

# SPITZER CONVOCATION

Fall 2022

# The Plan for this Evening

Dean's message

Introductions and  
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Coming in Fall 2022

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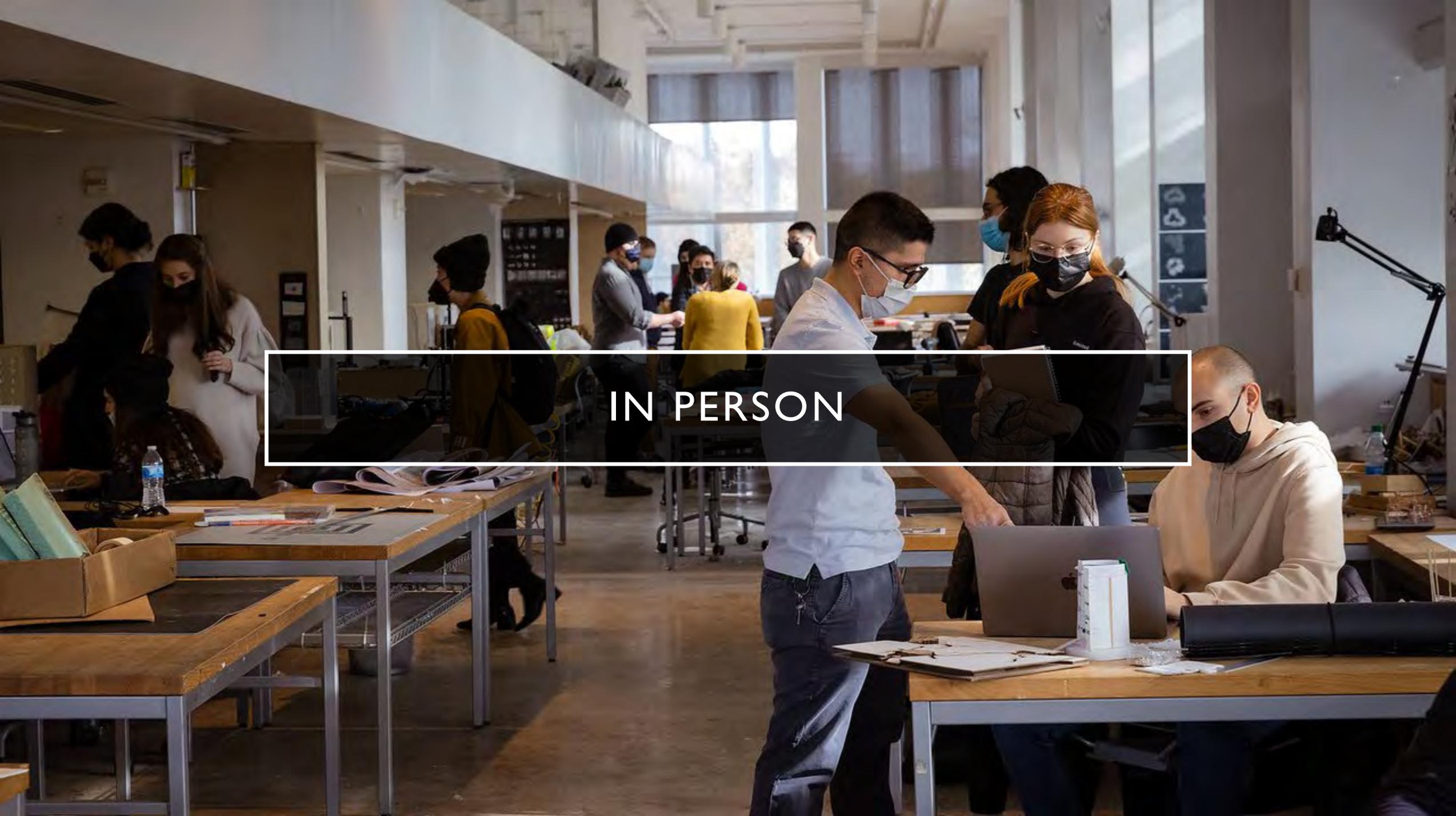
Photo Credit: Sirin Sammad-Fernandez, 2021

## LAND ACKNOWLEDGMENT

We acknowledge that the Spitzer School of Architecture, grounded on the schist bedrock outcrop of Harlem, is situated upon the ancestral homeland and territory of the Munsee Lenape, Wappinger, and Wiechquaesgeck peoples. As members of an educational community, we are obligated to know the histories of dispossession that have allowed the City College of New York to grow and thrive on this vibrant terrain. As designers and thinkers, we endeavor to build in ways that lead toward justice, and we are committed to working to dismantle the ongoing consequences of settler colonialism.

