

Megan Panzano

Sr. Director Early Design Education and Lecturer in Architecture, Harvard Graduate School of Design
[Harvard Undergraduate Architecture Studies](#) | [Harvard GSD Design Discovery Program](#)
Founding Director, studioPM www.designstudiopm.com

Curriculum Vitae

Design Faculty Positions

GSD Program Director, Undergraduate Architecture Studies Harvard College, FAS + Harvard GSD, f2017-present
Assistant Professor of Architecture Harvard Graduate School of Design, f2017-sp2021
Design Studios Coordinator + Design Critic in Architecture Harvard Undergraduate Architecture Studies Program, 2015-17
Lead Architecture Faculty Harvard GSD Design Discovery Program, su2015 + su2016
Core Coordinator + Design Critic in Architecture Harvard GSD First Semester MArch I Core Studio, f2015 + 2016
Design Critic in Architecture Harvard GSD First Semester MArch I Core Studio, f2013 + f2014
Architecture Studio Instructor + Lecturer Northeastern University School of Architecture, 2010 – 2014

Organizer and Faculty Member in Consortium of Collegiate Liberal Arts Programs in Architecture sp2018 – present
Member of Society of Architectural Historians – Architectural Studies Group 2020 – present

Invited Guest Critic various design courses in architecture, landscape architecture and urban planning and design departments at University of Toronto, Cornell AAP, Columbia GSAPP, Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute, University of Pennsylvania School of Architecture, Temple University, Tyler School of Art, RISD, Roger Williams University, Wesleyan, Yale University School of Architecture, Texas Tech College of Architecture, USC, UCLA, Boston Architectural College, Tufts University, Northeastern University School of Architecture, MIT School of Architecture, and Harvard Graduate School of Design

Original Design Pedagogy

Harvard Design Discovery Summer Program Harvard GSD, su2015 +su 2016
New pedagogical sequence of four successive design studio projects, including three new design project briefs that built in scale, means, methods, and complexity for intensive six-week summer program; coordinated and hired 15 design faculty and their studios of 12 students each, prepared guidelines for technical skill workshops, and arranged guest lectures to complement pedagogies unique to each summer.

HAA 96A: Transformations Studio Harvard College (FAS) + Harvard GSD, spring 2014 - 2018
Architecture Studies Track design studio for Harvard College students exploring the interrelation of material properties, fabrication technique, form, and effects.

HAA 92R: Design Speculations Seminar Harvard College (FAS) + Harvard GSD, fall 2018 - present
Advanced architectural representation design seminar for Harvard College Seniors in complement to thesis research projects

Harvard College, History of Art & Architecture Design Honors Thesis Harvard College (FAS) + Harvard GSD, sp 2020
Developed course and submission requirements for new 'creative thesis' option supporting design research for Harvard College undergraduates in honors-eligible completion of their History of Art & Architecture FAS degree; approved for AY 2020-2021+

GSD VIS 2121: Architectural Representation I – Origins + Originality Harvard GSD, fall 2017, 2018, 2019 + 2020
Required MArch I first semester core seminar examining the origins of conventional forms of architectural representation and their critical relevance to the contemporary context

GSD Stu 1101 – First Semester Core: PROJECT: Project 01: Jump Cut Harvard GSD, fall 2016 + fall 2017; Final Project fall 2018 + fall 2019; Initial MArch I core studio project brief of term requiring the generation of a coherent architectural project from a given drafted pair of dissonant section projection drawings

GSD Stu 1101 – First Semester Core: PROJECT: Final Project: Generic/Specific Harvard GSD, fall 2016
Final MArch I core studio project brief requiring the engagement of analyzed Baroque architectural fragments within the organizational field of Hejduk's well-known Nine Square Grid in the design of a contemporary cricket sports center

GSD Stu 1102 – Second Semester Core: SITUATE: Project 01: Active Objects Harvard GSD, sp 2019
Initial MArch I core studio project brief of term requiring the generation of architectural form and space from the patterned repetition of a spatial bay; design of bays were motivated by original project prompt – Active Objects, experiments in renewed definitions of action and program through a close reading of actions engaging assigned everyday objects.

