

# ByDESIGN

An Online Journal of Exceptional Achievement

**Jack Tam, AIA**  
**TEAM 7 INTERNATIONAL**  
**Distinctive Design**  
**Spanning the Globe**

**11<sup>th</sup> Annual**  
**Latinas Juntas**  
Latinas Juntas, Fierce  
and Fearless

**SUBLIME TRANSPARENCY:**  
yoU Can Succeed with Desire but you'll  
still need a Heart!

VOLUME 28 Fall / November 2018

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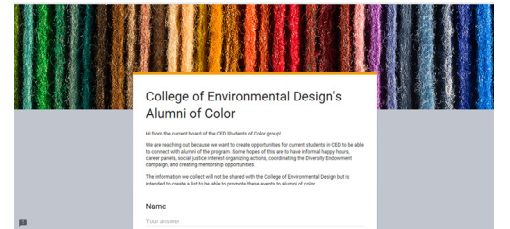
Prof. Michael Dear & Prof. Ron Rael  
UC Berkeley, College of Environmental Design

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Joseph Martinez, Monica Rosas-Baines, Jack Tam  
Martha Ruiz Campa, Ronald Rael, Jennie Lew  
Council Member Jason Fong, Michael Dear, Cary Fong

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

### UC Berkeley's College of Environmental Design Students of Color/ Alumni of Color hold Mixer



October 20, 2018  
UC Berkeley

Current and recent members of Students of Color from UC Berkeley's College of Environmental Design (CED) hosted a social with refreshments and conversation.

Members from Alumni of Color (AOC) exchanged stories with the Students of Color (SOC), tales of past and present were shared amongst those who attended.

The gathering, organized to support diversity, was intended to be the start of something important for past and future generations of CED students of color.

The CED Students of Color continue a long lasting legacy of inclusion, diversity and unity amongst students of color at UC Berkeley's College of Environmental Design. This is the contemporary expression of student activist organizations, from the 1970's, made up of BEDSA (Black Environmental Design Student Association), AAA (Asian Architectural Association), and CASA (Chicano Architectural Student Association) who collaborated on a number of issues related to community design, diversity and increasing the number of professors of color at CED.

ByDESIGN wishes the best to the CED Students of Color and Alumni of Color in their current endeavors to support historically divested and underrepresented communities. We look forward to covering their future activities and extraordinary achievements.

BD

### ON THE COVER:

The cover photograph of Jack Tam, Architect, Team 7 International was taken by Los Angeles-based photographer Michael A. Hernández, on November 7, 2018 in San Francisco, CA.

## Advancing Educational & Professional Empowerment

By D. Oswaldo Lopez, AIA, LEED GA



The Iraqi British architect Zaha Hadid once said: "Architecture is really about well being. I think that people want to feel good in a space. On the one hand it's about shelter, but it's also about pleasure."

This issue covers the remarkable journey of **Jack Tam**, who's family immigrated from Macau when he was a boy. After matriculating with design degrees from UC Berkeley and Harvard, his 40-year practice now spans the globe providing designed spaces offering extraordinary pleasure.

This volume of ByDESIGN (which some of our staff have affectionately labeled the "Asian issue") also covers the historic achievement of **Mason Fong**. A proponent of diversity and social justice, this 27-year-old was recently elected as the youngest City Council-member at the Silicon Valley City of Sunnyvale.

In the Education section we highlight the fantastic work of **Dr. Monica Rosas-Baines**, a licensed clinical psychologist and professor at Cal State University Dominguez Hills. We recognize her 10-year commitment to **Latinas Juntas**, a yearly event promoting educational success and coaching young woman to discover their inner heroes.

The Advocacy story recognizes 30 years of activism on the part of dynamic duo **Jennie Lew** and **Cary Fong**, distinguished community leaders. Both were recently honored in a black-tie event by the Organization of Chinese Americans.

And **Joseph Martinez's** piece entitled 'Sublime Transparency' delivers an insightful perspective on the University of California, San Diego campus, juxtaposed to other leading universities in the US. His design and planning assessment focuses on the Academic Yard as the heart of the campus and a "place of beginnings."

The Community Design article features University of California, Berkeley, professors from the College of Environmental Design, **Michael Dear** and **Ronald Rael**. The article covers an art exhibit entitled: CALIFAS, Art of the US-Mexico Borderlands, held at the Richmond Art Center.

This issue underscores the significant work and achievements of our community. As always, ByDESIGN demonstrates a fervent embrace of diversity and the belief that the American Dream still exists. As Cesar Chavez said: "We need to help students and parents cherish and preserve the ethnic and cultural diversity that nourishes and strengthens this community - and this nation." Adelante!



Jack Tam, AIA  
**Team 7 International**  
San Francisco, CA  
November 2, 2018  
© Michael A. Hernández

## Perspective

### Mason Fong, 27, Elected to Sunnyvale City Council

Rogelio Roy Hernández



Sunnyvale, CA, November 7, 2018

Lao Tzu said "A journey of a thousand miles begins but with a single step."

The 2018 mid-term elections resulted in one of the highest voter participation levels in years. Women, people of color, gay and younger candidates were elected in dramatic numbers across the country.

In a local race, a charismatic, highly talented young man pulled off an upset victory. Mason Fong, 27, was narrowly elected to the City of Sunnyvale City Council. He is the youngest councilperson ever elected to the Silicon Valley City, outperforming John Corde, a 60-year old retired engineering manager, with 53.55% of the vote. Prior to his election, Mr. Fong was an aide for San Jose City Councilman Chappie Jones.

Mason has been involved in politics since graduating from UC San Diego with a degree in City Planning. BD congratulates his 'first step' as a public servant, in a journey sure to entail many more extraordinary achievements.



**Upper Left:** For the first time in an election, bi-literate signs for City Councilmember in Sunnyvale, CA.

**Lower Left:** Supporters of Mason Fong (3<sup>rd</sup> from the left) get out and campaign on behalf of the young candidate.

**Right:** Fighting for diversity.

## Monica Rosas-Baines, Latinas Juntas, Fierce and Fearless

Aymee Barajas, Contributing Writer



After realizing that many of her Latina patients were facing similar challenges, Dr. Monica Rosas-Baines helped create a program aimed to empower Latinas.

Dr. Monica Rosas-Baines is a licensed clinical psychologist and the lead coordinator of the Latinas Juntas program in Cal State University Dominguez Hills.

She and Dr. Denna Sanchez created the program after recognizing a need of encouragement among women students for educational success and reinforcing retention efforts.

The program focuses on the impact of Latina cultural values in the pursuit of higher education. Students who participate in the program benefit from learning how to cope with cultural stressors, learn about campus resources, and improve student connectedness and belonging within CSUDH.

