

Jonah Rowen

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Current Position

Weinberg Fellow in Architectural History and Preservation, Columbia University Italian Academy for
Advanced Studies in America
Adjunct Faculty, Parsons School of Design

Education

Ph.D., Columbia University, May 2020

Dissertation: "Materials, Labor, and Apprehension: Building for the Threat of Fire across the
Nineteenth-Century British Atlantic"

Certificate in Comparative Literature and Society

Advisor: Reinhold Martin

Committee: Felicity Scott (Chair), Mabel O. Wilson, Christopher Brown, Timothy Hyde

M.Phil., Columbia University, May 2017

Major Field: Architecture, Technology, and Building in Imperial Britain, 1789-1914

Advisors: Reinhold Martin, Jorge Otero-Pailos

Minor Field: Histories of Energy, Waste, and Management of Materials and Resources

Advisor: Matthew L. Jones

M.Arch., Yale University, 2011

David M. Schwarz Travel Award

Nomination for the H.I. Feldman Prize

Kenneth S. Kuchin Scholarship

Wendy Elizabeth Blanning Prize

B.A., Carnegie Mellon University, 2008

Graduated with University Honors

Major: Architecture and Cultural Theory

Publications

"Architecture and Slavery," *PLATFORM* (Summer 2020)

"Strategies of Containment: Iron, Fire, and Labor Management," *Grey Room* 76 (Summer 2019)

"On Reality: The Louvre Abu Dhabi," *Project* 7 (2018)

"Comparing Comparisons in Colin Rowe," *Reckoning with Colin Rowe*, ed. Emmanuel Petit (Routledge,
2015)

"Some Difficulties in Drawing Spheres in Relation to Forms in General," *Log* 31 (2014)

"The Order of Nothing," *Pidgin* 17 (2014)

Project 2 (2013)

"In Praise of Orthographic Projection," *Fresh Punches* (2013)

"What Things Are Called," *ONRAMP 2011-2012* (2013)

"The Limit and the Labyrinth," *Interpunct* 1 (2013)

Project 1 (2012)

Retrospecta, Yale School of Architecture (2009, 2010, 2011)

Fellowships and Awards

Finalist, Carter Manny Award, 2019
Buell Center Fellowship, 2018
Society of Architectural Historians Graduate Student Advisory Committee, 2018 – ongoing
Architecture Ph.D. Teaching Fellow, Columbia University Graduate School of Architecture, Planning, and Preservation, 2018
Lead Teaching Fellow, Columbia University Center for Teaching and Learning, 2016 – 2017
David M. Schwarz Travel Award, Yale School of Architecture, 2011
Nomination for the H.I. Feldman Prize, Yale School of Architecture, 2011
Wendy Elizabeth Blanning Prize, Yale School of Architecture, 2010