*Pronunciations:* Munsee Lenape (mun-sē lenapē), Wappinger (wa-pin-ger), Wiechquaesgeck (wick-kwaz-jeck)

Thanks to Catherine Seavitt, Michael King, christin Hu, Camille Hall



IN PERSON

BE KIND

### *Tips from President Boudreau*

Three years into the pandemic, the person who is sick may be getting sick for the first time, the second time, the third time.

Anxiety has been distributed democratically — it hits you in the chest, where you feel the tension.

City College can help you cope:

- Mental Health and Counseling: virtual, walk-in hours
- Benny's Food Pantry is open to all

Please be kind, be patient, be tolerant.

## POLICIES

All faculty, staff, students, and visitors need a Cleared4 CUNY Access Pass to come on to campus. Issues with your pass? Contact [covidtesting@ccny.cuny.edu](mailto:covidtesting@ccny.cuny.edu).

The Spitzer building is **open on weekdays, 7:00 am to 10:00 pm, with a security guard on duty**. A key call is needed to open the building on weekends.

No refrigerators, no microwaves, no food in studios—to keep the building vermin-free; no cots, to keep you healthy!

Please stay home if you're not feeling well! Check the CUNY website for updates:

<https://www.cuny.edu/coronavirus/>

## ACADEMIC INTEGRITY REMINDER

Academic integrity is a crucial component of your education. Without it your education loses value. When students in a class cheat or plagiarize, everyone suffers. Cheating is defined as the unauthorized use of materials, information, notes, study aids, devices or communication during an academic exercise, such as an exam. Plagiarism is the act of presenting another person's ideas, research or writing as one's own. Cheating and plagiarism are serious offenses and students who are caught cheating or plagiarizing their work face serious academic sanctions. The great majority of our students are honest and hardworking, and would never consider cheating or plagiarizing. But when even a small number of people cheat or plagiarize, everyone suffers. The cheaters gain an unfair advantage, while simultaneously not learning the material they will need. The reputation of the College rests on its promise of academic integrity. Our graduating students carry that reputation with them.

Provost Tony Liss

Dean Marta Gutman

Chair Sean Weiss

Architecture Librarian Nilda Sanchez-Rodriguez,

## INTRODUCTIONS & CELEBRATIONS



# Leadership



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**CATHERINE SEAVITT  
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Professor; Director,  
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**NILDA SANCHEZ-  
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Associate Professor,  
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Architecture Library



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Assistant to the  
Chair

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## LAAB ACCREDITATION

The MLA program has been fully accredited by the Landscape Architectural Accreditation Board!

For a full six years!

No conditions unmet!

Congratulations to Professor Catherine Seavitt Nordenson, program director, and her colleagues.



## DEANS' EQUITY AND INCLUSION INITIATIVE

- Congratulations to [Professor Zihao Zhang](#) for being named an early career fellow of the [Dean's Equity and Inclusion Initiative](#)! Together with 16 other early career faculty, Professor Zhang was recently welcomed into the second cohort of this program.
- “As a bilingual Asian landscape scholar teaching and researching in the U.S., where non-white faculty and non-western thinking are still somewhat foreign ideas for many, I find it comforting, refreshing, and exhilarating to connect with a network of amazingly diverse scholars striving for a collective future for all,” says Professor Zhang.



## SORKIN READING ROOM @ THE ARCHITECTURE LIBRARY

Honors the late Distinguished Professor Michael Sorkin and provides a hub for urbanism research at Spitzer.

Huge thanks to Joan Copjec! And to Prof. Elisabetta Terragni!! And to other faculty, staff, and students for all their help!!!

Opening in Fall 2022.

