

BENJAMIN J. SMITH, Ph.D., Assoc. AIA

Assistant Professor
School of Architecture
College of Design
University of Minnesota

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CURRICULUM VITAE

EDUCATION

- 2016 **University of Michigan**, Ann Arbor, MI
Doctor of Philosophy in Architecture
Dissertation: "With and Without Walls: The Southern California Institute of Architecture and a New School of Los Angeles Architects in the 1970s and 1980s"
Committee: John McMorrough (Chair), Linda Groat, Daniel Herwitz, Jeff Kipnis
Distinguished Dissertation Award
- 2007 **Southern California Institute of Architecture**, Los Angeles, CA
Master of Architecture
Thesis: "(_)junct: Devices of Perception"
Advisor: Coy Howard
Alpha Rho Chi Medal
Distinguished Graduate Thesis Award
- 2002 **St. Olaf College**, Northfield, MN
Bachelor of Arts, Studio Art + English Literature

ACADEMIC EMPLOYMENT

- 2022-Present **University of Minnesota**
Assistant Professor
- 2016-2022 **Tulane University**
Assistant Professor of Architecture
- 2017-2021 **Tulane University**
Director, Graduate Architecture Programs
- 2014-2015 **Southern California Institute of Architecture**
Design of Theory Fellow
- 2013 **University of Michigan**
Instructor
- 2010-2013 **University of Michigan**
Graduate Student Instructor (GSI)
- 2010 **University of Michigan**
Instructor
- 2009-2013 **University of Michigan**
Graduate Student Research Assistant (GSRA)

PROFESSIONAL EMPLOYMENT

- 2016-Present **ooffcie DESIGN**, Minneapolis, MN
Principal
- 2014-2016 **LOOP**, Ann Arbor, MI
Principal
- 2007-2009 **Morphosis Architects**, Santa Monica, CA and Paris, FR
Project Designer
- 2007 **Morphosis Architects**, Santa Monica, CA and Paris, FR
Intern Architect
- 2005-2007 **George Yu Architects**, Culver City, CA
Intern Architect

PUBLICATIONS

- In Preparation **Books**
With and Without Walls: The Southern California Institute of Architecture and a New School of Los Angeles Architects in the 1970s and 1980s (Title Pending)
- Forthcoming **Peer Reviewed Publications**
Blatant | Latent, NCBDS 37 Conference Proceedings
“Teaching Architecture’s Epistemology or: How Students Know What They Know”
- 2020 Open, ACSA Annual Conference Proceedings
“Representing Authenticity: Drawing an Aesthetic Pedagogy” (w/Carrie Norman)
- 2019 BLACK BOX, ACSA Annual Conference Proceedings
“Looking Longer: The Thickening of Time Amidst Second-wave Digital Culture”
- 2019 Constructing Context: Situating Beginning Design, NCBDS 35 Conference Proceedings
“Introducing Architecture’s Contexts: The Attributes of a Discipline”
- 2018 New Instrumentalities, ACSA Int. Conference Proceedings
“Identity Crisis: The Agency of Instagram in Schools of Architecture”
- 2017 Quotation, SAHANZ Conference Proceedings
“From Drawings to Drawls: Coy Howard’s Artifacts of Architectural Production”
- 2016 Cross Americas, Probing Disglobal Networks, ACSA Int. Conference Proceedings
“Composing Composers: Design Instruction for Student Empowerment”
- 2013 Open, SAHANZ Conference Proceedings
“SCI-Arc’s Origins: Exodus from Cal Poly and the Formation of an Alternative Pedagogy”
- 2013 (un)Common Currency, Association of Architectural Educators Conference Proceedings
“Demystifying the SCI-Arc Design Studio: 1972-1976”
- 2013 PAST FORWARD, Think Space Pamphlet
“Evaluating the Manifesto: Architecture Through Constraint”
- 2007 The Yearbook :output 10, BIS Publishers, Amsterdam, NL
Project featured: WAX ON/WAX OFF morphologies in paraffin (2006), (w/Vilhelm Christensen)
- 2017 **Articles**
Places Journal, placesjournal.org
“Architecture and Pedagogy”
- 2015 Offramp 10: Useless (SCI-Arc Press)
“Interview with Hernan Diaz Alonso”
- 2015 SCI-Arc Magazine, (SCI-Arc Press)
“Aiming Onward: A Profile on Eric Owen Moss”
- 2015 Offramp 08: New Los Angelisms (SCI-Arc Press)
“SCI-Arc Builds on Pedagogy”
“Offramp 1987-2000”
- 2014 Section Cut, sectioncut.com
“Artifacts of Architectural Production: Diamonds, Diagrams, Drawls, and Drodels”
- 2012 Dimensions 25, Taubman College of Architecture and Urban Planning
Research Assistant for Monica Ponce de Leon’s Introduction: “Dimensioning”
- 2020 **Interviews**
“Academia and Social Responsibility: A Closer Look at Tulane School of Architecture’s Graduate Programs,” Archinect, article by Katherine Guimapang

