

CELIA CHAUSSABEL

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Registered architect in New York and SMArchS candidate at MIT

EDUCATION

MASSACHUSETTS INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY

Master of Science in Architecture Studies (SMArchS), 2023-2025

CALIFORNIA POLYTECHNIC STATE UNIVERSITY, SAN LUIS OBISPO

Bachelor of Architecture, 2014-2019

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

"REPAIR THE SCHOOL/SCHOOL OF REPAIR" STUDIO, TECNOLÓGICO DE MONTEREY QUERÉTARO

Co-instructor, Aug 2024

- + Led a two-week collective design-build module as part of an advanced, seventeen-week long architecture studio on designing the future of architectural education. The workshop tasked students with developing a position on the future of spatial practices education through the process of re-designing the typical furniture of architectural education with discarded objects
- + Co-instructed with Katie Rotman. Studio coordinator: Cynthia Deng.

"CHASING DUST BUNNIES" WORKSHOP, MIT

Co-instructor, Jan 2025

- + Developed a course that teaches an alternative approach to architectural image-making that focuses on small, fragmented views of a space, in order to capture architecture's overlooked narratives. In foregrounding minor moments, the workshop invites a political reconsideration of which spaces and narratives are valued.
- + Course co-developed and co-instructed with Ekin Bilal.

"DIGITAL CIRCULARITY: TOOLING UP FOR REUSE" WORKSHOP, MIT

Co-instructor, Jan 2024

- + A two-week-long workshop about circular design through the deconstruction of physical models from a prior studio, digital inventorying and categorization, and design with reused elements
- + Co-instructed with Caitlin Mueller, Sheila Kennedy, Alex Kyaw, Rachel Blowes, Keith Lee, and Karl-Johan Soerensen

"ODDS AND MODS: CASTAWAYS" OPTION STUDIO, MIT

Teaching assistant, Jan-May 2024

- + Studio focused on designing with overstock and reused bricks at both the building-scale and through full-scale prototypes
- + Taught with Professors Caitlin Mueller and Sheila Kennedy

CORE 1 STUDIO, MIT

Teaching assistant, Sept-Dec 2024

- + Teaching first-year MArch students foundations of design and methods of representation. Teaching assistants teach weekly workshops, give desk crits, and support instructors.
- + Taught with Professors Jaffer Kolb, Carrie Norman, William O'Brien Jr.

"COLLECTIVES" OPTION STUDIO, MIT

Teaching assistant, Jan-May 2025

- + Taught with Professor Ana Miljacki

TRANSFER STUDENT WORKSHOP, CAL POLY

Teaching assistant, Sept 2019

- + Taught and mentored incoming third-year transfer students, led software tutorials and office hours

HISTORY OF ARCHITECTURE, CAL POLY

Teaching assistant, 2016-2019

- + Held office hours, created lecture materials, and administered the course

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

LEWIS.TSURUMAKI.LEWIS ARCHITECTS, NEW YORK CITY

Project manager and designer, February 2021-Oct 2022, April-Aug 2023

- + Manual of Biogenic House Sections, published by ORO Editions, Winter 2022. Drawings of fifty-five houses that exemplify low-carbon strategies, including reuse. Design of the book content and graphics; management of the delivery of the book files to ORO; digital modeling and drawing of the houses; research and diagramming of material life cycles; development of embodied carbon estimation methodology for calculations in the book; communication with architects for redlining and editing of drawings.

- + Five Biogenic Houses. Research and design of speculative house designs to expand on the architectural, spatial, and structural possibilities of building with biogenic materials. The two houses I designed explored the pairing of load-bearing jumbo straw bale construction with spans and stabilization of CLT.

- + Biogenic House Sections Exhibition, Princeton University. Led the design, fabrication, and installation of a traveling exhibit for the Manual.

- + Baldwin Hall, Vassar College. Concept and schematic design for the adaptive reuse of an existing three-story brick structure for offices and classrooms; submitting of drawing set with demolition and design drawings for pricing; renderings and drawings; preparing materials for client presentations.

ROTOR, BRUSSELS

Material reuse research, Oct 2022-April 2023

- + Research project "FCRBE: Facilitating the Circulation of Reclaimed Building Elements". Analysis of projects in Europe built with salvaged materials; calculation of reuse rates by building layer (skin, structure, services, space plan); analysis of which layers pose the most challenges to reusing materials. Findings published in Oct 2023 for Interreg Europe.

- + Material inventories. On-site inventorying of buildings in Brussels that are slated to be demolished; evaluation of the reuse potential of materials.

DESIGN EARTH, CAMBRIDGE

Research assistant, April 2024-present

- + Working with Rania Ghosn and El Hadi Jazairy on the Cosmograph exhibiton at MIT Museum and Museums for Climate Action exhibition at the Venice Biennale.

