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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



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## Notes on Reading, Writing and Thinking Architectural Criticism



This paper will have three interrelated threads. The first will be an examination of whether architectural criticism – as published in the professional and commercial journals – is presently in a state of crisis, as is commonly asserted, in terms of its relevance and usefulness to architectural practice. The second thread examines the way this idea has been played out in discussions around the 'post-critical' moment in architectural theory. The third thread is historical, and addresses the ongoing legacy of Reyner Banham as an architectural critic, particularly in relation to his placing architectural criticism on a continuum with the critique of art, popular culture, and design. Overall, the paper will argue that a reciprocal, constructive, and mutually informing relationship can and should exist between architectural practice and architectural criticism.

Dr Naomi Stead is a Senior Lecturer in the School of Architecture at the University of Technology, Sydney. She writes architectural criticism for various Australian publications including Architectural Review Australia, Monument, Artichoke, PolOxygen, and Architecture Australia, for which she is a contributing editor. From October 2007 until February 2008 she is undertaking a post-doctoral fellowship at the Advanced Cultural Studies Institute of Sweden, with a project exploring intersections between film criticism and architectural criticism.

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