

# SAIA

South African Institute of Architects  
Knowledge • Advocacy • Excellence



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Distinguished international speakers from as far afield as UK, Germany and Paraguay together with our local architectural prodigies will be probing important matters pertaining to the built environment.

Sponsored by Caesarstone and hosted by Decorex SA, the diverse line-up of international and local industry players will once again put the spotlight on contemporary issues in the architectural field. Hosted by Hugh Fraser, the in-depth presentations will be followed by enlightening panel discussions, giving a different perspective on the various topics of the day.

COA is tailor-made for design and building professionals, including architects; lighting specialists; interior designers; architectural and interior design students and other industry related professionals.

Caesarstone will also launch and showcase their exciting, new additions to the Classico Collection at each COA event, with Durban getting the enviable first peek. This new range can be viewed at the Caesarstone stand of each of the Decorex exhibitions in 2013. ([www.caesarstone.co.za](http://www.caesarstone.co.za))

<b>Durban:</b>	20 March 2013   08H00-14H00 (registration & breakfast from 08H00) R850 Inc vat The Docklands Hotel (includes refreshments & entrance to Decorex Durban)
<b>Cape Town:</b>	28 March 2013   08H00-14H00 (registration & breakfast from 08H00) R950 Inc vat The CTICC (includes refreshments & entrance to Decorex Cape Town)
<b>Joburg:</b>	27 March 2013   08H00-14H00 (registration & breakfast from 08H00) R950 Inc vat The Venue Melrose Arch (includes refreshments & entrance to Decorex Joburg)

#### International Perspective:



Award-winning Paraguayan architect, Solano Benítez believes that "Our discipline is not unlike the environment in which it operates, building the human condition is our main challenge." Solano Benítez was born in Asunción, Paraguay in 1963 and graduated from the School of Architecture of the National University of Asunción (FAUNA) in 1986. In 1987 he founded Gabinete de Arquitectura, the office he currently shares with Alberto Marinoni and Glafía Cabral. Among the prizes and distinctions he has received are an Outstanding Youth award given by the Junior Chamber of Paraguay for contributions to national culture (1999); the ISI Swiss, an international prize given to architects under 30 for their contribution to contemporary architecture (2008), an Honorable Mention of Paraguay's National Congress for contributions to the country (2011), the Architect of the Bicentenary award of the Paraguayan Architects Association (2011), and an Honorary Membership in the American Institute of Architects (2012).



Headline speaker and Dean of Architecture & Interiors of the Royal College of Art in London, Alex de Rijke will be showing and discussing his body of work. De Rijke studied at the RCA before establishing dRMM (prelike Marsh Morgan Architects) in 1995. Within ten years dRMM had grown into a cohort of talented graduates with an impressive series of innovative projects. dRMM's work is characterised by social relevance, conceptual clarity and inventive use of new materials. Their built projects have been the subject of much critical acclaim, and the practice has received many design awards including American Institute of Architects - Excellence in Design award and the Royal Fine Art Commission's Building of the Year award. Alex combines dRMM leadership with ongoing research into materials, methods of construction and sustainable technologies.



Jörg Lesser of German architectural practice, Bel, Associates which was established in 2000 by Anne-Julchen Bernhardi (\*1971) and Jörg Lesser (\*1967). The practice has worked on more than 100 projects, 16 of which were completed. Jörg hails from Essen, Germany. He attended RWTH Aachen University and Barri School of Architecture, London. He was later project architect at Lesser Architecture in New York City. His other work includes design director at Intelligent Agent, a magazine for interactive media in New York. Following which he was assistant professor at Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute (RPI) in Troy, New York in 1998. He collaborated with b+k, Cologne in 1999 to 2000. He served as assistant professor, constructive design, RWTH Aachen University between until 2004, he then went on to establish Bel, Cologne. Between 2008 - 2009 he was professor of contextual architecture of Bergische Universität Wuppertal. More recently, he spends his time as professor of urban context architecture studio at Peter Behrens School of Architecture, Düsseldorf.

#### Local Insight:

<b>Durban:</b>	Jeremy Steere	Rodney Choramanski	Kevin Boyd
<b>Cape Town:</b>	Helmuth Wolff	Jonathan Green	Johann Stee
<b>Joburg:</b>	Brian McKechnie	Georg van Gass	Anlon Cornie

The South African Institute of Architects has assessed and validated this Category One CPD Activity. The activity carries 1 CPD credit.

FOR DETAILED INFORMATION ON THE SPEAKERS, PLEASE VISIT [www.decorex.co.za](http://www.decorex.co.za)

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For further details please contact Josephine Sekwelenkwe at T: 011 549 8300 | [JOSEPHINE@TEPG.CO.ZA](mailto:JOSEPHINE@TEPG.CO.ZA)

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**South African Institute of Architects**

Bouhof (Ground Floor) 31 Robin Hood Road,

Robindale, Randburg

admin@saia.org.za

+27 11 782 1315

[www.saia.org.za](http://www.saia.org.za)

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