

Surface Given Form Given Surface

OMA and **SO-IL** manipulate form and surface with dexterity, arriving at equally expressive outcomes. What distinguishes the offices from one another might be the weight with which they apply one to the other. Some of **OMA**'s most well-known work, including the CCTV Building in Hong Kong, De Rotterdam in the Netherlands, and the Toranomon Hills Station Tower led by Shohei Shigematsu in Tokyo, is concerned with the application of highly detailed surfaces to dynamic forms. On the other hand, **SO-IL**'s Kukje Gallery in Seoul, Glass Art Center in eastern France, and Blueprint at the Storefront for Art & Architecture all give form to what would otherwise be loose, undefined surface conditions. The union of surface and form in myriad contexts and relationships mirrors Will Doss' exploration of architecture within digitally immersive environments, which grew out of the necessity to conduct remote classes where all parties involved in the project could still gather in a singular virtual space during the pandemic.

Planetary Practice

Shohei Shigematsu and **OMA** have long occupied the international stage, while Florian Idenburg and Jing Liu were working internationally for years before founding **SO-IL** in New York in 2008. The speakers have collectively produced work on six continents while further utilizing digital tools to expand their reach beyond local or regional contexts. This dynamic calls into question how the practice of architecture itself varies from place to place, and what practitioners working primarily in the United States can learn from that variation. Will Doss' research into contemporary production and interaction through the Digital Track studios at **LA Tech** offers a pedagogical entry by fostering interdisciplinary connections between architecture and other academic and professional areas. In a planetary practice, the resource extraction, transportation, and emissions attributed to an act of architecture at one point on the globe impacts every other point on the globe. A planetary perspective from each of the three speakers offers valuable insight into the challenge of repairing the damage that has already been done, while mitigating impacts to come.

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Schedule of Events

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9:00

opening remarks

9:15

overview of **SO-IL** presented by Florian Idenburg

10:15

Louisiana Tech presentation by Will Doss

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10:45

break

11:00

overview of **OMA** presented by Shohei Shigematsu

12:00

lunch provided at Shaw Center for the Arts

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Leading Time

Operating in a profession built around planning, scheduling, and projecting the outcome of projects years in advance, architects are naturally inclined to be optimistic and forward-thinking. The speakers at Celebrate Architecture 2023 possess an outsized interest in interrogating their roles in the construction of the future. Generating novel, and often unexpected, relationships in their work, it appears as though **OMA** and **SO-IL** are setting precedents more often than referencing them. The recent Guggenheim exhibition "Countryside: The Future," curated by **OMA**'s founder Rem Koolhaas, exemplifies the investigatory process that the office undergoes while evaluating the broader contextual impact of the practice's historically metropolitan focus. Likewise, the enigmatic leading statement in **SO-IL**'s bio, "we produce future culture," should emphasize the easily overlooked truth that what is shaped today influences the behaviors of tomorrow. **LA Tech**'s Will Doss explores the role of technology as an investigator and mediator in new procedural methods for project development. *CA23: Leading Time* features speakers engaged in the practice of holding the future front-of-mind, and asks that attendees do the same.

1:00

opening remarks

1:05

AIA Louisiana scholarship recipients

1:15

SO-IL selected project in-depth

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2:00

OMA selected project in-depth

2:45

Q&A session

3:00

closing remarks

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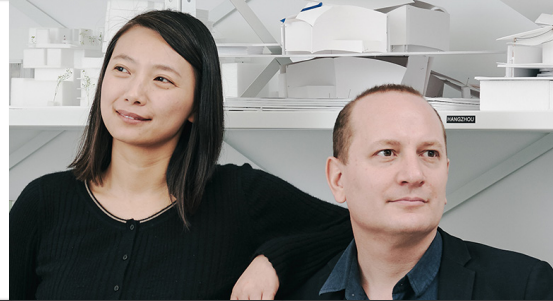