2017 Tulane School of Architecture Summer 2017 News
“Graduate Architecture” (Interview)

Editor
2015 Offramp 10: Useless, <http://sciarc-offramp.info/useless>
Journal, Managing Editor

2014-2015 Offramp 9: Lies, <http://sciarc-offramp.info/lies>
Journal, Managing Editor

AWARDS

2017 Distinguished Dissertation Award, Taubman College of Architecture and Urban Planning
“With and Without Walls: The Southern California Institute of Architecture and a New School of Los Angeles Architects in the 1970s and 1980s”

2015 Rackham One Term Dissertation Fellowship, University of Michigan
Department nominated fellowship to support dissertation writing

2015 Rackham One Term Dissertation Fellowship, University of Michigan
Department nominated fellowship to support dissertation writing
(Unable to accept due to concurrent award)

2014-2015 Design of Theory Fellowship, Southern California Institute of Architecture
To advance the necessity for theory and discourse within contemporary architectural design

2013 PhD Student Led Seminar, University of Michigan
Artifacts of Architectural Production: Diamonds, Diagrams, Drawls, and Drodels

2011 Thomas A. Langius Architectural Research Scholarship, University of Michigan
Doctoral Scholarship

2009-2010 Nathan and Marilyn Levine Architectural Research Fellowship, University of Michigan
Doctoral Scholarship

2007 Distinguished Graduate Thesis Award Southern California Institute of Architecture
(_)junct: Devices of Perception

2007 Alpha Rho Chi Medal, Southern California Institute of Architecture
For demonstrating leadership, service, and the promise of professional merit

2006 Selected Project: :output 10
WAX ON/WAX OFF morphologies in paraffin (w/ Vilhelm Christensen)

2006-2007 Graduate Scholarship, Southern California Institute of Architecture
Portfolio and merit award

2001-2002 Honor House, St. Olaf College
International Issues Dialogue

INTERNAL GRANTS

Tulane University
2019 COR Faculty International Travel Grant
2018 Faculty Networking Seminar (w/Adam Modesitt and Carrie Norman)
2017 Faculty Networking Seminar
Honors Freshman Colloquium Course Development Funds

Tulane School of Architecture
2018 Dean’s Fund for Excellence
2017 Dean’s Fund for Excellence

University of Michigan
2013 Rackham Graduate Student Research Grant
2012 Rackham Graduate Student Research Grant

2011 Rackham Spring/Summer Graduate Research Grant (w/Monica Ponce de Leon)
Arts of Citizenship (w/Steven Mankouche and Matthew Schulte)
Rackham Spring/Summer Graduate Research Grant (w/Robert Adams)

INVITED CRITIC

Art Center, Cal Poly Pomona, Cal Poly San Luis Obispo (LA Metro Program), Kent State University, Louisiana State University, Miami University, Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute, Southern California Institute of Architecture, Tulane University, University of California Berkeley, University of Kentucky, University of Michigan, University of Minnesota, The University of Tennessee Knoxville, University of Nebraska, Washington University in St. Louis, Woodbury University