Conference Papers

- “Land, Labor, Sugar, Fire: Building across the British Atlantic, 1782-1848”
Agriculture History Society Annual Meeting, Knoxville, Tennessee, June 2020
- “Atlantic Trade Networks through the Houston Cotton Exchange Building”
“Gulf of Mexico Workshop,” Global Architectural History Teaching Collaborative, New Orleans, Louisiana, June 2020
- “Fire, Water, and Infrastructure: Defining 'Publics' across the Nineteenth-Century British Atlantic”
“Port Cities of the Atlantic World” Conference, Carolina Lowcountry and Atlantic World Program at the College of Charleston, May 2020
- “No Security to the Place': Fire Insurance, Labor, Sugar, c. 1800”
Society of Architectural Historians Annual Conference, Seattle, Washington, April – May 2020
- “Architecture, Sugar, and Fire Insurance: Security and Valuation through Building and Rebuilding across the British Atlantic, 1782-1848”
Buell Dissertation Colloquium, Columbia University, May 2019
- “Iron, Labor, and Apprehension: Construction across the British Atlantic, 1800-1844”
Society of Architectural Historians Annual Conference, Providence, Rhode Island, April 2019
- “Memo: Last Plans, &c.': Iron, Prefabrication, Labor, and Apprehension across the Early Nineteenth-Century British Atlantic World”
Program in Media + Modernity Doctoral Colloquia 2018-2019, Princeton University, October 2018
- “Strategies of Containing: Iron Construction, Fire Prevention, and Labor across the Early Nineteenth-Century British Atlantic”
“From Building to Continent: How Architecture Makes Territories” Conference, University of Kent [U.K.], June 2018
- “Strategies of Containing: Fire Prevention, Construction Systems, and Labor across the Early Nineteenth-Century British Atlantic”
Biennial Meeting on Construction History, Construction History Society of America, University of Maryland, May 2018
- “So as to render the whole Incombustible': Building Systems, Representation, and Labor across the Early Nineteenth-Century British Atlantic”
“Rendering” Conference, Harvard University, April 2018
- “Fire Prevention, Prefabrication, and Containing: Techniques of Managing Labor across the Early Nineteenth-Century British Atlantic”
College Art Association Annual Conference, Los Angeles, February 2018
- “Air, Rain, and Architecture: Chemical Analysis of Scottish Antiquities as Warnings”
Association of Art Historians Annual Conference, Loughborough University, April 2017
- “Air, Rain, and Architecture: Material Degradation to Buildings from Acid Rain, and How Architects Responded”

“Understanding Material Loss Across Time and Space” Conference, University of Birmingham [U.K.], February 2017
“Buildings, Representation, Transparency”
“IN/VISIBILITY” Political Science Graduate Student Association Conference, University of Massachusetts Amherst, March 2016

Campus Talks

Lecture, “Architectural Materials as Commodities”
Advanced IV Dialogues, Columbia University GSAPP, February 2018
Symposium Participant
“Drawings' Conclusions” Conference, Southern California Institute of Architecture, March 2017
Respondent to Jennifer Wenzel, “How Far Is Bhopal?”
Institute for Comparative Literature and Society “Possibilities” Series, April 2016
“Spheres”
University of California, Los Angeles, March 2014
Symposium Participant
Cal Poly Architecture Los Angeles Metro Program, March 2014
Symposium Participant
“The New Normal,” University of Pennsylvania, November 2013
Lecture, “Spheres”
University of Southern California, November 2013
Symposium Participant, “UCLA JumpStart Emerging Practitioners Symposium”
University of California Los Angeles, July 2013
Symposium Participant
“Archizines: Los Angeles” University of California Los Angeles, April 2013
Lecture, “A New Refutation of Time”
Texas A&M University, October 2012
Lecture, “How to Do Things With History”
Carnegie Mellon University, December 2011
Lecture, “Labyrinths”
Southern California Institute of Architecture, November 2011

Academic Experience

Rice Architecture: Visiting Lecturer, Spring 2020
“Foundations in the History & Theory of Architecture I: Architecture and Factors of Production to the Late Nineteenth Century” (undergraduate/graduate lecture/seminar)
School of Visual Arts: Adjunct Faculty, Fall 2019
“Modern & Contemporary Interiors,” Fall 2019 (undergraduate seminar)
The Cooper Union: Adjunct Faculty, Fall 2019
“Architectonics” (first-year studio)
“Representations III: Analysis” (second-year drawing/visualization course; with Lucy Siyao Liu)
Parsons School of Design: Adjunct Faculty, Fall 2019
“Light and Critical Issues” (undergraduate/graduate seminar)
Columbia University: Teaching Fellow, June 2015 – ongoing
“Arguments,” Summer 2018, Summer 2019 (post-professional seminar)
“Metropolis Workshop,” Summer 2015, Summer 2016, Summer 2017 (post-professional seminar)
“The Contemporary,” Spring 2017 (graduate/post-professional seminar)