GSD Stu 1104 – Fourth Semester Core: RELATE: Collected Company Harvard GSD, spring 2020
MArch I core IV studio position examining, through multi-unit housing, the formal, spatial, and social architectural consequences of collection (physical things and digital images) as a background condition of the present; students Qin Ye Chen (MArch I 2022) and Yiwen Wang (MArch I AP 2022) project, “A House is Not a Home,” awarded Harvard GSD 2020 Clifford Wong Prize in Housing Design for their time-based design of housing that creates new collectivities via collections.

GSD VIS 2358 - Advanced Seminar: Views, With Rooms Harvard GSD, spring 2021
Advanced architectural design seminar for MArch I and MArch II students examining the evolution of theories of vision over time through the optical objects and architectural works they motivated. Designs closely read in course are positioned with relevance to the present issues of building in the postdigital as well as how design can expand its field of inclusion through more collective and diverse forms of vision.

Teaching + Scholarship Awards

Harvard Excellence in Teaching Award (4) Harvard College Undergraduate Architecture Studies, 2015, 2016, 2017 + 2018

Harvard Initiative for Learning and Teaching (HILT) Spark Grant “Making Space” for interdisciplinary critical thinking at Harvard - (with Lisa Haber-Thomson) Harvard University, 2017

Harvard “Into Practice” Pedagogy Feature Harvard University Office of the Provost for Advances in Learning, 2018

Harvard GSD Dean's Jr Faculty Research Grant “Views, With Rooms: Optical Objects and Their Architecture” - Harvard Graduate School of Design, R2 / 2019-20

Harvard GSD Dean's Jr Faculty Research Grant “Image-Space Suspension: Experiments in Perspective and Its Architectural Artifacts in Early 19th Century London” - Harvard Graduate School of Design, R1 / 2018-19

John E. Thayer Award for outstanding graduate academic achievement – Harvard GSD, 2010

Penny White Research Grant for “Self-Storage: A New Surface for Landscape Urbanism” – Harvard GSD, 2009

Berkeley College Master's Prize for outstanding service within the residential college – Yale University, 2004

Richter Fellowship for independent study in architectural representation – Yale University, 2004

Distinction Commendations (5) for uniquely exceptional design course work – Yale, 2002-2003 + GSD, 2006-2010

Select Design Work

studioPM, LLC / Director of independent practice, 2013 – present

High Sees

A rooftop playground for a new preschool in Arlington, MA; construction completed and opened 10/2018

Architectural Artifacts

Design research project exhibition critiquing the perceptual limits posed by conventional one-point perspective representation and the architectural outcomes of doing so; pinkcomma Gallery, Boston, MA; installed 11/2018 and on view through 03/2019

Stowaway House

Compact collector's beach residence in Cape May, NJ; forthcoming

StopMotion

A series of 7 shelters built from historical perspective images for bikers, walkers, runners and children dispersed along the edge of the 10.5 mile Minuteman Bikeway extending west from Cambridge through Arlington, Lexington and Bedford townships; forthcoming

See/Saw

A trio of interrelated image-objects that each contain a secret that is revealed through play. The objects are respectively designed around multiple vantage points, each optically revealing another geometric figure as the pieces are tumbled; toys forthcoming

Soane's Image-Space

Design research on John Soane's House-Museum at 13 Lincoln's Inn fields that positions the work as an analog of postdigital architecture

Save That Stuff, Inc.

Master plan + design of several architectural projects for industrial campus in Boston, MA; underway, construction in phases through 2021

Undergraduate Architecture Studies Exhibit

Exhibit Designer + Co-curator with Lisa Haber-Thomson (MArch I '09) of exhibit on the design of an undergraduate pair of architecture studios within liberal arts context of Harvard in Druker Design Gallery, Cambridge, MA; install completed in 09/2017 and on display through 11/2017

Bottoms Up

An entertainment and guest space basement renovation in a 1929 home; construction completed 11/2016

Living Anatomy Exhibit

Exhibit Designer + Lead Curator of exhibit on contemporary housing in Gund Hall, Cambridge, MA; construction and install completed in 08/2015 and was on display through 12/2015

Kumbh Mela International Traveling Exhibit

10 diverse sites across the globe; Exhibit Designer, Curator and Co-Fabricator; completed construction in April 2015 to initiate multiyear international travel to 7 cities

