

Galia Solomonoff, critic
Amy Maresko. TA

The Archive

KINNE TRAVEL: Rio de Janeiro and Belo Horizonte, Brazil, March 2015

This studio proposes to design an Archive. An Archive is *an accumulation of historical records. Archives may contain primary source documents that have accumulated over the course of an individual or organization's lifetime, and are kept to show the trajectory of that person or organization.* This Archive can be a singular building or a series of buildings for the purpose of archiving a collection.

The student/participant has the freedom to determine the exact content of the Archive and the exact site of it within parameters given by the studio. The student/participant can design a singular building or a series of related buildings that develop an architectural syntax or expression. The purpose of the studio is to give the student/participant the ability to express and consolidate their design talent in this last semester at GSAPP.

The studio proposes the following 3 scenarios for an Archive –(the participant can design one or all as a syntax progression):

1. **Artist's Archive, Harlem, NYC, 4,000 sq. ft.**

In this scenario the content of the Archive are the papers/art of a selected contemporary artist or artists' group, and the site is a particular lot on West 136 Street. The collection would include art installations, papers and library.

Precedents:

- Donald Judd Foundation, NYC;
- Burle Marx Foundation and Gardens, Rio de Janeiro, Brazil

2. **Contemporary Art Archive, Inhotim, Brazil, 6,000 sq. ft.**

In this scenario the content of the Archive are the papers, catalogues and relevant objects of Bernardo Paz, a collector of Contemporary Art, whose collection at Inhotim contains and sustains more than 500 original works of art and botanic collection. This collection includes many singular art pavilions and installations in a 5,000 acre Art Complex located in the proximity of Belo Horizonte, Brazil. The Studio will travel to Inhotim and view the collection during Kinne week.

Precedents:

- Gene Goetz Foundation, by Herzog De Meuron, Munich, Germany
- Rubell Family Collection, Miami, USA

3. **Presidential Library at TBD site, USA – 10,000 sq. ft.**

In this scenario the contents of the Archive are the papers of Barack Obama accumulated during his presidencies 2008-2012 and 2012-2016. The Presidential Library is to be a repository of the papers relating to the 44th President of the United States. It is to be constructed at the behest of nonprofit Obama Foundation, which was set up for this purpose. The site has not yet been chosen. A decision on the final selection among four announced finalists ([the University of Chicago](#); the [University of Illinois at Chicago](#); [Columbia University](#) and the [University of Hawaii](#)^[3]) will be made by the president and first lady in 2015.

Precedents:

- Bill Clinton Presidential Library, by Ennead/ James Polshek Architects, Little Rock, USA
- John F Kennedy Presidential Library, by I. M. Pei, Boston, USA

Galia Solomonoff, critic
Amy Maresko. TA

Collaborators:

The collaborators below will participate on selected meetings of the studio:

- **Ethan Breckenridge**, artist, http://www.thierrygoldberg.com/ethan_breckenridge/
- **Francesca Grassi**, identity developer, Whitney Museum of Art, NYC, <http://whitney.org/>
- **Angela Giral**, archivist, librarian, Avery Library, <http://library.columbia.edu/locations/avery/da.html>
- **Fabian Marcaccio**, artist, <http://paintantsstudio.blogspot.com/> , <http://www.paintantscorporation.com/site/>
- **Rirkrit Tiravanija**, artist, http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Rirkrit_Tiravanija, https://gavinbrown.biz/artists/rirkrit_tiravanija/works

Format:

Research and pre-design— January 26 to February 2, Research Review, **02/02/2015**

Individual project development – February 3 to April 30, Final Review, **04/30/2015**

Thesis:

The agenda for the studio is to produce an architectural design that is original and completes your tenure at GSAPP. The goal is to arrive at proposals that are conceptual, strategic, and quantifiable, where questions of design and expression are interrogated, exposed and resolved.

The aim is to first become familiar with the few different systems that exist to organize collections and archives. This would involve diagramming Knowledge Organization Systems (KOS) <http://www.clir.org/pubs/reports/pub91/1knowledge.html> Then develop and create a design scheme or series of schemes that accommodates such system in a given site. Later, evolve these schemes in constant engagement with critics and their critical responses towards a scheme or schemes that reflect your design tendencies.

The final design proposal should relate to your personal identity as designer and be relevant to the current architectural culture/discourse. The Thesis of the studio is that design identity emerges from culture; at the same time culture is fueled by economy, which thrives in the repetitive and generic. Thus design identity generally emerges as a breaking point within culture but then it is rapidly absorbed and assimilated within it. The pace at which identity driven entities are absorbed accelerates with the pace of consumption because consumption necessitates of difference to continue to produce and reproduce.

Rules:

- The studio will meet on Mondays, and Thursdays from 2 to 6 pm
- There will be few tbd Fridays seminars/symposiums obligatory for the studio
- Teamwork is encouraged for the first weeks of the semester—until February 2, 2015
- Teamwork is optional for the second part of the term and final project.
- Individual projects are encouraged. This may develop and depart from team research at any point.

The studio shall employ a cross-disciplinary work method to create a critical, integral and sustainable model of urban form able to deliver economically prosperous, formally progressive, and environmentally integral designs. The studio will produce drawings, physical models, diagrams and digital environments/models.

COLUMBIA UNIVERSITY, GSAPP

Architecture

Spring 2015

Advance Studio VI

Galia Solomonoff, critic

Amy Maresko. TA

- Lottery: January 21, 2015
- First studio session: Monday, January 26, 2:00-4:00pm
- First Review: Delivery of archive content research: February 2, 2015
- Midterm: March 2, 2015
- Kinne Trip to Rio: March 9-13, 2015
- Final: April 30, 2015



Lina Bo Bardi - MASP – Museu de Arte de São Paulo, São Paulo, photo montage and drawing by Lina Bo Bardi as concept development 1957-1968 © arquivo ILBPMB