CELEBRATE ARCHITECTURE

Friday, March 11th
9:00 A.M. to 4:00 P.M.

MANSHIP THEATRE AT SHAW CENTER FOR THE ARTS • BATON ROUGE

AIA LOUISIANA PRESENTS: THE 17TH ANNUAL
INTERWEAVING - PLACEMAKING IN THE URBAN AND THE NATURAL

BRIGITTE SHIM
MARION WEISS
MICHAEL MANFREDI
DAVID DARLING
JOSHUA AIDLIN

OLYMPIC SCULPTURE PARK | SEATTLE ART MUSEUM

WEISS/MANFREDI
NEW YORK

SHIM•SUTCLIFFE ARCHITECTS
TORONTO

THE INTEGRAL HOUSE

AIDLIN DARLING DESIGN
SAN FRANCISCO

WIN DOVER CONTEMPLATIVE CENTER

6 HOURS CONTINUING ED
HSW APPROVED CREDITS
any of our cities and communities appear to look increasingly the same, threatening a loss of cultural as well as personal identity. Insensitive growth and suburban sprawl continue unimpeded, consuming more and more of our natural landscape. In today’s fast-paced world there is a growing sense of disconnect, to the uniqueness of life, to our relationship to nature, even to our past and our memories. As architects, our built work can address these challenging issues in thoughtful and compelling ways, our work can be ordinary and irrelevant, or our work can actually become part of the problem.

Through a process of Interweaving, an inclusive approach to design, apparent constraints and limitations can be identified and become part of the solution, resulting in meaningful design that connects rather than separates. By engaging the specific culture, ecology, and heritage of a place, architecture can celebrate our uniqueness, reflect our cherished values and memories, while providing fresh and innovative ways of development and revitalization. By focusing on establishing a balance between the urban and the natural, architecture can take a leadership role in advancing a thoughtful pattern of urban growth that respects and contributes to the restoration of our natural environment.

RECONNECTING AND RENEWAL

In their Wandering Ecologies master plan for Toronto’s Lower Don Lands Weiss/Manfredi weave together such diverse issues as flood control and infrastructure barriers with new opportunities for recreation and social interaction, while introducing new wetlands and wildlife habitats within the fabric of the city. A series of new public park spaces link with the downtown through a variety of pedestrian and bike pathways which activate the underutilized area around the elevated highways that cross the site. Renewal can be on a personal level, as in Aidlin Darling’s Windhover Contemplative Center where the “chapel-like center provides a refuge from the intensity of daily life and a place for personal reflection.” This spiritual retreat, set within the lively campus of Stanford University, incorporates rammed earth walls, wood surfaces, and water to heighten the visitor’s sensory experience. Brigitte Shim and Howard Sutcliffe have deliberately located their house and studio in the urban core of Toronto, reinforcing their belief that the “regeneration of buildings and landscape in the city should be an important dimension of all architectural practice.” Much like a French Quarter townhouse, their Laneway House, built on a former derelict site, is a compact pavilion with a small hidden courtyard garden, establishing a direct connection with nature within the city.

ENGAGING

Located on the edge of a Toronto ravine, Shim-Sutcliffe’s Integral House “utilizes curvilinear glass walls to shape a large performance space where building and landscape are intertwined.” These

Marion Weiss and Michael Manfredi are co-founders of WEISS/ MANFREDI, a multidisciplinary design practice, known for their dynamic integration of architecture, art, infrastructure, and landscape design. Current projects include a new building for Cornell’s Roosevelt Island campus, a building for MIT’s Kendall Square Initiative, and the U.S. Embassy in New Delhi, India. Their most recent book, PUBLIC NATURES: Evolutionary Infrastructures, was released by Princeton Architectural Press this past September.

Awards include the Academy Award for Architecture from the American Academy of Arts and Letters, the International V.R. Green Prize for Urban Design, the New York City AIA Gold Medal of Honor, as well as six National AIA Honor Awards. Marion is the Graham Chair Professor of Architecture at the University of Pennsylvania. Michael is a Senior Design Critic at Harvard University. They were recently inducted into the National Academy of Design and are currently the Eero Saarinen Visiting Professors at Yale University.

