



**UTK COLLEGE OF
ARCHITECTURE +
DESIGN**

**FALL 2015 FINAL
STUDIO REVIEW**

**INVITED CRITIC BIOS
+ MUG SHOTS**



Jim Bassett is Associate Professor of Architecture at the Virginia Tech School of Architecture + Design. He holds a Master of Architecture from Southern California Institute of Architecture and a Bachelor of Environmental Design (Architecture) from the School of Design at North Carolina State University. Bassett was awarded the Sanders Fellowship at the Taubman College of Architecture and Urban Planning, University of Michigan from 2005-2006 and continued teaching there as a Lecturer in Architecture until 2008 when he joined the faculty at Virginia Tech. He has also taught at The Southern California Institute of Architecture (SCI-Arc) and Woodbury University. In 2011 he was the recipient of the ACSA/AIAS New Faculty Teaching Award from the Association of Collegiate Schools of Architecture and the American Institute of Architecture Students. Bassett's current academic research and teaching interests focus on the range of forms and influence of context on design disciplines, and in particular the way that Architecture produces context. In addition to teaching and research, Bassett has maintained a design practice, Zellner + Bassett, with Paola Zellner since 1998. In 2010, Zellner + Bassett was honored with the Award of Excellence from the Blue Ridge Chapter of the American Institute of Architects. Bassett has also worked professionally, in Los Angeles, with Roto Architects (1994-2004), Frank Gehry and Associates (1993), and Richard Meier and Partners (1992).



Ashley Bigham is the 2015-2016 Walter B. Sanders Fellow at the Taubman College of Architecture and Urban Planning. A designer and writer, Ashley's current research explores the physical artifacts of global networks in everyday environs. Her work investigates how historical defense typologies and sophisticated surveillance technologies have migrated from the fortress and battlefield to the office tower and shopping mall. Prior to her appointment at Taubman College, Ashley was a Fulbright Fellow in Lviv, Ukraine, researching and teaching at the Center of Urban History of East Central Europe. Her work at the Center of Urban History considered the castles and fortresses of Western Ukraine as forces of globalization in defense architecture. As an architectural designer, Ashley has practiced at MOS Architects and Gray Organschi Architecture in New Haven. She is currently co-director of Outpost Office. Ashley holds a Bachelor of Architecture from the University of Tennessee, where she graduated with the Tau Sigma Delta Bronze Medal for best graduating project and a Master of Architecture from Yale University. Her work has appeared in architectural publications including Mark Magazine and CLOG..



Anselmo Canfora is Associate Professor at the University of Virginia, School of Architecture. He graduated from the University of Michigan with high distinction and was awarded the Alpha Rho Chi Medal. In 2007, Anselmo founded Initiative reCOVER, a research project established to assist disaster recovery efforts and underserved populations through partnerships with humanitarian, community-based organizations, professional firms and manufacturers. Initiative reCOVER promotes a collaborative entrepreneurial interdisciplinary spirit in service of hands-on, design-build learning experiences, and the advancement of building technologies, methods, and materials. In 2010, Anselmo received an AIA Education Honor Award for reCOVER's Gita primary school project in Uganda. Additionally, Anselmo was awarded the 2010-11 ACSA Collaborative Practice Award for this project. The reCOVER transitional housing prototype was awarded the "Implementation Award" from Design Ignites Change, an EPA grant to participate in the "People, Prosperity and the Planet Sustainability Design Competition" and is part of an interdisciplinary NSF EFRI-SEED grant. The reCOVER "Breathe House" won 1st place in the ARCHIVE Institute "Kay e Sante nan Ayiti" (Housing and Health in Haiti) international design innovation competition and will be built for the community of St. Marc, Haiti.



