

# ART + DESIGN : NEWS + NOTES

COLLEGE OF ARCHITECTURE AND DESIGN – NEW JERSEY INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY – NEWARK, NEW JERSEY – DECEMBER 2015

## Food Network's *Restaurant: Impossible* Returns to NJIT to Tap Interior Design Student



For the second consecutive year, a student from NJIT's Interior Design program was selected by Food Network's makeover show *Restaurant: Impossible*

to participate in a featured renovation. NJIT alumnus and the show's construction manager Tom Bury '02 tapped third-year Interior Design student **Elouie Gaspar** as part of the team working on Stella's Dine-Inn Restaurant in Kinsington, in western Pennsylvania. Gaspar worked alongside Bury and the production crew to transform the featured restaurant in a 48-hour challenge. The episode aired on Food Network November 19<sup>th</sup>.

## littleBits's "Gizmos & Gadgets" Receives Popular Mechanics Award: One of the Best 33 Toys of 2015



littleBits, the company for which Adjunct Instructor of Industrial Design **Krystal Persaud** serves as Director of Product Design, is receiving accolades for its latest product, "Gizmos & Gadgets," an electronics toolkit that allows users invent their own interactive toys. The toy toolbox has been featured in *Time's Top 10 Gadgets*, and was named a "Best Tech Gift of 2015" by *Wall Street Journal* as well as being named one of the 33 Best Toys of 2015 by *Popular Mechanics* magazine.

## NJIT's Interior Design Program is an Invited Participant at Autodesk's 2015 "Design Slam" in Las Vegas



Third-year undergraduate Interior Design student **Cathrine Fahmy** was selected to participate in the Architecture-Engineering-

Construction (AEC) division of "Design Slam" at Autodesk University in Las Vegas. The Interior Design program in the School of Art + Design was one of only three programs selected to participate. Fahmy presented her work on December 2, along with a graduate architecture student from UCLA, and an undergraduate architecture student from Drury University. Fahmy, an Autodesk Student Expert, was the sole interior design student chosen by Autodesk to present at Autodesk University this year.

Fahmy presented an in-progress project "live" within the modeling environment to the audience, receiving critiques from a group of four judges that included Larry Mahoney from Hewlett-Packard, Jennifer Kozicki and Scott DeWoody from Gensler, and NJIT alumnus and former Autodesk Student Expert Ian Siegel from KPF Architects. The project was created in the residential design studio taught by Senior University Lecturer **David Brothers**, Coordinator of the Interior Design program.

This marks the sixth consecutive year an Interior Design student from NJIT has received a scholarship for travel and training by Autodesk.

Autodesk University contained more than 650 educational sessions and an associated trade show with more than 100 exhibitors. Students attended keynote and welcome sessions, and had an opportunity to extend their own education and network with professionals and peers.

## NJIT ACM SIGGRAPH Lecture Features Award-Winning Visual Effects Artist Jesse Michael Newman



The Digital Design student organization **NJIT SIGGRAPH** invited award-winning digital and special effects artist Jesse Michael Newman to speak in a special lecture at the College of Architecture and Design on November 12.

Newman, with more than 20 years as a VFX artist, has work in the permanent collection at the Museum of Modern Art (MoMA) in New York City, and has an Academy Award nomination for Best Visual Effects, among other accolades. He has worked on projects for Jay-Z, Will.I.Am and Avril Lavigne, as well as network identities for Disney and Showtime, and ads for M&Ms, HP, and Verizon. Newman spoke to Digital Design students about his work and experience in the industry.

## 'Music in the Library' Returns with a Series of Concerts



Following the success of the 'Music in the Library' concert in Spring 2015, the Littman Library at the College of Architecture and Design expanded the popular event into a series of concerts performed by the Montclair Trio: Robert Radliff, Aurora Mendez and Paul Wanderwal - musicians affiliated with the John J.Cali School of Music at the Montclair State

University. 'Music in the Library' is designed to establish the Library as a place of cultural and educational opportunities beyond curricular settings. As part of the event, Library Director **Maya Gervits** created a special exhibition featuring the art, fashion and cultural movements of the time and areas in which the featured composers lived. Posters for the series were design by fourth-year Industrial Design student **Audrey Ngo**.

