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The Architectural League of New York announces the winners of the 2024 Emerging Voices award and online program dates

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NEW YORK, NY, February 7, 2024 — The Architectural League of New York is pleased to announce the winners of its annual Emerging Voices competition. Each year the League selects eight emerging practices through a juried, invited portfolio competition. The award recognizes individuals and firms based in the United States, Canada, and Mexico whose work addresses pressing contemporary issues, from climate change and resource extraction to social inequities and exploitative labor practices, with a distinct “voice” that has the potential to influence the disciplines of architecture, landscape architecture, and urban design. The jury reviews firms that have a significant body of realized work and considers accomplishments within the design and academic communities as well as the public realm.

Being named an Emerging Voice by The Architectural League is one of the most prestigious honors in North American architecture. Since 1982, the program has identified more than 300 awardees who have gone on to develop influential careers. A list of all past winners can be found at archleague.org/emerging-voices.

The selection process involved a two-stage review of work from approximately 50 entrants. The jury, which brought together design professionals from across North America (including several past Emerging Voices winners), comprised Marie Law Adams, Paola Aguirre, Behnaz Assadi, Fernanda Canales, Irene Cheng, David Godshall, Mario Gooden, Bryan Lee, Jr., and Jess Myers.

Mario Gooden, jury member and president of The Architectural League, describes the winners' work:

This year's Emerging Voices winners represent various forms of practice that challenge the discipline of architecture and the nature of “professional practice.” Their works are transcalar to the built environment in the production of space, sociality, community, and discourse. Additionally, their works hold a mirror to confront architecture's entanglements with modernity, coloniality, and the resultant environmental, social, and technological changes, and how these are made manifest at the intersection of bodies, space, ecologies, politics, and aesthetics.

Emerging Voices is organized by League program director Anne Rieselbach and program manager Zoe Fruchter.

Past Emerging Voices include, among others: Steven Holl (1982), Thom Mayne & Michael Rotondi (1983), Merrill Elam & Mack Scogin (1988), Coleman Coker & Samuel Mockbee (1990), Toshiko Mori (1992), Deborah Berke (1993), Enrique Norton (1994), Brigitte Shim & Howard Sutcliffe (1995), Michael Maltzan (1998), Marion Weiss & Michael Manfredi (1997), James Corner (2001), Mario Gooden & Ray Huff (2001), Jeanne Gang (2006), Teddy Cruz (2006), Eric Höweler & Meejin Yoon (2007), Amale Andraos & Dan Wood (2008), Tatiana Bilbao (2010), Kate Orff (2012), Jing Liu & Florian Idenburg (2013), David Benjamin (2014), Ronald Rael & Virginia San Fratello (2015), Chris Leong & Dominic Leong (2017), Bryan C. Lee, Jr. & Sue Mobley (2019), Olalekan Jeyifous (2020), José Pablo Ambrosi & Loreta Castro-Reguera (2021), Sekou Cooke (2022), and Isabel Abascal & Alessandro Arienzo (2023).

Firm profiles of this year's Emerging Voices can be found on the League's website. Editorial features offering additional insight into each winner's work will be published in the coming months.

Learn more at archleague.org/ev24.

Emerging Voices 2024



Emanuel Admassu and Jen Wood
AD – WO
New York City

Emanuel Admassu and Jen Wood founded AD—WO in New York in 2018. Working at the intersection of art and architecture, the practice is rooted in Black studies, decoloniality, and conceptual art. Admassu and Wood's installations, exhibitions, and built projects articulate, in their own words, "how architecture and art are implicated in ongoing struggles; redirecting spatial thinking against various forms of subjugation." Located in galleries and educational and cultural institutions, the firm's installations utilize tactical materiality and non-Western aesthetics to challenge architectural conventions.



Fermin Andrade, Juan Carlos Cano, Paloma Vera
CANO VERA arquitectura
Mexico City

Juan Carlos Cano and Paloma Vera founded CANO VERA arquitectura in Mexico City in 2007, and Fermin Andrade joined the firm as partner in 2019. Initially oriented toward social housing design, the practice's portfolio has since expanded to include large scale institutional, cultural, and infrastructural projects. Uniting expertise in both architectural and urban design, CANO VERA arquitectura's work demonstrates a consistent social orientation and sensitivity to context expressed through ambitiously scaled forms. In the words of its founders, the practice believes that "the specific can transform the whole."



David Fortin
David T Fortin Architect
Cambridge, ONT

David Fortin founded David T Fortin Architect in Sudbury, Ontario in 2018. Now located in Cambridge, Ontario, the 100% Indigenous-owned firm believes that "well-designed spaces can strengthen our relations with each other and the Land in profound ways," in its own words. Primarily working with Métis and First Nation clients across Canada, David T Fortin Architect produces a broad range of work grounded in Indigenous knowledge, from installations and advocacy initiatives to affordable and social housing projects.



