



**16th Architectural Humanities Research Association International Conference
AHRA2019 Dundee**

21st - 23rd November 2019

The Architectural Humanities Research Association was founded to create a space for thoughtful debate about architecture and its many practices. The aim of *Architecture & Collective Life* is to frame this debate in terms of the individual and the collective, because, to our mind, these categories can be used to scrutinize the spatial and social relations that organize cities and societies.

Architecture & Collective Life interrogates the relations that bind people and buildings into cities, and cities into civilizations. Vitruvius' account of the primitive hut is as much about the emergence of speech-bound society from an instinctual solipsism, as it is about the emergence of the symbolic codes of architecture from twig gathering. We expect *Architecture & Collective Life* to tease out the relations between Architecture and its neighbouring disciplines and practices including Law, Politics, Philosophy, Psychoanalysis, and Art&Design, in terms of how they provide sites for individual and collective practice, with the intention of keeping these categories as open to as many areas of thought and action as possible. We would like to know how collectives are constructed around labour, power, authority, authorship, events, places, non-places, otherness, sustaining the earth, the *zeitgeist*, ideologies, consciousness, origins, histories, beauty, and campfires. We are planning to build an incisive and critical discourse with a broad interdisciplinary base, with a programme of debates and round table discussions and exhibitions, as well as public lectures and paper sessions. We invite theorists, practitioners, community activists. We hope that this conference provides a forum for thinking out loud and publically, with the openness and commitment that we expect to find in the University.

Lorens Holm & Penny Lewis