“Living Brick” for Venice: A prototype, exhibition and vision by the Living Architecture, (LIAR) consortium.

PRESS RELEASE

The Living Architecture (LIAR) consortium welcomes members of the press over a lunch, to an exclusive viewing of the “Living Brick” and meeting with expert presentations that discuss the potential of this technological development in the broader context of architecture, our shared global challenges, the biennale and the city of Venice.

The press launch will offer journalists an opportunity to directly observe the working brick and ask questions about its development and longer-term applications.

The “Living Brick” is a prototype technological system based on the Microbial Fuel Cell (MFC) developed at the University of West England. We will demonstrate that, based on an organic nutrient source that it can harness the metabolic power of microbes to produce enough electricity to light an LED. The designed modular unit creates the possibility for uptake by architects, civil engineers and communities without centralized infrastructures like slum dwellers and refugees.

Rachel Armstrong (project coordinator) from Newcastle University will host the event and present its relevance to the €3.2m LIAR (Living Architecture) scheme, which is a collaboration of experts from the universities of the West of England (UWE Bristol), Trento, the Spanish National Research Council in Madrid; LIQUIFER Systems Group, Vienna, Austria and EXPLORA, Venice, Italy. This will be followed by a short round table of experts including Ioannis Ieropoulos from the University of West England and Juan Nogales from the Spanish National Research Council that will introduce the key technological advances.

Guest experts Massimo Lepore, partner/senior architect of Studio TAMassociati, an Italian team of architects based in Venice since 1996 that specializes in sustainable architecture and humanitarian projects, will respond to the development of a working living brick. Rolf Hughes, professor of artistic research at the Stockholm University of the Arts, a prose poet, essayist, epistemologist and researcher of innovative forms of artistic and trans disciplinary practices over more than twenty years, will speak on the broader academic and cultural relevance of this research.

In addition to the working brick, a ceramic model will be exhibited, which has been developed by LIQUIFER Systems Group, as a discussion point for the potential impact that future living bricks may have for architecture, design, ceramics and the arts.

The project has received funding from the European Union’s Horizon 2020 Research and Innovation Programme under Grant Agreement no 686585.

10.30-14.30 h 14th October
Hotel Carlton on the Grand Canal
Santa Croce 578 - 30135 Venezia

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Living Architecture

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Event Timetable
09.30-14.30 h Friday 14th October 2016, Hotel Carlton on the Grand Canal, Santa Croce 578, 30135 – Venezia.

10.30-11.00	Registration	Coffee & biscuits
11.00-11.15	Rachel Armstrong	LIAR introduction
11.15-11.30	Round table of experts	Ioannis Ieropoulos, Juan Nogales, Rolf Hughes and Massimo Lepore
11.30-12.30	Press Q&A	Floor open to questions with contributions from the floor with all LIAR members
12.30-14.30	Exhibition	Living Bricks and lunch

Project websites
http://livingarchitecture-h2020.eu
http://www.ncl.ac.uk/press/news/2016/07/liarlivingarchitecture/
http://cordis.europa.eu/project/rcn/199033_en.html