## FACILITIES



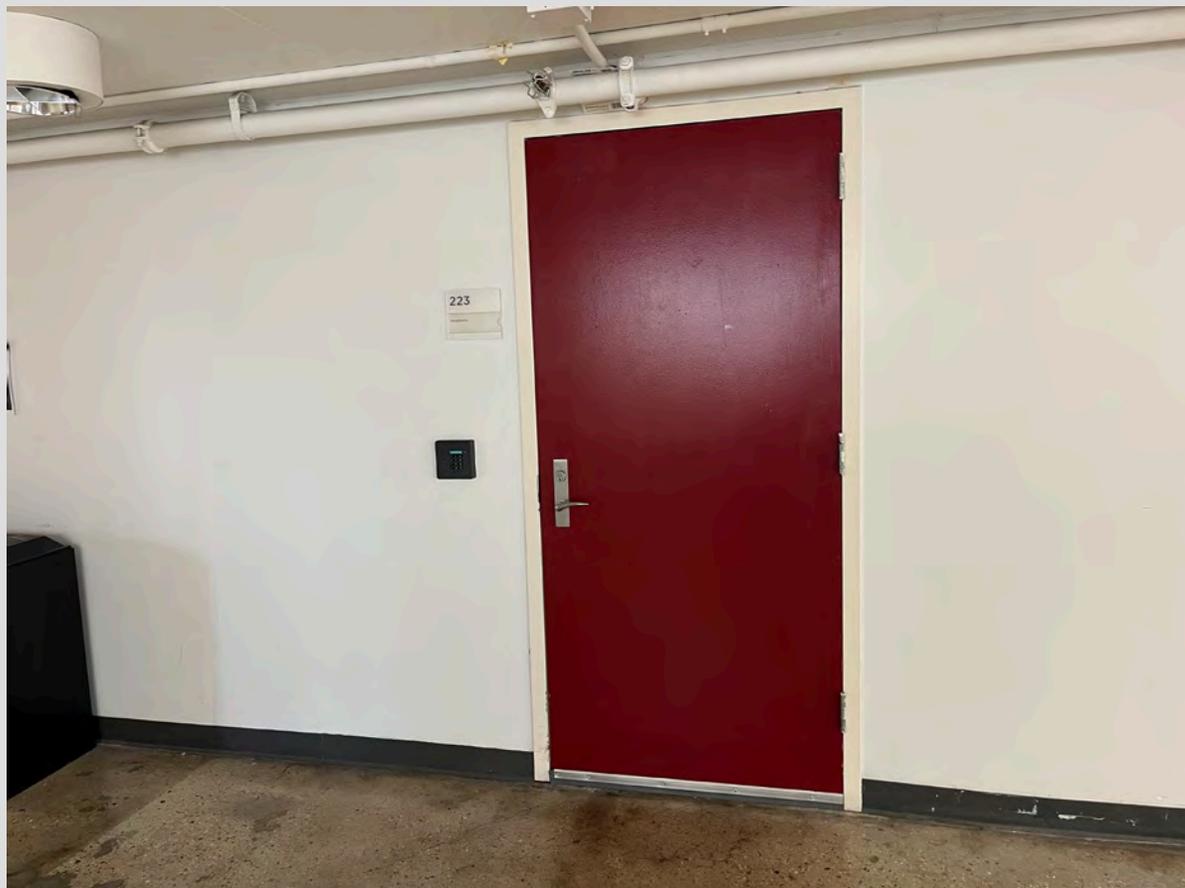
Coming soon to the terrace — a bike rack with 9 hoops!



Room 107, Sciame Auditorium – 135 seats, 6 accessible

I-Bean Café is re-opening this fall -- Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, 11:00 am to 6:00 pm

First day: Tuesday, September 6



IT Reservation Desk (Room 102, former archive): Monday to Friday, 8:30 am – 6:00 pm  
Thanks to Hassan!



Coming soon! An online reservation form for faculty, staff and students to reserve any equipment,  
<https://ssa-ccny.libcal.com/equipment>

# JUSTICE WORK AT SPITZER



JEDI

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Justice Equity Diversity Inclusion

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Vision: Racial Equity Statement of Purpose

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Action Plan: Five-year plan for JEDI

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Studio Culture

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Mellon Foundation—Humanities in Place

# BORDER CROSSINGS: ARCHITECTURE AND MIGRATION IN THE AMERICAS

FALL 22 SCIAME LECTURE SERIES

This Sciame lecture series is made possible by the Spitzer Architecture Fund and the generous support of Frank Sciame '74, CEO of Sciame Construction.