Armida Fernández, Luis Enrique Flores
Estudio ALA
Guadalajara

Armida Fernández and Luis Enrique Flores founded Estudio ALA in Guadalajara in 2012. Often designing for industrial and agricultural contexts, the firm, in its own words, seeks to "honor culture and tradition while still questioning the significance of programs, methodologies, and materialities." Through built work and research projects that engage creatively with established economic and social structures, Estudio ALA explores a wide range of topics, including migrant spaces and pathways; emerging dwelling typologies; environmental sustainability; and reuse and reprogramming.

Emerging Voices 2024



David Hill
HILLWORKS
Auburn, AL

David Hill founded the landscape design studio HILLWORKS in 2009. Located in Auburn, Alabama and working closely with Auburn University, a public land grant institution, the firm is grounded in the ecological and cultural landscape of the southeastern United States. HILLWORKS engages in design research on plant performance, including studies in phenology and novel ecologies, and the inventive reuse of land, such as community gardens and rewilding strategies. The studio's projects across a variety of scales reflect a dedication to the regenerative power of the landscape.



Katherine Darnstadt
Latent
Chicago

Katherine Darnstadt founded Latent in Chicago in 2010. Bridging the fields of architecture and community development, Latent utilizes participatory processes and leverages local assets to create design solutions in resource and budget limited environments. The practice's portfolio includes small-scale urban interventions, new construction community buildings, adaptive reuse, neighborhood master plans, and speculative designs. Focused on accessibility, sustainability, and economic viability, the practice states that it is founded "on the belief that great spaces belong to our most vulnerable populations."



Ross Altheimer, Maura Rockcastle
TEN x TEN Landscape Architecture + Urbanism
Minneapolis

Ross Altheimer and Maura Rockcastle founded TEN x TEN Landscape Architecture + Urbanism in Minneapolis in 2015. According to the firm, their transdisciplinary studio works collaboratively to "co-create immersive, resilient landscapes that adapt to social, economic, and environmental transformation." Through diverse projects that range from industrial reuse to memorial design and a methodology that centers research and community investment, TEN x TEN's work demonstrates a deep respect for place and the belief that design can affect positive change in our environments.



Neeraj Bhatia
THE OPEN WORKSHOP
San Francisco

Neeraj Bhatia founded THE OPEN WORKSHOP in 2013 in Toronto, Canada. Now based in San Francisco, the multidisciplinary practice produces a diverse range of projects and built works that bridge speculative research and formal design. The studio investigates how architecture and urbanism can foster social, racial, environmental, and economic equity, engaging frequently with issues of housing justice and public space. Often created collaboratively with communities, institutions, and other designers, these projects both propose and represent what the firm describes as "a collective ethos of design and forms of exchange."

Emerging Voices 2024 lecture series

Lectures will be held online at 12 noon Eastern Time.

Emerging Voices programs are free and open to all. Advance registration is required. All registered participants will be sent a link to participate through Zoom.

For more information, visit archleague.org/ev24

Join the conversation
#EV24
@archleague

The lecture series provides an opportunity for architects and designers awarded the Emerging Voices distinction to present exceptional and challenging work to their peers, the larger design community, and the interested public—the kind of recognition and intergenerational engagement that has been a part of The Architectural League's mission since its founding in 1881.

3/7/24

David Fortin
David T Fortin Architect
Cambridge, ONT

Neeraj Bhatia
THE OPEN WORKSHOP
San Francisco

Moderated by Marie Law Adams

3/14/24

David Hill
HILLWORKS
Auburn, AL

Katherine Darnstadt
Latent
Chicago

Moderated by David Godshall

3/21/24

Armida Fernández, Luis Enrique Flores
Estudio ALA
Guadalajara

Emanuel Admassu, Jen Wood
AD – WO
New York City

Moderated by Paola Aguirre and Jess Myers

3/28/24

Fermín Andrade, Juan Carlos Cano, Paloma Vera
CANO VERA arquitectura
Mexico City

Ross Altheimer, Maura Rockcastle
TEN x TEN Landscape Architecture + Urbanism
Minneapolis

Moderated by Fernanda Canales

Support

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About The Architectural League

The Architectural League of New York supports critically transformative work in the allied fields that shape the built environment. As a vital, independent forum, the League stimulates thinking, debate, and action on today's converging crises of racism, inequity, and climate change, in service of a more livable and just world. archleague.org | urbanomnibus.net