

PAUL LEECH

Resumé

BE. NUI. (Civil Engineering) 1971, BArch. Hons (Architecture) NUI. 1975, RIBA, MIEI

EMPLOYMENT

Giffels & Rosetti (Michigan, USA): **OVE ARUP & Partners**, Dublin: **ADCO**: (Washington DC, USA): **Stanislaus Kenny & Partners**: **MATCO** (Boston, USA): **Liam McCormick & Partners**, Derry, NI: Associate **Caroline Dickson**, Derry, NI: **Robinson Keefe & Devane**, Dublin: **Raymond McDonnell**, Dublin.

PRACTICE

Private practice established 1979. Extensive completed work throughout Ireland: Irish Work profile includes, inter alia: 5 storey timber framed eco office building for Navan Credit Union : Four Courts Complex Dublin- universal access programme; Dundalk Institute of Technology-child care facility: Process Control- Computer Software Facility: Office Buildings: National Monument Visitor reception facility for Dúchas, Knowth Archaeological Site Co Meath: EU Micro Hydro Demonstration Project: Day Care Centre for the Elderly: Offices for North Eastern Health Board: Social Housing/Urban Regeneration Study, West Tallaght. Many Eco-housing commissions: 200 acre eco residential business zoning (adopted by Planning Authority) and associated framework plan 2000. NCU eco office timber tower building (2005)

Founder member Gaia International 1990, a working network of ecological Architects, Engineers, Permaculturalists, Scientists in Norway, Denmark, Sweden, UK, USA, Bhutan, Australia, Ireland.

Project/Studies: Africa: North Korea: West Indies: Norway

Short-listed by European Commission DG VIII for design, New Coral Ecosystem research, conservation and visitor centre, Nouvelle Calédonie, South Pacific, 1995.

Extensive fact finding mission through sub Saharan Africa following 'Africabat' (pan African building Conference, Dakar, Senegal) on sustainable development/building issues

Study lecture tour Bhutan / India 2001

Study Tour SB05 Japan 2005

Study Tour Costa Rica 2007

Study Tour in Aboriginal Australia, re sustainable living, 2008

OTHER ENVIRONMENTAL INVOLVEMENT

Sailed by freighter (at 3% of the carbon and the same cost as a first class air ticket), researching , painting , preparing invited five lectures in Australia, inter alia at the Stanley Burbury Theatre, University of Tasmania, On Sustainable Buildings – ‘Opportunities for Tasmania’ 2010

Paper presented to World Conference on Sustainable Building 2008, Melbourne.

Heres an account of one informed attendee:

“A colleague of mine attended the 2008 World Sustainable Buildings Conference in Melbourne. More than 3,000 people from around the world attended the conference, which ran for four days. The conference covered everything from emergency shelters to state-of-the-art skyscrapers, architecture to engineering, global sustainability to technical sub-systems, sustainable cities, regional planning, integrated transport, land use planning, zero carbon buildings - you name it. For my colleague, it was a snapshot of many different cultures, countries, options and solutions.

He wrote, “In all of this, the session that moved me most was the last talk in the last concurrent session on the final day of the conference. The speaker was Paul Leech, a Dublin-based architect that runs a business called Gaia Ecotecture and also is a founding member of the Gaia University in Dublin. Paul lives, and designs buildings, around a creed he calls ‘eco-minimalism’, another word for treading lightly on the Earth. Paul stood before the audience and told us - in a soft, almost apologetic voice - that he could not present the paper he’d submitted, nor deliver the PowerPoint he’d prepared, because what he had heard during the conference had filled him with such anguish that he simply needed to grieve, rather than to speak, and he invited us in the audience to grieve with him. Paul had just come from a session where one person - a woman from Africa, with fewer inhibitions than this white, Anglo-Saxon male, had broken down and wept in public at what she had heard”.

“Paul Leech had named something that many of us have been struggling with for many years. Paul said we needed to stop and take the time to express our grief and our anguish at what we are doing to this world, this home of ours. I’m increasingly persuaded that there is no time left for marginal changes - transformation has to be our objective. Transformation of our economies, cities and systems, but most of all, our ethical and spiritual relationship with the world,” he added.

Paper accepted by Academic Committee fro CEB Prague 2010 on case studies of 3 completed ecological designs, including monitoring and feed back .

UN IDO Mission to China, May 2008 Eco settlements .

