

THE URBAN TOY BOX

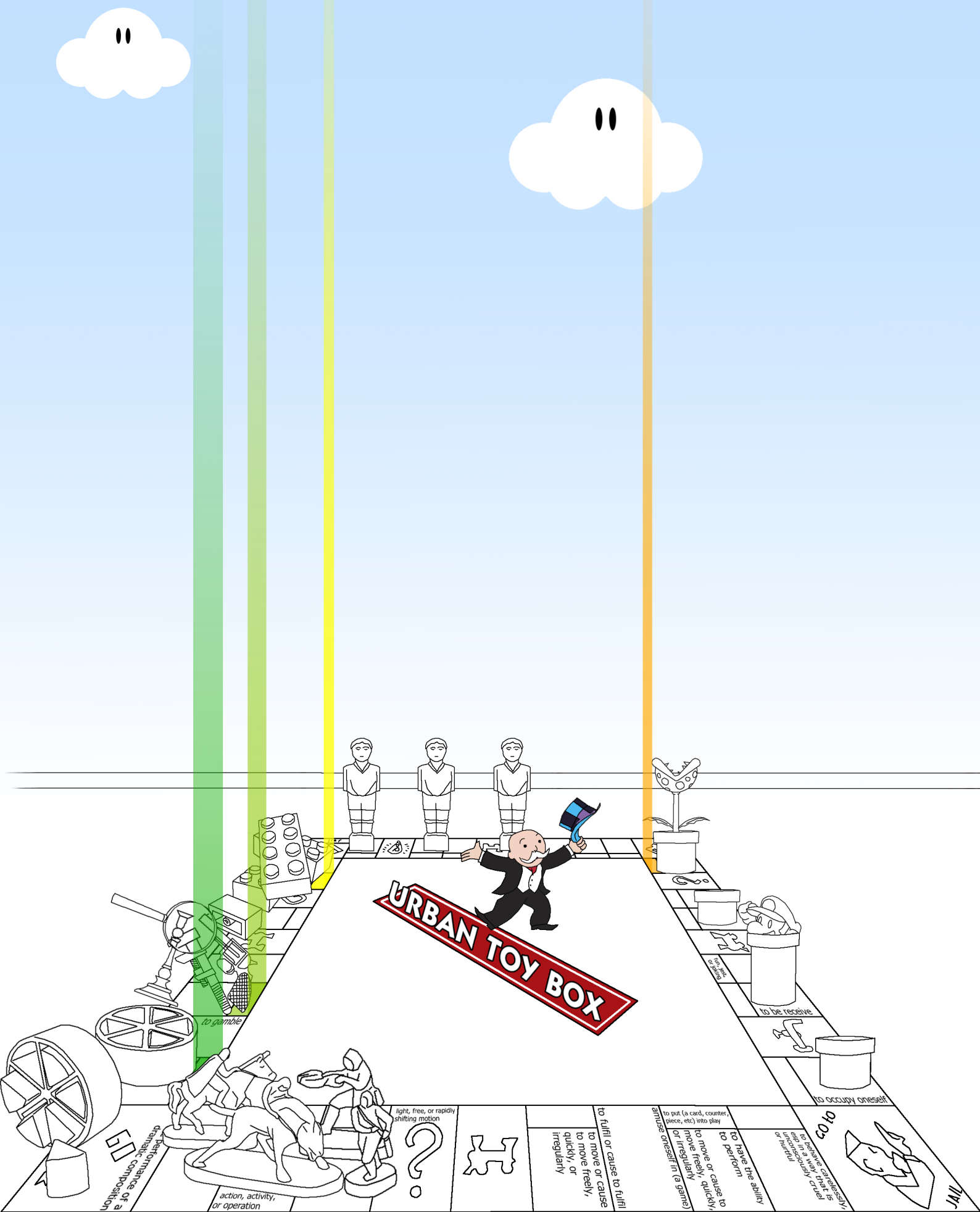
CIC Yorkshire & Humber

Annual Conference 2012 - Playful Spaces

21st June 2012, York Racecourse



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THE URBAN TOY BOX

THEME: The idea of 'play' and 'playful' covers a wide range of meanings as it is not, as at first glance, restricted to the discourse of playgrounds and leisure facilities, but rather covers areas of performance, understanding, activity and action.

WHO SHOULD ATTEND: It is important to note that the topics discussed can not be achieved by construction professionals alone. Therefore, we invite anyone who has an interest in the built environment, including architects, landscape architects, engineers, surveyors, teachers, academics, planners, business leaders, community leaders & cultural organisations.



1. TRIVIAL PURSUIT: THE NEED FOR PLAYFUL CULTURE

Is the creation of playful spaces such a trivial pursuit? The idea of play is often portrayed in one of two ways, either as a waste of time and getting in the way of 'work', or an important contributor to the development of physical, social and cognitive skills.

Speaker: Pat Kane

Pat Kane is a journalist, musician and cultural commentator. He is the author of the Play Ethic, which explored the relationship between work ethics of the new century and the playful interactions afforded by digital cultures.

2. CLUEDO: DEATH OF THE PARK

What public space is used for has evolved dramatically since the promenading parks of the Victorian era, which raises the question of the purpose of the public park. That is not to say that there is no place for the urban green in contemporary cities, but rather, how they are used is very different.

Speaker: Ruwan Aluvihare

Ruwan is the Steden Bouwer [City Builder] in Amsterdam. He lectures in Landscape Design at the Larenstein Graduate School and the University of Delft in The Netherlands and Leeds Metropolitan University in the UK.

3 RISK: STRATEGIC GAMING IN AN URBAN ENVIRONMENT

Game Urbanism looks at the culture of spatial planning, and interrogates history, heritage, architecture and art, as well as the culture of the current residents of a place.

SPEAKER: Hans Venhuizen

Hans Venhuizen is director of Bureau Venhuizen, a project management and research bureau in the field of planning processes and spatial planning. He is the author of the book Game Urbanism: Manual for Cultural Spatial Planning.

4. SUPER MARIO WORLD: PLATFORM GAMING IN THE REAL

The average pedestrian engages the built environment on a single level, while skateboarders, free-runners and the like re-interpret the city as a series of challenges. Whilst a pedestrian sees a bench, a skateboarder/free-runner sees the bench as a platform on which to demonstrate a technical challenge.

SPEAKER: Dr. Iain Borden

Dr. Iain Borden is a Professor of Architecture and Urban Culture at the Bartlett Faculty of the Built Environment, University College London. He is the author of the book Skateboarding, Space and the City: Architecture and the Body.

5. FOOTBALL: US V. THEM – DISSENT IN THE CITY

The urban environment has always been a canvas on which to project political and social opinion, whether through the use of graffiti, craft or demonstration. Spaces become a form of public theatre, helping to bring human and domestic elements into public and political life.

SPEAKER: Anna Minton

Anna Minton is a writer and journalist, and winner of five international journalism awards. She is the author of Ground Control: Fear and Happiness in the Twenty-First Century City, which investigates the growing trend for the privatisation of the public space

EVENT DETAILS
Date: 21 June 2012

LOCATION
York Race Course,
Knivesmire Road
York, North Yorkshire.
YO23 1EX

TIME
8:30am registration
5pm close

TICKET PRICES
(lunch included)

Price: £75 + VAT
Student Price: £35 + VAT

To book online:
www.cic.org.uk/urbantoybox

CONTACT
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