

SCI-ARC

Media Inquiries:

Stephanie Atlan, news@sciarc.edu, 213-356-5395

SCI-ARC ANNOUNCES FALL 2022 PUBLIC PROGRAMS AMID 50th ANNIVERSARY



Top (left to right): Behnaz Farahi, Neil Denari, Michael Rotondi

Middle: Garrett Jacobs

Bottom (left to right): Zhu Pei, Deborah Garcia, Mariana Ibañez

SCI-Arc events are free and open to the public.

Los Angeles, CA (September 2, 2022) – SCI-Arc is proud to continue its commitment to maintaining a robust platform for interdisciplinary discourse with its fall 2022 series of lectures and exhibitions. SCI-Arc's fall 2022 program will feature stellar speakers from a wide range of cultural practices including **Zhu Pei, Behnaz Farahi, Mariana Ibañez**, and more.

This year's **Graduate Thesis** returns in person at SCI-Arc September 10 and 11. 62 graduating M.Arch 1 and 2 students convene once again to present their incredible thesis work to faculty advisors and visiting reviewers, culminating from a year of intense research and experimentation.

SCI-Arc design faculty **Elena Manferdini** and **Damjan Jovanovic** will also present new exhibitions, entitled *DOMUS Patterns of Living*, opening at the Pacific Design Center on September 21, and *Discovery*, opening in the

SCI-Arc Gallery on October 28, respectively. SCI-Arc's annual **Selected Thesis** exhibition following 2022 Graduate Thesis will commence on September 23 in the SCI-Arc Gallery.

Visit <https://sciarc.edu/events/> for more information about upcoming lectures. All events are listed in Pacific Standard Time and are broadcast live online on [SCI-Arc's Livestream](#) and [Facebook page](#).

With the health and safety of our community in mind, this fall all visitors are required to be fully vaccinated. Visitors who are fully vaccinated but do not have their booster (when eligible) will be required to wear a mask while indoors at SCI-Arc.

<u>September 21</u>	Elena Manfredini Exhibition
<u>23</u>	Selected Thesis Exhibition
<u>October 12</u>	Zhu Pei Virtual Lecture
<u>19</u>	Garrett Jacobs Lecture
<u>26</u>	Michael Rotondi (B.Arch '75) Lecture
<u>28</u>	Damjan Jovanovic Exhibition
<u>November 2</u>	Neil Denari Lecture
<u>9</u>	Deborah Garcia (B.Arch '17) Lecture
<u>16</u>	Behnaz Farahi Lecture
<u>30</u>	Mariana Ibañez Lecture

LECTURES

October 12, 6pm PT

Zhu Pei

Lecture: *Root and Innovation*

Virtually on SCI-Arc's [livestream](#)

Zhu Pei

Dean, Central Academy of Fine Arts, School of Architecture

Founder, Studio Zhu Pei

Honorary Fellow of AIA

Pei founded Studio Zhu Pei in Beijing in 2005, and from there he has produced an extraordinary corpus of cultural works that have made him one of the leading figures of his generation. His works have been exhibited at world important museums such as MoMA, Venice Biennial, GA Gallery, Centre Pompidou, Victoria and Albert Museum, Kassel, Dresden State Art Museum, Sao Paulo Art Biennial, the solo exhibition at Aedes, Harvard University, Rome MAXXI Museum and so on. His works have been collected by MoMA, Pompidou Art Center, the Victoria and Albert Museum and M+.

He has also been selected as an architecture jury member for Mies van der Rohe Award in 2011.

Marked by his American experience, which includes teaching at Harvard and Columbia, he is the current dean of the School of Architecture at Central Academy of Fine Arts. The lecture is going to focus on one project, which is Jingdezhen Imperial Kiln Museum, to represent my design philosophy gets translated into the contemporary tectonic terrain.

October 19, 6pm PT

Garrett Jacobs

Lecture: *Architecture in Pursuit of Justice and Equity*

W.M. Keck Hall

Garrett Jacobs

Director of Evaluation and Research with Designing Justice Designing Spaces and

Board President and Advisor with the Open Architecture Collaborative, Oakland, CA

Jacobs's architectural journey began in post Katrina New Orleans. He has over 15 years of organizing experience from community design build projects, to running an international network of volunteer chapters, and

a national network of municipal civic technologists with [Code for America](#). Garrett led the reorganization of the Architecture for Humanity Chapter Network after the organization's closure and served as the founding Executive Director of the [Open Architecture Collaborative](#) working to shift the dialogue of community design from volunteerism to addressing systemic racism and oppression. Garrett launched a leadership program called [Pathways to Equity](#) which marries professional development and community project field experience. Garrett has filled many roles—from CFO to Directing Advocacy—with [Designing Justice Designing Spaces](#), a non-profit architecture and real estate organization working to end mass incarceration and its root causes.