The first concert of the series was held October 20, 2015, and featured pieces by Leopold and Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart and Franz Joseph Haydn. The second was held December 8<sup>th</sup>, featuring works by Johan Sebastian Bach and Luigi Boccherini. The third concert of the year will be held in April, 2016.

## Third Year Interior Design Students Visit Showrooms in NY and NJ for Information and Inspiration



Senior University Lecturer and Coordinator of the Interior Design program **David Brothers** took his third-year Interior Design students on a

series of field trips during the semester designed to inform, educate and inspire their designs. The residential design studio visited the Paul Rudolph Duplex in the Modulightor Building on East 58<sup>th</sup> Street in NYC and in early October, the class was invited by Maggie Brady, Sales Executive, to the Philip Jefferies showroom in Fairfield, NJ, where students learned about wall covering options offered by the manufacturer. The students also learned about kitchen design in visits to two kitchen showrooms in Soho in New York. The New York Brand Ambassador for the Italian company Boffi, Guilia Grazzini, conducted a presentation of the company's designs. At the showroom for the German company Bulthaup, students were treated to a mid-morning continental breakfast while listening to designer Susannah Mitchell.

Finally, the students visited the Vitra Showroom in the meat-packing district for a lunch hosted by Amanda Mobley, Design Studio Coordinator for Axor Design Studio, where they were introduced to bathroom fixture lines designed by French designer Philippe Starck, Spanish designer Patricia Urquiola, and Italian designer Antonio Citterio.

## Industrial Design Students Visit *Materials Connexion*



Adjunct Instructor **Krystal Persuad** accompanied her students from the "Materials & Processes" course to the *Materials Connexion* Library in New York City where the third-year Industrial Design students explored more than 3,000 samples of materials as a way to supplement class, library,

and online research, and to gain a visceral understanding and appreciation for elements used in product design.

## Narahara Participates at Three Conferences in Japan



Assistant Professor of Digital Design, **Taro Narahara**, was an invited speaker and panelist at two different events in Tokyo in November: the *AQS (Algorithmic Design Quest) International*

*Symposium* and the *8<sup>th</sup> International VR Symposium*. Additionally, while in Tokyo, he served as one of four members of the Executive Judging Committee for the *Cloud Programming World Cup (CPWC)* – a competition promotion software and application development among students in various design fields.

## University Lecturer Speaks at the Applied Improvisation Network Conference in Montreal



University Lecturer **Louis Wells**, who teaches in both the Theatre Arts and Technology Program and Digital Design Program, spoke at the Applied Improvisation Newtork (AIN) annual

conference held September 24-27, 2015, in the Mont Tremblant region, outside of Montreal, Canada. AIN is an international organization dedicated to the growing field of applied improvisation, a technique which uses traditional improvisation comedy exercises and applies them to areas such as medicine, corporate leadership training, and scientific communication. The NJIT Theatre Arts and Technology program is one of the few university programs developing applied improvisation techniques.

In his presentation, Mr. Wells discussed his use of Applied Improvisation techniques with science majors, industrial designers, management students, staff and faculty at NJIT in workshops proven to help communication, confidence and creativity in science, technology, engineering and math. In the Spring, Mr. Wells is expanding his use of Applied Improvisation in a series of workshops for ESL students at NJIT to improve their verbal reasoning score on standardized tests.

## Art + Design Represented at NeoCON EAST 2015



Approximately forty Interior Design students, alumni and faculty from the School of Art+Design attended NeoCon EAST

2015, the premiere design show and conference for commercial interiors on the East Coast.

Held in Philadelphia, PA, participating Interior Design sophomores, juniors and seniors were able to network, attend educational seminars and learn about various products used in commercial interiors. Students were accompanied by Professor and Director of the School of Art + Design **Glenn Goldman** and Senior University Lecturer and Program Coordinator **David Brothers**.

Also in attendance were two alumni from the Class of 2012: **Gerardy Cabrera**, who works at Atlas Furniture in Newark, NJ; and **Anita Graham**, who works at Gensler in Philadelphia.

