initiatives are structured around research, workshops, fellowships and forums, built around the Foundation's core objectives.

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

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## Rolex Institute

Rolex has an ethos that encompasses the vision and values of its founder, Hans Wilsdorf. This is manifested in the timelessness of our watches and our determination to break boundaries and build a better world. The Rolex Institute embodies this philosophy of supporting visionary men and women who make a meaningful contribution to society. It comprises the educational initiatives and philanthropic programmes of Rolex S.A.. These include the Rolex Awards for Enterprise that recognise individuals for groundbreaking initiatives in applied science, technology, exploration and the environment, and the Rolex Mentor and Protégé Arts Initiative that brings together promising young talents and world-renowned masters in architecture, dance, film, literature, music, theatre and the visual arts for a period of one-to-one collaboration. Rolex has a long-held interest in great architecture based on its synergies with fine watchmaking: both share a profound respect for the legacy of knowledge built up over centuries as well as a culture of design excellence and technical innovation at the highest level. To assist in the transmission of architectural ideas to new generations of architects, Rolex supports the International Architecture Exhibition at La Biennale di Venezia. Renowned architects who have mentored talented young architects through the Rolex Arts Initiative include Álvaro Siza, Kazuyo Sejima, Peter Zumthor, Sir David Chipperfield and Sir David Adjaye. Lord Foster served on the Advisory Board of the Initiative in 2015.

## PRESS ENQUIRIES

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