

# 1 MERZ 5

## RETAINING THE LEGACY OF INSPIRATIONAL ARTIST KURT SCHWITTERS AND THE ELTERWATER MERZ BARN PROJECT

OPEN LECTURE: 18th MARCH, CHATHAM 312 12.30-14.00  
'THE MERZBARN PROJECT', IAN HUNTER, LITTERAL ARTS TRUST



Elterwater Merz Barn



Merz Barn wall (removed)



Hanover Merzbau



### Co-ordinators

Daniel Bramah  
Gavin Chan  
Basil Wong (all QED)  
Kleanthis Rousos (ReMap)

### Agenda

During the early 20th century an artist named Kurt Schwitters from Germany produced work that would influence many artists and architects in the future. From paintings and collages to poetry and sculptures, Schwitters worked in many media. This event will focus on some of his most impressive works, interior installations known as the Merzbau.

The inspiring spaces of the Merzbau were destroyed so Schwitters set out to make a final space in the Lake District, the Merz Barn, but this was left unfinished due to his untimely death in 1948.

We aim to investigate the potential future of the Merz Barn in an attempt to retain the legacy of Kurt Schwitters' art work and installations.

### Collaborator

The event will work in collaboration with an arts research and development trust named Littoral. The trust has been associated with the Merz Barn since 1998 and look to maintain and develop the legacy of Kurt Schwitters. The work completed during this event will contribute towards the overall development of the Merz Barn project.

### Production

Merz15 offers a great experience working on a live project with real clients. The two weeks will begin with a site visit to the Merz Barn in Elterwater, Lake District. We will then complete some research into Kurt Schwitters, the Merzbauten and how best to retain his legacy.

The majority of the two weeks will involve developing a project programme and proposal in collaboration with Littoral. This should include creative aspects such as design and model making and in turn gives students a good opportunity to advance representational skills and techniques.

### Mastercraft

Key skills students will learn are:

- Live project development
- Researching
- Portfolio representation

### Links of Interest

<http://www.merzbarn.net/index.html>

<http://www.littoral.org.uk/merzbarn.html>

<http://www.theguardian.com/artanddesign/2013/jan/19/kurt-schwitters-artist-order-chaos>

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