### Tell us about your background.

I'm a Mexican-American licensed clinical psychologist at Student Health & Psychological Services, California State University, Dominguez Hills, where I have been providing individual and group counseling to students for 17 years. I grew up in the border city of El Paso, Texas. I received my B.A. in Psychology from Loyola Marymount University in 1994, and my Ph.D. in Clinical Psychology from California School of Professional Psychology in 1999. My areas of expertise include multicultural psychology and Latina mental health issues.

### You began Latinas Juntas in 2003. What prompted it?

In 2003, my dear friend and co-worker, Dr. Denna Sanchez and I created this event specifically for CSUDH Latina students. We had attended an event at CSULB called the Latina Connection Conference and we were inspired to create a similar program for our campus.

Denna and I noticed that our Latina patients reported similar cultural pressures that often made their academic journey more challenging... issues like family and gender role conflicts, lack of role models, isolation on campus and personal insecurities.

These clinical observations, as well as our own identification with these issues, inspired us to design a program to offer support and mentorship.

We know that not every Latina is interested in personal counseling, or may feel inhibited to seek out counseling because of the negative stigma, so we wanted to develop a forum where we could address these issues as a group.

### What is the primary purpose of Latinas Juntas?

It gives our students an opportunity to share their stories, form connections with other students, get to know faculty and staff on a more personal level, as well as learn about the many resources available to them.

I went through my college years without knowing any Latina professors. Like parents who want to give their children what they didn't have, I wanted to give my students an opportunity to meet and develop relationships with Latina campus professionals.

Our primary goal is to create a supportive community among Latina students, faculty, and staff in order to promote educational success and enhance retention efforts. We design a program full of experiential activities and small and large group discussions that enhance self-reflection in order to achieve the following:

- (1) Improve the students' sense of connectedness and belonging to the CSUDH campus,
- (2) Provide support and validation of the Latina students' life experience,
- (3) Facilitate a dialogue of challenges, obstacles, and barriers to personal, social, and academic success, and
- (4) Identify realistic solutions. Our participants are often the first in their families to attend college. This experience exposes them to the resources available on campus and campus professionals that can assist them in navigating the environment.

We hope to help students recognize their perseverance in spite of cultural/ societal pressures and personal challenges, and want them to know we are honored to work with them.

“ We hope to help students recognize their perseverance in spite of cultural/ societal pressures and personal challenges, and want them to know we are honored to work with them. ”



Dr. Monica Rosas-Baines  
Cal State Dominguez Hills



## Monica Rosas-Baines Latinas Juntas, Fierce and Fearless

I feel this event does as much for the staff, faculty and the students who attended. By the end of the day, there is a palpable sense of unity, empowerment and cultural pride in the room. It's a very special day.

### Has being a psychologist helped you interact with participants of Latinas Juntas?

Yes, my clinical background and that of Dr. Quintero, has been very helpful in creating this event. We are asking our participants to be vulnerable and open up about their lives. As psychologists, we know how to create a safe and confidential environment to encourage dialogue. I believe that we provide a bridge between the professional participants and the student participants.

### You just held the Latinas Juntas event on October 26<sup>th</sup>; how has it changed in the last 15 years that you've been holding it?

Every event is a learning experience for me. We do our best to change it up every year so that our theme and activities are different. In general, the morning is always centered on self-reflection, and the afternoon is focused on goal setting and creative, team-building activities. This year was the first time we were able to provide the program in 5 years and I could not have done it without the help of Dr. Quintero and Josephine Lara. It has changed in that we have a larger pool of Latina faculty and staff to participate as facilitators of our small groups. These women are a critical part of our program because they are the ones who are working directly with the students to help them open up. It's been incredibly gratifying for me to see so many Latina campus professionals eager to participate in the event.



Left: Co-coordinators of this year's Latinas Juntas: Dr. Norma Quintero, Dr. Monica Rosas-Baines, and Josephine Lara.

Right: This year's Latinas Juntas event included guest speaker and actress, Jackie Guerra.

### What advice would you give Latinas, and women in general, about pursuing higher education?

My advice would be study what you want, not what your family thinks you should study. Use the resources available on campus, ask for help when you need it, don't let any personal relationships take you off track and seek out mentors. I would advise anyone pursuing higher ed to have your cheer team to motivate you when you're feeling overwhelmed and celebrate your accomplishments along the way. Fight through your self-doubts. Many of my students, particularly Latinas, are shy to raise their hand in class. They are afraid of giving the wrong answer or having the attention on them. I advise them to fight the voice inside them which is trying to inhibit them. It's the voice which also tells us we're not good enough, we can't do it. But they can and they will.

All photo copyright is to Tom Gonzalez, CSUDH.



Top: The Latinas Juntas program includes a dialogue focused on how to overcome the obstacles, cultural/gender barriers, and challenges identified throughout the day. Bottom: Part of the program includes students creating a personal plan for their academic, social and emotional well-being.

# SIDE BAR: Dr. Monica Rosas-Baines

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## Latinas Juntas, Discovering Your Inner Super Hero

Aymee Barajas

### Professional Clinical Experience

- Counseling Psychologist, Student Health & Psychological Services, CSUDH
- Counseling Psychologist, Student Development, CSUDH
- Outpatient Therapist, Didi Hirsch CMHC, Family and Child Division, Inglewood, CA
- Part-Time Counseling Psychologist, Student Development, CSUDH

### Clinical Training

- Psychology Intern, Student Health & Psychological Services, CSUDH
- Psychology Intern, Los Angeles County Probation Department - Dorothy Kirby Center

### Teaching Positions

- Lecturer, Chicana/Chicano Studies, CSUDH, Course Title: Las Chicanas: A Psychosocial Approach to Understanding Contemporary Chicanas, Fall 2003-2011
- Lecturer, Chicana/Chicano Studies, CSUDH, Course Title: Latina/o Family & Gender Issues, Spring 2003

### Outreach & Event Programming (CSUDH)

- Pizza, Profs, & Platica: Coordinate an annual Latina/o faculty and student mixer every Spring
- Latinas Juntas: Co-designer and coordinator of an annual networking program for Latina students, faculty and staff

### Grants Received

- 50th Anniversary Golden Toro Ideas: Received funding from the 50th Anniversary Golden Toro Ideas Program Committee for the CSUDH Latinas Juntas Program. Co-wrote with Denna Sanchez, Ph.D.
- Sally Casanova Mini Research Grant Recipient: Received funding from the WASC Diversity Committee for the CSUDH Latinas Juntas Program. Co-wrote with Denna Sanchez, Ph.D.

### Publications, Handouts, & Consultations

- Latina Magazine, strategies for strengthening relationships with romantic partners, 2005.
- Latina Magazine, strategies for women to assist their children in adjusting to a new relationship following divorce, 2000.
- Latin Girl Magazine, ways to assess if an individual's socialization patterns are unhealthy, 2000.
- Seventeen Magazine, confidence and ways to improve self-esteem, 2000.
- People en Español, psychology of jealousy, 2000.

