

October 21, 2009**Call For Papers****AG3 Online: The Third International Arakawa and Gins Conference: Architecture and Philosophy**

Conference website: <http://ag3.griffith.edu.au/>
Conference email: ag3@griffith.edu.au

Conference Committee:

Jondi Keane/Martin E. Rosenberg/Bobby George/Russell Hughes/Patricia Glazebrook

Confirmed Keynote Speakers:

Erin Manning, University Research Professor, Department of Cinema and Visual Arts, and Director of the Sense Lab, Concordia University. **Shaun Gallagher**, Chair and Professor of Philosophy, Director of the Cognitive Sciences Program, University of Central Florida. **Tom Conley**, Abbot Lawrence Lowell Professor of Romance Languages and Literature, and Chair of Visual and Environmental Studies, Harvard University. **McKenzie Wark and Don Byrd** in conversation. Associate Professor of Media and Cultural Studies at Eugene Lang School of Media and Cultural Studies, the New School for Liberal Arts, and the New School for Social Research, in New York City; and, Professor of English at the State University of New York at Albany, respectively. **Fumi Tsukahara**, Professor in the Faculty of Liberal Arts, Waseda University, Tokyo.

Conference Description: We are pleased to announce an international online Conference on the works and writings of the visionary architects Arakawa and Gins. This Third International Conference follows the conference at the University of Paris X-Nanterre (2004), and at the University of Pennsylvania, with the Slought Foundation (2008). The official home for this Conference will be at Griffith University, Brisbane, Australia, whose Centre for Public Culture and Ideas has committed to supply all hardware, software and technology management for the operation of the conference's online features.

Registration & Submission of Abstracts: There is no registration fee. Please submit abstracts of **300 words** through the conference website: <http://ag3.griffith.edu.au/> To submit you will be asked to register and supply a few details. We will begin accepting abstracts immediately with a final deadline of December 1st, 2009, and notification of acceptance by December 15th. Manuscripts for the conference will be reviewed by the conference committee. When you submit, you will be asked to identify the conference STREAM that best suits the point of departure for your submission. You must register to participate in the forums.

Conference STREAMS:

Philosophy and Linguistics: The work and writings of Arakawa and Gins have engaged with major issues in philosophy and linguistics from sources in Zen Buddhism to contemporary social theory, yet, one can say that many of these figures have, in turn, been influenced by Arakawa and Gins' work and writings. We welcome any explorations of the many intersections between these artists and the fields of philosophy and linguistics, and especially ask for new and unsuspected alliances.

Philosophy of Science: Many recent scholars of Arakawa and Gins' work and writings delve deeply into the sciences in order to elucidate the sometimes obscurely hermetic vocabulary in Arakawa and Gins' writings. We welcome searches for resonances between the articulated issues in their writings, and those issues addressed by philosophers of science and scientists who seek to rethink the relationship of the human body and its cognitive processes with the world within which it finds itself embedded.

Life Sciences and Medicine: Arakawa and Gins reveal a sophisticated understanding of larger social and ecological concerns over human habitation and quality of life for all living entities on the planet. The concerns over health and longevity raised by their work address not only the ways in which their architecture forces embodied cognitive processes to navigate their purposefully difficult terrains, but also bring into focus the fate of human life on a planet undergoing enormous human-originating stresses, and the prayer for a reversal of destiny.

Poetry and Poetics: The volume Architectural Body appeared in the University of Alabama Press series on Poetics, and speaks to the range of talents that Arakawa and Gins bring to their theoretical writings. It speaks as well to how influential this work has become for poets and for the cluster of theoretical humanistic writings that come under the rubric of “poetics”. We welcome wide-ranging and culturally engaged investigation into a poetics at work in their writings as well as their architecture.

Art and Architecture—History, Theory and Practice: Since Arakawa and Gins may be considered the first major visionary architects since Buckminster Fuller, much work needs to be done to understand the relationship between their notion of architecture as hypothesis, and the array of “architectural procedures” that have been elucidated in their writings. What are the heuristic goals of their architectural procedures, and what might these procedures have to do with the role of architecture in motivating evolutionary processes within the users of that architecture?

Education and Leadership: Arakawa and Gins mean to enact embodied cognitive experiences that short-circuit the distinction between conceptual and experiential learning. How might the work of Arakawa and Gins open up new domains of research in the education of children, tackle problems of ageing, or deal with adult education and adult development?

Translation: Arakawa and Gins’ language blurs the distinction between possible and impossible semantic structures. So not only do we hope to encounter scholars grappling with the problem of translating the writings of Arakawa and Gins (as well as Madeline Gins’ poetry), but to also ask fundamental questions about their semantic tactics of cross-disciplinary and cross-cultural conceptual daring associated with their notion of “terminological junctions”.

Publications:

A peer-reviewed volume after the event, which will be published by the journal Inflexions, founded by Erin Manning and Brian Massumi (University of Montreal), and associated with the Sense Lab. It will be co-edited by Jondi Keane and Martin E. Rosenberg.

Creative Responses to Arakawa and Gins. We also invite submission of creative work in response to Arakawa and Gins. Creative responses may be textual and/or graphic, in any medium that may be displayed on the web. Examples could include poetry in any form (i.e. narrative, prose, concrete, conceptual, visual, etc.) or graphic work in mixed media. The creative section will be curated by Bill Lavender. Send queries and submissions to bill.lavender@uno.edu

AG3 in 3D - Special features of Conference: Students from RMIT (a major sponsor of the conference) will participate in coursework for the AG3 Online. To intensify the virtual experience of the conference immersive surrounds for the user-participants will be produced including the re-creation of Arakawa and Gins built and unbuilt works, as well as design responses that reference their work in creative and unusual ways. Toward the end of the course we will explore the potential of Second Life as a design platform for real time virtual events. **Course Convenor:** Russell Hughes with contributions from Dr. Jondi Keane, Dr. Pia Ednie-Brown, Dr. Helene Frichot, Mike Hornblow, Michael Spooner, and Greg More.

Concluding Event:

We expect to hold a concluding celebratory event approximately a month to six weeks after the online conference has concluded. We are currently approaching institutional partners to sponsor this event so that Arakawa and Gins can attend, and we will have guest speakers to honour them. Details to be announced.

SCHEDULE OF EVENTS:

Call for Papers:	September 15, 2009
Official Conference Website Begins	October 21, 2009
Deadline for Submission of Abstracts:	December 1, 2009
Notification of Acceptance:	December 15, 2009
Due Date to upload finished papers:	February 15, 2010
Conference Duration:	March 12 -March 26, 2010
Closing Face-to-Face Event:	@ May, 2010

Please join the “Arakawa and Gins Discussion Group” on Facebook.