CHRISTOPHER TAURASI, AIA

OVERVIEW

I am currently an Associate and Project Architect at Handel Architects. My experience includes leading the design of a variety of projects in multiple cities. I recently served as Project Architect for two mixed-use/residential buildings in Washington, DC with a total of 623-units. Prior to that I served as a Project Designer for a 334-unit residential development in Philadelphia and worked on exterior detailing for an 818-unit residential building in Washington DC. I also worked on a Master Plan for Greenpoint Landing, a 22-acre waterfront development in Brooklyn.

Before joining Handel Architects, I was a designer at STUDIOS Architecture in San Francisco, where I worked on projects ranging from multi-building core and shell to interiors.

I received my Master of Architecture degree with honors from Washington University in St. Louis, and a Bachelor of Fine Arts in Architecture from Massachusetts College of Art and Design. I am a registered architect in the State of New York.

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Handel Architects LLP - New York City, NY Associate - Project Architect, 2017-Present

Served as project architect overseeing internal team of 15+

Communicated with client and consultants to ensure coordinated project delivery

Designed for 15+ projects ranging from competitions, feasibility studies, & master plans to technical detailing for custom fabrication of exterior facade components

Participated in contract negotiations

Worked on projects in multiple jurisdictions including NYC, Washington DC, Philadelphia, and Los Angeles gaining experience in diverse zoning and building code ordinances

STUDIOS Architecture - San Francisco, CA Architectural Designer, 2015-2017

Worked on multiple project types ranging from multi-building shell & core, interiors, competitions, & furniture

Coordinated with consultants on complex design and building systems challenges

Collaborated with diverse clients to envision and create quality environments

AGENCY Architecture LLC - NYC, NY | StL, MO Research Assistant, 2015

Prepared drawings & tested CNC fabrication processes for exhibition pieces in Shenzhen Biennale

Investigated land use practices using GIS and satellite data

Produced mappings & drawings featured in publication - Fronts: Military Urbanisms and the Developing World, 2019

EDUCATION

Washington University in St. Louis - StL, MO Master of Architecture, December 2015

WashU w/ CASE Inc. - StL, MO
Workshop: Parametric Dashboards, October 2014

Strategies for analyzing facade designs, capturing analysis data, & making informed evaluations & visualizations

Aalto University - Helsinki, Finland Semester Abroad, Spring 2014

An immersive semester abroad studying Finnish architecture & design culture

Massachusetts College of Art & Design, Boston, MA BFA: Architecture, May 2009

ACCOMPLISHMENTS

Exhibits

Sukkah City STL, 2014

Urban Timber: From Seed to City, 2014

Leverage: Strengthening Neighborhoods Through Design, 2011

Competitions Wins

Sukkah City STL, 2014

Timber New England, 2013

Awards

William Tao Prize for excellence in the understanding and application of building systems in architecture, 2015

Degree Project Book Award, in recognition of hard work, determination, and educational efforts, 2015

Christner Scholarship, 2014 & 2015

MassArt Academic & Community Leadership Award, 2009

3 Time All School Show Award Recipient for Distinct Artistic Contribution, 2007–2009

MassArt Leadership Spotlight Award, 2008

MassArt Margaret Hickey Travel Award, 2008

Grants

Graduate Student Travel Grant, 2014

LEADERSHIP

Board Member, Architecture for Humanity Boston, 2009-2012

President, American Institute of Architecture Students MassArt Chapter, 2008-2009

Vice President, Student Government Association, 2007-2008

Representative, Student Government Association, 2006 & 2009

CHRISTOPHER TAURASI, AIA

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE (CONTINUED)

Urban Timber / Timber New England

Research/Design/Project Management, 2013-2014

Collaborated closely with teammates, mentor architect & engineers to develop heavy timber facade and structural system

Managed project schedule & budget

Drafted detailed fabrication documents to guide expert craftspeople

Prepared presentation material for regular meetings with mentor, engineers, fabricators & exhibit curators

Buck Moorhead Architect - New York City, NY Architectural Designer, 2012

Solved complex design challenges based on in-depth code analysis

Prepared successful project proposals

Conducted feasibility studies & composed final reports

Coordinated consultants to ensure efficient project management

Efficiently adapted to Mac based office utilizing Vectorworks

Documented existing conditions & site analysis

Drafted through SD, DD and CD drawing sets

Hajian Architects Inc. - Watertown, MA Architectural Designer, 2010 - 2012

Researched building codes & specifications

Built physical & digital models

Documented existing conditions & site analysis

Salvatore Associates - Needham, MA Intern, 2008 - 2010

Participated in Interdisciplinary Design Team meetings

Implemented Evidence Based Design Process

Drafted through SD, DD and CD drawing sets

Built digital models & created photoreal renderings

Prepared presentation material

Architecture for Humanity Boston - Boston, MA Board Member, 2009-2012 / Volunteer, 2008-2009

Collaborated with community groups & nonprofits to realize unmet potential for community design projects

Led teams of architects, designers, students, & other professionals through diverse community projects

Saw local & international projects through various phases of design & construction

Represented local chapter at national conferences

FABRICATION EXPERIENCE

Washington University in St. Louis CNC & 3d Print Lab Monitor, 2013-2015

Used advanced manufacturing / fabrication software & equipment to help students realize project goals

Monitored machinery through complicated milling & printing processes

ACADEMIC EXPERIENCE

Washington University in St. Louis

Studio, Environmental Systems & Representation TA, 2014-2015

Guided students through complex design exercises

Participated in desk-crits & reviews

Lead weekly workshops covering the basics of environmental design — climate, site grading & enclosure

Taught representation techniques from hand-drafting to introduction to Rhino

Coordinated review sessions

Massachusetts College of Art & Design - Boston, MA Educator, Summer 2010 & 2011

Developed & adapted curriculum to meet diverse experience levels

Organized class trips to historic & contemporary buildings to reinforce curriculum

Collaborated with Architecture for Humanity Boston to construct bamboo relief shelter, testing feasibility for application in Haiti

PUBLICATIONS

Burrasca Magazine

Issue #3, Glitch, Fall 2015

Taurasi, C. (2015, November 1). The Next Aesthetic of Breakage. Burrasca.

The Commonist Magazine

Co-Founder, 2013-2014

Providing a space for young writers to express thoughts while having an open discourse about the effects of architecture, design, and art on society

So-Aware Architecture Founder, 2012-2014

Developed website focused on architectural responses to social issues

Garnered 7,000 unique visitors from over 120 countries within first year of operation

SOFTWARE & SKILLS

Architecture / Fabrication

Revit, Rhino, Grasshopper, Enscape, V-Ray, Maxwell, AutoCad, SketchUp, Vectorworks, MasterCAM

Climate Analysis

Vasari, DIVA, Climate Consultant, Ecotect

Graphic & Video

Photoshop, Illustrator, InDesign, Premiere, After Effects

Hand

Sketching, Drafting, Fabrication & Model Making