### Education

- Ph.D. Clinical Psychology, California School of Professional Psychology, CA
- MA Psychology, California School of Professional Psychology
- BA Psychology, Loyola Marymount University, CA



# COVER STORY

## Jack Tam, AIA Distinctive Design Spanning the Globe

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Rogelio Roy Hernández, Photography, Michael A. Hernández



Internationally acclaimed Mexican Architect Luis Barragan once said: "Architecture is an art when one consciously or unconsciously creates aesthetic emotion in the atmosphere and when this environment produces well being."

This article on San Francisco-based architect Jack Tam represents an all too common story of an immigrant who arrived to the US from Asia as a boy and overcame numerous barriers.

Wanting to honor his family, and build a secure future, he executed a self-assessment of skills and aptitudes, and discovered a love of architecture, interior design and planning. He found his path to an extraordinary career of distinctive design spanning the globe.

### Can you tell us a little about your background?

I immigrated from Macau, a Portugal Colony, to the United States two years prior to completing my high school education.

I finished high school in San Francisco, and completed my junior college education at the City College of San Francisco. I then transferred to the University of California, Berkeley, where I received both my Bachelor and Master degrees in Architecture. From there, I pursued my second Master degree in Urban Design at Harvard's Graduate School of Design.

### What prompted you to come an architect?

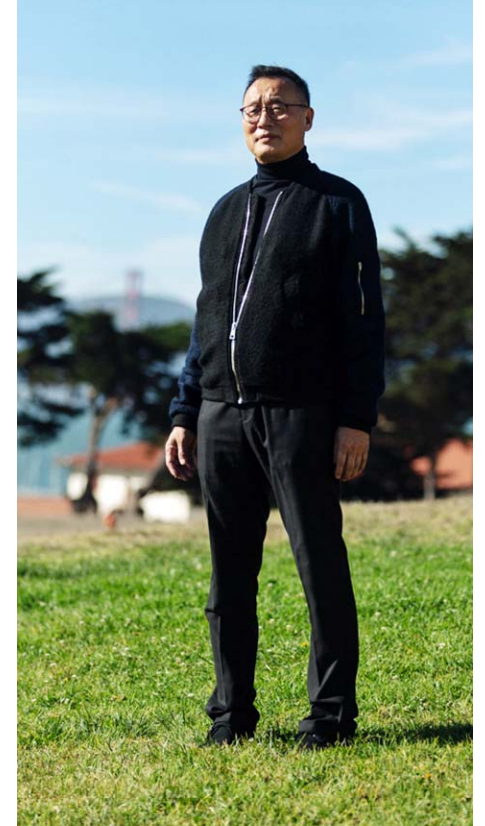
In my younger days, like most kids, I really had no big ambition; frankly, I had no occupational goals in my mind. But I knew it would bring honor to my family if I could finish a higher education in my new adopted home country.

Therefore, getting good grades and completing college in a new environment with a major language barrier, was my goal. There were many obstacles along the way, and there were sacrifices in between, but I knew that going to the University and receiving higher learning would not only broaden my knowledge, but at the same time fulfill my family demands.

I knew I was good at geometry and had always had a strong interest in the arts, I had no idea what an Architect did.

It was not until my family indicated architecture was a dynamic form of utilizing geometry in an art gesture, which I finally connected the dots between my interest and architecture. In theory, architecture is more related to drawings, and linguistic skill is not as important and not as essential as compared to other professions like business, medicine, or law.

Understanding my interest would be translated to a profession. I set my goal. I informed my college counselor I wanted to be an architect. With considerable guidance, and taking the required classes, I gained confidence in pursuing my goal as I excelled in all my architectural classes. That was the motivation, and little bits of enjoyment, which pushed me to finish my architectural education.



**Jack Tam, Architect**  
Team 7 International, San Francisco, CA. November 2, 2018  
© 2018 Michael A. Hernández



Apple  
Cupertino, CA

Photos © Team 7 International

# COVER STORY:

## Jack Tam, AIA Distinctive Design Spanning the Globe

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**You have attended world-class universities, UC Berkeley and Harvard GSD. How did those experiences shape your career?**

During my educational endeavor, I realized that I lacked significant life experiences, and was somewhat naive. Prior to entering college, I was purely focused on excelling in school and getting into a good University for a good future prospect with a polished resume. But I regretted not taking advantages of what the two universities could offer and provide.

To make a generalization, during the 60's and 70's, UC Berkeley was very much a community and social oriented architectural education program. During my academic years, the Vietnam War was happening. We were establishing our architectural foundation and basic knowledge. At the same time, social and political influences were quite deeply imbedded into our education into the way we thought, and how architects should interact in such a social and political climate.

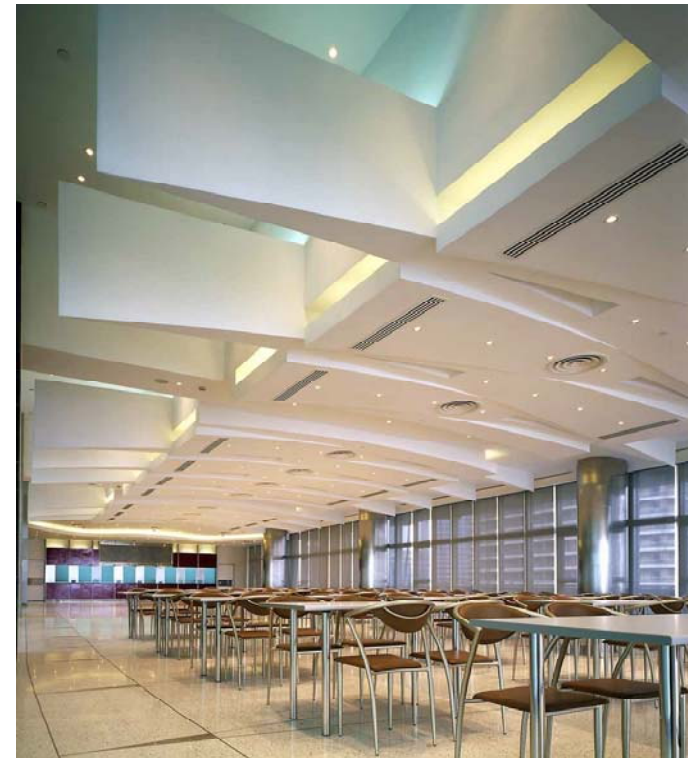
Harvard, one of the most prestigious universities in the world, had its attractions. At the time, mid-70's, the GSD principle was really into Le Corbusier with stylistic design. The East Coast professional architectural influences were a great influence to my career which morphed my stylistic approach.

