

ArchiteXX at City College Spitzer School of Architecture

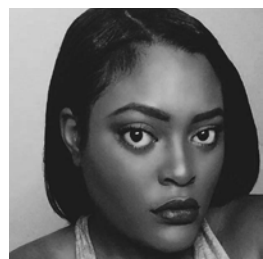
Race + Identity: Complex Relationships Between the Social + Spatial

Responsive, collaborative architecture engages systems of power and their understanding of race + diversity. How do race and identity shape our understanding and experiences of space? What can the discipline learn from and contribute to the current conversations taking place across the country? What sort of future do we want to help foster and create?

Thursday, March 30th | 12:30-1:30
Bond Center | Spitzer School of Architecture | City College of New York

Join us for an hour-long lunchtime townhall style panel with short introductory presentations. Student participation/discussion facilitated by student moderator. We invite: Architecture, Landscape Architecture and Urban Planning Students and faculty from City College and Columbia University

CCNY Spitzer School of Architecture Student Moderators:



Meisha Guild
NOMAS, Bernard and Anne Spitzer Scholarship Recipient

Meisha is a second year Master of Architecture candidate whose interest in design goes past the physical architecture and focuses on the creation of space. Her goal is to use her education in architecture as a tool for social justice and human rights.



Marina Santos
AIAS, 2016 AIANYS Student Design Award Winner

Marina is a second year Master of Architecture candidate interested in pursuing architecture that merges her past studies in urban planning with her current pursuit in architecture design.

Panelists:



Danei Cesario
AIA, NCARB, NOMA

Danei hails from Manchester, England, Danei's professional career began in tandem with her scholarly pursuits at the City College of New York's Spitzer School of Architecture. There, she served as Treasurer for the AIAS CCNY Chapter and earned the J. Max Bond Jr. Memorial Scholarship while working on complex public sector projects throughout the city. Danei is the 333rd black female architect in history and currently the youngest Project Architect at Francis Cauffman Architects, managing the execution of multifaceted healthcare projects. She is actively engaged as Co-Chair of AIA New York's Diversity & Inclusion and a constant contributor to the Women in Architecture Committee; she is committed to fostering Mentorship, Sponsorship and Leadership among the diverse members of AIA New York as they navigate their careers within architecture and beyond.



Venesa Alicea
AIA, NOMA, LEED AP, Dattner Architecture

Venesa is wholly committed to civic architecture, and encouraging community engagement through design practices. Her interests converge in architecture and public policy where good design, both sustainable and socially conscious, can influence the development of buildings, communities, and neighborhoods within our city. She graduated from City College of New York with a B. Arch in 2005, and is president of the CCNY Architecture Alumni Group. She currently sits on the AIANY Board of Directors as the Alternate Director for Professional Development, and serves as Co-Chair of the AIANY Diversity & Inclusion Committee.



Imelda Bernstien
ASLA, RLA, NYC Parks

Imelda works in the Capital Projects Division, which oversees the redesign and reconstruction of over 1,700 sites throughout the city and is the largest single employer of landscape architects in the country. For over ten years Imelda has served as lead designer and worked on design teams for several notable Parks projects, including: Laurelton West Playground, a model for universal design; Astoria Skate Park, named the city's best skate park in 2011 by The New York Daily News; and Elmhurst Park, winner of the 2009 Big Apple Brownfield Award. As Assistant Deputy Chief of Design, she managed the development of the agency's Design and Planning for Flood Resiliency: Guidelines for NYC Parks, to be released later this year. Currently Imelda is the project manager for the EPA-mandated cleanup of the Red Hook Recreation Area athletic fields, the largest remediation effort Parks has ever undertaken.



Mercedes Ward
ASLA, RLA, NYC Parks

Mercedes is a Registered Landscape Architect, designing and managing her projects for parks and playgrounds in Brooklyn, New York. Board Member of the NY Chapter of the American Society of Landscape Architects (ASLA-NY) and Chair of the Education Committee. Design corresponds with Mercedes' attitude on life - changing, yet adhering to common sense and reasoning. It requires a holistic view on conceptualization, feasible opportunities, and social responsibilities. Design not only requires knowledge and skill, it creates knowledge and skill.



Gabrielle Printz

Gabrielle is an architectural researcher, editor and designer based in New York. Among other things, she is preoccupied with landscapes of detention and particularly the networks which connect border and prison. She completed a Master of Architecture at the Buffalo School of Architecture and Planning with a thesis on the body. Understanding that this entity-- which both produces and receives architecture--has historically been misrepresented in the discipline as a neutral or ideal dimensional figure, she designed and produced a diverse family of contingent "architectural bodies" with specific bodily expressions (gender, age, fatness, affinities for other bodies, and so on). While at Buffalo, Gabrielle taught first year design studios



Virginia Black

Virginia is an architect, indigenous rights advocate and visual ethnographer currently living in New York City. Her work is sited at the intersection of bodies, the environment, and the law. Notably, her recent project "Iyarisha Chagrai" developed a methodology for representing the construction of living cultural monuments, taking the chagras of Amazonian Ecuador as a case study. As a FLAS 2014 Fellow, she studied Kichwa and Quechua both in Ecuador and at New York University to enrich her research in the Amazon. Her current work is situated between New York and Ecuador, namely the production of the documentary El Alma del Pueblo, a hyper-visual and -sonic meditation on the local and global effects of the Rights of Nature laws in Ecuador (now in postproduction). Virginia also holds a Master of Architecture from University of Michigan, where she graduated with high distinction, and a Bachelor of Arts in Architecture with a Minor in Spanish from Clemson University.



Rosana Elkhatib

Rosana is an architect-trained curator from Amman, Jordan. Her research focuses on the mutual constitution of bodies and spaces as they are further complicated by their political, social, and religious environs, specifically in the urbanizing Middle East. Her graduate research has coalesced into a curatorial project called "Republic of Body," a performance taking place in October of 2016 in the city of Amman. There, local feminist and queer artists and performers will assume visible orientations as precarious sexual bodies via an experimental infiltration of the Arab public space. The performance will be costumed by a series of multiply-symbolic objects, which attempt to express the intersectionality and mutual construction of queer, Arab, and gender identities. Rosana holds a B.Arch from the Illinois Institute of Technology and a M.S. in Critical, Curatorial and Conceptual Practices in Architecture from Columbia University GSAPP.

Gabrielle, Virginia and Rosana represent feminist architecture collective; figured as an enterprise for architectural research aimed at disentangling the contemporary spatial politics and technological appearances of bodies, intimately and globally.