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Shohei Shigematsu, OMA

OMA is a leading international partnership practicing architecture, urbanism and cultural analysis. Shohei Shigematsu leads the firm's diverse portfolio of projects, spanning typologies and scale. Sho's cultural projects currently in progress include a museum expansion for the New Museum in New York City; a holistic campus renovation and new building for the Buffalo AKG Art Museum, New York; a new arts center with a theater and concert hall for University of Illinois at Chicago; and an underwater sculpture park and sculpture for the ReefLine in Miami Beach. His engagements in the arts include collaborations with multiple artists, including Cai Guo-Qiang, Marina Abramovic, and Taryn Simon. Sho's work in fashion ranges from branding and flagships to exhibition and scenography—from Coach Omotesando flagship and intervention for Tiffany & Co.'s 5th Avenue Landmark in New York, to exhibition design for the Met Costume Institute and scenography for Dior retrospectives. His works in Japan include Tenjin Business Center in Fukuoka and OMA's first tower in Tokyo. Sho has been a visiting professor at Cornell AAP, Harvard GSD, and Columbia University GSAPP. He is currently a professor at Kyushu University and Director of BeCAT (Built Environment Center with Art & Technology).

Florian Idenburg, SO-IL

SO - IL is an internationally-recognized architecture and design firm based in New York. Florian Idenburg is a Dutch architect with over two decades of professional experience. After learning the ropes in Amsterdam and Tokyo, he founded SO-IL in 2008 together with Jing Liu. His years of working in cross-cultural settings make Florian a thoughtful and collaborative partner. With a joyous demeanor, he pursues innovation through working together. He has a particularly strong background in institutional spaces, leading the office on projects as the Manetti Shrem Museum of Art at UC Davis as well as Amant in Brooklyn. His strength lies in generating imaginative ideas and transforming those into real-world spaces and objects. Idenburg has a strong intuition for the orchestration of form, material, and light, and enjoys developing projects to a level where those elements become places for people to experience and use. He combines a hands-on approach with a theoretical drive, sharing this creative spirit with clients, collaborators, and students. A frequent speaker at institutions around the world, he has taught at Harvard, MIT, Columbia, and Princeton University and is currently a Professor of Practice at Cornell University. In 2010, Idenburg received the Charlotte Köhler Prize from the Prince Bernhard Culture Fund.

Will Doss, LA Tech

Will Doss is an Assistant Professor of Architecture at Louisiana Tech University's School of Design. Prior to joining the faculty in 2019, he worked as the Lead Designer at a small architecture firm in Plano, Texas, where he was responsible for a diverse range of projects. Since joining Louisiana Tech, Mr. Doss has led classes from first-year to fourth-year studios, as well as special topic theory courses. He is also a part of the newly-formed Digital Track studios, where he focuses on innovation in design methodology through employing new technologies and theoretical frameworks. Mr. Doss is dedicated to fostering interdisciplinary connections between the architecture program and other academic and professional areas. He has successfully completed collaborative Digital Track studios with the Interior Design and Game Design programs at Louisiana Tech. Using computational strategies and virtual and augmented reality hardware encourages a multiscale process that critically addresses the nature of contemporary production and interaction. His research into projects that utilize computational strategies and multidisciplinary partnerships offers students in the northern region of Louisiana the opportunity to explore architecture beyond the regional vernacular and traditional production methods.

Brian & Melissa Rome, moderators

Melissa and Brian Rome are the moderators for Celebrate Architecture, an annual symposium that brings internationally recognized architects to Louisiana to share their recent works and explore current trends of practice. The Romes are the founding Partners of Rome Office, an award-winning architecture and design firm based in New Orleans, Louisiana. The office focuses on projects that have an impact on rural and urban communities in the southeastern United States. The Romes believe that creative design is a powerful tool that can positively influence the habits of cultures, environments, and routines. They aim to create innovative solutions by practicing an iterative design process that engages their clients and encourages the reconsideration of programmatic, technological, and social norms. Before founding Rome Office in 2016, Brian and Melissa were project leaders at Bjarke Ingels Group in New York City. At BIG, they led projects all over the world, including the award-winning, Vancouver House development. They have collectively worked over 25 years in Barcelona, Rotterdam, New York, Copenhagen, and New Orleans. They have served as adjunct professors and lecturers at numerous architecture schools, including Tulane University, Clemson University, and UT Arlington.