

# La Sagrada Família: A Contribution on Constancy and Change

**A**NTONI GAUDÍ labored for more than four decades to build the Expiatory Temple of the Sagrada Família in Barcelona. Yet, upon his death in 1926, his masterpiece was less than a quarter of the way near completion. Gaudí knew well that it only could be finished posthumously. He cultivated a unique fellowship among the craftsmen at work on the project, akin to that found in medieval workshops, which has fostered a collective effort across generations to realize the Sagrada Família. Progress on the building continued intermittently after Gaudí's death, coming to an abrupt halt with the outbreak of the Spanish Civil War in 1936. Construction resumed in the 1950s and the process remains ongoing, with completion projected for the centenary of Gaudí's death in 2026. The spirit of collaboration that Gaudí fostered before his death has continued to nurture the project. The building's workshop remains a laboratory for architectural experimentation today, even mobilizing digital technologies and three-dimensional printing to build upon Gaudí's vision.

The ongoing use of scale plaster models binds a vital aspect of Gaudí's working methods to those of today. These models have furnished the church's builders with an important means to develop their visionary approach to structure and ornament as well as to conceptualize the project for the



public. A stunning collection of these models is at the center of the exhibit *Sagrada Família—Gaudí's Unfinished Masterpiece: Geometry, Construction and Site*, on view in the SSA Atrium Gallery from 29 September 2014 to 8 May 2015. Curated by Dean **George Ranalli**, and co-curated by Prof. **Fabian Lluch**, the exhibition of these models commemorates Gaudí's legacy as part of the Sagrada Família's unabated design and construction process. The exhibit marks the first display of these significant artifacts outside of Europe. In the gallery, wall panels contextualize the models within the building's design process, history, and unique place in Bar-

celona. The exhibition provides an unprecedented opportunity to understand the extraordinary accomplishments of the Sagrada Família's builders who have been at work on the church for nearly a century and a half.

The SSA has coordinated an array of exceptional programs to accompany the exhibit. **Oscar Riera Ojeda Publishers** has released a [book](#) on the Sagrada Família and the SSA's fall 2014 Sciamé Lecture Series features an international roster of distinguished speakers including **Josep Gomez Serrano**, **Jordi Bonet**, **Jordi Fauli**, **Judith Rohrer**, **Maria Rubert de Ventos**, **Xisco Llabres**, and **Mark Burry**. ■



TOP: Central and lateral nave of the Sagrada Família, seen from the transept. ABOVE: Exhibit opening on 29 September.

SOURCE: TOP, TRIANGLE POSTALS; BOTTOM PHOTO: SALVATORE COSENZA

## EDITOR'S MESSAGE

**W**e welcome many new faces to the SSA community this fall. Profs. Ahu Aydogan Akseli and Frank Melendez have joined our full-time faculty. Hannah Borgeson has come on board as the Graduate Student Services Manager. Lastly, Nicole Daniels has joined us in the capacity of Office Assistant. I look forward to speaking with Profs. Akseli and Melendez about the state of the architecture field in the next issue of the newsletter.

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## RECRUITMENT

Help recruit new grad students by spreading the word about these upcoming information sessions:

**Tuesday 28 October, 5:30 p.m.**

Location: CUNY Welcome Center in Midtown  
All SSA graduate programs:  
Master of Architecture,  
Master of Landscape  
Architecture, Master of  
Urban Design

**Monday 3 November, 6:30 p.m.**

Location: Spitzer School of Architecture  
Master of Landscape Architecture Info Panel