Tokyo: Sustainable Building 2005 SB05 (world conference), Sept 2005; Navan Credit Union, 5 storey eco offices (timber structure); the only Irish project accepted for presentation.

Convenor and Chairman, broadly based Working Party, Developing a Government Policy on Architecture 1996: RIAI Council 1989, 1990, 1991, 1992: Assessor RIAI Regional Awards 1990: Assessor RIAI Architectural Competition 1992, Cliffs of Moher Visitor Centre: RIAI Architectural Technician Review Group 1991/1992/1993: Convenor and Chairman of assessor's RIAI Travelling Scholarship for urban regeneration, mixed border community Donegal: Convenor and Chairman RIAI work group on Sustainable Development, Policy and Implementation Plan 1994: First Stage Assessor on environmental issues, Fingal (Dublin) New Civic Offices Architectural Competition 1996. Participant International workshop "Sustainable Communities, Models for 21st Century Living" Findhorn, Scotland 1995: Expert Evaluator by European Commission DG:XVII for Integrated Quality Targeted Projects in the Building Sector (Large Scale URBAN) Thermie 1996: Expert Evaluator on environmental issues for Irish Aviation Authority's Air Traffic Control Centre, Shannon, Architectural Design Competition (stage 1) 1996: Exhibiting Participant UIA Ecological Architecture, Stockholm 1992: Hungarian Ministry of Environment and Regional Planning, invited Speaker to Conference on Environmentally Friendly Building 1993: Invited Speaker to Annual Conference of Finnish Institute of Architects on ecological design in practice, Helsinki: Winterschool University of Strathclyde, Invited lecturer and workshop leader on 'Progressive Ecology' theme 1994: "Architectura et Natura" Invited exhibitor by City of Turin 1994: Exhibition "Arkitektur Natura Skulptur" Copenhagen 1995: Founding Chairman, Irish Ecological Design Association: An Taisce -Former National Environmental Executive member, Former National Council Member, Built Environment Group: Author of master plan for National Ecology Centre of Ireland: Keynote Speaker RIAI/ RSUA environmental conference, Enniskillen 1990: Editorial Committee member, and co-author of "GREEN DESIGN, Sustainable Building in Ireland" manual published with support from EU: Altener for use by practising designers 1996: First Stage Technical Assessor, European Commission International Architectural Competition 'Living in the City' 1996: Invited speaker to conference "Green Buildings: European Developments" Nice , France 1995: Inst. Engineers of Ireland Seminar "Energy Conservation to Year 2000 and beyond" Invited Speaker 1996: Invited Visiting Lecturer, National College of Art and Design, 1995, 1996, 1997, 1998: Invited Visiting Lecturer, School of Architecture, QUB, 1995, 1998. School of Architecture, UCD visiting Lecturer 1996, 1998, (Masters Course in Urban Design): Invited Visiting Lecturer, National Housing Seminar IPA/ IEI 1996: Invited Keynote Lecturer, Sustainable Housing Conference, Belfast 1996: EU Commission, REBUILD European Cities of the 21st Century, Italy, 1998: "Building the New Century", Fifth European Conference: Solar Energy in Architecture and Urban Planning, Germany 1998: -Paper selected for presentation on low income areas, low cost urban regeneration pilot project at Brookfield, West Tallaght, Dublin, arising from a study commission by SDCC: Inclusion of work in Teacher Pack for EU Schools of Architecture 1995: Inclusion of work in Teacher Pack for Hungarian Schools of Architecture 1998: Speaker, Energy Awareness, IEC Renewable Energy Information Office seminar, UCC, 1998: Invited speaker Energy 2000 RDS May 2000: Invited Speaker CITIZENCITY

conference UCD 2000. Presenter 'Sustainable Building' 2000 Maastricht 2000: Presenter
'Beyond Sustainability' Symposium, Technical University of Eindhoven 2000.
Lecturer ; Invited Speaker: Architects Designers Planners for Social Responsibility: San Francisco
March 2001. Invited lecturer Anangpur Sustainable Building Centre Delhi, India November 2001.
Keynote session speaker to Sustainable Building 2002 (world conference) Oslo, Sept 2002.
Founder member 2003 EASCA (Environmental and Sustainable Construction Association) for
Ireland. Invited Lecture series UTAS Hobart, Australia 2010. Visiting lecturer and critic Dublin
School of Architecture (TCD/DIT) 2009, 2010, 2011, 2012.