

## Faculty Grants and Awards Report

Johannes M.P. KNOOPS, FAAR, Assoc. AIA, NCIDQ, IDEC  
Associate Professor, Interior Design Department  
6.20.18

\$1500 Faculty Grant Spring 2018 to Fund my Proposal:

### Design.VE 2018

### 2018 Venice Biennale; the 16th Exhibition of Architecture Emily Harvey Foundation Residency

The Emily Harvey Foundation sponsors a residency program in Venice, Italy, a city where the arts have been honored and fostered for over a thousand years to innovative artists, writers, musicians, videographers, dancers and other creative thinkers in mid to late career. They may come from anywhere in the world. This year they sponsored me with a 7-week residency to pursue a variety of interests, the first my participation in the 2018 edition of "Design.VE".

Curated by Luca Berta, Francesca Giubilei and Alice Stori my piece "Oculi" was featured in the central installation of "Design.VE", "Design After Darwin. Adapted to Adaptability," which ran from May 23rd to June 17th. Hosted in the 18th century Palazzo Morosini-Garterberg on the campo Sant' Stefano in Venice, Italy it enjoyed the attention of the many visitors to the Venice Architecture Biennale. Curators' statement:

The curatorial theme of the 2018 edition of DESIGN.VE is "Design After Darwin. Adapted to Adaptability". The theme aims to showcase design's ability to be receptive to alternative uses as the function multiplies and stratifies, contrary to a notion of any singular predetermined use. In a society where functions continuously evolve, design becomes an active component in the transformation of everyday life, capable of simultaneously reinventing the pre-existing imaginings of the past and interacting with the unpredictable paths of the future.

Within this are four concepts through which to interpret and comprehend the works, each proposing alternative approaches to design and establishing diverse forms of interaction between object and user:

*Multiplicity:* Objects that are multifunctional and able to adapt to different uses. This multifunctionality may be intentional in the design of the work or it may be the result of an emergence of new contextual needs, representing the evolutionary notion of exaptation.

*Reconfiguration:* Objects that communicate a potential reconstruction of the space in which it is placed due to its presence, articulation or position.

*Reuse:* Objects that utilise unusual or innovative materials suited to a specific function, objects that make use of recycled materials through recycling and upcycling, or alternatively, objects that have been designed using parts or the entirety of other objects thus transforming the previous function.

*Transfiguration:* Objects that are designed to satisfy a specific function, but that incorporate materials and or forms illustrating an investment in an aesthetic transfiguration and therefore elevating the object to a piece of consistently adaptable design based on its visual beauty. The group exhibition is the fulcrum of the DESIGN.VE initiative and the point of departure for the Design Walks.

Inspired by the pantheon in Rome, my LED light fixtures formed a constellation within the central gallery. These prototypes were 3D printed for this exhibition in polyamide (nylon) using the selective laser sintering technique (SLS), an additive manufacturing technique that uses a laser as the power source to sinter powdered material.

Catalog description:

## OCULI

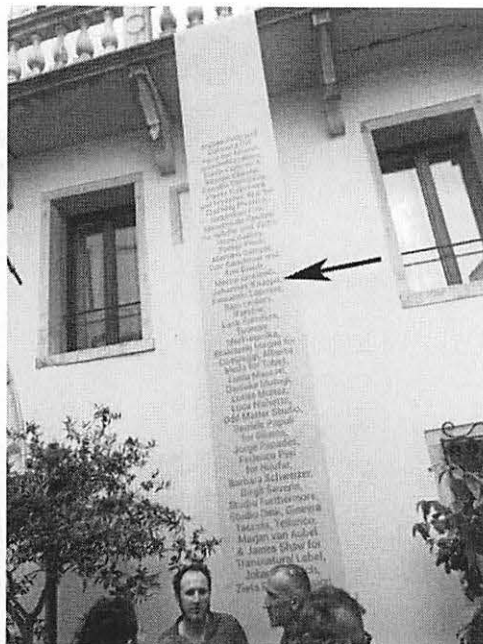
*Eyes to the heavens, holes to the soul, these are far more than light fixtures. Suspended in our lives they shelter our fantasies. Structured on air they inspire our ambitions. These are portals to another reality.*

*Motivated by memories I explore hidden urban narratives. Anchored in New York my aspirations are global. I confide my dreams to reveal desires.*

### Installation images:



### Additional supporting images:





Press release:

<http://www.designve.org/events/design-after-darwin/>

Published review:

[http://webcache.googleusercontent.com/search?q=cache:K3h5B1r9G18J:www.arte.it/tag/valore-cultura\\_237729+&cd=19&hl=en&ct=clnk&gl=it&client=safari](http://webcache.googleusercontent.com/search?q=cache:K3h5B1r9G18J:www.arte.it/tag/valore-cultura_237729+&cd=19&hl=en&ct=clnk&gl=it&client=safari)

Selected press coverage:

<http://www.arte.it/notizie/venezia/l-evoluzione-del-design-si-scopre-a-venezia-14571>

<http://myartguides.com/exhibitions/design-after-darwin-adapted-to-adaptability/>

<http://www.veneziatoday.it/attualita/mostra-design-after-darwin-venezia.html>

<https://www.veneziadavivere.com/news/design-after-darwin-design-venezia/>

<http://contessanally.blogspot.com/2018/06/venice-not-only-biennale-palazzo.html>

[http://webcache.googleusercontent.com/search?q=cache:K3h5B1r9G18J:www.arte.it/tag/valore-cultura\\_237729+&cd=19&hl=en&ct=clnk&gl=it&client=safari](http://webcache.googleusercontent.com/search?q=cache:K3h5B1r9G18J:www.arte.it/tag/valore-cultura_237729+&cd=19&hl=en&ct=clnk&gl=it&client=safari)

<http://www.cieloterradesign.com/venezia-celebra-design-piacerebbe-darwin/>

[http://www.venezianews.it/index.php?option=com\\_content&task=view&id=9841&Itemid=331](http://www.venezianews.it/index.php?option=com_content&task=view&id=9841&Itemid=331)

In addition to my participation in "Design.VE", I served a correspondent for ArchNewsNow in reviewing the 2018 Venice Biennale, the 16<sup>th</sup> Exhibition of Architecture. ArchNewsNow is considered the most comprehensive daily newsletter with architecture, design and construction news stories from around the world. My reports:

*"Freespace"... The One Word of the 2018 Venice Biennale, the 16th Exhibition of Architecture*

<http://www.archnewsnow.com/features/Feature547.htm>

*Kenneth Frampton, a New York Lion ... now a Golden Lion of the Venice Architecture Biennale*

<http://www.archnewsnow.com/features/Feature548.htm>