GSD shaped my design philosophy and professionalism, while CED formed my awareness and compassion of environments and community social issues.

**In your considerable experience, how has the architectural profession changed in general, and more specifically, for people of color?**

I have been practicing architecture for the past 40 years, the architectural profession has changed. I have worked for big and small firms before I formed my own office. In the US, when I first started my career, most big projects were commissioned by big firms, where few minorities could be in key positions. Now, there are many top posts occupied by capable individuals from different backgrounds and different colors. And many minority owned firms have sprung-up, as well. I've noticed minority designers coming up. As technology shortens the distance between each other, the world of architecture has become more global than ever. I see great opportunities for designers of color.

The East and West, the North and South, are exchanging their designers for great projects in different countries. As long as we are good at our work, we shall have this global "Oneness" experiences. People of color provide different cultural thinking, aesthetics, and work ethic, which makes our designs more unique and special.



**IBCB Bank**  
Shanghai, China

Photos © Team 7 International



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### What architects have inspired you the most in your career?

Times change, and so do our heroes.

During my school period, Le Corbusier, Alvar Aalto, Louis Khan were the top choices. In my early career, it was the White-New York Five and the Gray-MLTW. In my mid-career, SOM, HOK, and PKF. Recently, my preferences would be Zaha Hadid and Tado Ando.

Most of the famous architects around the world are quite influential to our work. Architecture is a forever learning profession. With the aid of computers, design professions, construction industries, and product manufacturing fields have all improved technologically with regards to creativity and execution. New technology has changed the design landscape, now almost nothing is impossible to design and build. That really makes our imaginations go wild and without boundaries.

### You've designed projects for major clients in the US, such as Apple, sensational theaters in Shanghai, and dramatic office towers in Beijing. How does a firm succeed in establishing a multinational practice?

I have to admit, connections and the quality of our work are important elements for a design firm's business development. Of course, projects do not come in by themselves; our resume and previous work experience are virtually the key to getting projects.

My personal belief is that any kind of project is a good challenging project. Any project can be a new learning experience, and could pose different difficulties to resolve and tackle. Therefore, I take both small and big projects, without discrimination, with the same attention and dedication. One very important principle at Team 7 International, is our love and devotion to our work. We take pride in achieving the best with each and every project, the care we give to each design element, to our clients.

“ Architecture is a challenging field. You first have to love what you do, need to have devotion, and be able to sacrifice, to enjoy the experience of shaping the built environment. ”

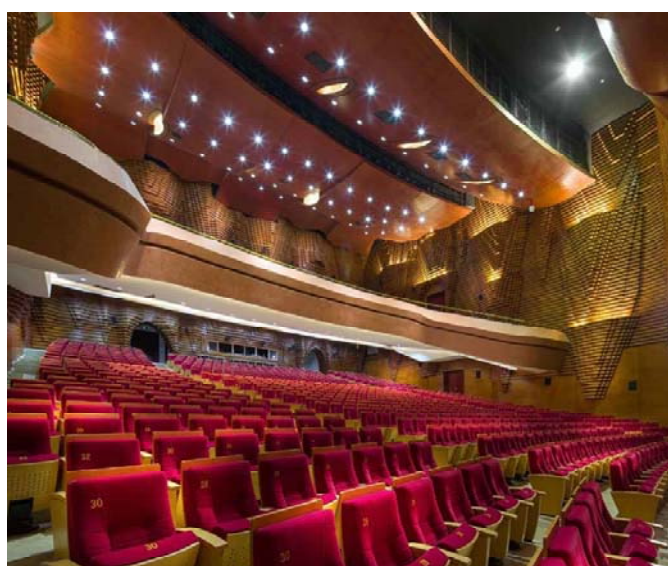
Most of our clients become great friends, fostering friendships which have spanned decades. As time has passed, our positive reputation and word of mouths introductions have allowed many projects to reach us.

Repeat clients are always the best path to good projects.

### How do you manage to stay on top of projects on both sides of the world?

That is a good question. At the beginning when I started my office, I would try to get as many projects as possible to sustain the office operation. I found out that I became a Business Promotor, being in the air the whole time and not an architect who designed any more. I missed the design aspect and realized I needed to focus on my passion and love. I decided to slow down and down size my firm so I could enjoy designing projects again.

Pace affects our work, really, “less is more.” But with the internet, emails, text messaging, and now with whatsapp and we chat, we are constantly connected. We have become one global city, now everything is just one click way.



The end of the work day in China is the start of the day in the US, work actually can be synchronized seamlessly to maintain a 24/7 work force if needed. Overseas clients are thoroughly impressed by the turnaround time on tasks as we have the time zone advantage.

### What would you say have been the keys to your success in you planning, architecture and interior design practice?

I believe good design work, good relationships with our clients, and being punctual on our deadlines. Then most importantly, it is our own professionalism -- we are responsible for our work, we face our consequences without any excuses for errors. Also, the love and dedication to each and every project is a key element for success as well. Clients can sense and feel our passion through the end product.

Team 7 was commissioned to for the interior design of the center and exterior façade consultation. The architecture of the center was done by Architectural Design & Research Institute of SCUT.

Muping Cultural Center  
Muping, China

Photos © Team 7 International

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**What have been the greatest joys and accomplishments in your career?**

The biggest joy is listening to a fantastic lecture from some famous architect/designer and admiring their career accomplishments, which tickles our fancy and becomes an envy of ours.

For personal accomplishments, it is the final product of our own designs, which is being well used and where we receive good feedback – simply put, they are enjoying the space and are very happy.

Also, feeling our design responds socially to the environment, seeing the building interact with the community, also brings me a sense of accomplishment.

All photos © Team 7 International

“**Architecture, interior design, and planning are an inseparable body. Basically, all three share the same philosophy, human concerns, environmental sensibilities, and require aesthetic related inputs.**”

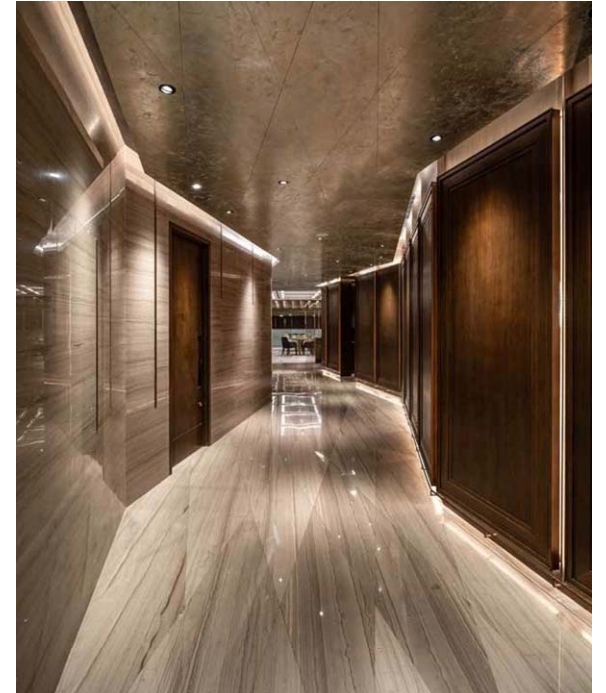
**What advice would you give students aspiring to be interior designers, planners and/or architects?**

Architecture, interior design, and planning are an inseparable body. Basically, all three share the same philosophy, human concerns, environmental sensibilities, and require aesthetic related inputs. I strongly recommend students study all aspects of planning, design, architecture, furniture, color, structures, materials, and music – it's an unlimited list we can learn from, which becomes part of our own thoughts and sources of inspiration.

