

JENSEN JOHNSON | EXTENDED CV

MIT SMARCHS DESIGN CANDIDATE 2023

Born Chicago, Illinois, 1996

Second-year graduate student whose work seeks the intersection of identity, culture, and the built environment.

jensenaj@mit.edu | [What is Black Space? — out of frame](#)

EDUCATION

Present - 2023 Massachusetts Institute of Technology, Cambridge, MA
Master of Science in Architecture Studies (SMArchS) with a focus on design

Pending Thesis: *“The Origin of Blackspace: Intimate Spatial Rituals using Black Hair in the Home”* investigates the relationship(s) between blackness and architecture using oral and written histories and techniques of Black hair grooming as a tool for spatial comprehension and experimentation. This work addresses the issue of exclusion, inequity and pedagogy in the field of architecture.

2020 University of Arkansas, Fayetteville, AR
Bachelor of Science in Architecture (BArch)

Course Highlights

Design Workshop - *On the Right to Housing: Woodstock, Salt River, and the Future of Cape Town's Inner City* | Design workshop held in Cape Town, South Africa led by Adele Santos and Mohamad Nahleh, with a primary focus on public housing

Advanced Option Studio - *Landform Lots* | Design studio led by John G. Williams distinguished visiting professor Brandon Clifford, with a primary focus on landform drawing

Advanced Option Studio - *Printing Architecture* | Design studio led by distinguished visiting professor Virginia San Fratello, with a primary focus on 3D printing

Study Abroad - Rome, Italy | Semester-long faculty-led study abroad program

2014 White Hall High School, White Hall, AR

WORK | EXPERIENCE

Jan 2022 - present Columnist, *What Is Black Space?*, Out of Frame Archive

July 2022 - January 2023 Research Assistant, Prof. J Yolande Daniels, BLACKcity Lab, Massachusetts Institute of Technology

Jan - May 2022 Teaching Assistant, Prof. Kiel Moe + Mohamad Nahleh, Teaching Fellow, Massachusetts Institute of Technology

April 2022 Moderator, MIT Corporation Visiting Committee, SMArchS Student Session, Massachusetts Institute of Technology

Feb 2022 Moderator, MIT Architecture Lecture Series, J Yolande Daniels, *Building | Unbuilding*

Oct 2021 - Jan 2022 Mentor, Applicant Mentorship Program (AMP), Department of Architecture, Strategy and Equity Team, Massachusetts Institute of Technology

May - Nov 2021 Writer, AIAS CRIT Journal

Dec 2020 - Aug 2021 Intern Architect, Polk Stanley Wilcox Architects - Little Rock, AR

April 2021 Guest Reviewer, Architecture Design Studio VI, Fay Jones School of Architecture + Design, University of Arkansas

Nov 2020 Moderator, *Designing While Black: A Conversation on Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion in the Design Professions*, University of Arkansas

Nov 2020 Guest Reviewer, Architecture Design Studio I, Fay Jones School of Architecture + Design, University of Arkansas

Sep 2020 Owner + Designer, Jensen Avery + Co, LLC.

Jan - May 2020 Teaching Assistant, Prof. Carl Smith, University of Arkansas

June - Aug 2019 Architectural Intern, Remick Architecture - Nashville, TN

Jan - May 2018 Student Research Assistant, Prof. Emily Baker, University of Arkansas

May - Aug 2017 Architectural Intern, Stantec Architecture - Irvine, CA

LEADERSHIP | SERVICE

Sep 2015- present National Organization of Minority Architecture Students

Sep 2017 - May 2019 Student Ambassador, Fay Jones School of Architecture + Design, University of Arkansas

Sep - Dec 2019 International Research Assistant, Kaitlyn Fitzgerald, PhD Candidate, University of Arkansas, Rome Center

April 2016 - present Member, Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc.

PUBLISHED WORKS

[forthcoming] *Can You Give Me Some Space?*, AIAS CRIT Journal 90, Publication date TBA

SELECTED AWARDS | HONORS | FELLOWSHIPS

2021

MIT Department of Architecture Graduate Fellowship

2020

2020 Alpha Rho Chi Medal Recipient

2019

Benjamin A. Gilman International Scholarship Award

Robert S. Laser Scholarship Award

EFCO Rome Travel Award