PRESENTATIONS

Peer Reviewed Conferences

2022 NCBDS 37 Conference, Blatant | Latent, Muncie, IN
"Teaching Architecture's Epistemology or: How Students Know What They Know"

2020 Open, ACSA Annual Conference, San Diego, CA
"Representing Authenticity: Drawing an Aesthetic Pedagogy" (w/Carrie Norman)

2019 Architecture & Collective Life, AHRA Int. Conference, Dundee, UK
"New New Orleans: The Impact of Architecture and the Environment in the Gulf South"

2019 BLACK BOX, ACSA Annual Conference, Pittsburgh, PA
"Looking Longer: The Thickening of Time Amidst Second-wave Digital Culture"

2019 NCBDS 35 Conference, Constructing Context: Situating Beginning Design, Denver, CO
"Introducing Architecture's Contexts: The Attributes of a Discipline"

2018 Play with the Rules, ACSA Fall Conference, Milwaukee, WI
"Pop-things: Architecture's Play with Image Construction"

2018 New Instrumentalities, ACSA International Conference, Madrid, ES
"Identity Crisis: The Agency of Instagram in Schools of Architecture"

2018 EXTREME: Rethinking the Limits to Community, Architecture, and Urbanism, Longyearbyen, SJ
"Devices of Perception: Architecture from Radical Contrasts"

2017 Quotation: 34th Annual SAHANZ Conference, Canberra, AU
"From Drawings to Drawls: Coy Howard's Artifacts of Architectural Production"

2016 Cross Americas: Probing Disglobal Networks, ACSA Int. Conference, Santiago, CL
"Composing Composers: Design Instruction for Student Empowerment"

2013 Transgression: 10th Annual AHRA Int. Conference, Bristol, UK
"SCI-Arc Builds on Pedagogy: 1800 Berkeley Street"

2013 Open: 30th Annual SAHANZ Conference, Gold Coast, AU
"SCI-Arc's Origins: Exodus from Cal Poly and the Formation of an Alternative Pedagogy"

2013 (un)Common Currency: AAE Conference, Nottingham, UK
"Demystifying the SCI-Arc Design Studio: 1972-1976"

2013 PAST FORWARD: Think Space Unconference, Zagreb, HR

"Evaluating the Manifesto: Architecture Through Constraint" (unable to attend)

2013 The Visibility of Research: ARCC 2013 Conference, Charlotte, NC
Abstract: "Instituting an Anti-Institute: The Counterculture of 1970s SCI-Arc" (unable to attend)

2010 International Journal of Arts and Sciences: Boston, MA
"Decoupling Formal and Aesthetic Expectation"

- Invited Talks**
- 2016 Spring Lecture Series, Southern California Institute of Architecture, Los Angeles, CA
“Architecture as Conviction: Vapid Potential or Rigorous Consequence”
- 2010 Flipping, Bubbles, and Monsters Studio, Woodbury University
“Architectural Fantastic,”
- 2006 Materials and Applications Gallery, Los Angeles, CA
“WAX ON/WAX OFF morphologies in paraffin,” (w/Vilhelm Christensen)
- Symposia**
- 2006 agentCODE, New York, (w/Columbia GSAPP, Cornell AAP, and SCI-Arc Students)
“WAX ON/WAX OFF morphologies in paraffin,” (w/Vilhelm Christensen)
- Conferences and Symposia Organized**
- 2019-2021 Faculty Advisor, TSAGG Colloquium: On the Edge of Architecture, Tulane University
- 2018-2019 Co-chair, Fieldwork: Design Build Conversations, Tulane University
(w/ Byron Mouton, Emilie Taylor Welty, and Ann Yoachim)
- Faculty Advisor, UG Symposium: re/present: between pedagogy & practice, Tulane University
(w/Carrie Norman)
- 2013-2014 Co-chair, “BANKRUPT: Economic Crisis and the Built Environment,” University of Michigan
(w/Michael McCulloch, Sarah Mills, Azadeh Omidfar)
- Panels Chaired**
- 2019 “Scholarship,” Moderator
Fieldwork: Design Build Conversations, Tulane University
- 2012 “Practice,” Moderator
Wither Installation, University of Michigan
- 2010 “Communications and Media,” and “Social Sciences Posters,” Session Chair
International Journal of Arts and Sciences: Boston, MA