All lectures are in-person, free, and held at 6pm NYC time.

Please check current campus access protocols here: [tinyurl.com/CCNYclearV](https://tinyurl.com/CCNYclearV)

**Border Crossings:**  
**Architecture and Migration in  
the Americas** presents  
meditations on the topic of  
migration from nontraditional,  
creative, and interdisciplinary  
perspectives.

Thanks to Dr. William Brinkman-Clark, visiting scholar from *UNAM*, Mexico City

**Spitzer**



**Ana María León Sept 8**

**Gabriel Díaz Montemayor Sept 15**

**Claudio Lomnitz Sept 21**

**C.J. Alvarez Oct 6**

**Sarah Lynn Lopez Oct 13**

**William Brinkman-Clark Oct 27**

**Miguel Rábago Nov 3**

**Loreta Castro & Gabriela Carrillo Nov 10**

**Arturo Ortiz Struck Nov 17**

Special Lecture

**Paul Farber Oct 20**

**Thu, Sept 8:  
Ana María León  
The Settler Colonial  
Exhibitionary Complex:  
Argentina, 1888**



Photo: Ricardo Bohorquez

**STUDENTS**



# HOUR SSA

Details in regards to time and location will be provided by your professor

Spitzer The Bernard & Anne Spitzer School of Architecture

The City College of New York CUNY

NOMAS NATIONAL ORGANIZATION OF MINORITY ARCHITECTURE STUDENTS

**Diversity Hour:** Independent lecture series created in dialogue with NOMAS leadership

Team Leader: Kedishia Joseph

**Spitzer Commons,** [spitzercommons@ccny.cuny.edu](mailto:spitzercommons@ccny.cuny.edu)

Team Leader: Kedishia Joseph

**Change Maker Scholarship:** acknowledges students who proactively work on behalf of the school community to change it for the better.

**New club: Black @ SSA**

Team Leader: Lorraine Colbert and Anthony Thayer

**Under the Staircase Competition**

Prof. Christian Volkman is the coordinator

**Study Abroad Spring 2023 and Summer 2023**

Prof. Frank Melendez is the coordinator

**Architecture League Mentorship**

Prof. Brad Horn is the coordinator

HOUR SSA suggested reading: “Art of Benin From Yesterday and Today.”



“Euloge Ahanhanzo Glèlè, a sculptor in Benin, in front of the throne of his ancestor King Glélé at an exhibition of looted artifacts recently returned to the country.” Photo credit, Carmen Abd Ali for the New York Times



“Statues representing King Glélé and his successor, King Béhanzin, as half-man, half-animal, at the exhibition.” Photo credit, Carmen Abd Ali for the New York Times

Elian Peltier, “‘Artistic Awakening’ in Benin as Return of Royal Artifacts Attracts Huge Crowds,” *New York Times*, August 21, 2022, <https://www.nytimes.com/2022/08/21/world/africa/benin-art-restitution-exhibition.html>



Julian Barnes:

“Great artists are, almost without exception, aware of and reliant on other great artists of the past. ... Such conversations are nourishing, necessary, and normal.”

