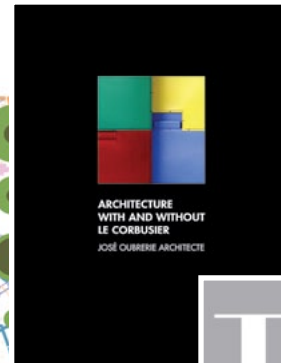
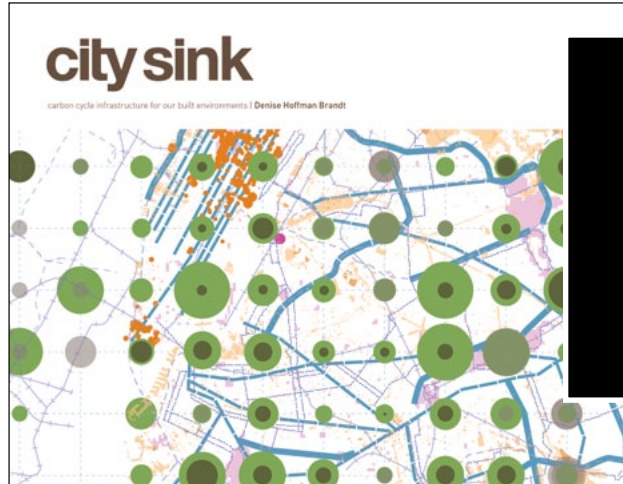


EDITOR'S MESSAGE

The storm surge from Hurricane Sandy hit with a vengeance on October 29, 2012. Residents of the New York region will long remember that day of devastating coastal flooding. In the wake of the storm there has been renewed interest in Prof. Catherine Seavitt Nordenson's 2010 co-authored book *On the Water: Palisade Bay*, which proposed soft infrastructural adaptive strategies for New York's Upper Harbor given sea level rise and risk of flooding. Seavitt appeared with Prof. Hillary Brown on CUNY-TV's weekly cable program "Study with the Best" and is in much demand in various discussion forums. Also in high demand to comment on responses to Sandy is Prof. Lance Jay Brown, President-Elect of the AIA New York Chapter and Co-Chair of its Committee on *Design for Risk and Reconstruction*.

To examine the storm's challenges to urban infrastructures, the MLA program organized the day-long symposium "Waterproofing New York," held on March 2, 2013 and featuring 20+ panelists on the topics of shelter, power and data, waste and water, circulation and fuel, and parks and recreation. A publication will follow.

June Williamson
Associate Professor
jwilliamson@ccny.cuny.edu



FAR LEFT: *City Sink* by Denise Hoffman Brandt. LEFT: *Architecture with and without Le Corbusier* by José Oubrière. BELOW: *Ineffable* edited by Bradley Horn.



Published!

New Books from SSA Authors

THREE NEW BOOKS from the SSA faculty ranks—Associate Professor Denise Hoffman Brandt, Associate Professor Brad Horn, and Fall 2009 Distinguished Visiting Professor José Oubrière—have been released by Oscar Riera Ojeda Publishers in cooperation with our school.

Architecture with and without Le Corbusier, documenting the exhibit in the SSA Gallery in Spring 2010, features two seminal buildings from José Oubrière Architecte: the parish church of Saint-Pierre in Firminy, France and the Miller House in Lexington, Kentucky. The church was one of Le Corbusier's final projects, developed in the early 1960s during a period when Oubrière was Corbu's apprentice. Oubrière worked throughout his career, spent as an architect and educator of renown, to bring this canonical building to completion. The spatially intricate Miller House was completed in the late 1990s when Oubrière, now at the Ohio State University, was a Dean at the Univer-

sity of Kentucky. The book includes a foreword by Dean George Ranalli and an introduction by Kenneth Frampton, and was generously funded by Elise Jaffe and Jeff Brown.

City Sink: Carbon Cycle Infrastructure for our Built Environments presents design research by landscape architect Hoffman Brandt into the potential to create "a meta-park of dispersed landscape infrastructure to boost carbon stocks with biomass." The project proposes the "formation of long-term sequestration reservoirs for soil organic carbon in New York City and Long Island." The research, a meticulously documented systemic design response to the threat of carbon dioxide as a greenhouse gas contributor to global climate change, challenges many of the assumptions in more mainstream debates about carbon emissions. Many SSA students were contributors to the thought-provoking propositions illustrated in the book.

Ineffable: Architecture, Computation and the Inexpressible, ed-

ited by Brad Horn, contributes fifteen new essays to the ongoing debate surrounding the use of computational tools in architecture and architectural education. The exquisitely illustrated essays from figures ranging from Karl Chu and Evan Douglas to Lebbeus Woods and our own George Ranalli were first presented in a stimulating 2007 conference at the SSA. The term "ineffable" is used in the title to suggest the elusive, unquantifiable nature of efforts to determine the appropriate role of technology, more specifically, computational technology in architectural design discourse and practice.

