

the Students of Architecture

of

the Royal Architectural Institute of Canada

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The McGill Chapter of the Students of Architecture of the RAIC is pleased to sponsor a reception launching THE FIFTH COLUMN as the Canadian Student Journal of Architecture.

We are celebrating one of the major reasons that the past year has been an exciting one for the Canadian Students of Architecture. Communication has now been established across the country, and a unity of purpose has emerged from within our population of future architects.

All are concerned about the state of the profession, and agree that a wider discussion of issues and ideas across the nation is necessary to both further their education and to stimulate the development of architecture in Canada. Thanks to the perseverance of several dedicated students and to the benefactors who believed in their goals, the major vehicles for that discussion have now been established.

One of the ways to discuss architecture is with words. With this in mind, and inspired by the lack of architectural debate in Canada, THE FIFTH COLUMN was established. Its success has largely been due to the personal sacrifices of its founding editors (Mark Pimlott, Crest Humennyj, Nathan Godlovitch and Stefan Wisniowski) and of the many students who have poured their energies into it. Now, the quarterly magazine has become the Canadian Student Journal of Architecture, and is read not only by students in all Ten Schools, but also by professional architects and educators across the world.

The second way to debate architecture is with design. The time-tested device of the competition has been revived in this past year in the form of the RAIC Students of Architecture National Design Competition. Over 150 students have registered in the 1982 Competition, organized by Calgary's Keith Benjamin. It will be judged and displayed at the 1982 Winnipeg RAIC Conference.

Crucial to the success of these student ventures have been the benefactors who supported them financially. We owe our very existence to the RAIC College of Fellows, those "Godfathers" of the architectural community who have adopted the students and dug into their pockets to support the Student Programs. Numerous corporations and organizations have also assisted the students, but Alcan must be singled out for its special role of encouragement and generosity.

Now that the past year's accomplishments have put the tools of communication in place, there is an almost tangible feeling of excitement as the student movement heads into the coming year - as architecture students everywhere across Canada begin to sense the exciting potential of their national awareness.