Platform 5 Exhibit

2 exhibits on exemplary design research out of Harvard from the 2012-13 academic year, one at A4 Gallery in Tokyo, Japan and one at Gund Hall in Cambridge, MA; curated by Mariana Ibanez, Associate Professor of Architecture; Gund Hall, spring 2013

A Living Archive

Exhibit of James Templeton Kelley Thesis Design Prize, Gund Hall 2010

Utile, Inc. Architecture + Planning / Senior Designer + Project Manager, 2010 – 2013

First + First Townhouses

Construction documents and construction administration for 21 townhouses in South Boston, MA; construction completed 10/2012

Save That Stuff, Inc. Offices

Schematic design through construction administration for new office building of salvaged materials in Charlestown, MA; constructed completed 05/2013

McGrath Highway De-elevation Study

Strategic master planning and urban design for Somerville, MA with MassDOT; design study published by State of Massachusetts

Harvard Graduate School of Design / Lead Exhibit Designer + Installer, 6/2008 – 12/2009

Kenzo Tange: Utopia Across Scales

Curated by Seng Kuan with Mohsen Mostafavi, Dean; completed construction in Gund Gallery and Loeb Library, Harvard 09/2009

New Trajectories: Slovenia + Croatia

Curated by Mariana Ibanez with Mohsen Mostafavi, Dean; completed construction in Gund Gallery, Harvard 09/2008

Venturi, Scott Brown + Associates / Staff Architect, 7/2004 – 8/2006

Bryn Mawr College Campus Center

Schematic design through construction administration for renovation of college campus center; completed construction 12/2005

Dumbarton Oaks Library

Member of design team that developed renovation and design addition through construction documents and onsite construction administration in Georgetown, Washington DC; construction completed 2005

Design Awards

ACSA Faculty Design Award Honorable Mention “Expanded Views, With Rooms” for the work of design research project Architectural Artifacts, 2021

Perfect Parks Award for progressive play spaces awarded to design of High Sees (rooftop playground), 2020

Next Progressives Designer Feature for work of independent practice, studioPM - Architect Magazine, 2017

Architectural Review’s Best Drawings “A Living Archive” reliefs in folio of world’s best drawings, 2015

James Templeton Kelley Thesis Design Prize for the best thesis design project– Harvard GSD + Boston AIA, 2010

Harvard GSD StudioWorks exhibition + publication of design work in 6 design studios – Harvard GSD, 2007-2010

Araldo Cossutta Award Nominee for design excellence in core studio work – Harvard GSD, 2008

Clifford Wong Housing Prize Nominee for design excellence in housing – Harvard GSD, 2008

Select Service + Leadership

Board of Rotch Trust, Secretary + Design Committee Coordinator Rotch Travelling Scholarship in partnership with the Boston Society of Architects (BSA), f2018-present

Rotch Travelling Scholarship Prize Juror s2017, s2019, s2020

Journal of Architectural Education, Peer Reviewer su2020-present

Friends of North Union Park Committee Designer Design consultant for Town of Arlington public playground redesign project (Arlington, MA), 08/2018-present

School Literacy Group Thompson Elementary School (Arlington, MA), 09/2018-present

Harvard Initiative for Learning and Teaching (HILT) Spark Grants Program – University Faculty Selection Committee Harvard University AY 2018-19

Harvard College Faculty Dinner Guest invited faculty guest of Harvard College house dinners, Cambridge, MA, 2015-2019

Harvard College Thesis Reader invited faculty reader – History of Art and Architecture + Applied Math Depts, 2017-present

Chair of Araldo Cossutta Prize Jury Harvard GSD s2017

Chair of Harvard Plimpton-Poorvu Design Prize Committee s2018 + s2019

Wheelwright Prize Committee Member Harvard GSD s2019 + s2020

GSD MArch Core Pedagogy Presenter Harvard GSD AY 2014-15 - 2019-20 Open Houses + Dean's Leadership Council Meeting, f2019

GSD Rights and Responsibilities Committee Faculty contributing to the drafting of a current, comprehensive and clear set of rights and responsibilities for Harvard's Graduate School of Design, AY 2018-2019

Frances Loeb Library Committee Member Faculty committee member serving to advise on direction the GSD's library, archive and collection should take in relation to pedagogical and research ambitions of the school