Roberto de Leon (AIA, LEED AP, NCARB) and Ross Primmer (AIA, NCARB) are the co-founders and principals of De Leon & Primmer Architecture Workshop. Roberto holds a Master In Architecture from Harvard University and a Bachelor of Arts In Architecture from the University of California at Berkeley. Ross holds a Master in Architecture from Harvard University and a degree in architecture and philosophy from Kent State University. Roberto and Ross lecture regularly at universities and design symposiums on the studio's work and methodology, and have served as visiting critics and adjunct professors at a wide range of academic institutions, including the University of Kentucky College of Design, the University of North Carolina at Charlotte College of Architecture, and the Boston Architectural Center. In 2012, Roberto served as a panelist for the Mayors' Institute On City Design (MICD), a national advisory conference for U.S. mayors on current planning issues.



Erik Herrmann is a lecturer at the University of Michigan, Taubman College of Architecture and Urban Planning. Previously, Erik was a visiting researcher at the Institute for Computational Design (ICD) at the University of Stuttgart as a 2014/2015 German Chancellor's Fellow of the Alexander von Humboldt Foundation. Erik's ongoing research reconsiders contemporary themes and tendencies in the computational design field through the lens of prescient studies completed by a unique cluster of visionary philosophers, poets and computer technicians in the 1960s. Professionally, Erik has practiced with Gray Organschi Architecture in New Haven, CT and Trahan Architects in Louisiana. He is currently co-director of Outpost Office. Erik holds a Bachelor of Architecture from the University of Tennessee College of Architecture and Design (2007) and Master of Architecture from Yale University School of Architecture where he was awarded the Carroll L.V. Meeks Memorial Scholarship in recognition of outstanding performance in History. His work and writings have appeared in several editions of the journal CLOG and Perspecta: Money.



Julie Ju-Youn Kim is the Associate Chair of the School of Architecture and Associate Professor at Georgia Institute of Technology. She is also founder and principal of c2architecturestudio, an alternative practice dedicated to amplifying craft, making and building underpinned by questions of technology, the environment, culture and gender. c2architecturestudio's creative efforts have been recognized by noteworthy awards, including a 2013 AIA/DC Unbuilt Award of Merit, 2008 Society of American Registered Architects Design Award, and a 2001 AIA National Honor Award. c2architecturestudio was invited and included as one of 12 architectural firms included in Architect (Korean Architects Association) "Young Korean Architects in the Global Context," and was also included in Architectural Record's Emerging Architect series (June 2010). Her work has been included in juried shows at Kibel Gallery, Cranbrook Art Museum, District Architecture Center (DC), Detroit Public Library, FLAK Gallery, and the Detroit Artists' Market. She is currently working on a book that offers a lens to view applied urban and architectural design principles on cities and sites in transition, revealing their potential through new urban landscapes, architectural provocations and the inherently optimistic acts of making and building. She earned her BA from Wellesley College and her M.Arch from the Massachusetts Institute of Technology.



Forbes Lipschitz is an assistant professor at the LSU Robert Reich School of Landscape Architecture, where she teaches studio and seminar courses in landscape planning, geographic information systems, and representation. Her current research explores the role of geospatial analysis and representation in rethinking regional landscape systems, with a particular interest in North American agricultural territories. Her professional experience in landscape architecture has spanned a range of public, private, and infrastructural work, including a multi-year installation at Les Jardins de Metis. She received her Master in Landscape Architecture from the Harvard Graduate School of Design, where she was awarded an ASLA Certificate of Merit award for her thesis, "The New Regional Pattern: Syncing Livestock Production and Urban Systems in the Broiler Belt." Originally from Little Rock, Arkansas, she graduated cum laude with a BA in environmental aesthetics from Pomona College in Claremont, California.



Mike McKay is an artist and designer currently teaching at the University of Kentucky College of Design. After receiving his Bachelor of Architecture from the University of Kentucky and Master of Architecture from Princeton University, he established MCK/S with Liz Swanson. The work from this collaborative studio is varied in scope and scale with both designers having their hand in multiple areas of interest. McKay's work focuses on the intersection of painting, collage, digital media, and large scale, process-driven investigations that explore the tension between material and form. Current and recent projects range in scale from urban landscapes to buildings that investigate material assembly. McKay's paintings, mixed media work, and installations have been exhibited in Germany, France, England, and throughout the United States.