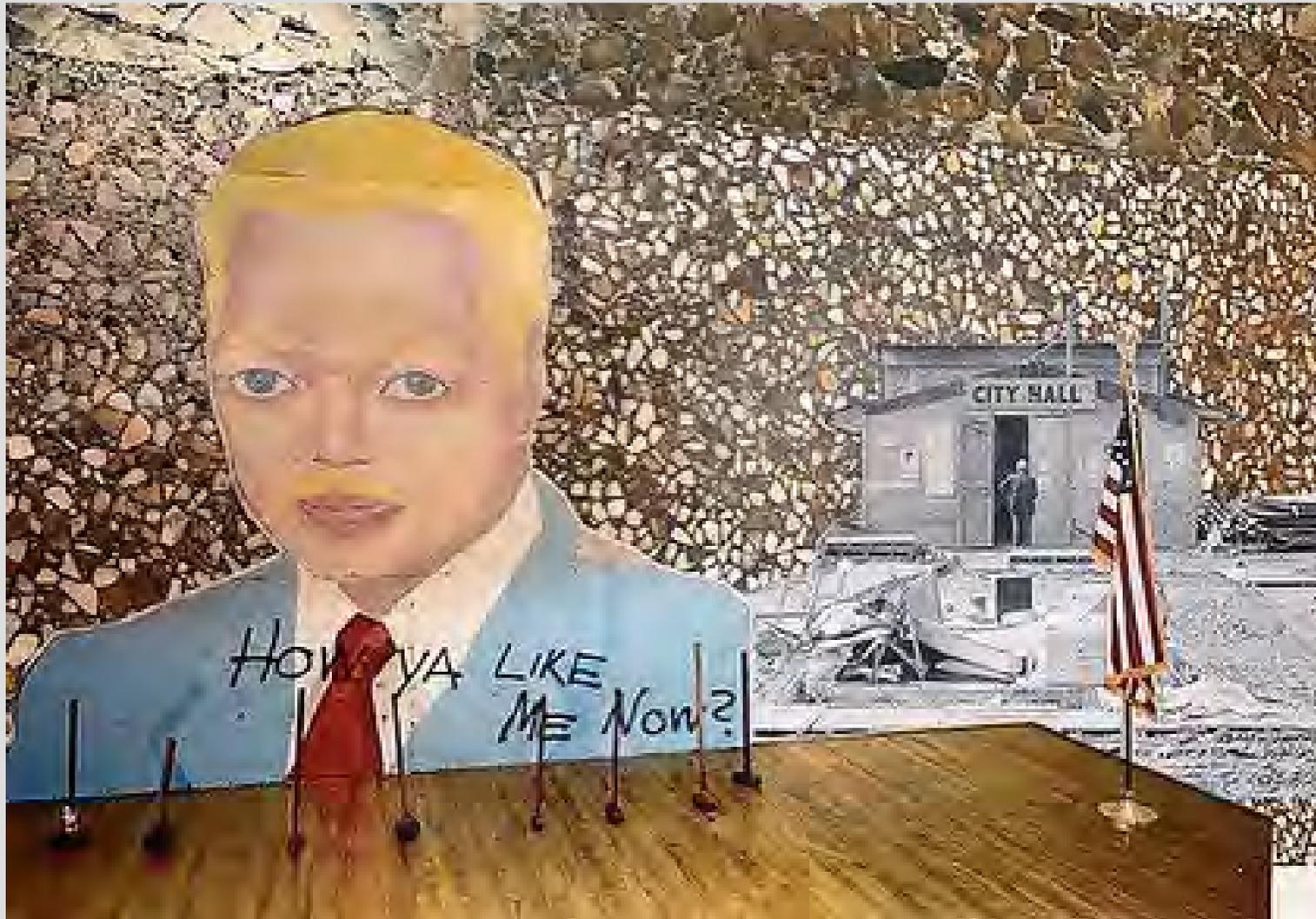
“Harlen Zannou, 12, visiting the contemporary art portion of the exhibition in Cotonou, Benin, with his father and little sister. Children have asked their parents to take them, so they don’t miss out on what their classmates have been discussing.” Peltier, “Artistic Awakening,” *NYT*, 8-21-2022. Photo Credit: Carmen Abd Ali for the New York Times. Quote from Julian Barnes, “At the National Gallery,” *London Review of Books*, 44, no. 16 (18 August 2022), <https://www.lrb.co.uk/the-paper/v44/n16/julian-barnes/at-the-national-gallery>

Spitzer students continue to win honors and scholarships !



B Arch class of 2023 student Alix Solomon has been awarded a Gensler Rising Black Designers Scholarship tuition scholarship for \$10,000.