Marion received her undergraduate degree in Architecture from the University of Virginia and her Master of Architecture degree from Yale University. Michael received his undergraduate degree in Architecture from Notre Dame and his Master of Architecture degree from Cornell University.
serpentine walls of vertical glass and wood provide panoramic views engaging the surrounding forest, while echoing the undulating contours of the river valley. The section of the house parallels the journey of descending the ravine slope as well as ascending above into the tree tops. Creating varied opportunities for social engagement is a prime design objective for the Krishna P. Singh Center for Nanotechnology, where Weiss/Manfredi “focus the laboratory space around a central quad, opening the Sciences up to the University (U Penn.) landscape and providing new indoor/outdoor space” for collaboration, exchange of ideas, and relaxation. The Emeryville Center for the Arts by Aidlin Darling, which houses a variety of both gallery and performance spaces, unfolds much like a scaffolding, open and flexible, allowing for creative engagement by the participants. The building culminates with a rooftop outdoor theater that offers views out into the landscape, becoming a glowing beacon and civic presence in the skyline.

RESPECTING

In their 355 11th Street mixed-use renovation, Aidlin Darling respect the historic character of the industrial structure by establishing a dialogue between old and new, where the building’s original wood post and beam construction is enveloped with a new performative skin of perforated metal. This diaphanous zinc scrim reflects changing light patterns throughout the day, while unveiling the reclaimed interior at night. Respecting the ancient, rugged and powerful landscape of Georgian Bay in Ontario was central to the design of Shim-Sutcliffe’s Harrison Island Camp, which “taches the ground lightly, and seeks to minimize possible long term damage to the rock.” The cabin, comprised of a main central bay with cantilevers to each side, was prefabricated in a controlled environment and then shipped in pieces to the island and assembled. The Sylvan Theater at the Washington Monument by Weiss/Manfredi transforms this historic site on our National Mall by “reorienting the outdoor amphitheater to allow audiences a panoramic view of this treasured monument, simultaneously elevating the audience and strategically concealing the surrounding traffic.” A new elevated pedestrian woodland walk connects the amphitheater to the nearby Tidal Basin, “descending to the water’s edge to lead to the Jefferson, Roosevelt and MLK memorials, creating a much richer visitor experience.”

Quotes and excerpts are sourced from the guest architects’ websites and other publications.

Doug Ashe has served on numerous AIA honor awards juries over the years, including chairing both the National AIA Gold Medal/Architecture Firm Award Jury and the AIA/AIA National Library Honor Awards Jury. Ashe Broussard Weinzettle Architects has received over 20 AIA honor awards for design excellence at the regional, state and local levels.

Doug received his Master of Architecture from Columbia University and his Bachelor of Architecture, with honors, from Georgia Tech. This is Doug’s 17th year serving as coordinator and moderator for Celebrate Architecture.
For additional information about The Manship Theatre, visit their web site: www.manshiptheatre.org, or The Shaw Center website: www.shawcenter.org

Convenient parking can be found at the Third Street Parking Garage (across from The Shaw Center), which is located on the corner of Third Street and Convention Street.

Several hotel options are listed below. The Hilton Baton Rouge Capitol Center, Hotel Indigo, and the Sheraton Baton Rouge are within walking distance of the Shaw Center:

- Hilton Baton Rouge Capitol Center - 225.344.5866
  201 Lafayette Street  hilton.com/Baton_Rouge
- Hotel Indigo - Baton Rouge  1.877.270.1392
  200 Convention St.  hotelindigo.com
- Sheraton Baton Rouge Convention Center & Hotel
  225-242-2600 or 1.800.565.7654
  sheraton.com/batonrouge
- Baton Rouge Marriott – 225.924.5000
  marriott.com
- Best Western Richmond Suites – 225.924.6500
- Chase Suites by Woodfin – 225.927.5630
  www.woodfinsuitehotels.com