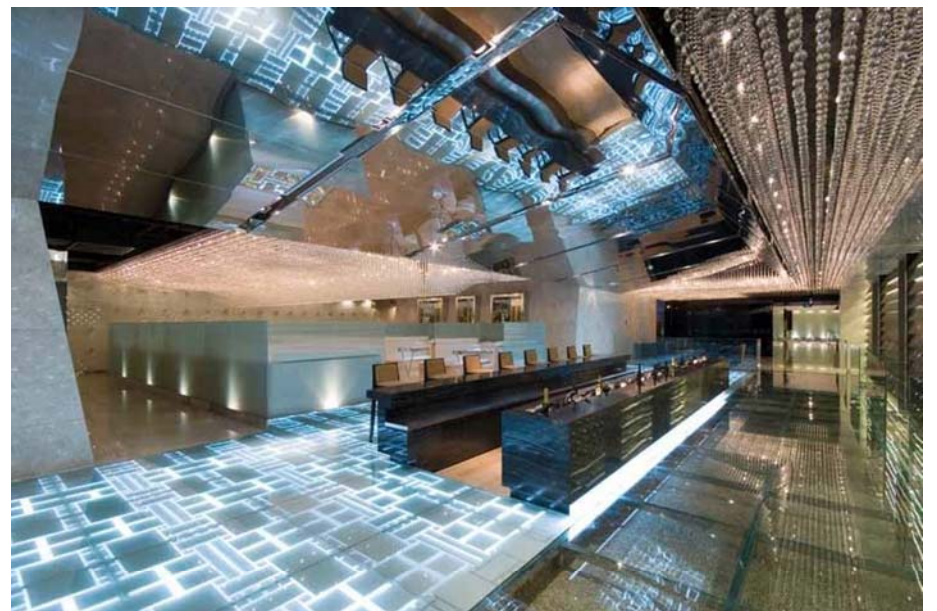
Architecture is a challenging field. You first have to love what you do, need to have devotion, and be able to sacrifice, to enjoy the experience of shaping the environment.



Right:  
Cang Yue  
Beijing, China



Above: South Beauty, Beijing, China



Above: 101, Beijing, China

## Team 7 International

Mr. Tam is the founder of Team 7 International and has 35 years of experience in planning, architecture and interior design. He has designed projects ranging from macro scale governmental civic center master plans, large scale residential master plans, urban financial center planning, corporate headquarters, commercial office towers, hotels, and shopping centers; micro scale projects included from corporate headquarters interior, retail stores, auto showrooms, apartment buildings, prestigious custom residences to theme restaurants.

As the firm's founder and chief designer, Jack is responsible for designing the projects, and overseeing construction of the projects. His projects spread over from Northern California to East Asia to Europe.

Team 7 International is a leading architectural firm of experienced professionals, utilizing a team approach to produce distinctive design solutions within viable economic parameters for every project.

With a long track record of award-winning and innovative architecture, the firm is dedicated to quality through intimate involvement, attention to budgets and schedules, and creative solutions.

Team 7 International provides services for a wide-range of clients including: feasibility studies, master planning, site planning, architectural design, project management, construction administration, programming, space planning, interior design, building evaluation and tenant development.

### Professional Experience

Team 7 International, 1987 to present  
EPR, San Francisco 1983 to 1985  
Kaplan/McLaughlin/Diaz, San Francisco, 1980 to 1983  
Stone Marraccini & Patterson, San Francisco, 1979 to 1980  
William Pereira & Associates, Los Angeles 1976 to 1979

### Awards/Publications

Eisner Award, 1st Prize, UC Berkeley, 1974  
CA AIA Medal, Architectural Record, Architecture and Interiors Magazine, 1974

### Type of Work

Arts & Culture  
Commercial  
Hospitality  
Residential

### Education

Bachelor of Architecture, UC Berkeley, CA 1972  
Master of Architecture, UC Berkeley, CA 1973  
Master in Urban Design, Harvard, MA 1976

### Team 7 International

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### Sample Projects

1. Shanghai Cultural Center, Shanghai, China
2. LSH Plaza, Beijing, China
3. Aranui 5, Tahiti. French Polynesia  
Interior design
4. Mercedes Showroom, throughout China



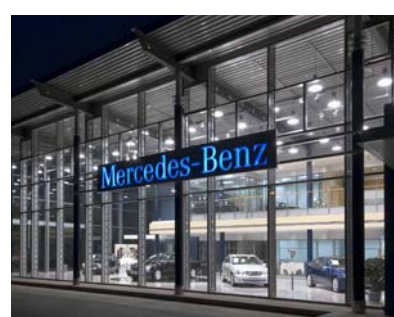
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2



3



4

## Individuals Who Inspire, OAC Honors Jennie Lew and Cary Fong

The Organization of Chinese Americans (OCA) held its 30th Anniversary Gala & Awards Dinner on October 21, 2018 in South San Francisco, CA. The theme was "Individuals Who Inspire." The honorees were husband and wife Cary Fong and Jennie Lew, both distinguished community leaders. The black tie event was emceed by David Louie (ABC7 News) and Malissa Netane-Jones (Peninsula Conflict Resolution Center).

Established in 1987, the OCA San Mateo Chapter is one of the four chapters in the Bay Area and one of the seven chapters in California. OCA is a national nonprofit nonpartisan, civil rights advocacy and educational organization dedicated to embracing the hopes and aspirations and advancing the social, political and economic well being of Americans of Chinese and Asian descent.

### Jennie Lew

Though a third generation Chinese American from San Mateo, Jennie's great-grandparents were Toisan farmers. Her grandparents and parents were laundrymen, houseboys, a ship welder, U.S. Postal and cannery workers.

At UC Berkeley Architecture, and MIT City Planning, Jennie focused on community design and development. She interned at the Economic Development Corp. in Boston's Chinatown and was one of three staff of the San Francisco Chinatown Neighborhood Resource Center (now CDC) working on economic development, public housing, the first-ever historic survey of an American Chinatown, open space alleyways, and private sector partnerships for low-income housing.