TEACHING

- University of Minnesota**
- 2022-2023 1281: Design Fundamentals 1 (Undergraduate)
3282: Undergraduate Studio 2 (Site/Context) (Instructor and Coordinator)
8299: Master’s Final Project (Instructor and Coordinator)
- Tulane University**
- 2021-2022 3130: Architectural Research Methods (Undergraduate)
6925: Independent Thesis Research (Graduate)
6980: Thesis Research (Graduate, Instructor and Coordinator)
6990: Graduate Thesis Studio (Instructor and Coordinator)
- 2020-2021 6011: Graduate Architecture Studio 1 (“More Than Enough”)
6925: Independent Thesis Research (Graduate)
6980: Thesis Research (Graduate, Instructor and Coordinator)
6990: Graduate Thesis Studio (Instructor and Coordinator)
- 2019-2020 2122: History of Architecture and Urbanism 1750-Present (Undergraduate)
6122: History of Architecture and Urbanism 1750-Present (Graduate)
6910: The Form of Function (Graduate, Independent Study)
6910: From Passages to Borders (Graduate, Independent Study)
6925: Independent Thesis Research (Graduate)
6980: Thesis Research (Graduate, Instructor and Coordinator)
6990: Graduate Thesis Studio (Instructor and Coordinator)
- 2018-2019 2122: History of Architecture and Urbanism 1750-Present (Undergraduate)
3311/6311: Introduction to Digital Media (Undergraduate/Graduate, w/Carrie Norman)
6021: Graduate Architecture Studio 3 (“Site Productions”)
6110: Introduction to Architecture (Graduate)

	6910: Queer Place, Space, and Futurity (Graduate, Independent Study)
2017-2018	1025: The Will to Solutions: Decision-Making in Creative Fields (Undergraduate) 3100/6100: Introduction to Digital Media (Undergraduate/Graduate) 6200: Graduate Architecture Studio 4 (“Poetics of Material Assembly”)
2016-2017	2100: Undergraduate Architecture Studio 3 (“The City”) 4350/6350: Artifacts of Architectural Production (Undergraduate/Graduate) 3200/7200: Undergraduate/Graduate Architecture Studio 6 (“Integrated Design Studio”)
	Southern California Institute Architecture
2014-2015	1020: Undergraduate Architecture Studio 3 (“Formworks: Sites & Contexts”) 1101: Graduate Architecture Studio (“Fundamental Architectural Principles 2”) 1420: Graduate Thesis Studio (Theory and Representation Advising) 2201: Theories of Contemporary Architecture 1 (Graduate) Primary Instructor: M. Gow 2471: Special Topics (Graduate/Undergraduate, “Look! You’ve Got it All Wrong!!”) w/J. Kipnis & E.O. Moss 2513: Special Topics (Graduate/undergraduate, “Artifacts of Architectural Production”)
2006-2007	1B FD2: Drawing and Analysis (Undergraduate), TA for J. Azulay 2A: Drawing and Analysis, (Undergraduate, “True Romance”), TA for J. Azulay Special Topics Seminar (Graduate/undergraduate, “Cinematic Spaces”), TA for J.M. Crettaz
	University of Michigan
2013-2014	509: Special Topics (Graduate, “Artifacts of Architectural Production”)
2012-2013	209: Thinking Architecture (Undergraduate), Guest Instructor for M. Ponce de Leon 413: History of Architecture & Urbanism (Graduate), GSI for J. McMorrough 662: Graduate Thesis Studio (“Insides”), Co-advisor w/E. Abrons
2011-2012	413: History of Architecture & Urbanism (Graduate), GSI for J. McMorrough
2010-2011	442: Undergraduate Architecture Studio 4 (“Wallenberg Studio”), GSI for S. Mankouche 552: Graduate Architecture Studio 4 (“Threshold) GSI for R. Adams
2009-2010	572: Graduate Architectural Theory and Criticism, GSI for A. Kulper 662: Graduate Thesis Studio (“Euphoria”), Theory Advisor, for R. Adams’ and P. Kulper’s students

