Spatial intelligence is one of man’s most underrated human capabilities. The result of millions of years of evolution, it enables us to navigate our way through our daily lives. It is less consciously applied than linguistic, mathematical, kinetic, natural, musical or personal intelligence. In this lecture, Leon van Schaik introduces his recent book on the subject, and argues for a greater continuum between our spatial intelligence and the built environment, and thus a greater connection between architecture and everyday life.

Leon van Schaik is Professor of Architecture (Innovation Chair) at RMIT, Melbourne, Australia. In 2006 he was awarded an Order of Australia, Officer (AO) in the General Division, for service to architecture as an academic, practitioner and educator; and to the community through involvement with a wide range of boards and organizations related to architecture, culture and the arts. He is author of Mastering Architecture (2005) and Design City Melbourne (2006).