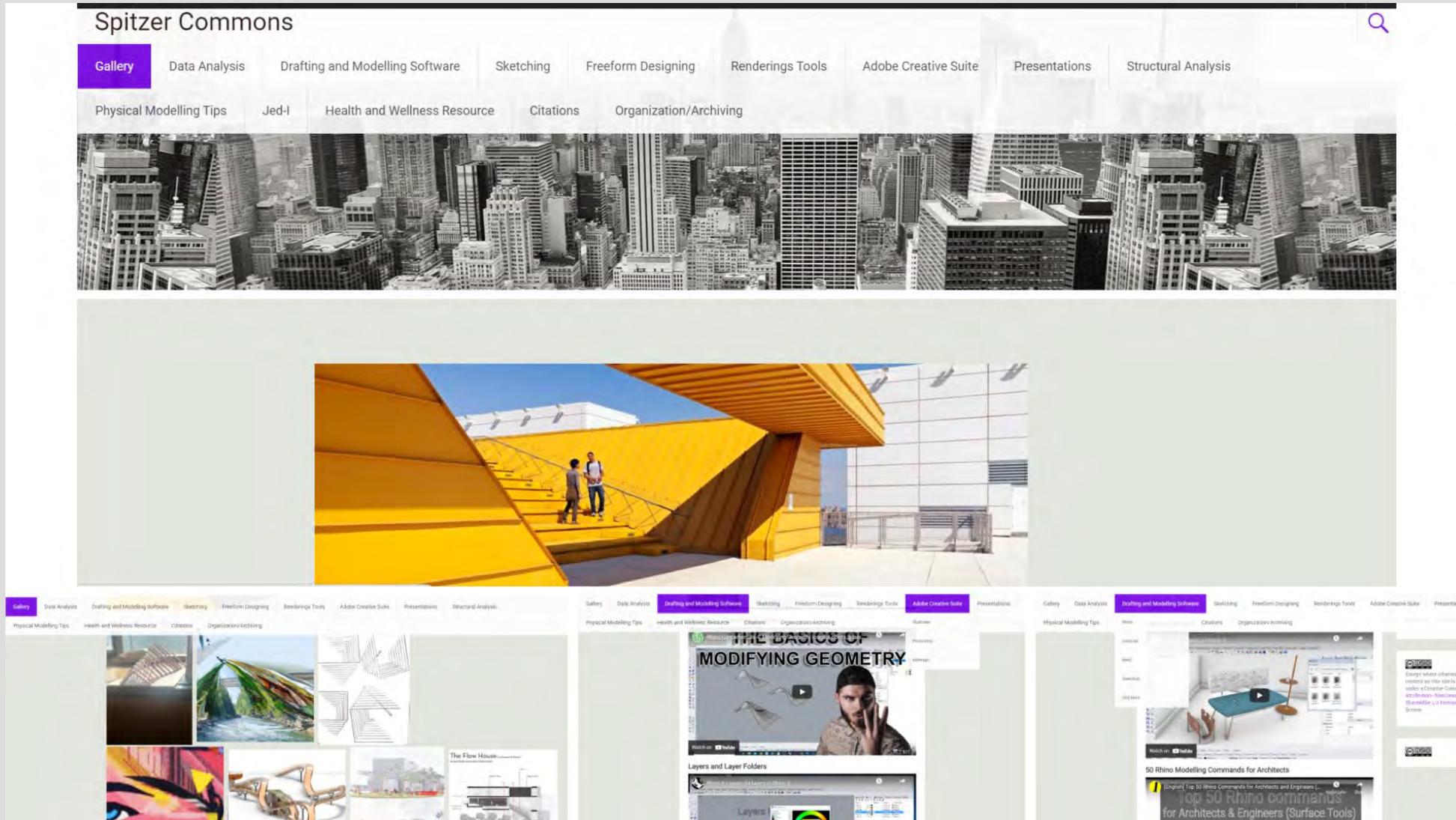
For all the 2022 award winners, please see <https://ssa.ccny.cuny.edu/blog/2022/07/22/2022-award-winners-recognized/>



Check out Dave Hardy's Spring 2022 final project, "Exposing the Foundations of the White House," for which he received an "Honorable Mention" in the 'Design a New White House' competition, hosted by Arch Out Loud ([@architecturecompetition](https://twitter.com/architecturecompetition)).

