# Alan Smart

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# Education

MArch. Princeton University, master's thesis "Curatorial Urbanism", Elizabeth Diller thesis advisor, 2006.

B.A. in Architecture, University of California Berkeley, 1999.

## **Teaching/Research Positions**

Assistant Professor, Syracuse University School of Architecture, 2013-2014.

Adjunct Professor, New York Institute of Technology, 2013.

Visiting Assistant Professor, Hong Kong University. 2011-2012.

Researcher (research fellow), Jan van Eyck Academie, Maastricht, Netherlands, 2010-2011.

Design Instructor, Sandburg Institute, Amsterdam, Netherlands, 2010-2011.

Visiting Researcher, New York University, Culture, Education and Human Development, 2010.

Lecturer, Ohio State University, Knowlton School of Architecture, 2008-2009.

## **Administrative Positions**

Coordinator, Materials Fabrication Lab, Ohio State University, Knowlton School of Architecture, 2008-2009.

# **Courses Taught**

*Systems and Their Discontents*, seminar reading texts on systems thinking from the ninetieth century utopians, through functionalism and structuralism in modernist architecture to cybernetics, communications theory and contemporary discourses. Students observe and map a real-time, real world system and produce documentations, working models or interventions into it.

*Architecture 208*, second-year undergraduate design studio with emphasis on "Systems and Surfaces" in an urban context. Students were given three short design projects including a programmed pile of snow, a cinematheque and a proposal for a "New Institution" supporting progressive art practices and comprised of housing, production capacity for resident artists, public event/exhibition space, and documentation and archiving facilities.

Architecture 307, "Robot Factory: Production and Reproduction in the Post-Industrial City" third-year undergraduate design studio focusing on complex, large-scale building programs on an urban site. Students researched a robot and the company that produces it, and designed a mixed-use facility containing manufacturing, housing and a public program engaging with the city.

*Introduction to Architectural Thinking*, introductory architectural theory course with emphasis on critical writing. Course production was organized into a four part project in which field research and an interview on a vernacular typology, a review of an exhibition or event, and an explanatory brochure adding a critical supplement to a significant building were reedited combined into a 'zine-style publication with an introductory manifesto essay.

*Year 1 Architecture Design Studio*, first-year undergraduate studio focusing on drawing, site analysis, details and construction. Projects included graphic analysis of the body in motion, wood-frame constructions installed on urban sites, cast concrete form studies and a design for a village house in rural China with a week-long field trip to villages north of Guangzhou.

*Visibility and Livability in Amsterdam's Zuidas (South Axis)*, first-year design master's, collaborative project between the Sandberg Institute, Amsterdam Free University and the Virtual Museum Zuidas. Mapping and analyses of the Zuidas development zone culminating in design proposals, symposium presentations and a book-length publication.

Architectural Design Studio 1/2/3 second-year undergraduate studios focusing on site analysis, drawing techniques, small-scale design projects and culminating in the design and fabrication of full-scale installations.

*Performative Furniture and the Choreography of the Quotidian*, research and design seminar looking at furniture in the context of avant-garde performance practices. Students design and fabricate a piece of furniture based on a choreographic analysis of an everyday activity.

The Osmotic Potentials of the U.S./Mexico Border, joint Architecture/Landscape Architecture summer research and mapping seminar addressing the landscape, cultural geography and political economy of the U.S./Mexico Border. Research supports a gallery installation with Tom Leader Studio at the Rubin Center at the University of Texas at El Paso.

Advisor for Master's of Architecture and Bachelor's of Architecture thesis projects.

### **Lectures, Presentations and Discussions**

"Dirty Production: Subversive Infrastructures for Radical Art," presentation at the Dirty Art Department, Sandberg Institute, Amsterdam, Netherlands, December 2015.

"Socialist Cities, Materialist Landscapes: Linearity and Abstraction in the Urban Discourses of Soviet Modernism," *The Socialist City and the Sociocultural Aspects of Urbanization*, Magnitogorsk State University, Magnitogorsk, Russian Federation, October 2015.

"Oral History in the Making," moderated discussion and storytelling anthropologist with Amy Starecheski and squatting activists and "Culture Class and Cultural Production," discussion with Alan Moore and Martha Rosler, for *Making Room: Cultural Production in Occupied Spaces* event series, ABC No Rio, New York, NY, September, 2015.

"Cultural Production in Occupied Space/ Spatial Practice as Cultural Production," presentation and panel discussion, *Jaw vs. Eye Attack* (Jan van Eyck Association annual conference), Vierte Welt, Berlin, Germany, July 2015.

"Beyond Utopia: Representing Life in the Productivist City," *Industries of Architecture: Relations, Process, Production*, Newcastle University, Newcastle, UK, November 2014.

