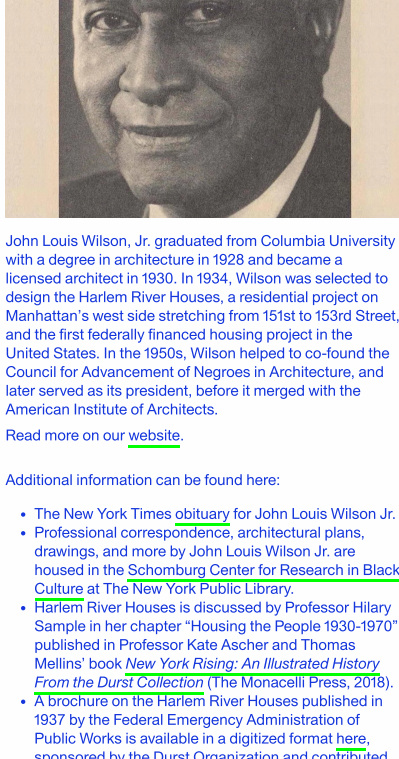


## FEBRUARY 15 – 19

In honor of Black History Month, Columbia GSAPP is highlighting the achievements and contributions of Black alumni throughout February.



John Louis Wilson, Jr. graduated from Columbia University with a degree in architecture in 1928 and became a licensed architect in 1930. In 1934, Wilson was selected to design the Harlem River Houses, a residential project on Manhattan's west side stretching from 151st to 153rd Street, and the first federally financed housing project in the United States. In the 1950s, Wilson helped to co-found the Council for Advancement of Negroes in Architecture, and later served as its president, before it merged with the American Institute of Architects.

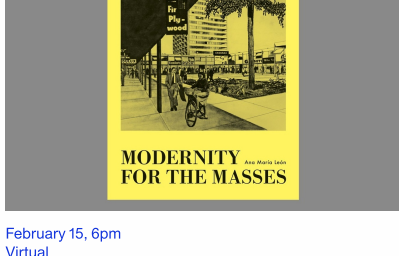
Read more on our [website](#).

Additional information can be found here:

- The New York Times [obituary](#) for John Louis Wilson Jr.
- Professional correspondence, architectural plans, drawings, and more by John Louis Wilson Jr. are housed in the [Schomburg Center for Research in Black Culture](#) at The New York Public Library.
- Harlem River Houses is discussed by Professor Hilary Sample in her chapter "Housing the People 1930-1970" published in Professor Kate Ascher and Thomas Mellins' book [New York Rising: An Illustrated History From the Durst Collection](#) (The Monacelli Press, 2018).
- A brochure on the Harlem River Houses published in 1937 by the Federal Emergency Administration of Public Works is available in a digitized format [here](#), sponsored by the Durst Organization and contributed by Columbia Libraries.

Columbia University's upcoming events celebrating Black History Month include a virtual screening of BlackKklansman, a 2018 biographical film by Spike Lee, hosted by The University Life Events Council on Feb. 20. Register [here](#).

Photo Credit: AIA Archives

PRESERVING  
SIGNIFICANT PLACES OF  
BLACK HISTORY

GSAPP Faculty Bilge Kose and Lisa Kersavage '98 MSHP, Kate McHale '00 MSHP, Michael Caratzas '02 MSHP, and MaryNeil Nolan-Wheatley '08 CC are among the team that developed the [Preserving Significant Places of Black History](#) website published by the New York City Landmarks Preservation Commission.

The goal of the project is to provide greater accessibility to New York City landmarks and historic districts that reflect the contributions and achievements of African Americans, against the backdrop of systemic racism. These places illustrate that the fight for racial equity and social justice is as relevant today as it has been over the course of our City's history.

## MID-REVIEWS

Mid-Reviews continue throughout the week! Students and faculty are invited to join the sessions, including:

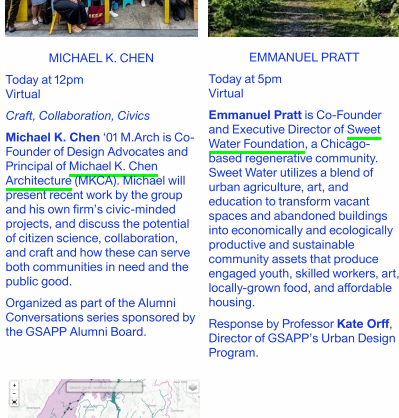
Architecture Advanced VI Studio: Feb. 8–22

Architecture Advanced IV Studio: Feb. 15–18

Architecture Core II Studio: Feb. 17–19

View the full schedule with critics and guests on GSAPP's password-protected internal site, where updates and links will be posted over the week.

