



The Royal Danish Academy of Fine Arts  
School of Architecture  
Institute 4 – Design and Communication

## **The Language of the Drawing**

The Royal Danish Academy of Fine Arts, School of Architecture, Institute of Design and Communication invites applications for a PhD scholarship in the Language of the Drawing. Applicants should describe their projects within the following research theme:

### *Background*

Research in the Language of the Drawing concerns the relationship between architectural project planning representation and architectural reality. The area contributes to the development of architectural tools and approaches to architectural proposals and academic communication and to the development of a theoretical and practical basis for research and teaching in this area.

### *Theme*

The objective of the PhD studies is to examine the drawing's complexity and its role in architectural reflection. As a professional tradition, architecture is bound by its media. The drawing, as architecture's main representation, is the place where architecture's intellectuality is retained and developed. The architectural drawing is also a practical tool through which architecture is planned and communicated. This ambiguity between the architectural drawing's theorising potential and its role as a generalised and functional notation system maintains the special relationship between the reflection and the creation that characterises architectural methodology. In this sense, the architectural drawing is both a tool that outlines objects and a medium that exerts independent influence and creates meaning.

The PhD programme is directed at the analogue and the digital drawing, at the drawing as a representation form, and not least at the drawing as a design tool. The project enquires as to how new knowledge develops in architectural media, and conversely, how architectural media develop new knowledge. As representation forms, architectural drawing media are undergoing constant development. The PhD project should examine how the drawing forms an active part of the processes of change experienced in the architectural profession, and how the profession's own methods – from examining to proposing and communicating – are developed by means of the introduction of new drawing forms. Thus, a crucial issue in architectural research is how the development of new representation forms alters architectural thinking, design and realisation.

The intention is that the PhD student should work in an experimental and investigative way, where the direct involvement with the drawing, new technologies and materials creates the foundation for innovative thinking concerning the drawing's potential.

### **The Institute**

The PhD project is located at the Institute of Design and Communication, which covers the following subject areas:

*Design, Information and Communication Technology* and *Visual Communication* as well as *the Center for IT and Architecture – CITA*.

The subject areas of *Visual Communication* and *Information and Communication Technology* work in closely coordinated collaboration, in terms of both research and teaching.

The Institute's area of study encompasses architectural design (with its various design-related specialisations), architectural tools and methods for description and visualisation for use in documentation, analysis, design and communication processes, as well as information technology and its possible uses in the design process.

The design process is the Institute's common overall subject area. It includes the study of design as artistic, architectural work, as a part of systems and processes, and the study of design as a methodical process ranging from sensing and reflection to the creation of appropriately designed objects. This process includes the study of the architectural profession's work and communication tools, drawings and IT.

The Institute of Design and Communication participates in interdisciplinary and international collaboration with both academic and profession/industry orientated partners. These collaboration projects consolidate and extend the researchers' international and national networks. Teaching at the Institute develops common foundational disciplines in a crossfield between analogue and digital tools and technologies. New creative hybrids between research and teaching have been created in the form of courses and workshops, which provide students with the opportunity to engage in specific aspects of architecture's field of possibilities through practice-based design methods, whereby they acquire methods for innovative problem-solving.

### **Teaching**

Teaching in architectural representation includes, in particular, foundational drawing and visualisation instruction in the School's Bachelor programme, in the form of lectures, courses and consultancy work, as well as workshops aimed at developing creative hybrids between research and teaching. The teaching in drawing is currently changing and developing in a crossfield between craftsmanship techniques and digital technologies, and increasingly, it takes place in interplay with IT instruction. The PhD student should participate, to a limited degree, in this foundational teaching.