Garrett will share his journey through the architectural profession in search of authenticity. This reflective talk will discuss architecture, its business practices and potentials during a powerful transitional time. This reflection will be approached through the lens of three different scales: 1) the self and identity, 2) teams and offices, and 3) project development. The goal of this reflection is to keep moving towards equity and justice. Garrett will speak from his personal experience, re-constructing *Architecture for Humanity* into what would become the *Open Architecture Collaborative*, creating the *Pathways to Equity* program, and now working in collaboration with *Designing Justice Designing Spaces*, focusing on building the infrastructure of care to replace jails and the punitive justice system.

October 26, 6pm PT

Michael Rotondi (B.Arch '75)

Lecture

W.M. Keck Hall

Michael Rotondi, FAIA, principal of RoTo Architects, is internationally recognized as an architect/educator. He has practiced and taught architecture for 35 years and defines both as one activity. He has always been based in Los Angeles, co-founding two international practices, Morphosis (1975-1991) and RoTo Architects (1991-present). In 1972, he and 50 colleagues co-founded SCI-Arc under the direction of Ray Kappe. He started and was the first Director of Graduate Programs (1978-1987) and for ten years (1987-1997) served as the second director of SCI-Arc. He currently teaches as a Distinguished Faculty and is an Honorary Trustee. RoTo Architects works range from contemplative, to cultural, to commercial. The works have received many awards and have been widely published. Rotondi has lectured and taught worldwide for many years. At SCI-Arc, he teaches thesis students, design studios and a lecture-seminar of creative imagination. After so many years of teaching, he believes he is in the 5th phase shifting his approach and delivery from that of a teacher to a mentor.

November 2, 6pm PT

Neil Denari

Lecture

W.M. Keck Hall

Neil Denari, FAIA, is principal of NMDA, Neil M. Denari Architects Inc., and a professor at UCLA Architecture and Urban Design. Among his many awards is the Los Angeles AIA Gold Medal, received in 2011. His work has been included in many exhibitions, including solo shows “The Artless Drawing” in 2010 at Ace Gallery LA and “Aperiodic City” at T-Space in 2017 in Rhinebeck, NY. His work is permanently held by eight major museums around the world.

With NMDA, Denari works on building projects in North America, Europe and Asia. In 2012, NMDA won first prize in the New Keelung Harbor Service Building competition. Denari lectures worldwide and has been a Visiting Critic at Harvard, Princeton, Columbia, Rice, and UC Berkeley among other schools and was the Director of SCI-Arc from 1997–2002. He is the author of *Interrupted Projections* (1996), *Gyroscopic Horizons* (1999), *Chromatopia* (2015), *Tower_Complex* (2017), and *MASS X* (2018).

November 9, 6pm PT

Deborah Garcia (B.Arch '17)

Lecture: *LANDSCAPES OF RAGE*

W.M. Keck Hall

Garcia is a designer, writer, and curator. She holds a Master of Architecture from Princeton University and a Bachelor of Architecture from the Southern California Institute of Architecture. She was a recipient of the Butler Travelling Fellowship which took her to the corporate agricultural complex of the United States heartland where

she was a resident at ARTFarm Nebraska and was an invited participant for the 2019 Arctic Circle Expedition in the international territory of Svalbard, Norway. She was a co-curator of THE DRAWING SHOW at the A+D Architecture and Design Museum in 2017 and curator of One Night Stand for Art and Architecture-LA in 2016. She is the current Marion Mahony Emerging Practitioner Fellow at the MIT Department of Architecture where she is currently exploring loud-speaking models.

LANDSCAPES OF RAGE presents three stories of research and practice from the perspective of an explorer chasing and discovering ways of making space in the world. From the Chihuahua Desert to the Arctic Circle to the Black Box (a space-within a room-within a university), Deborah Garcia will track her efforts in engaging the tools and language of architecture to actively create new imaginaries and craft escape plans from colonial fantasy futures.

November 16, 6pm PT

Behnaz Farahi

Lecture: *Your Gaze Hits the Side of my Face: Critical Computational Design*

W.M. Keck Hall

Behnaz Farahi

Principal Studio Farahi

Assistant professor, California State University, Long Beach

Trained as an architect, Behnaz Farahi is an award-winning designer and critical maker based in Los Angeles. She holds a PhD in Interdisciplinary Media Arts and Practice from USC School of Cinematic Arts. Currently she is an Assistant Professor at the Department of Design, California State University, Long Beach. She explores how to foster an empathetic relationship between the human body and the space around it using computational systems. Her work addresses critical issues such as feminism, emotion, perception, and social interaction. Farahi has won several awards including [the Cooper Hewitt Smithsonian Design Museum](#) Digital Design Award, Innovation By Design Fast Company Award, World Technology Award. She is a co-editor of an issue of AD, *3D Printed Body Architecture (2017)* and *Interactive Futures (forthcoming)*.

