

## communiqué /press release

For immediate release

**CCA presents *Clip/Stamp/Fold 2: The Radical Architecture of Little Magazines 196X – 197X***

**On view 12 April to 9 September 2007, the exhibition is the first to assemble groundbreaking independent publications from the 1960s and 1970s, including rare examples from the CCA special collections.**



Montréal, 29 January 2007 — From 12 April until 9 September 2007, the Canadian Centre for Architecture (CCA) presents the exhibition ***Clip/Stamp/Fold 2: The Radical Architecture of Little Magazines 196X – 197X***, comprising groundbreaking independent periodicals from the 1960s and 1970s whose experimental ideas and innovative designs spurred this influential period in architecture. Curated by Beatriz Colomina and a group of PhD students at Princeton University School of Architecture, *Clip/Stamp/Fold 2* expands upon an initial presentation of the exhibition in New York City with rarely exhibited original material from the CCA's special collections of architectural periodicals and archives.

*Clip/Stamp/Fold 2* begins in the Octagonal Gallery and infiltrates other spaces throughout the CCA. Highlights include original first editions of what later became major journals, such as *Oppositions* and *October* (New York), breakaway student publications *Archigram* (London) and *Melp!* (Paris), and a variety of scarce "underground architectural protest magazines" like *Polygon* (London) and *Bau* (Vienna) that reflect the era's spirit of social activism. Assembled in this exhibition for the first time, these remarkable documents are of particular interest for their combination of avant-garde critical content with radical use of graphics and images, and they provide a unique view of a key period of architectural experimentation and innovation.

## ABOUT THE EXHIBITION

An explosion of architectural little magazines in the 1960s and 1970s instigated a radical transformation in architectural culture. *Clip/Stamp/Fold 2: The Radical Architecture of Little Magazines 196X – 197X* takes stock of seventy magazines from this period which were published in over a dozen cities. Coined in the early twentieth century to designate progressive literary journals, the term “little magazine” was remobilized during the 1960s to grapple with the contemporary proliferation of independent architectural periodicals that appeared in response to the political, social, and artistic changes of the period. *Clip/Stamp/Fold 2* investigates how a diverse group of international architectural magazines informed the development of postwar architectural culture and provided an important platform for innovation and debate. In addition to short-lived radical magazines, *Clip/Stamp/Fold 2* includes pamphlets and building instruction manuals along with professional magazines that were influenced by the graphics and intellectual concerns of their self-published contemporaries.

*If the little magazines of the 1960s and 1970s were the engine of an intensely creative period of architectural design, they also provided a space for architectural theory to flourish and an arena for critical discussion of the role of politics and new technologies in architecture. With their dissemination, these innovative and energetic documents established a global network of exchange among architectural students, architects, and theorists, as well as a means to situate themselves within the historical context of architectural publishing of progressive thought and design.*

In keeping with the radical and parasitical nature of little magazines, the exhibition infiltrates various spaces of the CCA, including the Library, Shaughnessy House, Bookstore, and hallways. The focal point of the exhibition is the Octagonal Gallery, where an annotated timeline wraps around the gallery walls and charts the progression, upheavals, and transformations of the magazines. Displayed in clusters of freestanding plastic bubbles, original and facsimile magazines offer a survey of the variety of unique formats, introducing rare examples from the CCA’s holdings and private collections. Highlights range from landmark volumes of *Perspecta* (New Haven, CT) and *Casabella* (Milan) to short-run journals such as *Megascope* (Bristol) and even the single-issue *Signs of the Times, or Rather More Symbols than Signs* (London). Several volumes of *Internationale Situationniste* (Paris) are also on view; the CCA Library holds the complete facsimile edition of this serial, which was reprinted in 1997 and edited by Guy Debord. Also from the CCA Collection and never before presented is Peter Eisenman’s original maquette created for the first volume of *Oppositions* (1973). The displays are complemented by audio interviews with editors and designers of these publications such as Kenneth Frampton, Peter Cook, Lisa Ponti, Takefumi Aida, and Hans Hollein as well as several complete facsimile magazines for visitors to browse.



## ABOUT THE PROJECT

*The exhibition is a collaborative research and design project by a team of PhD candidates at the School of Architecture at Princeton University led by Professor Beatriz Colomina and is the outcome of two years of seminars, interviews and visits with the editors, architects, and theorists who produced the magazines. The project team includes Craig Buckley, Anthony Fontenot, Urtzi Grau, Lisa Hsieh, Alicia Imperiale, Lydia Kallipoliti, Olympia Kazi, Daniel Lopez-Perez, and Irene Sunwoo. First presented at the Storefront for Art and Architecture in New York City, Clip/Stamp/Fold 2 is expanded by original material from the CCA Library's remarkable collection of periodicals and features newly acquired works from the CCA's major Peter Eisenman and Cedric Price archives. The exhibition will continue to evolve through presentations at subsequent venues, including the Architectural Association in London. It will also form part of a project by the Berlin-based architectural magazine Archplus for Documenta 12 Magazines, a collective editorial project linking over 90 periodicals engaged in contemporary cultural discourse worldwide.*

## ABOUT THE CCA

*Clip/Stamp/Fold 2 is the second in a series of CCA projects developed in association with universities, and forms part of the CCA's mandate as an international research centre to initiate partnerships with academic and cultural institutions worldwide. The exhibition *Inside the Sponge: Students Take on MIT Simmons Hall*, a collaboration with the Massachusetts Institute of Technology's SENSEable City Laboratory, explored the student residence by architect Steven Holl from the perspective of its inhabitants. *Inside the Sponge* was presented at the CCA from 10 August to 19 November 2006.*

Rich in rare books and special collections, the CCA Library is a research collection devoted to the history of architecture and the built environment, architectural theory, practice, and publishing from the fifteenth century to the present.

The CCA is an international research centre and museum founded in 1979 on the conviction that architecture is a public concern. Based on its extensive collections, the CCA is a leading voice in advancing knowledge, promoting public understanding, and widening thought and debate on the art of architecture, its history, theory, practice, and role in society today.

## RELATED PROGRAMS



During the run of the exhibition, the CCA will host a series of related programs, including a gallery talk on Thursday, **12 April at 7 pm** with members of the Princeton curatorial team.

In addition to her curatorial work and research for *Clip/Stamp/Fold 2*, Beatriz Colomina is a CCA Mellon Senior Fellow and will spend several months in residence at the Study Centre during 2007. Her Mellon Lecture, presented **31 May at 6 pm** in the Paul Desmarais Theatre, is the second in the Mellon Lecture series following a presentation by Francis Strauven on 24 May. With the generous support of The Andrew W. Mellon Foundation, distinguished scholars of international repute are appointed Mellon Senior Fellows and join the Visiting Scholars in residence at the CCA Study Centre for extended periods each year.

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Information: [www.cca.qc.ca/press](http://www.cca.qc.ca/press)