## ANA MARÍA LEÓN



February 15, 6pm

Virtual

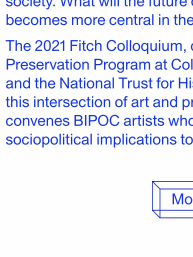
*Barrio Sur: Modernity for the Masses*

**Ana María León** delivers the Detlef Mertins Lecture on the Histories of Modernity following an introduction by Professor **Felicity Scott**, Architecture PhD Program Director and MCCCCP Program Co-Director.

Ana María León is an architect and a historian of objects, buildings, and landscapes. Her research and teaching examine the modernity of the Americas and its transcontinental flows. She is co-founder of several collaborations laboring to broaden the reach of architectural history including Detroit Resists, the Decolonizing Pedagogies Workshop, the [Settler Colonial City Project](#), and [Nuestro Norte es el Sur](#).

The Detlef Mertins Lecture on the Histories of Modernity is an annual lecture in honor of the life and work of Detlef Mertins (1954-2011), endowed by Elise Jaffe + Jeffrey Brown.

[More info](#)



PRENTISS A. DANTZLER

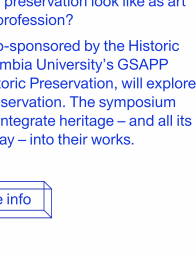
February 16, 1:15pm

Virtual

*Housing Assistance Programs & Neighborhood Dynamics: Lessons Learned from the U.S. & Canada*

**Prentiss A. Dantzler**, PhD is an Assistant Professor of Urban Studies at Georgia State University. His research sits at the nexus of urban poverty, housing policy, neighborhood change, and community development practices. His work examines how and why neighborhoods change and how communities and policymakers create and react to those changes.

Organized as part of the Lectures in Planning Series.



EMILY L. SPRATT

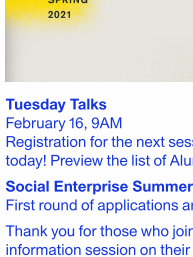
February 16, 6:30pm

Virtual Lecture

*AI and the Art of Culinary Presentation: Gastronomic Algorithms between Alain Passard and Giuseppe Arcimboldo*

**Dr. Emily L. Spratt** is an art historian, data scientist, and strategic advisor whose research spans the fields of Byzantine and Renaissance art, visual culture, cultural heritage management and the art market, applied computer vision science, the ethics of AI, philosophy, and the law. Currently, Spratt is a Post-Doctoral Research Fellow in Columbia's Data Science Institute in collaboration with the Historic Preservation Program and the Department of Computer Science.

Organized as part of the Preservation Lecture Series.



MICHAEL K. CHEN

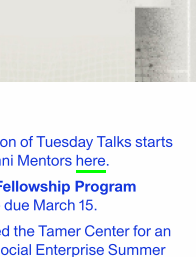
Today at 12pm

Virtual

*Craft, Collaboration, Civics*

**Michael K. Chen** '01 M.Arch is Co-Founder of Design Advocates and Principal of Michael K. Chen Architecture (MKCA). Michael will present recent work by the group and his own firm's civic-minded projects, and discuss the potential of citizen science, collaboration, and craft and how these can serve both communities in need and the public good.

Organized as part of the Alumni Conversations series sponsored by the GSAPP Alumni Board.



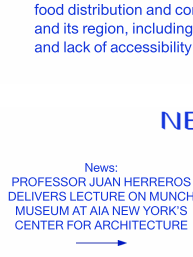
EMMANUEL PRATT

Today at 5pm

Virtual

**Emmanuel Pratt** is Co-Founder and Executive Director of Sweet Water Foundation, a Chicago-based regenerative community. Sweet Water utilizes a blend of urban agriculture, art, and education to transform vacant spaces and abandoned buildings into economically and ecologically productive and sustainable community assets that produce engaged youth, skilled workers, art, locally-grown food, and affordable housing.

Response by Professor **Kate Orff**, Director of GSAPP's Urban Design Program.



GREG O'MULLAN

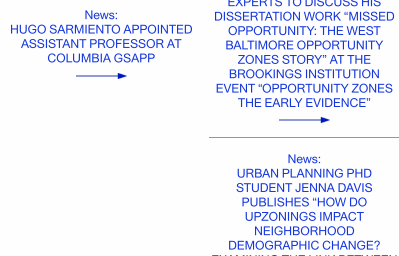
February 18, 7pm

Virtual

**Greg O' Mullan** is an Adjunct Associate Research Scientist at the Columbia Lamont-Doherty Earth Observatory and the Professor of Environmental Microbiology at the School of Earth & Environmental Sciences at CUNY, City University of New York.