All three books, with more SSA-author titles to come, are capably designed and published by Argentina-based Oscar Riera Ojeda and are distributed through an arrangement with Thames and Hudson Publishers. *City Sink* and *Ineffable* were partially funded by the Spitzer School of Architecture. ■

STUDENT NEWS

Awards

CONGRATULATIONS to recent scholarship winners:

- ▶ **Moe Myat Thu** (BArch) was awarded a \$1500 scholarship from the Asian Alumni group of the CCNY Alumni Association in recognition for her high GPA and demonstrated leadership qualities in serving the community.
- ▶ **Jamie Edindjikian** (BArch) won a Sean F. Mellon Architectural Student Scholarship from the New York Council of the Society of American Registered Architects (SARANY).

Milestones

The SSA will host a “[Smart Start Workshop](#)” on achieving wage equity for women on April 25, led by guest Annie Houle. Thanks to Prof. **Marta Gutman** for raising student awareness on this important topic.

The Parks for the People award-winning MLA first year design studio work for Nicodemus, Kansas, was on view in the J. Max Bond Center. Hope you got to see it!

MLA student work in the 2010 issue of SLUM Lab, co-edited with Alfredo Brillembourg and Hubert Klumperer of ETH Zurich, was presented by Prof. **Denise Hoffman Brandt** at the 2012 Council of Educators in Landscape Architecture conference.

Travel & Trips

The Spring 2013 theme of the Sciamé Lecture Series is “Rethinking Kahn.” The series features talks by an impressive array of experts on the iconic work of architect Louis I. Kahn (1901 to 1974). In preparation for the in depth Kahn-a-thon, two bus loads of SSA students traveled to New Haven in early February to see two of his most famous buildings up



PHOTO LEFT: JUNE WILLIAMSON

ABOVE: A Yale Residential College building by James Gamble Rogers reflected in the glazing of Louis I. Kahn's Yale University Art Gallery.

BELOW: Fifth year BArch students tour the World Trade Center construction site with Lance Jay Brown.



close and in situ: the newly reopened Yale Art Gallery (1953) and the Yale Center for British Art (1974). The lectures have been enlightening; if you missed any of them, catch up by watching the webcasts, [archived](#) online! 📺

FACULTY NEWS

SPRING 2013 Distinguished Visiting Professor **Yolande Daniels** is a founding partner of [studio SUMO](#), winner of an Emerg-

ing Voices Award from the Architectural League of New York in 2010. Her studio's design of the Mizuta Museum was [featured](#) in *Architect* magazine (June 2012).

Distinguished Visiting Professor **Audrey Matlock** is the founding principal of New York-based [Audrey Matlock Architects](#) with notable and awarded projects including the Chelsea Modern in New York and the Medeu Sports Center in Kazakhstan.

Associate Professor **Jacob Alspector**'s firm [Alspector Architecture](#) completed the first phase of Grace Church School's new High School Division on historic Cooper Square. The 51,000 sf project is a renovation of the former Hartz Mountain manufacturing facility assembled from seven mid-nineteenth century townhouses.

Professor **Lance Jay Brown**, FAIA, DPACSA, is 2014 President-Elect of the American Institute of Architects New York Chapter and continues to Co-Chair its Design for Risk and Reconstruction Committee which has presented a number of post-Sandy events including “NYC's Post-Sandy Recovery: How're We Doin'?” at the Center for Architecture. Brown delivered the keynote

“Design Contest: Public Space Today” at the ASLA Michigan Annual Conference, and delivered the winter address at the Dallas Architectural Forum Speaker Series. Brown has been appointed advisor to the Farragut Fund for Catalan Culture in the U.S.

Assistant Professor **M.T. Chang** presented the paper “Collaborative Team Teaching in Computer Technology” at the 2012 ASET Annual International Conference in Taipei, Taiwan.

Adjunct Associate Professor **Antonio Di Oronzo** is completing the design of an 8-story mixed-use building on 70th Street in Queens, a small event pavilion in Central Park, and a 100,000 sf project in Huayu City, China. He recently completed a 60,000 sf state-of-the-art movie and TV studio complex by the Gowanus Canal in Brooklyn.

Adjunct Professor **Alberto Foyo** was invited to participate in the Third International Landscape Conference “Design for China” at the Central Academy of Fine Arts in Beijing. He delivered two lectures: “Tradition meets Modernity” and “Genetic Landscapes and Cultural Landscapes.”

