

2. BAKE MY WALL

Students on unit 'Bake my Wall' worked with Senior Architect Engineer Alexandros Kallegias in London and visited the notion of a wall through the theme of generative design and architectural computation. Their task was to produce a wall via a range of digital experiments and 'bake' their version of a wall for any given space.

"The experience was amazing, I learnt so much over the two weeks, it was a challenge but our outcome was brilliant and working in London gave me aspirations for the future."

JUSTYNA MATUSZEWSKA
(BSc Architectural Studies)
Vertical Studio unit 'Bake my Wall'

"I love the Vertical Studio because it brings people together to work on diverse projects. At a time of growing global isolationism, these students remind us what can be achieved through creative collaboration. We should take note."

PROFESSOR CHRIS TWEED
Head of the Welsh School
of Architecture



3. MAKE YOURSELF AT HOME

The unit 'Make yourself at home' was led by Dr Mhairi McVicar from the Welsh School of Architecture and local artist Chris Williams. Students were asked to make prototypes of furniture for the new Grange Pavilion, a community building in Grangetown opening in 2020. The beech wood used to make the prototypes was donated by Cowbridge based charity The Twt Beech Project, that is following and documenting the life of a much-loved felled tree after it was removed.

"The Vertical Studio was a massively rewarding experience for all those who took part in it including myself. The opportunity to work with a live project at the Grangetown Pavilion and receive feedback from clients and users was an incredibly valuable experience for the students. I look forward to seeing the furniture the students designed being used by the community at the pavilion in the near future."

CHRIS WILLIAMS
Practicing Artist and member of The Royal British
Society of Sculptors, Vertical Studio
'Make yourself at Home'



WHAT IS VERTICAL STUDIO?



Vertical Studio is an intensive and creative project sponsored by the Welsh School of Architecture that consists of a number of diverse design units, which explore, experiment and speculate on the nature and boundaries of the discipline of architecture.

Every year 1st and 2nd year students of the School's BSc programme have the opportunity to jointly establish creative synergies with a wide network of national and international collaborators which in the past have included; designers, artists, curators, scientists, craftsmen/women, business consultants, activists, local institutions and communities. The outcomes of their work are then displayed in an overarching closing exhibition that allows us all to reflect on and celebrate the Vertical Studio learning experience.

By engaging in activities that go beyond the core learning criteria of our BSc programme, Vertical Studio provides opportunities to enrich and diversify our students' skills and experience. The work that students produce within their selected unit, broadens their design portfolio and also helps them to build and expand their own interdisciplinary network of reference and practice.

Above all, Vertical Studio is a fun and stimulating experience for all involved.

EXAMPLE VERTICAL STUDIO UNITS:

1. FUTUREMAKERS

Students on the unit 'Futuremakers' worked with Alessandro Columbano, Senior Lecturer at Birmingham School of Architecture and Design and Anna Parker from Intervention Architecture to create a series of usable and connecting play-kits or large-scale toy structures that allow for users of all ages to assemble an interconnected environment; a playscape for the public.

“Vertical Studio was one of the reasons I chose Cardiff University. I was looking through the previous units offered and I felt like this was a once in a lifetime opportunity that I wouldn't get if I wasn't part of the university”

ANGELINE YEE
(BSc Architectural Studies)
Vertical Studio unit 'Futuremakers'

