

Citizen Jane

Battle For The City

PG

plus panel discussion

Wed 2 Aug, 6:00



In 1960 Jane Jacobs's book 'The Death and Life of Great American Cities' sent shockwaves through the architecture and planning worlds, with its exploration of the consequences of modern planners' and architects' reconfiguration of cities. Jacobs was also an activist in New York, to stop "master builder" Robert Moses from running roughshod over the city.

This film retraces the battles for the city as personified by Jacobs and Moses, as urbanization moves to the very front of the global agenda. Many of the clues for formulating solutions to the dizzying array of urban issues can be found in Jacobs's prescient text, and a further look at her thinking and writing about cities is very much in order.

This film sets out to examine the city of today through the lens of one of its greatest champions.

After the film, we shall debate possible lessons for planning in York with reference to The Local Plan, Castle Gateway, and York Central.

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