

International Interest in new Architectural Centre in Malta

The Royal Institute of British Architects has shown interest in setting up an architecture centre and archives in Malta. Mr. Charles Knevitt, the Director of the RIBA Trust responsible for cultural assets is to hold discussions with the KTP (Kamra tal-Periti) following the latter's initial proposal. Mr. Knevitt will be in Malta this coming week as part of the activities being organised by Kamra tal-Periti to commemorate World Architecture Day.

At a time when awareness for quality in the built environment is rising, this endeavor would definitely be of great advantage to the Maltese architectural profession and to architecture in Malta generally

Mr. Knevitt will be delivering a lecture to Maltese architects and the general public on 3rd October. Before joining the RIBA Trust last year, Mr Knevitt was an award-winning journalist, author and broadcaster. He was architecture correspondent of the *Sunday Telegraph* and *The Times* and the author of several books. He has also worked for Thames Television, Granada Television, and was consultant on the Anglia Television series for Channel 4, 'Space on Earth'.

Time for Architecture is the name which the organisers chose for a series of activities related to architecture. The activities include an exhibition of projects designed by Maltese architects and architecture students. The exhibition will be held at Auberge d' Italie in Valletta and will be open to the public from the 29th September. The exhibition is intended to draw the interest of Maltese society towards the architectural contributions of local architects.

Time for Architecture is co-organised by Kamra tal-Periti and SACES (Society of Architecture and Civil Engineering Students). It is hoped that the event will bring the debate on architecture to the forefront, at a time when the KTP is drawing up a proposal for a National Policy for Architecture in Malta.

Another international speaker, Mr. Dennis Sharp will be participating in *Time for Architecture*. Mr. Sharp who is an acclaimed critic, writer and architect will be talking about 'Men from MARS'. He will explore the role that the Modern Architectural Research group played in the shaping of modern Britain, and should serve to remind us of Malta's own modern architectural heritage.

Other events include eight films with an architectural theme (at Centre of Creativity), children's workshop, the launch of a book on Maltese architecture, a three-day conference on the Founding Myths of Architecture and the annual SACES workshop. Information on these and other events is available on www.timeforarchitecture.com. Also, an exhibition of architects' and students projects will be on display at Auberge d'Italie until the 7th of October.

The main sponsors for *Time for Architecture* are AON Malta Ltd, Elmo Insurance Ltd, the Malta Environment and Planning Authority, the Ministry for Rural Affairs and the Environment, Schembri & Sons Ltd and Vassallo Builders Group Ltd. *Time for Architecture* is being held under the patronage of the Ministry for Tourism and Culture.

More information about these events can be found on www.timeforarchitecture.com