THESIS & DOCTORAL ADVISING

	Tulane University
2021-2022	Luke Escobar, M.Arch Thesis (Advisor), Thesis Commendation
	Sofia Perrotta, M.Arch Thesis (Advisor)
2020-2021	Reed Campbell, M.Arch Thesis (Advisor)
	Ysabel Colón, M.Arch Thesis (Advisor)
	Claire DiVito, M.Arch Thesis (Advisor), Thesis Commendation
2019-2020	Casey Last, M.Arch Thesis (Advisor), Thesis Commendation
	Lucy Satzewich, M.Arch Thesis (Advisor), Outstanding Thesis Award and Thesis Commendation
2017-2018	Pavlo Iosipiv, Honors Thesis (Reader), Outstanding Thesis Award, Thesis Commendation
2016-2017	Chesley McCarty, Honors Thesis (Reader), Thesis Commendation
	Technical University of Madrid
2019	Javier Mosquera Gonzalez, Ph.D. Thesis, “The Search for an Own Identity: A Global Practice on the Margin, Marion Mahony Griffin and Walter Burley Griffin 1912-1937” (Reader)

CAMPUS OR DEPARTMENTAL TALKS

	Tulane University
2021	Lecture Series Respondent “Debate, Delete, Reboot: Being Wrong in Times of Change,”
2021	“Design Considerations.” Guest Lecture for A. Yoachim, 2705: Design and Society
2021	“With and Without Walls,” for C. Reese, 6130: Architectural Research Methods
2018	“Architectural Education & Decision Making in Creative Fields,” Honors Weekend
2017	“Rendering & Digital Media in Architecture,” Tulane School of Architecture Career Explorations
	University of Michigan
2016	“Without Walls,” Doctoral Studies in Architecture Colloquium

2013 Review Moderator for D. Gilpin 442: Architecture Studio 4 (“Wallenberg Studio”)
 Guest Instructor for M. Ponce de Leon, 209: Thinking Architecture
 2010 Guest Instructor for D. Gilpin, 509: Special Topics Seminar (“Linework”)

RESEARCH POSITIONS

2014-2015 **Southern California Institute of Architecture**
 Design of Theory Fellow

2012-2013 **University of Michigan**
 Peer review journal research and development (Research Assistant for M. Ponce de Leon)
 2011-2012 Whither Installation Symposium (Research Assistant for J. McMorrhough)
 2010-2011 The Asclepius Machine (Research Assistant for R. Adams)
 2009 Mapping studies and spatial analysis (Research Assistant for S. Psarra)

PROFESSIONAL SERVICE

2020 *The Journal of Architecture*, Manuscript Reviewer
 2019 EskewDumezRipple, Friday Forum Lecture, “Critical Practices of Drawing”
 2018 NCBDS 35: Constructing Context, Abstract Reviewer
 ACSA Fall Conference: Play with the Rules, Abstract Reviewer
 Architecture and Design Film Festival, Louisiana Architectural Foundation, Panelist, “Experimental City”
 2014 ACSA/AIK International Conference: Open Cities, Abstract Reviewer

ACADEMIC SERVICE

2022-2023 **College of Design, University of Minnesota**
 Curriculum Committee
 2022-2023 Honors & Awards Committee

2022-2023 **School of Architecture, University of Minnesota**
 Curriculum Committee

2021-2022 **Tulane University**
 University Senate/Committee for Educational Policy (School of Architecture Senator)
 2016-2019 Senate Committee on Committees

2021-2022 **Tulane School of Architecture**
 Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion Committee
 Lectures Committee
 Curriculum Committee, Chair
 2020-2021 Research + Design Research Task Force, Chair
 2018-2019 Graduate Curriculum Task Force, Chair
 Curriculum Committee
 2017-2021 Graduate Admissions Committee, Chair
 Faculty Advisor, Tulane School of Architecture Graduate Government
 Student Affairs Committee
 2017-2020 Lectures, Exhibitions, and Events Committee, Chair
 2017-2019 RFP Juror, Small Center for Collaborative Design
 2017-2018 Faculty Advisor, The Charrette, Student Publication
 ACSA Representative
 Dean Search Committee
 New Faculty Search Committee
 2016-2018 Executive Committee
 2016-2017 Faculty Representative, Recruitment
 Graduate Admissions Committee