Professor **Peter Gisolfi**'s firm [Peter Gisolfi Associates](#)



FAR LEFT: View of the completed atrium in Grace Church School's new High School Division, by Alspector Architecture. LEFT: Model of the Yangtze River Delta Project.

has received the following awards: the American Society of Landscape Architects, New York Chapter, Merit Award for the Hackley School Master Plan, Tarrytown; the Preservation Award from the Historical Society of Tarrytown for the Goodhue Memorial Hall at the Hackley School; the AIA Westchester/Hudson Valley 2012 Citation for The Center at Maple Grove, Kew Gardens; and the AIA Westchester/Hudson Valley 2012 Citation for the Pinkham Hall Renovations and Additions, Rye Country Day School in Rye, New York.

Professor **Toni L. Griffin** and the J. Max Bond Center were recently named to the inaugural Public Interest Design 100 List. Public Interest Design represents a collective portrait of the future in partnership with Autodesk, the University of Minnesota College of Design, Tandus Flooring and the Fetzer Institute.

Professor **Marta Gutman** presented her paper "Orphaned in Oakland: Charity, Race and Childhood In Progressive-Era California" at the recent meeting of the Urban History Association in New York. Her essay "The Physical Spaces of Childhood" is published in *The Routledge History of Childhood in the West*

and a review essay discussing recent books on the history of schools is in the *Journal of the Society of Architectural Historians* (December 2012). Gutman contributed to "Seeing East Fourth Street: Vernacular Architecture in New York City," the newest virtual exhibit of *Place Matters*, produced by City Lore and the Municipal Art Society. The current issue (19:2) of *Buildings & Landscapes*, which Gutman edits, features an especially interesting essay on John Margolies' photographs.

Associate Professors **Denise Hoffman Brandt** and **Catherine Seavitt Nordenson** were awarded a New York State Council on the Arts grant through the Van Alen Institute to produce the exhibition "Animal Territories." Hoffman Brandt spoke at a seminar for The CUNY Center for Urban Environmental Reform and presented a keynote address at the ASLA New Jersey Annual Conference.

Adjunct Assistant Professor **Vanessa Keith** was a competition juror on two **international design competitions**: d3 Natural Systems 2012 and d3 Housing Tomorrow 2013.

Associate Professor **Dominick R. Pilla** co-authored an article in *Modern Steel Con-*

struction (Sept. 2012) discussing CCNY's Solar Decathlon project. Pilla's firm DRPILLA recently completed the **renovation** of the French Institute Alliance Française Florence Gould Hall, a 361-seat performance hall on Manhattan's east side.

Dean **George Ranalli** was the recipient of the 2012 Design Award of Excellence from the Society of American Registered Architect's New York Council and an inaugural **Stanford White Award** from the Institute of Classical Architecture and Art in December 2012 for the Saratoga Avenue Community Center, also published in the article "**The Power of Play**" in *Urban Land* (March/April 2012).

Adjunct Professor **James S. Russell** participated in several panels: "**Another Language of Diplomacy**" at the Architectural League; "Sweet and Salt," which engaged Dutch techniques of stormwater management; "A New Look at Historic Preservation" at the Municipal Art Society's Summit on the City; and a panel of critics (including Distinguished Prof. **Michael Sorkin**) at the Designers and Books Fair.

The Learning Center in the Bronx, designed by Associate Professor **Julio Salcedo-Fernandez**, was inaugurated in February 2013. The Center is run by Urban Health Plan, a non-profit health provider for the metropolitan region.

Associate Professor **Catherine Seavitt Nordenson** collaborated with structural engineer Guy Nordenson and chemical engineer Howard Stone on the Yangtze River

Delta Project, exhibited at the Princeton-Fung Global Forum "The Future of the City" in Shanghai. Her essay "Pinocchio: Making a Thing," co-authored with Guy Nordenson, will be published in the forthcoming UT Austin journal *PLATFORM: Poetics of Building*. Catherine delivered a plenary at "Coastal Hazards Summit 2013" at the University of Florida's Institute for Sustainable Coastal Environments and Infrastructure. She presented "Feral Bestiary: Re-wilding the Garden" at the conference "Animal Representation" at the University of Michigan and two additional papers, "*Cultura* and the Counsel of Roberto Burle Marx" and "Endangered Species in the Parliament of Things: Climate Change and the Urban National Wildlife Refuges," at the Council of Educators in Landscape Architecture 2013 Annual Meeting in Texas.

Professor **Achva Benzinger Stein** presented her paper "Cultural Landscapes, a Case Study of New York City with Implications for Rio De Janeiro" at the symposium "Urban Transformation and Cultural Heritage" in Brazil. Stein has been named Distinguished Alumna for 2013 by the College of Environmental Design of the University of California at Berkeley.

