

FRIDAY, MAY 28, 2021

9:00 - 10:30 (EDT)

WORLD BUILDING PANEL

Koerner Hall, Detail section through acoustic reflector
Royal Conservatory TELUS Centre, Toronto (2009)
KMPB, Marianne McKenna (partner-in-charge)

ARCHITECTURES OF PERFORMANCE
PERFORMANCES OF ARCHITECTURE

INTER LOCUTORS

Marianne McKenna

KPMB, Toronto

Jacques Plante

Jacques Plante Architecte, Québec City

Roger Watts

Haworth Tompkins, London

Yann Rocher

(Moderator), Paris

In dialogue with three award-winning architects, this session explores themes and imaginaries animating theatre design. From communities and artistic repertoires, to sustainability and material tactility, this session encompasses what director Peter Sellars once posed:

*when you build a theatre,
you put all your cosmology in it.*

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THEATRES OF ARCHITECTURAL IMAGINATION - FRASCARI SYMPOSIUM V
May 27-29, 2021 | University of Manitoba & UQÀM



Marianne McKenna is a founding partner of KPMB, and an Officer of the Order of Canada for designing “architecture that enriches the public experience.” She has directed a diverse range of projects in the spheres of culture, education, and business. Her award-winning projects include the Rotman School of Management, Orchestra Hall in Minneapolis, the Royal Conservatory TELUS Centre for Performance and Learning and Koerner Concert Hall, the Eric Harvie Theatre at Banff Centre for Arts and Creativity, The Brearley School in New York, and the Kellogg School of Management at Northwestern University. She is currently working the Center for Computing & Data Sciences at Boston University and historic Massey Hall in Toronto. Marianne’s love of architecture extends to teaching and mentoring. She was the Lord Norman R. Foster Visiting Professor at Yale University in 2016 and she sits on the Advisory Board for the McEwen School of Architecture at Laurentian University.

<https://www.kpmb.com/person/marianne-mckenna/>



Jacques Plante has over 35 years of experience in independent and collaborative practice, producing award-winning cultural, heritage and landscape projects. He is the designer of numerous performance venues, including the recently completed *Théâtre Le Diamant* in Québec City for Ex Machina (Robert Lepage), in collaboration with Atelier In situ. He was a lecturer at the School of Architecture of the University of Montreal (1988-1995) then at the School of Architecture of the University of Laval (1992-2007), where he is now Professor. In addition to practice and teaching, he is active in architectural criticism, design competitions, competition juries, conferences, and scholarship. He is author/co-editor of three books on Québec cultural buildings: *Architectures d'exposition au Québec* (2016); *Architectures de la connaissance au Québec* (2013); and *Architectures du spectacle au Québec* (2011 – a richly illustrated study of theatrical venues in Québec and speculations on “Architectures of Performance and Performances of Architecture.” **Photo credit:** Michel Robitaille.



Roger Watts joined the firm Haworth Tompkins in 1995 and became a director in 2018. He has been centrally involved in almost all of Haworth Tompkins’ performing arts projects and is the firm’s most experienced and knowledgeable theatre designer. Projects include: The Royal Court Theatre; the temporary Almeida theatres at Gainsborough Studios and Kings Cross; the Egg and Ustinov theatres for the Theatre Royal Bath; The North Wall Performing Arts Centre in Oxford; The Bush theatre; The Young Vic theatre; Chichester Festival Theatre; Concert Hall, Birmingham; The Liverpool Everyman and Playhouse Theatres; Bristol Old Vic; St John Smith’s Square Concert Hall; Theatre Royal Drury Lane; Perse School Performing Arts Centre; and the London Theatre Company’s Tower Bridge theatre. Currently Roger is expanding theatrical work, with projects abroad in Malmo, Sweden; Christchurch, New Zealand; Perth, Australia; Bergen, Norway; and Harvard, US. All work focuses on humane, tactile, agile design to make engaging, sustainable performance and gathering space. Roger studied at Bath University and the Architectural Association. <https://www.haworthtompkins.com/team/roger-watts>



Yann Rocher Yann Rocher is associate professor in the Architecture University of Paris-Malaquais. His work focus on theatre architecture and scenography, sound art, utopian architecture, relations between architecture and astronomy, and architectural narration and modeling. He has extensively lectured on these subjects in universities, museums and theatres in France, Austria, Belgium, Germany, Portugal and Switzerland. In 2012, he became curator of the exhibitions of the Saline Royale d’Arc-et-Senans, leading to the creation of “Theatres in Utopia” (2013-2014), co-produced by the Lieu Unique in Nantes. The book was published by Actes Sud. From 2015 to 2018, he curated “Globes. Architecture and Science Map the World” at the National Museum of Architecture in Paris, and edited a catalogue with the collaboration, among others, of Jean-Louis Cohen, Charles Jencks and Bruno Latour. He is currently working on a cultural and technical history of the wooden theatres.

<https://www.yannrocher.org/bio>