The spontaneity and freshness of rapid freehand concept sketching has become a creative and competitive edge in the world of digital practice. Opening with an overview of the role of field sketches, notes and on-the-spot urban sketching in the creative process, this session takes freehand design imagery beyond traditional “hand graphics” and “rendering,” exploring rapid sketching approaches from allied creative fields and their application to landscape architecture through both analog and digital sketching.
Learning Objectives:

- See historic and current examples of location sketching as a record of place and as an exploratory tool for designers.
- Discover the online Urban Sketching phenomenon and how location sketching is a catalyst for creativity for landscape architects and allied creative professionals.
- Explore less rigid, more accessible approaches to freehand concept sketching that complement digital work flow.
- See a live demonstration of freehand concept sketching on the latest pen-interactive computers.

Presenters:

James Richards, FASLA
Robert Chipman, ASLA
Richard Alomar, ASLA

Outline:

Welcome

1. Introduction
   a. Experience and Technology
   b. Jefferson, Lewis, Clarke and the Sketchbook

2. Urban Sketchers
   a. Manifesto
   b. Landscape Architects and Sketching
3. Freehand Sketching in a Digital Age  
   a. Why draw? The Freehand Renaissance  
   b. Sketching to kick-start the creative process  
   c. Learning from filmmaking: concept designers and storyboard artists  
   d. It’s not either/or; it’s both/and

4. Rapid Visualization Basics: What You Need to Know

5. Creating Believable Worlds  
   a. Creating an illusion of depth  
   b. Using digital photos, SketchUp, and Google Earth

6. Digital Sketching: The Future of Drawing  
   a. Hardware  
   b. Software  
   c. A Gallery of digital design sketching

7. Demonstration: The quick digital concept sketch

8. Questions and Answers

Digital concept sketch, Bob Chipman ASLA
Bios:

JAMES RICHARDS, FASLA, is an Associate Professor at The University of Texas at Arlington and co-founder of Townscape Inc., a town planning and urban design consultancy based in Fort Worth and Vancouver. He is a member of the Board of Directors and a blog correspondent for the international non-profit Urban Sketchers, and founder of Urban Sketchers Texas. His book, *Freehand Drawing and Discovery: Urban Sketching and Concept Drawing for Designers*, is published by John Wiley & Sons. Email: jim@townscape.com

ROBERT CHIPMAN, ASLA has been developing innovative, user-friendly freehand techniques for pen-interactive computer displays to creatively address a wide range of landscape architectural applications. The last roll of tracing paper he bought was in 2005. Bob is based in Austin, Texas. Email: rchipman@austin.rr.com

RICHARD ALOMAR, ASLA, RLA-Rutgers University, New Brunswick, NJ
Mr. Alomar is a licensed landscape architect and Assistant Professor at Rutgers University. Mr. Alomar’s current work uses sketching and field notes to inform decisions on sustainability and design. He is the founder of Urban Sketchers NYC. Email: Richard.Alomar@rutgers.edu