

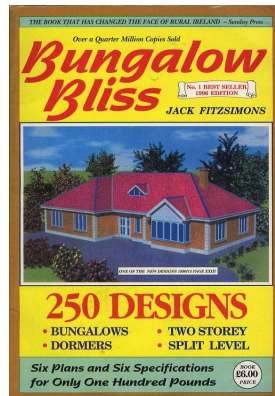
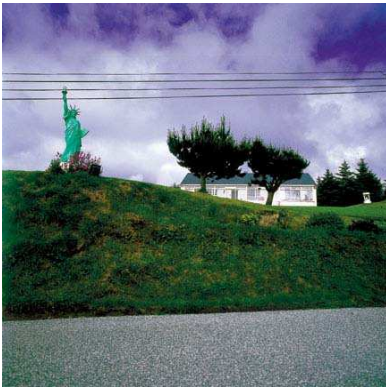
SCOTLAND'S CENTRE FOR ARCHITECTURE, DESIGN AND THE CITY

11 Mitchell Lane, Glasgow, G1. Public Enquiries: 0141 221 6362

MEDIA RELEASE

Bungalow Blitz

Blots on the landscape?



Published in 1971 by the Irish Architect John Fitzsimon, *Bungalow Bliss* originally detailed "20 designs for which specification and forms of contract are available at very low cost." By the 1973 edition this had risen to 80 and the 1996 edition included 250 designs for bungalows, dormers, split level and two storey buildings. For the first time this innovation now enabled people to build a home themselves - they didn't need an architect and information was included on services, grants, loans, town planning, contracts and even decoration, furnishing and gardens. So the bungalows came to Ireland in their hundreds, taking over the landscape throughout the 1970s, 1980s and 1990s. And there they sit, alien incomers set against the backdrop of the beautiful mountains. **The Lighthouse, Scotland's national Architecture and Design Centre, is to show an exhibition looking at the impact the *Bungalow Bliss* publication had over the last 30 years. *Bungalow Blitz* runs from 28 January - 26 March 2006.**

In his book *The Structure of the Ordinary: Form and Control in the Built Environment*, John Habraken argues that our built environments are

defined by how they are used, by their inhabitants. He claims that the intimate, unceasing interaction between people and the forms they inhabit gives shape to successive generations of housing and other buildings. Because of

this, people involved in planning and design of housing should, he argues, know a great deal about the nature of these of these shifting relationships.

The controversy that has arisen from the popularity of self built, suburban styled bungalows in the west of Ireland acted as the focus for the research for the **Bungalow Blitz** exhibition. The curator, Aoife MacNamara, and a team of artists set out to explore issues surrounding ownership of natural resources, about the relationship between land and property and the place of individual rights in the context of national strategies. The group were also interested in using art, architecture and curatorial practices to try and understand something of the strength of feeling prompted when areas of natural beauty become marked as private property by the building of housing.

The resulting **Bungalow Blitz** exhibition is not so much about what informs the way people interact with their built environment, as about the physical consequences of these interactions - the houses, the roads, the condos and related buildings - and how these in turn are represented through the institutional and disciplinary apparatuses of the architectural and heritage industries; architectural criticism, planning and environmental policies etc.

Bungalow Blitz comprises a series of large-scale, projected images of the properties built from the *Bungalow Bliss* publication, and the centrepiece of the show is Bungalow No 8 shown in the process of construction.

The Lighthouse, 11 Mitchell Lane, Glasgow G1 is open Mon, Wed - Sat from 10.30am - 5pm, Tue from 11am - 5pm and Sun from 12 noon - 5pm. Individual tickets giving access to all areas of the building are priced £3 adults, concessions and children from £1. A range of membership and multi-visit tickets also available. For further information on The Lighthouse visit www.thelighthouse.co.uk or call + 44 (0)141 221 6362.

Issued on behalf of The Lighthouse by New Century PR. For further
information, interviews and images contact:

Lesley Booth

0779 941 4474

lesley.booth@newcenturypr.com