Dave created his project as a first-year student (!) in Unit 20 - Street and Sanctuary.  
<https://unitsystem.ssa.cuny.cuny.edu/work-item/decentralization/>

# Kedishia Joseph on behalf Spitzer Commons, [spitzercommons@ccny.cuny.edu](mailto:spitzercommons@ccny.cuny.edu)



## Change Maker Scholarship

Acknowledges students who proactively and consistently work on behalf of the school community to change it for the better.

### Winners:

Anita Beach, Studio culture

Dave Hardy, Facilitating Hands on Material Exploration

Helly Kamdar, Recycling

### Runners Up:

Aidan Quigley, Bike racks

Elena Dieci Design for Justice charrette (Spring 2023)

Steve Kaminsky, Sustainability and design

Thanks to Professor Bradley Horn who came up with this program



ARCH. DEPT. CHAIR'S WELCOME

# FACULTY

WELCOME  
ASSISTANT PROFESSOR  
JEROME HAFERD



WELCOME  
ASSISTANT PROFESSOR  
LAURA WAINER, PH.D.



## Research at Spitzer



William Brinkman-Clark, PhD  
Visiting Scholar, UNAM  
Topic: “Movement, Change, and  
Fixity in Contemporary  
Architectural Thought and  
Pedagogy”



Mariana Righi  
Spitzer Fellow  
Topic: “Construction of a  
Concrete-Foam Structure  
Using Recycled EPS  
Formwork, Computer Vision,  
and Robotic Fabrication”



Jesse McCormick  
Spitzer Fellow  
Topic: “Speculative/Unspeculative: Land Banks in  
New York State”



Prof. Jerome Haferd  
2022-23 Wesleyan EAI Visiting Artist Fellowship



Prof. Lindsay Harkema  
NYSCA Grant Winner



Prof. Pedro Cruz Cruz (M.Arch'22)  
[2022 Lisbon Triennale Terra exhibition](#); shortlisted  
for the [Master's Millenium BCP Universities Competition Award](#)

Prof. Mohammad Bolhassani, US Dept of Energy  
\$2.4M grant awarded to Prof. Bolhassani's team



FAREWELL TO  
PROFESSOR  
JAKE ALSPECTOR



# Arch Dept Faculty: NEW ADJUNCT FACULTY

Benjamin	Akhavan
Tairan	An
Wendy	Andringa
Pedro	Cruz Cruz
Kaitlin	Faherty
Erik	Forman
Taylor	Hartley
John	Hartmann
Ruo	Jia
Joshua	Jow
Megan	Kalinowski
Yoonjin	Kim
Sameer	Kumar
Emily	Mangione
Patty	McKee
Anna	McKeigue
Stephanie	McMorran
Elsa	Ponce
Sam	Richman
Lane	Rick
Evan	Shieh
Lai Ching	Tsui



