

SHELTERMAKER TOUR

MARCH-APRIL 2013

Presentations, Talks & Workshops

Peter Cowman* is Sheltermaker.

He reminds us that we have forgotten how to shelter ourselves, leaving us exposed to a market which ruthlessly exploits this vulnerability. But all is not lost!

By awakening our instincts we can live our sheltermaker dreams - and in the process discover who we really are!

To find out more read on, or go to sheltermaker.com



shel·ter·mak·er ['SHeltər, mākər]
noun
· a person who makes their own shelter
· a person who assists someone to make a shelter

THE SHELTERMAKER TOUR

The Sheltermaker Tour will kick off in Wexford on Wednesday March 6th and wind up in Dublin on Sunday April 7th. Evening talks and presentations as well as 1 and 2-day weekend Workshops are on offer – details below. The Tour will be grassroots-focused, bringing the information to where it is needed and encouraging people to get together and help each other achieve their sheltermaking ambitions. The emphasis will be on local events and on what people can do for themselves.

The Tour will coincide with the publication of The Sheltermaker's Manual which will be launched at 7pm on March 15th Sheelagh na Gig bookshop, Cloughjordan Co. Tipperary. Copies of the Manual will be available at all events or can be ordered online from sheltermaker.com



EVENING TALKS & PRESENTATIONS

ECO-BUILDING ON A SHOESTRING

How does one approach the question of low-cost eco-building design and construction? What are the realities of self-building? How can one work and self-build at the same time? What about planning issues? How easy is it to make one's own electricity? These and many other questions will be answered in this presentation which will include illustrations of low-cost eco-buildings.

INVISIBLE ARCHITECTURE

Combining unique experience and unparalleled insight this presentation is all about pushing the boundaries of our understanding of what architecture is - and how it impacts our lives both physical as well as emotional. While generally, architecture is presented as being complex it can, in fact, be very simple – literally four walls and a roof. It is life which is complicated and full of hidden meaning. When we accept this fact, and the nature of this invisibility, we can begin to distinguish between the visible and invisible aspects of buildings. This allows us to interpret the abstract nature of inner space as a reflection of our own 'invisible', or, inner selves allowing us to regain control of the sheltermaking process, and consequently of our time and space - and of our lives.



AWAKENING OUR SHELTERMAKER GENES

This energising mix of theory, fact, anecdote and real life drama is an invitation to not only imagine your dream house but to experience it in all of its many dimensions. Leading you on a journey to very edge of space, Peter encourages you to rediscover the architect of your childhood dreams and nurture this faculty back into life. Then, with feet firmly on the ground, Peter will demonstrate how your dreams and reality might together be used to shape a sustainable future for people and planet. This stimulating presentation will forever change how you experience architecture, life and even your dreams!



WEEKEND WORKSHOPS

ECONOSPACEMAKING [1 or 2-day]

Designing and building low-cost eco-buildings [in your own backyard] is the theme of these Workshop. This is an ideal way for people to learn the essentials of low cost eco-building design and construction!

Students will learn how to get their ideas down on paper; how to draw and make scale models; how to survey a site; calculate costs; choose materials; get a workshop set up and, most importantly, how to build! The unique 'peter-post' framing system will be explained and illustrated. A 2-day Workshop will allow some construction activity to be included. This is an ideal way for someone who wants an EconoSpace to get components made! Buildings costing between 5,000- 10,000 will be featured. Design and construction information on this type of building will be available at all Tour events.

DREAM HOME WORKSHOP

Discovering the ways in which our homes can be shaped to accommodate change in our lives is the promise of this 1-day workshop. Participants will be encouraged to think of their homes in fresh and exciting ways. Amongst other things, they will receive instruction on how to survey their properties and prepare scale drawings and models of them. Apart from examining the physical impact our homes can have on us, the workshop will also explore the impact on a buildings' occupants of its 'invisible architecture'. Invisible Architecture covers all the unseen but nonetheless potent aspects of a building's 'life'. Does the building make one happy? Does it assist one in realising ones dreams? Is it a creative place? Does it foster positive feelings? Does it make one feel energised and empowered to initiate change?

TOUR DATES/ITINERARY

- **Wednesday March 6th**, Duncormick, Co.Wexford
7.30pm Evening Talk/Presentation 'Invisible Architecture'
- **Thursday March 7th**, Common Thread Cafe, Clonmel, Co. Tipperary 7.30pm
Evening Talk/Presentation 'Awakening Our Sheltermaker Genes'
- **Saturday/Sunday March 9/10th**, Cahir, Co. Tipperary
2-day* Hands-on Workshop Learning how-to design and construct low-cost, low-impact, eco-buildings. (*with option to attend for 1 day only)
- **Friday March 15th** 7 pm, Sheelagh na Gig bookshop, Cloughjordan Co. Tipperary
'The Sheltermaker's Manual' Launch
- **Saturday March 16th** Eco-Building On A Shoestring
1-day intensive Workshop, EcoVillage, Cloughjordan, Co. Tipperary
- **Friday March 22nd** Gyreum Eco Lodge, Castlebaldwin, Co. Sligo, 7.00pm
Evening Talk/Presentation 'Awakening Our Sheltermaker Genes'
- **Saturday/Sunday March 23rd/24th** Gyreum Eco Lodge, Castlebaldwin, Co. Sligo
2-day* Hands-on Workshop: Learning how-to design and construct low-cost, low-impact, eco-buildings.
- **Saturday March 30th** Duncormick, Co.Wexford
9.30am Eco-Building on a Shoestring
2.30pm Dream Home Workshop
- **Wednesday April 3rd** 7.00pm, Inchicore, Dublin,
Evening Talk/Presentation 'Invisible Architecture'
- **Saturday/Sunday April 3rd/4th** Inchicore, Dublin
2-day* Hands-on Workshop: How-to design and build a low-cost, low-impact, eco-studio in your own backyard without planning permission.
(*with option to attend for 1 day only)

CONTACT INFORMATION Peter Cowman
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