



AAVS (Architectural Association School of Architecture: Visiting School) Hanoi is a two-week research Programme that explores the concept of experimental preservation within the unique and rapidly evolving built environment of Hanoi, Vietnam. In response to the relentless pace of urban regeneration and localized informal (de)construction practices that continually reshape the city's fabric, the programme seeks to address these dynamic changes by focusing on the digital documentation of overlooked 20th-century architectural artifacts, particularly those at risk of being forgotten or erased. By tapping into Hanoi's distinctive context, the programme also delves into the material culture and urban narratives surrounding these architectural relics.

Through the use of digital tools and advanced research methods, participants will capture, analyze, and preserve these architectural elements, highlighting their historical, cultural, and socio-political significance. The programme critically examines how these artifacts have contributed to Hanoi's organic development, revealing the underlying forces shaping the city's informal forms of living, working, and playing. By connecting the past and present through experimental preservation, the programme aims to foster a deeper understanding of how urban spaces evolve in response to both external pressures and community-driven forces. From these findings, we aim to establish a discourse on what constitutes Hanoi's heritage and how it can be sustainably preserved for the future.

The research will be conducted in collaboration with local academic institutions providing a robust academic framework that includes lectures on the history and design of 20th-century Vietnamese architecture. This theoretical foundation will be complemented by office visits and their project from notable local firms such as Takeshi Niwa, ODDO, ARB, Kecho Collective and more. There will be hands-on workshops focused on 3D scanning, photogrammetry, filmmaking, and in-depth discussions on topics such as multiple modernity and experimental preservation. Students will work in small, collaborative groups, supported by personalized tutorials and review sessions. The project will culminate in the production of short, narrated films, which will be publicly screened and exhibited at the Ca' Library in Hanoi.

Location:	Hanoi, Vietnam
Dates:	7th July - 20th July 2025
Research Agenda:	Urban Preservation
URL:	<a href="https://www.aaschool.ac.uk/academicprogrammes/visiting-school/pixel-preservation">https://www.aaschool.ac.uk/academicprogrammes/visiting-school/pixel-preservation</a>

## ANIMATED STORY TELLING: **PIXEL PRESERVATION**

MULTI-SCALER INQUISITION : (L) TERRITORIAL - (M) URBAN - (S)



07.07.25 - 20.07.25

# AAVS - HANOI

ARCHITECTURAL ASSOCIATION SCHOOL OF ARCHITECTURE / VISITING SCHOOL

## PROGRAMME DIRECTORS

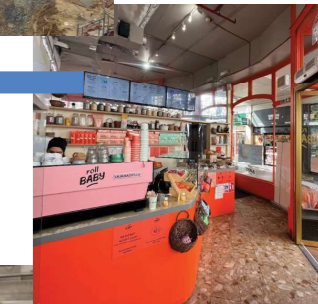
### SHO ITO (AA DIP)

Sho Ito is a registered Architect and the founder of Studio - ITO (Studio-Interdisciplinary Thought Operations), a design and research studio, where the symbiotic nature of academia and practice is integral in the design process of an 'architecture'. Sho graduated from the AA and has worked for Kengo Kuma Associates, Rogers Stirk Harbour + Partners, dRMM and AHMM across the commercial and residential sector, whilst providing consultancy work for Hopkins Architects.

Sho is a First Year Studio Master and an Environmental & Technical Studies Design Tutor for the 3rd and 5th year cohort at the Architectural Association School of Architecture, whilst a studio Master at the University of Westminster. He has previously led design studios at the University of Cambridge and at the University of Nottingham Trent whilst been an invited guest panel to juries and workshops at Brighton University, Kingston University and Central Saint Martins. Sho's work has been exhibited internationally and he actively lectures at different institutions globally to generate discussions and dialogues between practice and academia.



Housing development in Cambodia



Roll Baby Cafe South Kensington



Lecture @ NCKU Tainan, Taipei

### DUC LE (BA / AA DIP)

Duc Le is an architect and researcher at CO-NX. A graduate of the Manchester School of Architecture and the Architectural Association (AA), Duc has worked extensively on architectural projects in the UK, Eastern Europe, and Vietnam, with a focus on heritage, adaptive reuse, and creative preservation. Duc has served as an associate lecturer and design unit master at the University of Greenwich (2021-2023) and Oxford Brookes University (2019-2020), and as a course tutor at the Architectural Association Visiting School (2016). He is also a regular visiting critic at various architecture schools in the UK and Vietnam.

Duc engages with architecture in both practice and theory, having previously contributed to the Plakat research platform and advised the Hanoi Ad Hoc initiative. He also initiated the Grids of Vietnamese Modernism, a project focusing on the historiography and critique of Vietnamese architecture in the 20th century. Duc is currently a PhD candidate under the Practice Research Symposium Programme at the Royal Melbourne Institute of Technology (RMIT) University and a founding member of Gian Giua collective.



National Trust: Castlefield Viaduct



Jury @ AA School