Chair of GSD MArch I Admissions Committee (Non Arch Background) 2017-2018 + 2020-2021

GSD Black in Design / Perkins+Will Mentorship Faculty Liaison 2020-2021 cycle

Education + Background

Harvard Graduate School of Design (GSD) MArch I, with Distinction, 2010

Yale University BA in Architecture, with Distinction, cum laude, 2004

Atlanta, GA Native Born and raised in the south; public school student throughout

Select Publications, Exhibitions + Lectures

"Image-Building: Soane and Architecture's Interior" essay examining how Soane used the interior of his house-museum at 13 Lincoln's Inn Fields, London to experiment with the perspective technique to both emphasize the importance of the "built" in architecture and promote procedures for the production of architecture and new modes of subjectivity within contemporary image culture. In *The Journal of Architectural Education*, 75:1, *Built*, March 2021.

Invited lecturer as part of Harvard College, FAS Landmarks course HAA 11; Presentation of a pair of lectures in spring 2021 – one on current work of studioPM and another on architectural design in the present and future.

Invited guest faculty lecturer for 40th annual Harvard Alumni Association Saturday of Symposia; Presentation of *"Things Should Change: Instability as an Architectural Medium"* on Sat, Dec 5, 2020.

"Unpacking 'Cabinet'" essay examining a collection of architectural instances when the multiple meanings of the term 'cabinet' - as objects, advising subjects, and space - have become intertwined. The piece is a cabinet of curiosities of cabinets with an articulation of how each challenge typical limits of interiority, expanding its precincts to the infinite and involving a notion of the virtual in ways relevant to the present. In *Pidgin Magazine, Issue 28, November 2020*.

"(Re)Building Attention: Architecture as Representation, with Responsibilities" essay about a series of pre-digital architectural precedents committed to tuning attention through built representation that are examined for what they offer to the postdigital present, in *PLAT journal 9.0 – COMMIT*, fall 2020.

Invited panelist for PLAT 9.0 – COMMIT Launch event – a discussion exploring the relationship (or lack thereof) among architectural author, object, and viewer, **Rice Architecture Public Lecture Series, October, 2020;** transcription published in *PLAT 9.5 – Leaving Space*.

“WFH Wormholes” original plan oblique/perspective representation of interior of Soane’s museum/working studio/home at 13 Lincoln’s Inn Fields, London on display at a83 Gallery in Soho, New York and featured in online virtual exhibition of *Working Remotely*, July 31 – November, 2020.

High Sees playground project and interview about the design of the project published in Minneapolis Magazine as a feature of progressive playground design in **“38 Perfect Parks,”** April, 2020.

Power Play feature article on **High Sees** rooftop playground project, an essay examining how to design more progressive spaces for unscripted play, published in *Harvard Gazette*, December 20, 2019.

5 on 5 Lecture No. 8 with Thomas Kelley and Carrie Norman. Harvard GSD public lecture, March 5, 2020.

Harvard Graduate School of Design Alumni Newsletter Q+A feature, January, 2020.

See/Saw series of digitally-fabricated architectural objects whose forms contain and reveal surprising images of other figures when played with permanently displayed at Wentworth Institute of Technology Additive Manufacturing Lab as exemplary digitally fabricated forms; installed January, 2020.

2 pieces from *Architectural Artifacts* project + *Stowaway House* project selected for publication in book, *Inscriptions*, late fall 2020, edited by Andrew Holder.

Views, with Rooms: New Digital Perspectives - A digitally rebooted triptych critique of a historical one point linear perspective image (see *Architectural Artifacts* project) reveal new information, invite new forms of subjectivity into the act of their viewing, and present alternate architectural forms and spaces; invited for exhibition in *Drawing Attention* show at The Roca Gallery, London UK on view in conjunction with London Design Festival, Sept 2019 – Jan 2020.

“Another Shade of Gray Space” essay response to Alex O’Briant’s **“Gray Space”** on the architectural lineage of display storage and its role in form making in *Inside Scoop* Harvard Design Magazine No. 47, Spring/Summer 2019

Not-So-Still-Life 1 of 3 pieces from *Architectural Artifacts* project selected for exhibition in *Drawing for the Design Imaginary* show at the Carnegie Museum in Pittsburgh, PA, Spring 2019. Piece (image and associated text) published in exhibit book.