Associate Professor **Elisabetta Terragni's** article "**Twist and Shout**" was in *Abitare* magazine (Nov. 2012) and she gave a keynote lecture at the international symposium "Recycle Landscape Recycle Memories" at the University in Venice.

continued on page 4

continued from page 3
Terragni was awarded the first prize—"Premio Magistri Cumacini 2012"—for reuse of existing buildings for the realized project of the Museum Casa Pagani, Italy. She served as adviser for the YAP MAXXI 2013, in partnership with MoMA and MoMA PS1, Rome and was appointed by the Canada Council for the Arts to serve as a juror to select an exhibition team for the Venice Architecture Biennale, 2013.

Adjunct Associate Professor **Albert Vecerka** produced a remarkable series of photographs over the four seasons of the new Visitors Center at the Brooklyn Botanic Garden for Weiss/Manfredi. Vecerka is documenting construction of the hardscape and landscape for the new Native Flora Garden designed by Siteworks also at the Brooklyn Botanic Garden.

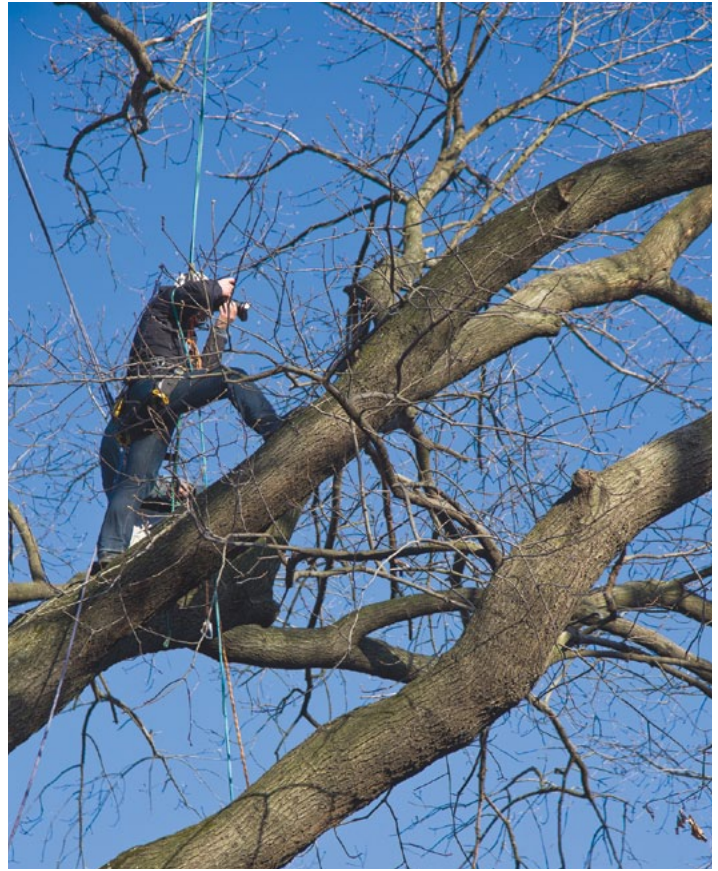
Associate Professor **Christian Volkmann** and Distinguished Professor **Michael Sorkin** were invited by the Holcim Foundation to present at their **4th International**

Forum for Sustainable Construction in Mumbai, India. Volkmann presented CCNY's Solar Decathlon findings at this year's ACSA fall conference at Temple University.

A **segment** on the retrofitting of suburban malls, based on the research of Associate Professor **June Williamson**, was nationally broadcast in Dec. on the CBS Evening News.

Work by Adjunct Associate Professor **Suzan Wines'** firm I-Beam Design was featured in a number of international publications including *Materia* (Italy), *Smith Journal* (Australia), *Laha* (Saudi Arabia) and *Para Ti Deco* (Argentina). A chapter on I-Beam's humanitarian work appears in the book *Urgent Architecture: 40 Sustainable Housing Solutions for A Changing World* by Bridgette Meinhold.

A FINAL NOTE: **Brad Horn, Fran Leadon** and **Denise Hoffman Brandt** were welcomed into the ranks of faculty with tenure this year. Horn and Leadon were promoted to Associate Professor. Congratulations, professors! 🏡



Albert Vecerka climbs for the perfect shot at the Brooklyn Botanic Garden.

PHOTO: ANDREW HEFTER

The City College
of New York

CITY COLLEGE IS NY

Bernard and Anne Spitzer School of Architecture
City College of New York
141 Convent Avenue
New York, NY 10031
TEL: 212.650.7118-7119
FAX: 212.650.6566