**Thursday 6 November, 7:00 p.m.**

Location: Spitzer School of Architecture  
Master of Architecture Info Panel

Details and RSVP: <http://ssa1.cuny.edu/admissions/masters.html>

## STUDENT NEWS

# Awards

**C**ONGRATULATIONS to the following SSA graduates who received top awards at the graduation ceremony last spring:

- ▶ MARCH I Outstanding Design Project: **Tiffany Kimmel**
  - ▶ ASLA Awards: **Ryan Morrison** (Honor) and **Grace Ng** (Merit)
  - ▶ Rachel Carson Award (achievement in MLA and MUD): **Sara Malmkvist** and **Samuel Berkheiser III**
  - ▶ Matthew W. Del Guadio Award (Best BArch Comprehensive Studio Project): **David Penaherrera**
  - ▶ AIA Henry Adams Medal (BArch): **Idan Saragosti**
  - ▶ AIA Certificate of Merit (BArch): **Susan Wu**
  - ▶ CCNY Landscape Architecture Comprehensive Studio Prize: **David Mosey**
  - ▶ Faculty History and Theory Award: **Frances Felse** and **Hilary Zhao** (MArch), **Andrew Salimian** (BArch)
  - ▶ Charles E. Inniss Architectural Award (BArch): **Jarell Peets**
  - ▶ Olmsted Scholar (MLA): **David Mosey**
  - ▶ Fontainebleau Summer Architecture Program (BArch): **Filipp Blyakher** and **Chrisoula Kapelonis**
  - ▶ WX Women in Real Estate Scholarships (BArch): **Jessica Tzu-Chi Tseng**, **Melinda Siew**, and **Chrisoula Kapelonis**
- Top awards to continuing students include:
- ▶ Dean's Design Scholarship sponsored by Frank J. Sciamme, Jr.: **Roman Hattnyansky**, **Lenny Chen**, **Sewina Lee**, **Nooreen Kagzi**, and **Hector Santacruz**
  - ▶ Frederick Bainnson Memorial Scholarship (MLA): **Eli Sands**
  - ▶ NYC ASLA Scholarship (MLA): **Andrea Johnson** and **Fern Lan Siew**
  - ▶ Spitzer History Notebook Award: **Salvatore Cosenza** (MArch) and special mention to **Solomon Oh** (BArch)
- The Spitzer Travel Fellows this year are **Michael Buonanno** and **Venus Carbuccia** (BArch) for the proposal *Bioclimatic Architecture: Sustainable through Desire*, **Lara Gelband** (MArch) for *Nicaragua Canal*, and **Filipp Blyakher** (BArch) for *Landscape and Memory*.
- 3rd-year BArch student



PHOTO: DENISE HOFFMAN-BRANDT

ABOVE: 3rd-year MLA students with Prof. Denise Hoffman-Brandt at Rocky Mountain National Park.

- (BArch)
- ▶ Ennead Architects Scholarship (BArch): **Magdalena Checo**
- ▶ Gerner, Kronick & Valcarcel Art of Architecture Scholarship (BArch): **Christian Luis Camacho**
- ▶ Fred L. Leibmann Book Award (BArch): **Rafiul Prodham**
- ▶ Carol J. Weissman Kurth Scholarship (BArch): **Noshin Apurba**
- ▶ McGraw-Hill Construction's Annual Scholarship (BArch): **Jennifer Shteierman**
- ▶ CCNY Architecture Alumni Association Scholarship (BArch): **Lester Li** and **Man Marcus Tung**
- ▶ William Bobenhausen Scholarship (BArch): **Moemyat Thu**
- ▶ Extech Award for Technology (BArch): **Ermira Kasapi**
- ▶ Brooklyn Architectural Foundation Scholarship (BArch): **Berk Eraslan**
- ▶ J. Max Bond, Jr., Center Scholarship: **Muhammad Saleh** (BArch)
- ▶ Megan Lawrence Memorial Award (BArch): **Xiao Yi Lin**
- ▶ AIA NYC Eleanor Allwork Scholarship (BArch): **Jeffrey Bermudez**
- ▶ Center for Architecture Scholarship: **Magdalena Checo**

**Shereese Trumpet** was awarded the AIA NY Chapter's annual Heritage Ball Scholarship of \$1,000. In October, Dean **George Ranalli** was in attendance along side **Shereese** at the Heritage Ball at Chelesea Piers/Pier Sixty.

BArch student **Lester Li** won a \$2,000 scholarship from the Concrete Industrial Foundation.

In spring 2014, the 4th-year BArch studios, coordinated by Prof. **June Williamson**, entered their projects in the ACSA Steel Design Competition, sponsored by the American Institute of Steel Construction. Students **Alexia Sanchez**, **Vail Nuguid** and **Donovan Dunkley**, in Adjunct Prof. **Martin Stigsgaard's** studio, were awarded first place for their project, *Kyrgyzstan-China Border Crossing*. Student **Joan Battle**, in Adjunct Prof. **Joan Krevlin's** studio, received an honorable mention for *Smart Door - Sculpture in the Landscape*, a scheme for a Mexico-New Mexico border crossing. The projects will be on view at the ACSA Annual Meeting in Toronto, Ontario in March 2015 and the American Institute of Architects Annual Convention in Atlanta, GA in May 2015.

## Milestones

First-year MLA students, including **Jason Beury**, **Aitan Eliach**, **Charles Huang**, **Ligia Mathias**, **Caitlin Murphy**, **Ruth Nervig**, **Jessica Pimen-**

tel, **Camila Sampedro, Baruch Tauber,** and **Yifan Xing,** participated in this year's **Park(ing) Day.** Adjunct Prof. **Halina Steiner** led the SSA's contribution to this initiative, a daylong, international "happening" in which people transform parking spaces into temporary public space. With support from the ASLA NY Chapter, the students converted two spaces in West Harlem, one focused on albedo and another on hydrology.