Other projects have also included: S.F. Yerba Buena Gardens, a 30-year Development Agreement for the City of Berkeley, low-income housing/childcare/convents for the Dominican Sisters, and medical facilities for Kaiser Permanente.

However, her key accomplishments are in film and community work. She produced/directed "Separate Lives, Broken Dreams" (an Emmy Award documentary regarding Chinese Exclusion), as well as shorts on pedophilia in the South East Asian community and depression among Asian-American women. Battles to eminent domain a Chinatown mortuary for a park, legislate against shadows on open space, and preserve 3/4 million cubic feet of Alien Files at the National Archives are legendary.

The fight for a Chinatown/North Beach City College is most prized, because it involved traveling with her husband weekly from San Mateo to San Francisco for almost two years to be part of a community coalition.

She is proud of raising three fine sons and several fur kids, and of the many friends and colleagues she's collaborated with over the years.



Organization of Chinese Americans  
Greater Seattle Chapter



Jenny, Carry and their three wonderful sons celebrate OCA honoring their 30 years of service to the Asian community.

### Cary Fong

A third generation Chinese American San Franciscan, Cary Fong grew up in the 1950's in the North Beach neighborhood where Chinese were discouraged from buying homes or even renting apartments north of Broadway Street before WWII.

Since Cary's father was disabled, he worked 36 hours a week while a full time student at San Francisco City College. He became one of the youngest Supervisors at Wells Fargo Bank at age 19. Cary then went to UC Berkeley, majored in Business Administration and received his MBA from Golden Gate University in Taxation. This led him to be an Assistant Store Manager for a retail chain; a Pan Am World Airways Steward; and, a Tax Accountant for several CPAs.

Cary's community involvement began almost 45 years ago in 1975, when he volunteered at Asian Inc. advising minority entrepreneurs. He later moved to Boston, MA where he organized and trained minorities for construction jobs. Upon returning to San Francisco, he became Legislative Assistant to San Francisco's first elected Chinese-American Board Supervisor Gordon Lau. He served as Treasurer of the San Francisco Telecommunication Commission and as a member of the Finance Committee for Self-Help for the Elderly.

Most recently, he invested two long years to successfully fight for the Chinatown/North Beach City College Campus. He now serves as Treasurer for the International Hotel Senior Housing.

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## Sublime Transparency: yoU Can Succeed with Desire but you'll still need a Heart!

Joseph Martinez, Architect



Established in 1964, the University of California, San Diego has rapidly increased its academic stature to rival west coast powerhouses Stanford, UC Berkeley, and UCLA, and also this country's old Ivy League elites.

Part and parcel to the mystic of these elite institutions (e.g., Harvard, Yale, Princeton, MIT, et.al.) is their *ratione entis*, specifically rigorous intellectual inquiry and multi-disciplinary synergies, genuine school spirit, and a reverence for its "place of beginnings" -- that is to say, the Academic Yard.

The reasons are many: efficiency and operational management to planning and construction criteria, and promotion of "school-spirit" to academic cross-pollination. Moreover, their attributes would accommodate a broad array of venues, including: outdoor study, rallies, demonstrations, and commencement. Typically, the palette would include combinations of landscaped areas, walks and passageways, sculptures and statues, founder's monuments or tribute plaques, and ceremonial buildings, to name a few. The academic yard transcends its physical boundaries when "spontaneity of cause" comes forth, thereby revealing its spatial authenticity. For example, consider Sprout Plaza at UC Berkeley which is well-known worldwide for the Free Speech Movement (FSM) of the early 60s, and served as a catalyst for human rights discourse across the country to this day. Likewise, from a totally different perspective, consider a first-time undergraduate student and their parents and/or visitors to Harvard Yard -- everyone wants a photo standing in front of the bronze statue of John Harvard.

**University of Quaraouiyine**  
World's first university established in 859 AD



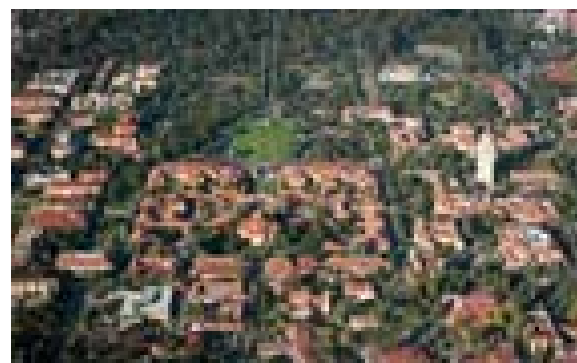
**Massachusetts Institute of Technology**



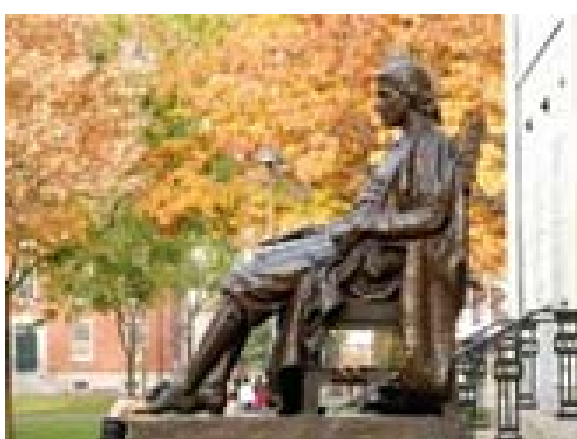
**Harvard University**  
First University in North America established in 1636 AD



**Stanford University**



**John Harvard**



**UC Berkeley, Sprout Plaza**



For its first 50 years, UC San Diego has not had a "place of beginnings" -- nor possessed strong school spirit, say in comparison to sister campuses such as the CAL Bears or the UCLA Bruins; but, to its credit, UCSD did focus on academic rigor, scholarship, and advanced research. Similarly, it's recent inclusion to Division I status will certainly improve school spirit among current and future students, but have 180,000 alumni been lost to antiquity?

### Initial Campus Master Plan: A Very Broad Overview

In 1956, the Regents of the University of California authorized the San Diego site as the 7th campus of the UC system -- the land acquisition took many forms, including the transfer from the federal government of 500 acres of the former military site, Camp Matthews. This site was used as a staging area for several decades (1964-), and included classrooms, new dorms, and the administration/chancellor's complex.

Over the course of 35 years, several revisions to the campus plan have occurred, including the 1989 Master Plan by SOM/Richard Bender/Allan Jacobs/Emmet Wimple. The guiding principles of this master plan featured forward-thinking ideas of neighborhoods, academic corridors, a University Center, the park, and connections -- all concepts from Urban Civic Design.

Similarly, over this same time frame UC San Diego's academic stature grew exponentially.