Raul Corrêa Smith was born in New York and raised in Rio de Janeiro. He is Co-founder of FAISCAS (Rio de Janeiro/Philadelphia/New York), an experimental production initiative bridging art and architecture, space and the future city. He was Adjunct Assistant Professor of Architecture at Columbia University GSAPP from 2009 to 2014, where he co-founded Studio Sangue Bom with our own Keith Kaseman. Studio Sangue Bom is a five-year advanced exchange project geared towards developing new territories of dialogue and exploration in relation to urban/architectural imaginaries for Rio de Janeiro. In addition, Raul was Coordinator of Studio-X Rio, one of the most active nodes within the Columbia GSAPP Studio-X Global Network. Among dozens of direct contributions to advanced urban/architectural initiatives throughout Rio, Studio-X Rio was instrumental in the recent transformation of Tiradentes Square (which is, historically speaking, the most important square in Rio Centro) from sheer dormancy to its current state of supercharged cultural vitality. Raul has a Bachelor of Science in Architecture from the University of Michigan and a Master of Architecture from Columbia University. He is currently an Adjunct Professor of Architecture at PUC-Rio.



Liz Swanson is an artist, designer, and Associate Professor of Architecture at the University of Kentucky College of Design. After receiving her Bachelor of Architecture from the University of Michigan and Master of Architecture from the University of California at Berkeley, she established MCK/S with Mike McKay in 2003. The work from this collaboration varies in type, scope and scale, including graphic, web, installation, and architectural design. Swanson's work reflects a constellation of interests: place-making, community, dwelling, memory, material, perception, and an awareness that life unfolds over time, as a passage; as meaningful, lived experience. MCK/S is an interdisciplinary design studio interested in making things.



Kathy Wheeler is Assistant Professor of Practice at the University of Miami. She is an architect and an architectural historian whose major area of emphasis is European Architecture from 1800-1950. Her minor area of emphasis is the history of architectural drawing and representation. She earned a Ph.D in History, Theory, and Criticism of Architecture from Massachusetts Institute of Technology in 2007. She also has a Master of Architectural History from University of Virginia. An alumnus of the UTK School of Architecture, Kathy received a Bachelor of Architecture, with honors, from the University of Tennessee in 1987.



Paola Zellner graduated from Universidad de Buenos Aires and practiced architecture in Argentina and Uruguay. She obtained a Masters Degree from SCI-Arc, practiced in Los Angeles with Norman R. Millar Architects, and together with Jim Bassett started Zellner + Bassett, receiving in 2010 the AIA Blue Ridge Award of Excellence. She taught at Woodbury University, the University of Michigan, and is currently an Assistant Professor at Virginia Tech and member of the Executive Committee of the International Archive of Women in Architecture. Her research interests on material, mainly textile media, and responsive environments, focus on the exploration of form and space at the convergence of art, design and technology. Her collaborative works include installations: "The Book of Lies," for artist Eugenia Butler at 18th Street Arts Center, CA (2007), "Between the Pyramid and the Labyrinth," Moss Art Center, Blacksburg (2013), "Reclaiming Space," University of Manitoba, Winnipeg (2014); "Luminescent Forest," Horton Gallery (2015); "30 x 30," at the 18th UIFA Congress (2015), also shown as exhibit at the Bienal Internacional de Arquitectura in Buenos Aires (2015); and student projects developed for NASA on textile wearable technology. She received the 2014 Xcaliber team award for the course Textile Space. Her scholarship has been published in Museum making: Narratives, Architectures, Exhibitions (Abingdon: Routledge, 2012)



Matt Whitaker is a licensed landscape architect with over fourteen years of design, planning and resource management experience throughout the US. He focuses on urban, mixed-use, residential, agricultural, park, and open space projects. Many of his projects involve sites of ecological, cultural and historical significance. His areas of expertise include green infrastructure, ecosystem restoration, mixed-use projects, cultural landscapes and sustainable agriculture. Matt approaches each project with an eye toward sustainability and ecological health.