In collaboration with MLA students, Prof. **Denise Hoffman-Brandt** created the installation entitled *Red Carpet Encrypted* at the Omi International Arts Center in Ghent, NY. The project is on view through spring 2015.

The J. Max Bond Center on Design for the Just City received a \$110,000 grant from the Surdna Foundation to create and test a set of indicators to measure social justice values within NYC public plazas. This year-long study is conducted in collaboration with Gehl Architects and Transportation Alternatives.

Adjunct Prof. **Jonathan Scelsa,** along with students **Lenny Chen, Roman Hataniansky, Dorota Kowalska, Kseniya Linov, Nick Napoli, Hector Santacruz,** and **Eliza Tan,** designed and built a multi-purpose seating bench and shelving pavilion in the summer 2014 fabrication course. The pavilion, currently on display on the SSA's third-floor, was designed in Grasshopper and built using a CNC mill.

The Solar Roofpod is now producing power permanently. It has the capacity to generate up to 10kW of power. Any surplus is fed into our building. In October, the Roofpod was presented at Open House New York, an event that promotes appreciation of NY architecture.

## Travel & Trips

This fall, travel studios for 3rd-year MLA students visited Colorado. Adjunct Prof. **Barbara Wilks's** studio studied flood control issues and Prof. **Denise Hoffman-Brandt's** studio examined extra-regional infrastructures.

Adjunct Prof. **James S. Russell** organized a tour of the nearly complete Sugar Hill Development for summer students in his Developing Communication Skills seminar. **Ellen Baxter,** the director of the sponsoring Broadway Housing Communities, discussed the communications challenges of the project, which mixes low-income residents with early childhood education and a Children's Museum of Art and Storytelling designed by the London architect David Adjaye working with the NYC architect SLCE. ■

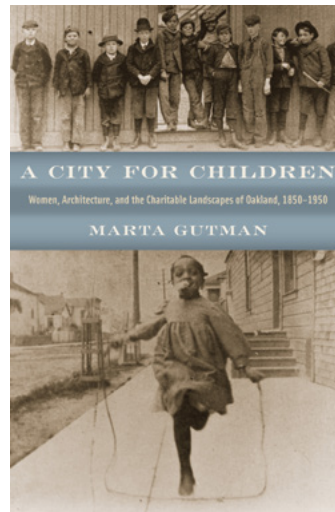
## FACULTY NEWS

**WE WELCOME** back **Brian Healy** of **Brian Healy Architects** and **Perkins + Will** in Boston as well as **Jinhee Park** of **SsD** as Visiting Distinguished Professors for the fall 2014 semester.

Associate Professor **Jacob Alpector's** firm **Alpector Architecture** won approval from the NYC Landmarks Preservation Commission for the final phase of a multi-phase renovation of Grace Church School's new High School Division on Cooper Square.

Professor **Hillary Brown** was reappointed for a second term to the National Academies' Board on Infrastructure and the Constructed Environment. In May, she spoke on NBC's News4NY about her book *Next Generation Infrastructure* as part of the coverage of the President's speech on infrastructure. Last summer she gave a book talk at AIA NY chapter; spoke at both San Jose, CA and San Francisco's Urban Research Associations; and presented at the AIA National Convention.

As the 2014 president of the AIA NY Chapter, Professor **Lance Jay Brown,** FAIA, DPACSA introduced the panel "The Future of Public Space" at the Center for Architecture. He made two presentations at the *UN World Urban Forum* in Medellin, Colombia. At the UIA Congress in Durban, South Africa he gave a paper on the *Post-Sandy Initiative* and facilitated sessions on resilience and education. His work on the



ABOVE: *A City for Children: Women, Architecture, and the Charitable Landscapes of Oakland, 1850-1950* by Prof. Marta Gutman.

*Post-Sandy Initiative* received the AIA NY Vice-President's Citation for Public Outreach. He was a juror for the Institute for Public Knowledge's Designing for Free Speech Competition and the AIA New England Design Awards program. In October, he presided over the AIA NY's Heritage Ball.

Associate Professor **Marta Gutman's** new book, *A City for Children: Women, Architecture, and the Charitable Landscapes of Oakland, 1850-1950,* has been published by the **University of Chicago Press.** She's been invited to speak about her book at the CUNY Graduate Center, the Doreen B. Townsend Center for the Humanities and the College of Environmental Design at the University of California Berkeley, and the Society of Architectural Historians,

NY Chapter. She received the Provost's 2013-14 Outstanding Teaching Award.