In 2017 *U.S. News & World Report* named UC San Diego the 15th best university in the world for research, global and regional reputation, international collaboration, and number of highly cited papers; also, they noted UC San Diego as "most selective" for college admissions ratings within the United States. These academic rankings are the result of the groundwork and brilliance of Chancellor Richard Atkinson (1980-95) -- his vision strengthened ties with the city of San Diego, increased the faculty, doubled student enrollment, encouraged technology transfer, and escalated small-high technology companies. In the past two decades, changing demographics at UC San Diego reveal a noticeable shift of White students from 38% down to 19.1%, and Asian students up from 32% to 37.6% in the same time period. Chicanx/Latinx enrollment has increased from 8% to 17.8%, while Black students rose from 1% to 2.5%. As of 2018, 19.5% of the student body is composed of international students. It should be pointed out, 32.3% of the population in the State of California is Chicanx/Latinx.

In addition to its serene setting overlooking the Pacific Ocean and generally flat topography, there are a few arroyos along the north portion of the campus which have been placed as a habitat reserve area. Moreover, and of great significance is The Stuart Collection (1981), a public art program which distributes traditional and site-specific works throughout the campus. To date, 20 pieces dot the campus, including the first work by Niki de Saint Phalle, *Sun God* (1983).



Unfortunately, the beauty of the site and the provocative public art has been matched by the countless uninspired buildings. In 2013, *Travel + Leisure* magazine named UC San Diego "...as one of the ugliest campuses in America, likening it to a cupboard full of kitchen appliances whose function you can't quite fathom". Since that time, the next generation of mega-monster buildings have made their presence onto the campus, and with the exception of the exquisite Rady School of Management, the cupboard now contains appliances suitable for King Kong.



Upper Left: Sun God  
Upper Right: Aerial, UC San Diego  
Lower Left: Camp Mathews Plaque  
Lower Right: King Triton

### TRITON PAVILION 2021

One of the more interesting projects at UC San Diego is the forthcoming Triton Pavilion -- a 215,800 sq. ft. development containing a Campus Welcome Center, Alumni Center, University Extension, Global Education, Health & Wellness, Campus Support, Fitness Center, Retail and Restaurant, and, conference and meeting spaces.

The 2021 project will occupy a 7.5 acre site immediately south of the historic central quadrangle of Camp Mathews.

The intent of the Triton Pavilion is to serve as an entrance and touchstone of the campus, and for its building(s) to fully integrate into the surrounding landscape as well as promote the urban core through design of the public realm.

The project's vision and goals focus on the promotion and engagement in public service, education of the global citizen, and provide an enduring place of the future.

### Theoretical Proposition

Noted New York Times architecture critic Michael Kimmelman, in his introduction to Culture: Power of the Place, poignantly stated: **A square** (e.g., academic yard) **is not just about light, air, proportion, and people. It must also give form to some shared notion of civic identity** (e.g., school spirit).



Old Monster

That being said, the chief objective for the Triton Pavilion project is to enhance, promote, stimulate, enshrine, covet, honor, and respect the beginnings of place, namely the Camp Mathews quadrangle.

Every single "act" -- design of walks, facades, use of materials, signage, et.al. -- should be, must be an acknowledgement of its beginnings. Similarly, this would include its academic origin with Scripps Institution of Oceanography, its academic accomplishments in science, technology and the arts, as well as venues in sustainability, cultural diversity, and UC San Diego position on the Pacific Rim.

Clearly stated, the Camp Mathews Quadrangle must be the Academic Yard of UC San Diego Campus.

“ Moreover, certain innate, pre-established design attributes/criteria which are not founded anywhere else, they're solely unique to UC San Diego, and should serve as the generator of meaningful form and space. ”



New Monster

Essentially, there are three generic site configurations for the Triton Pavilion: 1. A single, large mega-building; 2. A collection of smaller buildings; and, 3. A combination of 1 and 2. Via the case study method, and looking at various campuses across the country and around the world, the over-arching characteristic is inclusion of the small inner-sanctum (e.g., academic yard, plaza), and as the university grows outward, its buildings become larger and morphologically diverse.

Although an argument can be made for each of the three examples, the mega-building scenario will require more "gymnastics and contortions" to properly satisfy pre-established design criteria.

Moreover, certain innate, pre-established design attributes/criteria which are not founded anywhere else, they're solely unique to UC San Diego, and should serve as the generator of meaningful form and space. It is too easy to super-impose and/or inflict the present-day design language onto Triton Pavilion project -- in so doing, it might very well lose its opportunity for a genuine heart.

Seen from another perspective, consider various acts of super-imposition throughout U.S. history, including K-12 English only curriculum in public schools, segregation in the South, and Women's Suffrage. In each case it's the dominate "agent" overpowering the richness and vibrancy of its "opponent".



Icon Central Library 1970

The necessities of place-making -- a fashionable term not genuinely understood -- too often is relegated to a secondary tier, an after-thought, or a residual function. Beyond spatial closure, daily activities and occasional/annual ceremonies, its synthetic-structure must promote spontaneity.

Again, consider the dynamic-life of Sproul Plaza. In 1964, it was Mario Savio and the Free Speech Movement; in subsequent years, each anniversary decade has been celebrated with public forums and related events and civic tributes.

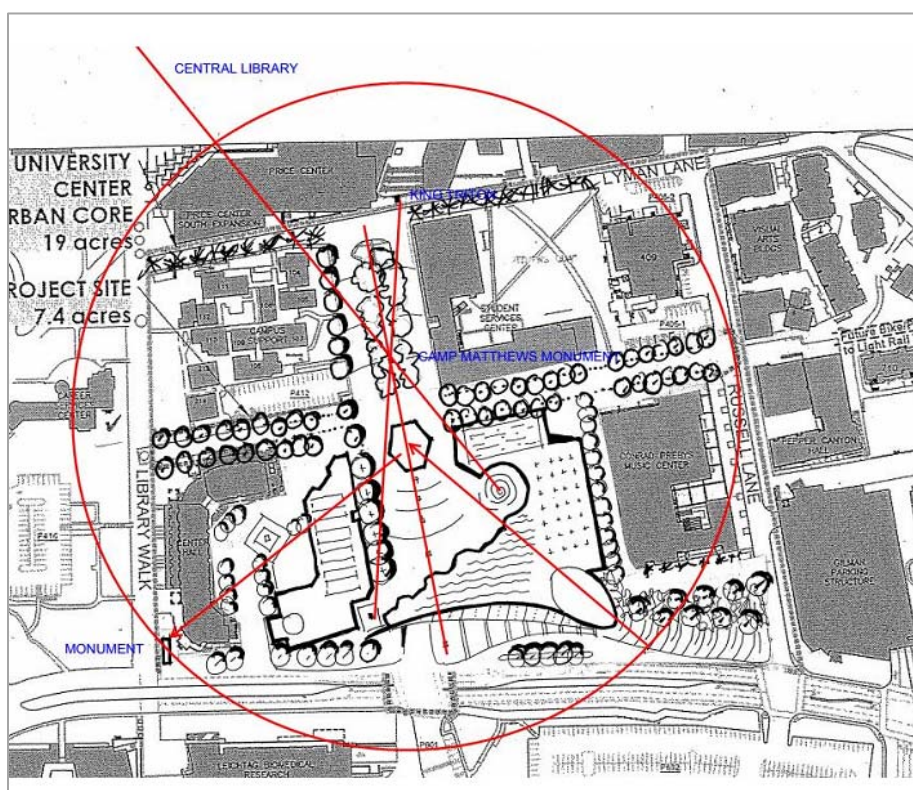
In 1991, it was the commemoration of the FSM with a 6-inch hole in the ground filled with soil and granite ring which bears the inscription: "This soil and the air space extending above it shall not be a part of any nation and shall not be a part of any entity's jurisdiction." And, on January 20, 2009, it's the telecast in Sproul Plaza of the inauguration of the 44th President of the United States, Barack Obama.

