

# Architectural Design

Vol 79 No 2  
March/April 2009  
ISBN 978-0470 998205



## CONTENTS

Editorial Offices  
John Wiley & Sons  
International House  
Ealing Broadway Centre  
London W5 5DB

T: +44 (0)20 8326 3800

Editor  
Helen Castle

Regular columnists: Valentina Croci, David Littlefield, Jayne Merkel, Will McLean, Neil Spiller, Michael Weinstock and Ken Yeang

Freelance Managing Editor  
Caroline Ellerby

Production Editor  
Elizabeth Gongde

Design and Prepress  
Artmedia Press, London

Printed in Italy by Conti Tipocolor

Sponsorship/advertising  
Faith Piddock/Wayne Frost  
T: +44 (0)1243 770254  
E: fpidduck@wiley.co.uk

All Rights Reserved. No part of this publication may be reproduced, stored in a retrieval system or transmitted in any form or by any means, electronic, mechanical, photocopying, recording, scanning or otherwise, except under the terms of the Copyright, Designs and Patents Act 1988 or under the terms of a licence issued by the Copyright Licensing Agency Ltd, 90 Tottenham Court Road, London W1T 4LP, UK, without the permission in writing of the Publisher.

Front cover: Radial constraints and numerical tool paths are used to generate a virtual surface and then produce it via computer numerically controlled (CNC) output. Both are examples of how architects and designers utilise information models. © Richard Garber

### Editorial Board

Will Alsop, Denise Bratton, Mark Burry, André Chaszar, Nigel Coates, Peter Cook, Teddy Cruz, Max Fordham, Massimiliano Fuksas, Edwin Heathcote, Michael Hensel, Anthony Hunt, Charles Jencks, Jan Kaplický, Bob Maxwell, Jayne Merkel, Michael Rotondi, Leon van Schaik, Neil Spiller, Michael Weinstock, Ken Yeang

### Subscribe to AD

AD is published bimonthly and is available to purchase on both a subscription basis and as individual volumes at the following prices.

#### PRICES

Individual copies: £22.99/\$45.00  
Mailing fees may apply

#### ANNUAL SUBSCRIPTION RATES

Student: UK£70/US\$110 print only  
Individual: UK £110/US\$170 print only  
Institutional: UK£180/US\$335 print or online  
Institutional: UK£198/US\$369 combined print and online

Subscription Offices UK  
John Wiley & Sons Ltd  
Journals Administration Department  
1 Oldlands Way, Bognor Regis  
West Sussex, PO22 9SA  
T: +44 (0)1243 843272  
F: +44 (0)1243 843232  
E: cs-journals@wiley.co.uk

[ISSN: 0003-8504]

Prices are for six issues and include postage and handling charges. Periodicals postage paid at Jamaica, NY 11431. Air freight and mailing in the USA by Publications Expediting Services Inc, 200 Meacham Avenue, Elmont, NY 11003.

Individual rate subscriptions must be paid by personal cheque or credit card. Individual rate subscriptions may not be resold or used as library copies.

All prices are subject to change without notice.

Postmaster  
Send address changes to 3 Publications  
Expediting Services, 200 Meacham Avenue,  
Elmont, NY 11003

#### RIGHTS AND PERMISSIONS

Requests to the Publisher should be addressed to:

Permissions Department  
John Wiley & Sons Ltd  
The Atrium  
Southern Gate  
Chichester  
West Sussex PO19 8SQ  
England

F: +44 (0)1243 770620  
E: permreq@wiley.co.uk



4

### Editorial

Helen Castle

6

### Introduction

Optimisation Stories: The Impact of Building Information Modelling on Contemporary Design Practice

Richard Garber

14

Best Pedestrian Route – GRO Architects

Richard Garber and Nicole Robertson

18

BURST\*008, Museum of Modern Art – Douglas Gauthier and Jeremy Edmiston

Douglas Gauthier

22

The Future of Information Modelling and the End of Theory: Less is Limited, More is Different

Cynthia Ottchen

28

New Academic Building for the Cooper Union for the Advancement of Science and Art – Morphosis

Martin Doscher

32

The \$300,000/Year Architect

Urs Gauchat

38

Al Hamra Firdous Tower – Skidmore, Owings & Merrill

Gary Haney

42

Unified Frontiers: Reaching Out with BIM

Coren Sharples

48

C<sup>2</sup> Building, Fashion Institute of Technology – SHoP Architects

SHoP Architects

52

Automated Assessment of Early Concept Designs

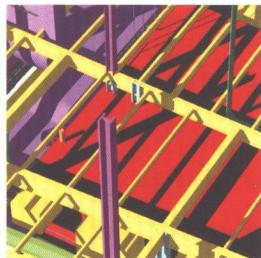
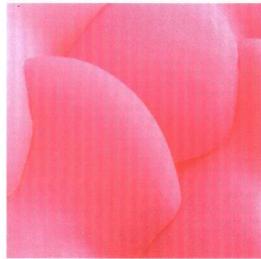
Chuck Eastman

58

Cellophane House – KieranTimberlake

Stephen Kieran and James Timberlake

2023DA44



**62**

Yale Sculpture Building and  
Gallery – KieranTimberlake  
**Stephen Kieran and  
James Timberlake**

**66**

Building for the Third Century  
(B3C), Massachusetts General  
Hospital – NBBJ  
**Craig Brimley and  
Jorge Gomez**

**70**

Collaborative Intelligence =  
Respect  
**Keith Kaseman**

**76**

*Her secret is patience and  
She Changes* – Janet  
Echelman  
**Janet Echelman**

**80**

Information Modelling as a  
Paradigm Shift  
**Dennis Shelden**

**84**

Strata Tower – Asymptote  
**Hani Rashid and  
Lise Anne Couture**

**88**

Alberti's Paradigm  
**Richard Garber**

**94**

Recycled Toy Furniture –  
Greg Lynn FORM  
**Greg Lynn**

**96**

blobwall – Greg Lynn FORM  
**Greg Lynn**

**100**

An Enthusiastic Sceptic  
**Nat Oppenheimer**

**106**

Toni Stabile Student Center,  
Columbia University Graduate  
School of Journalism –  
Marble Fairbanks  
**Scott Marble and Karen  
Fairbanks**

**114+**

**Interior Eye**

Carlos Zapata and Antonio  
Citterio's Cooper Square Hotel,  
New York  
**Jayne Merkel**

**118+**

**Practice Profile**

Pierre Thibault  
**Brian Carter**

**124+**

**Building Profile**

Herbert Art Gallery and  
Museum, Coventry  
**David Littlefield**

**130+**

**Unit Factor**

Computational Spring  
Systems: Open Design  
Processes for Complex  
Structural Systems  
**Sean Ahlquist and Moritz  
Fleischmann**

**134+**

**Spiller's Bits**

Complex Systems Architecture  
**Neil Spiller**

**136+**

McLean's Nuggets  
**Will McLean**

**138+**

**Userscape**  
The Sustainable Disco  
**Valentina Croci**

**142+**

**Site Lines**

Replacing a Beloved Building  
with a Hybrid: Paresky Student  
Center, Williams College  
**Jamie Horwitz**