"Autonomy and Engagement: Other Forms Projects and Practice," with Jack Henrie Fisher, *Justifiable Versions of Events* (Jan van Eyck Association annual conference), ACUD Studio, Berlin Germany, July 2014.

"The US/Mexico Border as Semiotic Infrastructure," Infrastructural Worlds, Duke University, March 2014.

"How Design," Why Theory, JvE Association annual conference, Institute for Cultural Inquiry, Berlin, July 2013.

"The Work of Reproduction in the Age of Social/Digital Design: Towards a New Materialism in Architecture," *Historical Materialism*, The New School, New York, NY May, 2013.

"Playing Chess With the Death of the Author: Scripting Chance in Event Systems," A Night for John Cage, Videotage, Hong Kong, June 22, 2012.

"Let's Read Some More of Those and Do it Again!!: The Autonomous Infrastructures of Radical Publishing," The Book Affair, Venice, Italy, June, 2011.

"Sex and the Socialist City: How the Party Ends Up in the Kitchen," *Historical Materialism*, The New School, New York, NY May, 2011.

"Life After Planning" keynote presentation, *Life After Planning: A Masterclass on Visual Identities in Amsterdam Zuidas*, Virtual Museum Zuidas, Sandberg Institute and Vrije Universiteit Amsterdam, March, 2011.

"From The Beaubourg Effect to the Bonaventure: Structure and System in Post-Modern Architecture," Invited Lecture, Department of Political Science, Ohio University, May, 2009.

"Provos In New Babylon: Games, Plans, and Happenings in The Contested City," *Cities Without Planing: A Symposium of Urban Alternatives c. 1960s*, Ohio State University, Knowlton School of Architecture, November, 2008.

## **Exhibitions, Installations and Events**

*Making Room: Cultural Production in Occupied Spaces,* exhibition and event series at ABC No Rio, New York, NY, September-October, 2015.

*Making Room: Cultural Production in Occupied Spaces,* exhibition at the meeting of the Squatting in Europe Research Kollective (SqEK), Ateneu Popular de Nou Barris, Barcelona, Catalonia, May 2015.

*Writing Together*, with Other Forms, *Justifiable Versions of Events* (Jan van Eyck Association annual conference), Scriptings Gallery, Berlin Germany, July 2014.

The Last Unused Combinations, exhibition by Other Forms at The Chicago Design Museum, June 2014.

The Work of Werner Seligmann, design for exhibition at Syrcuse University School of Architecture, May 2014.

Data Gaga, design for exhibition by Videotage, Hong Kong Cultural Center, November 2012.

*Specters of the '90s*, design for exhibition curated by Lisette Smits and Matthieu Laurette, Marres Center for Contemporary Culture, Maastricht, Netherlands, September 2011.

Fence Ditch Repeat, with Sarah Cowles, Center for Land Use Interpretation, Culver City, CA, 2010.

Snagged in collaboration with Tom Leader Studio, Rubin Center Gallery, University of Texas at El Paso, October 2009.

*Clip/Stamp/Fold: The Radical Architecture of Little Magazines 196X-197X*, Contributed magazines and time line entry for Provo magazine, Originally exhibited at the Storefront for Art and Architecture, New York City, March 2007. Since exhibited internationally at venues including Canadian Centre for Architecture, Montreal, April 2007, *Arch+ Documenta* Magazines at Documenta 12, Kassel, June, 2007, Architectural Association, London, November, 2007.

"Disarm," with Atopia, contribution to VAROOM: Critical Vehicles, Istanbul Biennial, 2005.

Parking, fabricated and installed Lewis Tsurumaki Lewis exhibition, American Pavilion, Venice Biennial, 2004.

## **Publications**

"Loving the High Line: Infrastructure, Architecture and the Politics of Space in the Mediated City," in *Deconstructing The High Line*, edited by Christoph Lindner and Brian Rosa, upcoming in 2016, Rutgurs University Press.

"Rules for Breaking In: Squatter Handbooks as Radical Specifications," *ARPA Journal*, Issue 4: Instruments of Service, December 2015, Columbia University Graduate School of Architecture, Planning and Preservation.

"Beyond Utopia: Representing Life in the Productivist City," *Architecture and Culture*, special issue "Making Industries of Architecture Visible," November 2015, Taylor and Francis.

"In the (Silicon) Gutter but Looking at the Stars': An Interview about the Nonhuman Autonomous Space Agency," *Berlin Art Link*, Space Issue, September 2015.

"Building Downwards," with Luisa Lorenza Corna, *Mute,* July 2015. Review of *Subtraction* by Keller Easterling.