Architecture and Liberal Arts Invited lecturer and panelist for Special Focus Session discussing the challenges of teaching architecture within liberal arts contexts across various undergraduate elite peer institution programs. ACSA Annual Conference – *Black Box: Articulating Architecture’s Core in the Post-digital Era*, Pittsburgh, PA March 28-30, 2019.

Architectural Artifacts (Views, with Rooms) solo exhibition examining the architectural byproducts of critiquing conventional one point linear perspective representation through digital tools, pinkcomma Gallery, Boston, MA on view from Nov 2018 – March 2019.

Pedagogy feature at Harvard University: **Pushing students to confront limits by transforming the abstract to physical form.** Into Practice. Harvard University Office of the Provost for Advances in Learning, December 10, 2018.

“Architecture’s Attention to Restorative Justice” essayette published in [Space for Restorative Justice](#) book co-published by Emily Abruzzo and Impact Justice, Yale School of Architecture, November 2019. Contributing essay reflects on final work reviewed in fall 2018 Yale MArch Core III studio, *Making Space for Restorative Justice*.

Harvard Undergraduate Architecture Studies Website original photography of work, studio and design of all content included for newly-created website for program of study at Harvard College; website built in collaboration with Harvard University Web Publishing group (<https://architecturestudies-undergrad.harvard.edu/>), spring 2019 - present

"Thinking about Space" feature article on goals of Harvard Undergraduate Architecture Studies Track. Harvard Magazine, September-October 2018

Platform 11: Setting the Table – Harvard Graduate School of Design, Faculty Advisor with Robert Gerard Pietrusko and Michael Hooper to student editors Esther Bang, Lane Rubin, and Enrique Silva, Nov 2018.

"Are You Ready to Teach?" Published interview on the challenges and advantages of balancing design practice with full-time teaching load and responsibilities. **Architect Magazine, April 2018**

Stowaway House project exhibited as part of invited participant in Inscriptions – Architecture Before Speech. Curated by K. Michael Hays and Andrew Holder. Harvard GSD, January 2018.

Next Progressives studioPM feature in Architect Magazine, January 2017

"The World's Best Design Cities 2017" Published opinion piece on the architectural design in Boston. **Metropolis, Aug 2017**

"Objectives" essay on the architectural potential of spaces of collection and storage, in Shelf Life Harvard Design Magazine No. 43, Fall/Winter 2016

The Edge invited lecture on work of studioPM for Innovate Lecture Series, hosted by Iñaki Abalos Harvard Graduate School of Design, spring 2016

Objecthood – Project Pair (Stowaway House + A Living Archive) exhibited with accompanying essay in *Interior Matters* Exhibition, curated by Kiel Moe, Associate Professor of Architecture + Energy, GSD Loeb Library, Harvard GSD, spring 2016

"Control Points" essay on the design of housing for contemporary occupancy in Family Planning Harvard Design Magazine No. 41, Fall/Winter 2015

Activating the Space of Art invited lecturer and panelist for Harvard University South Asia Institute Symposium Harvard University, April 2015

"Face Your Frankenstein" essay on the crafting of a contemporary design practice published in Section Cut, fall 2014

Operative Design Forward (publication by Anthony Di Mari + Nora Yoo, both GSD '10) BIS Publishers, November 6 2012.

A Living Archive Thesis Design and research published feature in GSD Platform 3 and featured in Kelley Thesis Prize Exhibit Harvard GSD Main Gallery, spring/summer 2010; also feature solo exhibit at NEU School of Architecture, s2011

Wallpaper* Magazine, January 2011 "What Next" feature for A Living Archive design project

Displaced Edge, Paris design proposal for the growth of Paris University System selected by France's Minister of Education as exhibit feature 12 Campus du 21E Siècle Exhibition at Cite de L'architecture in Chaillot, Paris, France, October – December 2010

Mark Magazine, No 1, April/May 09 Notice Board Feature for "CoilHaus" design project for GINA studio with Frank Barkow and Chris Bangle, BMW Lead Designer

Bauwelt Magazine, Vol. 9.09 27. February 2009, 100, "CoilHaus" feature article

GSD Platform v01, v02 and v03 - six distinct speculative design projects published