“ Taken together, the composition of the Triton Pavilion must be infused with Innate Attributes, Spontaneity, an Inner Sanctum, and Multi-dimensional Connectivity -- these are some of the DNA elements of place-making. ”

Taken together, the composition of the **Triton Pavilion** must be infused with Innate Attributes, Spontaneity, an Inner Sanctum, and Multi-dimensional Connectivity -- these are some of the DNA elements of place-making. The design proposition achieves greater density via non-categorical attributes. For example, the aesthetic attributes of the 3-story, truncated, hexagonal prism of the Alumni Center is derived from the anthropometrics of King Triton, while the multi-story, wave-like glass curtain-wall is a direct quotation from the study of oceanography (e.g., think Scripps Institution of Oceanography).

Additionally, various neo-technological rooftop venues, such as binary hydroponics, photovoltaics, farm-to-table agriculture go hand-in-hand with a roof-top terrace of the Welcome Center which functions as a celestial oval for fetes, soirees, and fiestas. The synthesis of these and other attributes reveals a clarity in architectural and intellectual composition wherein, the Alumni Center becomes the actual keystone in the closure for the Matthews quadrangle, and further, the remainder of the Triton Pavilion buildings become the touchstone of the campus.

### Connectivity and the Inner Sanctum



### Site Plan: Triton Pavilion



### About the Author

Joseph Martinez received his BA from UC San Diego in 1971 -- while there he was a co-founder of Maya/Mecha, co-founder of The Third World College (now Thurgood Marshall College) and co-chair of the Urban and Rural Studies Academic Program. Over the past 50 years he has served on various committees at UC San Diego, including the Alumni Board, the Concilio, Chicano Alumni Association, and a member of the Selection Committee for the founding Dean of the School of Architecture. Presently he is spearheading the Chicanx/Latinx Initiative to qualify UC San Diego as a Hispanic Servicing Institution. In 1985 he was named Alumni of the Year, and in 1987 he was honored as UC San Diego's Centennial Alumnus. Joseph obtained his Master of Architecture degree in 1975 from Harvard University; his architectural firm, Martinez + Cutri Corporation, practices worldwide.



## Contemporary California Artists Explore the US-Mexico Borderlands

Prof. Michael Dear and Prof. Ronald Rael, UC Berkeley College of Environmental Design



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RICHMOND, CA — The exhibition *Califas: Art of the US-Mexico Borderlands / El Arte de la Zona Fronteriza México-Estados Unidos* explored representation of the US-Mexico borderlands in contemporary art with a special emphasis on the Bay Area.

The name *Califas* is used to refer to California's deep histories, memories, and identities that existed in the state long before the international boundary was created in 1848. Adapted for use in the exhibition, *Califas* suggests new ways of seeing California and Baja California based in an era when people understood the border as a connecting tissue, not as a line of separation.

The exhibition came at a time when the nationwide immigration crisis has once again focused attention on the border between Mexico and the United States. Californian communities, activists, politicians, and artists have been especially vocal in this crisis.

Co-curator Ronald Rael stressed the collaboration and connections across the border: "Over 10 million people live along the line, and more than a billion dollars worth of trade crosses the border every day. The cross-border communities on both sides of the line are culturally very vibrant, and vital to the prosperity and security of our two countries."

Featuring works by over 20 contemporary California artists, the exhibition opened on September 11 at the Richmond Art Center and closed on November 16, 2018. *Califas* is guest co-curated by UC Berkeley College of Environmental Design professors **Michael Dear** (author of *Why Walls Won't Work*), and **Ronald Rael** (author of *Borderwall as Architecture: A Manifesto for the U.S.-Mexico Boundary*).

The exhibition was timely and necessary, Rael emphasized: "We want to highlight the good news about the border, but also show how wall-building along the line disrupts peoples' lives, hinders business, and damages the environment on both sides." Rael and Dear believe the unique perspectives offered by artists can become catalysts for fresh understanding and action to promote change.

The artworks explored the origins of migrant memory, the consequences of boundary line fortifications, the mixing of border cultures, responses to injustice and inequality, and ideas and solutions to advance the borderlands and its peoples. An 80-page catalogue accompanied the exhibit.



2

Featured artists included AGENCY (Ersela Kripa and Stephen Muller), Chester Arnold, Jesus Barraza, Andrea Carillo Iglesias, Enrique Chagoya, CRO studio (Adriana Cuellar & Marcel Sánchez), Ana Teresa Fernández, Nathan Friedman, Guillermo Galindo, Rebeca García-González, Amalia Mesa-Bains, Richard Misrach, Alejandro Luperca Morales, Julio César Morales, Postcommodity, Rael San Fratello, Fernando Reyes, Favianna Rodriguez, Stephanie Syjuco, David Taylor, Judi Werthein, and Rio Yañez.

According to co-curator Michael Dear, the exhibition adopted a unique lens to re-examine the past, present and future of a distinct cross-border culture that extends far beyond the official boundary line.



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1. Ronald Rael (left) and Michael Dear at the opening of the Califas exhibition in September. (Photo: Julie Sparenberg); 2. Califas poster; 3. Rebeca García-González, *Elsa*, 2014. From the series 'Richmond Portraits.' Oil on canvas. Courtesy of artist. (Photo: Michael Dear); 4 'Red Culebra' (Guillermo Galindo and Cristóbal Martínez) in performance at Califas galleries, Richmond Art Center, September 19, 2018 (Photo: Julie Sparenberg); 5 Rael San Fratello, *Reunite/Reunir*, 2018. Multimedia. Courtesy of artists. (Photo: Michael Dear)