## Ana Peñalba Participates as Part of Collective Exhibition at Site:Brooklyn Gallery



Adjunct Instructor in Interior Design **Ana Peñalba** has been selected to be part of the collective exhibition “*TRANSFORMING: Street Objects from Your Street to Main Street*” at Site:Brooklyn Gallery.

Artists were invited to submit “images of found or created temporary outdoor sculpture made with objects from the streets of their own communities.” Peñalba’s piece, *Machines*, was selected for inclusion in the exhibition that was curated by Kimberly Marrero. The exhibit, displayed in a street-level gallery in the Gowanus arts district, is open from December 1-23, 2015.

## NJIT ACM SIGGRAPH Launches Online Newsletter



In Fall, 2015, the Digital Design student organization **NJIT ACM SIGGRAPH** launched a new online newsletter, connecting Digital Design students to the latest industry news. The monthly newsletter covers a range of topics relevant to the digital design industry, including advancements in digital technologies, entertainment news, innovative uses of digital tools, and features on digital artists and industry leaders. Newsletter issues can be found on their Facebook page: <https://www.facebook.com/NjitSiggraph/>.

## College of Architecture and Design Celebrates Thirtieth Anniversary of NJIT's Innovative Design Studios



*“Architecture & Beyond: 30 Years of Digital in Design,”* curated by **Matthew Gosser**, opened as part of the annual Newark Arts Week and celebrated the establishment

of the first fully electronic architectural design studios with 3D modeling and more than a quarter million colors that were funded by a grant from the New Jersey Department of Higher Education received by Professors **Steve Zdepski** and **Glenn Goldman** in 1985. The exhibit included more than 200 examples of award-winning and externally published student works, and chronicled NJIT's legacy from the first digital studios at NJIT through the establishment of the School of Art + Design, highlighting its continued innovative curricula and work.

## Digital Design Student's Art Selected for Holiday Card



Sophomore Digital Design student **Everett Aldrich** was chosen to create the artwork for the 2015 NJIT Alumni Association Holiday Card. Aldrich's drawing of Eberhardt Hall was

featured on the front of the card with a small photograph of the artist on the back of the card. Aldrich won two different art competitions during his freshman year – one sponsored by Horizon Blue Cross Blue Shield of New Jersey, and the other sponsored by Ferring Pharmaceuticals.

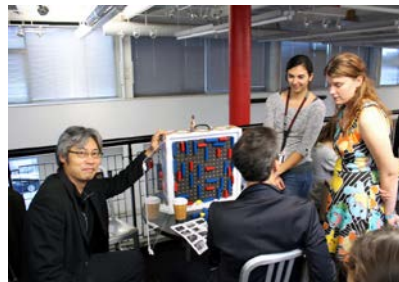
## CoAD Faculty Serve on STEAM Panel at NJIT



On November 12, Associate Professor **Andrzej Zarzycki** and University Lecturer and Program Coordinator for Digital Design **Augustus Wendell** participated in a panel discussion “STEAM: A Panel on Science, Technology, and the Future of Performance” organized by the Theatre Arts and Technology Program, to discuss

21<sup>st</sup> century innovation arising from the interaction of Art with STEM disciplines by adding art to science, technology, engineering and mathematics. The multi-disciplinary panel, moderated by University Lecturer **Louis Wells**, was comprised of NJIT faculty members and design professionals associated with the McCarter Theater at Princeton University. The discussion, hosted by the School of Art + Design, was attended by Middlesex County Vocational and Technical Schools (MCVTS) theater students, along with students from NJIT and Rutgers-Newark.

## Fourth Annual GameFest Hosted by Digital Design



Created to display and test analog games designed and built by students in the History of Games class, the annual November GameFest has

developed into a “must attend” display of innovative games that attracts students, faculty and staff, and now their children. Initiated and organized by Assistant Professor of Digital Design **Taro Narahara**, the event is an example of the intersection of traditional and digital forms of entertainment, and features the use of digital fabrication techniques in the development of physical games focusing on the modification and manipulation of game structures.

## Peñalba Serves on Jury for Unbuilt Visions Competition

Adjunct Instructor in the Interior Design program, **Ana Peñalba**, served on the jury for the design competition “Unbuilt Visions” in October. Sponsored by d3, the annual design competition “promotes critical debate about architecture and design by acknowledging excellence in unbuilt projects.”