“Histories of American Cities,” Fall 2016 (graduate/post-professional lecture)
 “Architectural History 2” Spring 2016 (graduate seminar)
 “Architectural History 1” Fall 2015 (graduate seminar)
 Barnard College: Adjunct Assistant Professor, Spring 2019
 “Modern Architecture in the World” (undergraduate lecture/seminar)
 Barnard College: Adjunct Teaching Assistant, Fall 2017, Fall 2018
 “Emerging Cities: 19th-Century Urban History of the Americas and Europe” (undergraduate seminar)
 Columbia University: Preceptor, Spring 2018
 “Buildings and Materials: Architectural Histories of Resources” (graduate/post-professional seminar)
 Southern California Institute of Architecture: Full-Time Instructor, August 2011 – September 2014
 “Graduate Thesis,” Summer 2014 (graduate studio)
 “Forms and Formalisms,” Spring 2014 (graduate/undergraduate seminar)
 “1GB Studio,” Spring 2012, Spring 2013, Spring 2014 (graduate studio)
 “The Task of the Architect,” Spring 2013 (graduate/undergraduate seminar)
 “1GA Studio,” Fall 2011, Fall 2012, Fall 2013 (graduate studio)
 “1GA Visual Studies,” Fall 2011, Fall 2012, Fall 2013 (graduate lecture/seminar)
 “Making + Meaning,” Summer 2013, Summer 2014 (undergraduate/pre-college studio)
 Yale School of Architecture: Teaching Fellow
 “Analytic Model,” Spring 2011 (undergraduate seminar/studio)
 “Diagrammatic Analysis,” Fall 2010 (graduate seminar)
 “Visualization I,” Summer 2010 (graduate seminar/studio)

Conference Organization and Curatorial Experience

Organizing Committee, “Urban/Rural, Center/Periphery”
 Columbia University Graduate School of Architecture, Planning, and Preservation, May 2018
 Organizing Committee, “Reflecting on Techniques” (graduate student workshops and roundtable event),
 Columbia University Graduate School of Architecture, Planning, Preservation, June 2017 (Glasgow, UK)
 Organizing Committee, “Whither the Future?” (graduate student conference)
 Columbia University Institute for Comparative Literature and Society, September 2016
 Organizing Committee, “Assembling Values: Architecture and Political Economy” (graduate student workshops and conference)
 Columbia University Graduate School of Architecture, Planning, and Preservation, May 2016
 Co-Curator, “Yale Conversations,” November 2010 – May 2011 (New Haven, CT)
 “Conversation with Martin/Baxi,” March 2011
 “Conversation with Pier Vittorio Aureli,” April 2011
 “Conversation with MADE,” April 2011

Academic Service

Invited Critic, Architecture School Reviews
 Cooper Union, 2018 – ongoing
 Columbia University GSAPP, 2015 – ongoing
 University of Pennsylvania, 2015 – ongoing
 Pratt Institute, 2018 – ongoing
 Yale School of Architecture, 2013 – 2017
 Syracuse University School of Architecture, 2016 – 2017

University of California, Los Angeles, 2012 – 2014
University of Southern California, 2012 – 2014
Texas A&M University, 2012
Carnegie Mellon University, 2011
Cornell School of Architecture Summer Program, 2011

Conference Paper Reviewer

“Theory's Rise and Fall: Contexts and Conditions”
Association of Collegiate Schools of Architecture 107th Annual Conference, 2019
“In Practice: History as Research and Design Strategy”
Association of Collegiate Schools of Architecture 105th Annual Conference, 2017
“Performative Architecture: Entangling New Audiences”
Association of Collegiate Schools of Architecture 103rd Annual Conference, 2015

Southern California Institute of Architecture

Faculty Representative to the Academic Council, 2012 – 2014
Graduate Thesis Scholarship Committee, 2013
Admissions Committee, 2012 – 2013
National Architectural Accrediting Board Visit, 2012

Professional Experience

Architectural Designer, Eisenman Architects, 2006, 2011
Architectural Designer, Gage/Clemenceau Architects, 2007 – 2008

Languages

French reading proficiency
German reading proficiency
Italian reading proficiency