In *Your Gaze Hits the Side of my Face: Critical Computational Design*, Farahi asks: Can computational design be critical? Or will various forms of bias always be found embedded in AI and other computational systems? Could materials be augmented with interactive technologies so as to influence our social interaction? Could surveillance act as a form of resistance? This presentation offers a reflection on these questions, and explores the notion of critical computation. It addresses the discourse of the gaze, and surveillance feminism in particular, using some critical computational design projects by way of illustration. From wearables to architecture, these projects demonstrate an application of techniques, such as EEG brain imaging, facial expression, and gaze tracking as well as robotics and novel actuator systems, such as smart materials and pneumatics systems.

November 30, 6pm PT

Mariana Ibañez

Lecture

W.M. Keck Hall

Ibañez is an Argentinian architect involved in practice, academia, and research. Prior to joining the faculty at UCLA, Mariana taught at the Graduate School of Design at Harvard University for over a decade and most recently at MIT. She has been Adjunct Associate Professor at the Daniels Faculty of Architecture in Toronto, and at the Graduate School of Architecture, Planning, and Preservation at Columbia University. Mariana is the co-founder and principal of the award-winning office Ibañez Kim, a genre-defiant practice that works with sensate materials, atmospheres, and new media to generate architecture, objects, and cities.

Her research is in the disciplinary core of architecture and its growing periphery, with a focus on the relationship between technology, culture, and the environment. Current office work includes projects in Canada, USA, Argentina, and Cambridge, with research into the future of theater and performance spaces. Mariana's work has been exhibited at the Museum of Modern Art in New York, the MAXXI Museum in Rome, and The National Art Museum in Beijing, with projects for the Smithsonian Museum in Washington DC, the Philadelphia Museum of Art, and the Seoul Biennale of Architecture and Urbanism. Publications include two edited volumes, *Paradigms in Computing* by Routledge and *Organization or Design?* by a+t. She has written numerous articles

and chapters for Wiley and Sons, Harvard Design Magazine, ACTAR, Routledge, and others.

She has served as an external examiner at the Architectural Association in London, UK, in the visiting committee for the University Torcuato DiTella in Buenos Aires, Argentina and on awards juries for the Boston Society of Architects, the American Institute of Architects, the Rotch foundation, and MacDowell. Ibañez received her Bachelor of Architecture from the Universidad de Buenos Aires and a Master of Architecture and Urbanism from the Architectural Association in London.

EXHIBITIONS

September 21

Elena Manfredini: *DOMUS Patterns of Living*

6pm PT

Pacific Design Center

8687 Melrose Ave

West Hollywood, CA 90069

September 23 - October 12

Selected Thesis

Opening reception: September 23 at 6pm PT

SCI-Arc Gallery

October 28 - December 18

Damjan Jovanovic: *Discovery*

Opening reception: October 28 at 6pm PT

SCI-Arc Gallery

Public Programs

Events are broadcast live online on [SCI-Arc's Livestream](#) and [Facebook page](#).

SCI-Arc Public Programs are subject to change. For the most current information, please visit www.sciarc.edu/ or call 213-613-2200.

About SCI-Arc

Southern California Institute of Architecture (SCI-Arc) is dedicated to educating architects who will imagine and shape the future. It is an independent, accredited degree-granting institution offering undergraduate, graduate, and postgraduate programs in architecture. Located in a quarter-mile-long former freight depot in the Arts District in downtown Los Angeles, the school is distinguished by its vibrant studio culture and emphasis on process. SCI-Arc's approximately 500 students and 80 faculty members, most of whom are practicing architects, work together to reexamine assumptions, create, explore, and test the limits of architecture. SCI-Arc faculty and leadership have garnered more than 500 national and international design awards and recognitions, including Progressive Architecture awards, American Institute of Architects (AIA) awards, and the prestigious Jencks and Pritzker architecture prizes. In DesignIntelligence's 2020 US survey, SCI-Arc ranked #2 in Design Technologies, #3 Most Hired From, and was top 10 among the nation's Most Admired Undergraduate Programs in Architecture. SCI-Arc is located at 960 E. 3rd Street, Los Angeles, CA 90013. www.sciarc.edu