

□ Open Lecture: Raymond Quek - MODERN NOCTURNE



Written by Teresa Stoppani  
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PUBLIC LECTURE AT THE UNIVERSITY OF GREENWICH

Tue 4 November 2008 - 5.30pm

**Raymond Quek**

**MODERN NOCTURNE: THE GRAPHIC NOVEL AND THE METROPOLIS**

When one of the original members was asked what inspired Archigram, his reply was: "American Comics!" The Graphic Novel, or Graphic Narrative, aka 'comics', has typically been set in the modern metropolis. Superman, as Nietzschean übermensch, 'leaps tall buildings in a single bound', and Gotham's struggles and salvation are fought over in the interstitial spaces of the city, with the cover of night between disenfranchised flaneurs and vigilantes. Whilst the image of the modern city in literature, painting, and cinema has been fairly well circumscribed, there is little or no scholarship on the same with regard to graphic narrative. This lecture explores issues in the representation of the city from the woodcuts of Masereel & Ward, to the modern day graphic cities in the work of Will Eisner, Alan Moore & Frank Miller.



Speaker: Raymond Quek is an architect and architectural historian. He is Course Developer of the Integrated PhD Programme (History & Philosophy of Architecture) and Director of Architectural Studies at the University of Nottingham. He has taught in various Universities in the UK, Singapore and New Zealand. He is author of Fiction, Image, Tone: Architecture and the Representation of the Metropolis (forthcoming, 2009).

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

**Directions to Avery Hill Campus**

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