Mavericks: Breaking the Mould of British Architecture

This January the Royal Academy of Arts will present an installation, book and series of events celebrating original and unorthodox thinking in British architecture.

Installation
Architecture Space and Gallery Café
26 January – 20 April 2016

*Mavericks: Breaking the Mould of British Architecture* is an installation that will chart the course of British architecture from the sixteenth century to the present day through the work of twelve maverick architects: Robert Smythson, Sir John Vanbrugh, James Wyatt PRA, Sir John Soane RA, Charles Robert Cockerell RA, Charles Rennie Mackintosh, Charles Holden, H. S. Goodhart-Rendel, James Stirling RA, Cedric Price, FAT and Zaha Hadid RA.

Each of the twelve mavericks has charted their own course, often deliberately ignoring prevailing taste, fashion and ways of working. The installation comprises of images and photographs of these maverick architects’ work, situating their work within the broader context of architectural history, through an arresting colour-gradated design by Scott-Whitby Studio. Celebrating the original and the unorthodox, the installation will pose an intriguing alternative narrative to the history of British architecture.

Admission free

Dates and Opening hours
Open to public: Tuesday 26 January – Wednesday 20 April 2016
10am – 6pm daily (until 10pm Friday)

Book
To coincide with the installation, the Royal Academy of Arts is publishing *Mavericks: Breaking the Mould of British Architecture* by Owen Hopkins. This generously illustrated book will offer a fresh take on the work of each of the twelve mavericks, exploring their contributions to British architecture. Available online at shop.royalacademy.org.uk, from the RA shop and selected bookshops.


Publication date 26 January 2016
Extent 128 pages
Binding PLC
Price £16.95 softback

Events
For information or to book, visit royalacademy.org.uk/events or telephone 020 7300 5839. Reductions are available for students, jobseekers and individuals with disabilities with recognised proof of status.

Does Architecture Need Mavericks?
Thursday 4 February
The Geological Society, Piccadilly, W1
6.30-8pm; £12; reductions £6
Owen Hopkins introduces the Mavericks book and installation and chairs a debate exploring the role of unorthodox approaches and original thinking in architecture.

Maverick Architects – A Thing of the Past?
Thursday 25 February
The Geological Society, Piccadilly, W1
6.30-8pm; £12; reductions £6
Faced with the crushing weight of student debt and an increasingly risk-averse building industry, the panel explore if there is any future for mavericks in architecture.

After the Age of ‘Starchitects’
Monday 7 March
The Geological Society, Piccadilly, W1
6.30-8pm; £12; reductions £6
What might life be like after the signature-style, icon-obsessed – and male-dominated – age of the ‘starchitect’? The panel explores.

The Artist as Maverick Architect
Monday 21 March
The Geological Society, Piccadilly, W1
6.30-8pm; £12; reductions £6
Sean Griffiths, co-founder of FAT, one of the architects featured in Mavericks, chairs this discussion exploring the different perspectives artists can bring to the making of architecture.

Britain’s Greatest Maverick Building – The Debate
Monday 18 April
Do you have a favourite quirky or unusual building? Let us know on Twitter for a chance for it to be included in this debate looking for Britain’s greatest maverick building: @architecture_RA #Mavericks

External events
Coinciding with Mavericks, the Twentieth Century Society is organising a series of London tours exploring buildings by three of the architects included in the installation; H. S. Goodhart-Rendel, Charles Holden and James Stirling RA.

Images
Publicity images for Mavericks: Breaking the Mould of British Architecture can be obtained from Picselect, the Press Association’s image service for press use. Please register at www.picselect.com and once registered go to the Royal Academy folder in the Arts section of Picselect.

Social Media
Join the discussion about the exhibition online at:
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#Mavericks

About the Royal Academy of Arts
The Royal Academy of Arts was founded by King George III in 1768. It has a unique position in being an independent, privately funded institution led by eminent artists and architects whose purpose is to be a clear, strong voice for art and artists. Its public programme promotes the creation, enjoyment and appreciation of the visual arts through exhibitions, education and debate.

For public information or to book events, please call 020 7300 5839 or visit www.royalacademy.org.uk/architecture
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