2013 **University of Michigan**
 Emerging Voices Lecture Series
 2012 SI-North Renovation Committee
 2010 Emerging Voices Lecture Series
 Doctoral Lounge Renovation Committee

Southern California Institute of Architecture

- 2007 “The Strangelove Loop,” SCI-Arc boardroom design competition, w/J. Azulay
2006 “Breathing Wall,” installation, SCI-Arc Gallery, for Jakob + MacFarlane

WORKSHOPS

Leader

- 2017 Digital Media Workshop, Tulane University (DSGN 3200/7200: Integrated Design Studio)
Deceptive Imitations, Tulane University (Organized by Y. Ishida)
2011 Form-Genics, University of Michigan (w/R.J. Yoo for ARCH 442 Studio)

Participant

- 2021 The Last Frontier: Decolonizing Content & Promoting a Culture of Inclusion in Design Studios (ACSA)
2020 Design Education: Reading and Teaching Change, UL Lafayette and Tulane University
Design Futures: Student Leadership Forum, Sam Fox School of Design and Visual Arts (Faculty Rep.)

SELECTED DESIGN PROJECTS

ooffcie DESIGN

- 2020-Present Fox Farm Road (Residential Project)
2018-2019 Alt House (Residential Project)
2018 Gleaning the Cubes: Rooms for Northern Lights (Competition)
London Museum of Language (Competition)
2017 Sandy Hook Memorial (Competition)
Folly Studies (Representation Project)
2016-2017 4925 Constance (Residential Project)

LOOP

- 2014-2015 Reedsburg Recreation Center

Morphosis Architects

- 2007-2009 Phare Tower
2007 New Orleans National Jazz Center

George Yu Architects

- 2006 City of the Future (Competition)
2006 Gardens by the Bay (Competition)
2006 Forum Fest (Installation)
2005 Client Experience Center (Office Prototype)
2005-2006 Yu House (Residential Project)

PRESS FEATURING PERSONAL DESIGN WORK

- 2014 “‘Perfect Project’ Proposed for Reedsburg,” Reedsburg Times Press, May 17, 2014
Project featured: Reedsburg Recreation Center (2014)
- 2013 *Corrections and Collections: Architectures for Art and Crime*, Routledge, Joe Day (Author)
Project featured: Stan Brakhage Analysis (2006)
- 2009 *Onramp 2*, SCI-Arc Press
Project featured: ()junct: Devices of Perception (2007)
- 2009 *Årbok*, AHO Publications, Oslo School of Architecture + Design
Project featured: WAX ON/WAX OFF morphologies in paraffin (2006), with Vilhelm Christensen
- 2007 *Arredamento Mimarlik*, Boyut Yayin Grubu, Turkey
“Okul: SCI-Arc,” Project featured: ()junct: Devices of Perception (2007)

EXHIBITIONS

- 2007 Selected Thesis Exhibition, Southern California Institute of Architecture, Los Angeles, CA
Project featured: ()junct: Devices of Perception

- 2007 Seventh Annual Silver Lake Film Festival, Los Angeles, CA
Project featured: WAX ON/WAX OFF morphologies in paraffin (2006), with Vilhelm Christensen
- 2006 Agnapot Film Festival, Topanga, CA
Project featured: Remembering the Future
- 2002 Mmm Mmm Good, St. Olaf College, Northfield, MN
Project featured: Mantra

MEMBERSHIPS

Architectural Humanities Research Association
American Institute of Architects (Assoc. AIA)
Association of Collegiate Schools of Architecture
National Council of Architectural Registration Boards
Society of Architectural Historians
Society of Architectural Historians Australia and New Zealand

REGISTRATION

ARE: In progress
AXP: Complete