

GRAHAM ROSS

Graham Ross is an architect and urban planner. He is a Partner at Austin-Smith:Lord, based in their Glasgow studio, which comprises architects, landscape architects, urban designers and conservation architects.

Since joining Austin-Smith:Lord in 1998, Graham has led a wide range of award-winning projects, including urban and town centre regeneration, university libraries, affordable housing,

public realm and transport infrastructure. Over the past 25 years Graham has regularly collaborated with renowned artists including George Wyllie, Kenny Munro and Peter McCaughey.

Graham is Depute Chair of Architecture & Design Scotland and is an external examiner at the University of Dundee's School of Architecture.

austinsmithlord.com



PAST PROJECTS:

1. Perth City Hall design competition 2017. Austin-Smith:Lord/MVRDV Design collaboration
2. Brechin Talks Charrette – schools workshops, February 2015 Austin-Smith:Lord © Graham Ross
3. (Y)our City Centre: Glasgow 2016–2018 © MVRDV/Austin-Smith:Lord
4. Helensburgh Town Centre Public Realm 2015 Austin-Smith:Lord with WAVEparticle © Keith Hunter



A MANIFESTO?

Is now the right time for a manifesto? If not now, when?

Architecture is a collective, human endeavour – revealing possibilities of a place, in time, through creative practice.

So let's be synergists; assembling collaborative teams capable of exceeding their individual creativity through collective action.

Let's put architecture in its place. Let's respond to our contexts, the challenges of our time and serve life.

Let's maintain a generalist's perspective in an era of the specialist. Let's revel in the interconnectedness of things constantly and bridge the gaps where new connections need to be.

To be an architect is to be an optimist. Explore the past, the present and what's possible with humility and humanity. Have fun!



INFLUENCES:

5. *The Difference of Hiroshima*, George Square, Glasgow 1995 © George Wyllie and Graham Ross
6. Patrick Geddes c.1931 by Lafayette © National Portrait Gallery, London

- 'By Creating We Think' proclaimed Patrick. Quite right!
- Carnethy revealed the interplay of town and country – the Valley Section, manifest.
- Giancarlo taught that architecture is a most social art; rooted in place, responding to contexts, emerging through participation.
- George the synergist questioned absurdities; be curious! Put the ? in the middle.
- Pursue equilibrium; with humour, humility and humanity.
- Winy, Jeroen and Kris showed how to work across the scales, from micro to macro, simultaneously.
- Neil sang, rust never sleeps. So refresh, constantly.
- Peter the serendipitor, practiced getting lucky by being ... aware.
- Kenny encouraged going with your intuition; fuse art and science, seek connections. They're there.
- Exploring the world with Siobhan made me look at our place as if for the first time.
- Isobel and Ita made me see life with renewed wonder.
- eca, DRD, Austin-Smith:Lord and, most of all, my folks showed the virtue of perseverance and patience in mentoring,
- And as Patrick always said, 'Vivendo Discimus ... By Living We Learn'.