This semester, Professor **Toni L. Griffin** is the Theodore B. and Doris Shoong Lee Distinguished Professor of Real Estate Law and Urban Planning in the Department of City and Regional Planning in the College of Environmental Design at the University of California, Berkeley.

Adjunct Lecturer **Daniel Hauben** organized the *Bronx Artist Documentary Project* exhibit at the Andrew Freeman Home, which was the subject of a *New York Times* article on 15 September.

Adjunct Professor **Andrew Lavallee** has been elected to the American Society of Landscape Architects Council of Fellows. He led a tour of the World Trade Center District as part of the ASLA NY's participation in the AIA's annual Archtober events.

Associate Professor **Fabian Lonch's** recently completed project, the *Residencias Richieri* in Rosario, Argentina, was featured as the cover story in the May issue of *La Gaceta de los Arquitectos.*

Dean **George Ranalli's** Saratoga Avenue Community Center was the subject of a feature-length article in the 21 May issue of the *Providence Journal* by the noted Classicist critic David Brussat. The Dean's proposal for the New York Times Tower is on view in the Skyscraper Museum's exhibit *Times Square 1984: The Postmodern Moment* through 18 January 2015.

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ABOVE: *Residencias Richieri* in Rosario, Argentina by Prof. Fabian Lonch.

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Adjunct Professor **James S. Russell** received a grant from the Graham Foundation in support of his next book, *Stories Cities Tell About the Future*.

Associate Professor **Julio Salcedo-Fernandez**, together with urbanist **Marc Brossa**, won the invited competition for the feasibility study of a new water-edge transit development and city master plan in Hamar, Norway. He presented his findings to the city of Hamar in the fall. Construction on his West Hills Torah Center and Preschool in Long Island is now complete.

This year, Adjunct Associate Professor **Jonathan Scelsa** published the articles “Enfilade Urbanism” in *MONU* no. 21; “Bezier Bundled Bifurcations, on the Elevation Tectonics of Minoru Yamaski” in *CLOG* no. 12; and “Morphing Manhattanism” in *Bracket* vol. 3, edited by Lola Sheppard and Maya Prybinksi.

Associate Professor **Catherine Seavitt Nordenson**’s work on Jamaica Bay, part of the Rockefeller Foundation-

funded grant **Structures of Coastal Resilience**, was published in the 3 September issue of *The Architect’s Newspaper*. She presented her work on this project at the United States Army Corps of Engineers’ Inter-agency Meeting in Washington, DC in August and participated in the NY District’s Harbor Inspection aboard the USACE vessel MV Hayward in September.

Adjunct Associate Professor **Martin Stigsgaard** has been featured recently in the press for his work as the lead designer on three projects with Voor-sanger Architects, including a [New York Times article](#) about a loft in TriBeCa; an interview in *PCI Magazine* about the National World War II Museum in New Orleans; and a piece in the November issue of German *Elle Decor* on a residence in Aspen, a project that won AIA National, AIA NY State, and AIA NY awards.

Associate Professor **Elisabetta Terragni** published the article “Quanto di quello che abbiamo fatto va bene?” in *ENGRAMMA: La Tradizione Classica Nella Memoria Occidentale*, n.113. She

also published “What’s on the Face of a Coin” in *Perspecta: The Yale Architectural Journal* no. 47, an essay that discusses student projects from the SSA’s MArch visual studies course in the context of the representation of buildings on coins and medals. She lectured on the adaptation of abandoned infrastructure into museums at the *Terminal Art Project*, 2014 in Fermo, Italy.

ORO Press published Adjunct Associate Professor **Barbara Wilks**’s *Structuring Confluence: The Work of W Architecture and Landscape Architecture*, including contributions from Distinguished Professor **Michael Sorkin**, **Eric Sanderson**, and **Deborah Marton**.

An interview with Associate Professor **June Williamson** about retrofitting shopping malls appeared in *Urban Routines: Retail*, published last summer by Strelka, the Moscow Institute for Media, Architecture, and Design.

Adjunct Associate Professor **Suzan Wines** will lecture and conduct a master class at the RheinMain University of Applied Sciences in Weisbaden,



ABOVE: Dean George Ranalli’s proposal for the New York Times Tower.

Germany in January 2015. She volunteered at the *Sandy Neighborhood Design HelpDesk*. Her firm *I-Beam Design* was included in *New York Magazine*’s list of top NY Architects and Designers as well as in the summer issue of *New York Design Hunting Magazine*. The spring/summer issue of *Vs.* magazine featured I-Beam’s Macao Trading Company. ■

SOURCE: COLLECTION OF STEVE SPRINGER

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