Organized by the M.S. Advanced Architectural Design program as part its Techno-Critical Assemblies lecture series.

## 2021 FITCH COLLOQUIUM



February 19, 12pm

Virtual Conference

*The Art of Preservation: Engaging and Amplifying Underrepresented Heritage*

Artists are leading a broad rethinking of heritage, and claiming a central role within preservation practice. In recent years, many BIPOC artists have worked with built heritage to take up the legacies of racial inequities and historical injustices as central themes in their work. Artists confront, challenge, or reframe the role of heritage in society. What will the future of preservation look like as art becomes more central in the profession?

The 2021 Fitch Colloquium, co-sponsored by the Historic Preservation Program at Columbia University's GSAPP and the National Trust for Historic Preservation, will explore this intersection of art and preservation. The symposium convenes BIPOC artists who integrate heritage – and all its sociopolitical implications today – into their works.

[More info](#)



Happy Lunar New Year and welcome to the year of the Ox!

Alumni celebrations included a dinner hosted by **Johnny Chiu** '06 MSAAD at his home, the *Living Lab*, which received an INSIDE World Festival of Interiors Award in 2019. Chiu was recently elected as the President of the Columbia Alumni Association Taipei.

## CAREER SERVICES



TUESDAY TALKS

SPRING 2021

February 16, 9AM

Registration for the next session of Tuesday Talks starts today! Preview the list of Alumni Mentors [here](#).

**Social Enterprise Summer Fellowship Program**

First round of applications are due March 15.

Thank you for those who joined the Tamer Center for an information session on their Social Enterprise Summer Fellowship Program last week. **Charlotte Yu** '21 M.Arch was a recipient of the fellowship last summer, when she interned at One Architecture & Urbanism. Read about her experience [here](#).

## GSAPP RECOMMENDS

- Architecture PhD Student **Malcolm Rio** participates in the forum "Urban Speculation // Queer Resistance" hosted by the Princeton Mellon Initiative on Feb. 17 at 4:30PM. Register [here](#).
- GSAPP Faculty **Michael Alderstein** participates in a conversation with **Daniel Cesario** and **Lance Jay Brown** for the event "The UN Renewal: Sustainable Retrofit + Goals of a Modern Era Landmark" hosted by AIANY Center for Architecture on Feb. 18 at 1PM.
- The Tamer Fund for Social Ventures provides seed grants of up to \$25,000 to nonprofit, for-profit, and hybrid early-stage Columbia University affiliated social and environmental ventures. Apply here before the spring application deadline on Feb. 15 at 11:59PM.
- Rice University invites applications for the [Rice Design Alliance Houston Grant Research Grant](#) through March 31. The grant is open nationally to university students and faculty looking to work on research projects that focus on the spatial implications of urban food distribution and consumption systems in Houston and its region, including the existence of food deserts and lack of accessibility to quality food.

## NEWS

News:  
PROFESSOR JUAN HERREROS DELIVERS LECTURE ON MUNCH MUSEUM AT AIA NEW YORK'S CENTER FOR ARCHITECTURE

News:  
SOFT-FIRM, CO-FOUNDED BY GSAPP FACULTY LEXI TSJEN, FEATURED IN UNTAPPED NEW YORK

News:  
FLORENCIA KRATSMAN '99 MSAAD, DIRECTOR OF SPACE PLANNING AT BIG, INTERVIEWED BY ERIC LI '17 MARCH

News:  
EMILY KAHN '21 MSHP AWARDED FITCH PRIZE FOR HER PAPER "QUESTIONS OF AUTHENTICITY: THE RESTORATION & MUSEIFICATION OF THE ELDRIDGE STREET SYNAGOGUE"

News:  
PROFESSOR HILARY SAMPLE'S FIRM MOS FEATURED IN AV PROYECTOS - Nº 101

News:  
UP PHD CANDIDATE MICHAEL SNIDAL JOINS ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT SCHOLARS AND EXPERTS TO DISCUSS HIS DISSERTATION WORK "MISSED OPPORTUNITY: THE WEST BALTIMORE OPPORTUNITY ZONES STORY" AT THE BROOKINGS INSTITUTION EVENT "OPPORTUNITY ZONES THE EARLY EVIDENCE"

News:  
HUGO SARMIENTO APPOINTED ASSISTANT PROFESSOR AT COLUMBIA GSAPP

News:  
URBAN PLANNING PHD STUDENT JENNA DAVIS PUBLISHES "HOW DO UPZONINGS IMPACT NEIGHBORHOOD DEMOGRAPHIC CHANGE? EXAMINING THE LINK BETWEEN LAND USE POLICY AND GENTRIFICATION IN NYC" IN LAND USE POLICY

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