IWAMOTOSCOTT ARCHITECTURE, SAN FRANCISCO

Designer, July 2019-February 2021

- + Exhibition Pavilion. New construction in Chengdu, China. Design team member from concept to CD phase. Led the design of the ground floor, landscape, stair cores, and observation tower; coordinated with the executive architect in Chengdu; prepared client presentations; detailed the facade system and interiors. Construction completed Fall 2023.

- + Pinterest HQ. Tenant improvement office project in San Francisco. On a two-person design team from programming to design development. Led the design of the lobby, social spaces, and a 15-story communication stair; worked with Pinterest's internal workplace team on program development; coordinated the design with the structural and mechanical engineers of the core and shell.

GUY NORDENSON AND ASSOCIATES, NEW YORK CITY

Intern, April 2019

NBBJ, SEATTLE

Intern, Sept-Dec 2017

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EXHIBITIONS & HONORS

HARVARD GSD WXMEN IN DESIGN SERIES

Invited speaker, May 2023

+ Presenting recent research and projects

BOSTON BUILDING RESOURCES, COMMUNITY EVENT

Invited speaker, Jan 2024

+ Local reuse center invited Professor Caitlin Mueller, Rachel Blowes, and I to speak about the process and outcomes of the reuse workshop I co-instructed at MIT

"LOS ANGELES: A MODEL CITY", ARCHITECTURE+DESIGN MUSEUM

Exhibitor, May 2024

+ Project "Cloud Neighbors" exhibited,

MIT ARTS EXHIBITION

Exhibitor, May 2024

+ Project "Legslike" exhibited

"HIGH RISE, MID RISE, LOW RISE: HOUSING IN L.A TODAY", HELMS DESIGN CENTER

Exhibitor, June 2021

+ Project "Cloud Neighbors" exhibited, showcasing built and speculative designs of housing at different scales in Los Angeles

"THE L.A. SCHOOLS", ARCHITECTURE+DESIGN MUSEUM

Exhibitor, Oct-Jan 2021

+ "Characters, Subjectivities, and Contradictions" and "Cloud Neighbors" models and drawings exhibited alongside student work from Sci Arc, USC, UCLA

RIBA PRESIDENT'S MEDAL NOMINATION

Nominee, June 2019

+ Thesis "Characters, Subjectivities, and Contradictions" nominated

VELLUM FURNITURE DESIGN COMPETITION, CAL POLY

Grand prize, Nov 2018

+ Furniture piece "Norm" awarded grand prize trip to Salone del Mobile in Milan in annual school-wide exhibit.

AIA HENRY ADAMS MEDAL

June 2019

MORPHOSIS BEST DESIGN AWARD, CAL POLY

June 2018

+ Awarded by jury to best studio project in the L.A. Metro program

ROBERT ODO SCHOLARSHIP, CAL POLY

second place, April 2018

+ Faculty-nominated award recognizing ability in design and academics

AIA INTEGRATION AWARD

First place, June 2017

+ Third-year project "Soft Robots" recognized for excellence in narrative, graphics, and communication of building systems integration

THIRD YEAR "BEST OF SHOW", CAL POLY

First place, Dec 2016

+ Third year project "Food Loops" selected by a panel of invited architects from a third-year-wide exhibit of projects

"ARCHITECTURE + DESIGN + DISCOURSE" PUBLICATION, CAL POLY

2016, 2019

+ Projects published in annual school publication

PUBLICATIONS

SET, MONITOR AND REPORT ON RECLAMATION AND REUSE RATES IN CONSTRUCTION PROJECTS

Co-author, Oct 2023

+ While working at Rotor, contributed to a publication for a government initiated project called "Facilitating the Circulation of Reclaimed Building Elements in Northwestern Europe". Worked with local partners in France, Belgium, and the Netherlands to analyze existing projects that have successfully reused building materials, in order to establish a method of setting goals and monitoring results for future projects. Available [online here](#).

MENTORSHIP

A.M.P. MENTORSHIP PROGRAM, MIT

Mentor, 2023-2024

+ Mentored five students applying to MIT's SMArchS program, reading over application and advising

ARCHITECTURAL LEAGUE OF NEW YORK MENTORSHIP PROGRAM

Mentor, July 2022-present

+ Mentoring an architecture student completing their undergraduate degree at Kean University in New Jersey through studio crits, office visits, software tutorials, and meetings

THIRD-TO-FIRST YEAR MENTORSHIP PROGRAM, CAL POLY

Committee member and organizer, 2016-2017

SKILLS & LICENSURE

SOFTWARE

Rhino, Revit, Grasshopper, Adobe Suite, Adobe AfterEffects and Premiere, 3DS Max, Unity, Blender, AutoCAD, Enscape, VRay, SketchUp, Maya

FABRICATION

Laser cutting, 3D printing, CNC milling, TIG welding, general metal- and wood-working, exhibition design and fabrication

LANGUAGE

English (native), French (native)

LICENSURE

Licensed architect in the state of New York