Making Room: Cultural Production in Occupied Spaces, edited with Alan Moore, May 2015, Other Forms and The Journal of Aesthetics and Protest. includes: "Squatting and Media: An Interview With Geert Lovink"

"Borderland: A Line Constructs the Landscape," Scapegoat, issue 6: Mexico DF / NAFTA, April 2014

"Sex and the Socialist City: How the Party Ends Up in the Kitchen," [Russian Translation], *The New Literary Observer,* June 2013, Moscow, Russian Federation.

"The Provo Bicycle Trick: Radical Form as Vehicle for Pedestrian Content" [Russian Translation], *The New Literary Observer*, September 2012, Moscow, Russian Federation.

"Provos in New Babylon," Urbania, issue 4, September 2011, Sao Paulo, Brazil.

"The Neighborhood as Graphic Icon," The Spontaneous City, Gert Urhahn, 2010, BIS Publishers, Amsterdam.

"Amsterdam: Magic Center, A Provo Fable," Junk Jet, issue 4, October 2010, Stuttgart, Germany.

"Identity (Un)Inc.," Abitare, July 2010. Review of Uncorporate Identity by Metahaven.

"Just Add Water: Rising Currents and the Sea Change in Architecture," Where We Are Now, issue 2, spring 2010

time line entry for *Provo* magazine and interviews with Roel van Duijn and Hans Mol, in *Clip/Stamp/Fold: The Radical Architecture of Little Magazines 196X-197X*, Beatriz Colomina, 2009, Actar.

# **Academic Affiliations**

#### Squatting Europe Kollective (SqEK)

SqEK is a transnational collective of academics and activists working on the phenomenon of squatting in a variety of fields, which include urban studies, sociology, political science, anthropology, geography and history.

#### Jan van Eyck Association

The JvEA is an association of ex-researchers, advising researchers, guests, staff members, supporters and sympathizers of the Jan van Eyck Academie in Maastricht, the Netherlands, founded to continue with the art, design and theory work of the Academy, in the spirit of collectivity, free research and experimentation across the boundaries of disciplines and independent of academic constraints.

Board member for design 2013-2014, organized annual conference Catastrophe, Berlin, July 2014

## **Professional Experience**

**Partner, Other Forms (OF) Design,** with Jack Henrie Fisher, Jonathan Krohn, Other Forms is a mobile research and design collective working in multiple intersections of architecture, graphic design, and publishing. Other Forms considers how semiautonomous design reflects and can critique the material and social conditions of its practice. [www.otherforms.net]

**Freelance design, research, writing, and fabrication** for clients including: Het Nieuwe Instituut, Berlin Art Link, artists Georgia Sagri, Natalie Jeremijenko and Ann Hamilton; and architects Diller Scofidio + Renfro, Lindy Roy, James Carpenter Design Associates, Studio SUMO, Büro Matter, Atopia, and Section-A. Research, writing, graphics production, design and construction of furniture, installation and exhibition projects, fabrication, project management.

#### Designer, Project Manager, Bureau EAST, Fez, Morocco, 2009-2010.

Design and Project management on residential, interior and urban-scale landscape projects for an emerging, ecologyand systems-oriented practice. Worked in a multi-lingual environment with international project teams.

#### Designer, Diller Scofidio + Renfro, New York, NY, 2006-2008.

Design and project management with a focus on speculative, exhibition and small-scale installation projects. Extensive writing and research for project content, proposals, competitions, and publication. Built and managed workshop and coordinated physical production for the office. Sourced and purchased rapid prototyping system, and full complement of shop equipment.

#### Designer, Fabricator. Lewis Tsurumaki Lewis Architects, New York, NY, 2004-2005.

Constructed and installed exhibition for 2004 Venice Architecture Biennial. Design and construction management on design/build projects.

#### Fabricator, Kern Rockinfield, Brooklyn, NY, 2001-2003.

Coordination, production and installation of high-precision, finish-intensive architectural metal work, furniture and artwork for artists.

#### Founding Member, Magnolia Street Collective, Oakland, CA, 1999-2001.

Organized a group of architects and craftspeople to establish a collective workspace with wood and metal working capabilities.

Junior Architect, Thompson Studio Architects, San Francisco, CA, 1999-2001.

**Technician, Building Sciences Laboratory**, UC Berkeley College of Environmental Design, 1997-1999. Performed boundary layer wind tunnel analyses and gathered data from controlled environment chamber tests on raised plenum office space.

#### Technician, Research Assistant. Laboratory of Walter J. Freeman, MD. 1995-1997.

Constructed experimental apparatus, assisted in surgeries, performed recordings on animal subjects, published in undergraduate research journals and contributed to group publications.