**Arch Dept Faculty:  
NEW ADJUNCT  
FACULTY  
Many Alums!**

**Benjamin Akhavan**

Tairan An

Wendy Andringa

**Pedro Cruz Cruz**

**Kaitlin Faherty**

Erik Forman

Taylor Hartley

**John Hartmann**

Ruo Jia

Joshua Jow

**Megan Kalinowski**

Yoonjin Kim

Sameer Kumar

Emily Mangione

Patty McKee

**Anna McKeigue**

Stephanie McMorran

Elsa Ponce

**Sam Richman**

Lane Rick

Evan Shieh

**Lai Ching Tsui**



LUNCHTIME LECTURE  
BROUGHT TO YOU BY  
THE ARCHITECTURE  
DEPARTMENT AND  
STUDENTS CLUBS

AHU AYDOGAN  
RUO JIA  
SANJUKTA SEN  
SHAWN RICKENBACKER  
+ EHI UWA



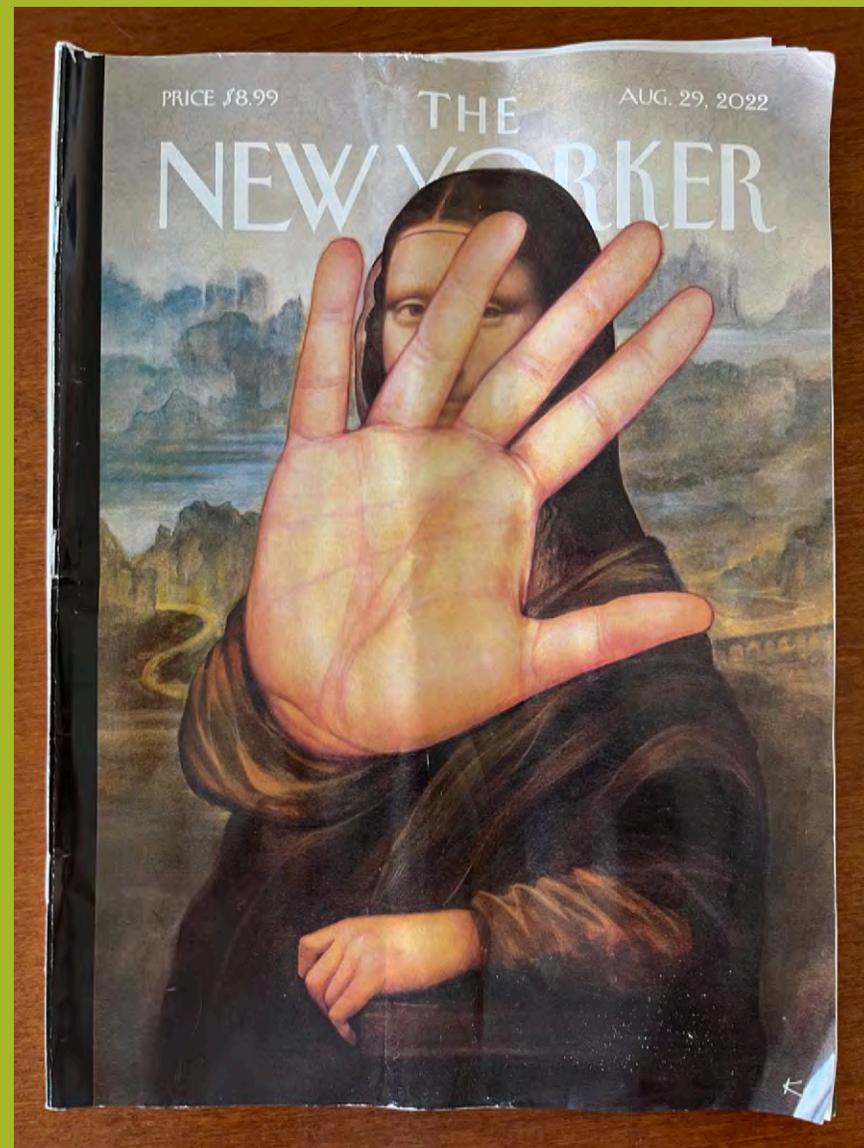


“Statues representing King Glélé and his successor, King Béhanzin, as half-man, half-animal, at the exhibition.” Photo credit, Carmen Abd Ali for the New York Times. Peltier, “Artistic Awakening,” NYT, 8-21-2022.



“Harlen Zannou, 12, visiting the contemporary art portion of the exhibition in Cotonou, Benin, with his father and little sister. Children have asked their parents to take them, so they don’t miss out on what their classmates have been discussing.” Photo Credit: Carmen Abd Ali for the New York Times. Peltier, “Artistic Awakening,” NYT, 8-21-2022.

VISUAL PRIVACY  
VISUAL PLAGIARISM  
FAKE NEWS



COMING IN FALL  
2022

In September, the launch of Spitzer

October 20-22, Society for American  
City and Regional Planning History  
2022 Conference

Happening at Spitzer!

Student workers needed!

Contact:

Aidan Quigley (M.Arch, 2<sup>nd</sup> year)

<https://sacrph.org/conference-2022>

FOLLOW SPITZER

### **Instagram:**

- <https://www.instagram.com/whatsonatssa/>
- @whatsonatssa

### **LinkedIn:**

- <https://www.linkedin.com/school/spitzer-school-of-architecture-city-college-of-new-york-cuny/>

### **SSA website:**

- <https://ssa.ccny.cuny.edu/>

### **Facebook:**

- <https://www.facebook.com/spitzerschoolofarchitecture>

### **Spitzer Commons:**

- [spitzercommons@ccny.cuny.edu](mailto:spitzercommons@ccny.cuny.edu)