



Written by Teresa Stoppani  
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### Architecture Open Lecture Series 2007 / 08

- University of Greenwich School of Architecture & Construction
- Norbert Singer Lecture Theatre (M055)
- Mansion Site, Avery Hill Campus
- Bexley Road, Eltham, London SE9 2PQ
- Commencing 17.30

Tue 16 Oct 2007 : 17.30

**Maria Theodorou Architect SARCHA, Athens**  
*Architecture and the Political*

In the context of the forthcoming opening of his New Acropolis Museum in Athens, Bernard Tschumi affirmed in a recent interview (30/9/07), 'architecture's timeless servitude to the king', being that the king of politics, of culture or business. He described the 'architect as integral part of the power structure' and depicted 'the difficulties of the '68 generation to think architecture differently'. Since we are far removed from the '68 context, in terms of both politics, culture and economy, the paper seek to investigate the current potential for a relation of architecture to the political, where the 'political' entails the possibility of imaging alternative futures and shaping different approaches to reality.

Dr. Maria Theodorou, Ph.D (AA) DiplArch GradDipRes,) is currently director of the not-for-profit SARCHA (School of ARCHitecture for All) in Athens. She has been a Fulbright visiting fellow at the school of Architecture at Princeton University (2005), head of Architecture Network in Greece (2001-2007), curator in chief of the *Athenscape* exhibition at RIBA (2003), director of the *Athens D.O.E.S.* competition (2002-3) and advisor to the minister of culture in Greece (1996-2004). Her current work at SARCHA focuses on the relation of architecture to the political.



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