

SAT-A02 ROOM 408A SATURDAY OCT 21 11:00 AM – 12:30 PM

America: Landscape, Art, and Identity

The representation of Landscape is at the core of American Identity. This presentation will introduce two quintessential American artists, working half a century apart, whose practices are intrinsically tied to a specific American landscape typology, to a specific site, and to the representation of a distinct vision of America. To fully understand the work of these artists and their role in defining American culture and projecting its image - nationally and abroad - requires that we also understand the ecological and historical context of their practice. Today, Frederic Church's Olana in the Hudson Valley and Donald Judd's Chinati Foundation in Marfa, Texas provide audiences with the rare chance to consider these issues from within these 'outdoor studios or museums' and through the experience of these distinct, manipulated landscapes. Nelson Byrd Woltz Landscape Architects (NBW) and Sasaki, respectively, have been tasked with creating practical visions for the evolution of these landscapes addressing critical issues. These master plans seek to preserve the cultural essence, physical and historic context, conserve the ecology, and provide an elevated level of access and understanding to visitors and scholars.

LEARNING OBJECTIVES

- Learn about two masters of American Art and their influence on our understanding of nature and ecology
- Learn how master plans can be used as tools to preserve and enhance the experience of cultural landscapes, and guide them to long-term and sustainable growth
- Understand the importance of addressing contemporary issues within the context of preservation of cultural landscapes

PRESENTATION OUTLINE

- Introduction: The use of master plans as a preservation tool in cultural landscapes
- Case Study: Donald Judd and Chinati
- Case Study: Frederic Church and Olana
- Question and Answer led by David Rubin with Panelists Brie Hensold, Isabel Zempel, and Thomas Woltz



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Image by Michael Cairns

PANELISTS - SAT-A02

David Rubin, ASLA, PLA, FAAR, Principal, DAVID RUBIN Land Collective



David A. Rubin is the Founding Principal of DAVID RUBIN Land Collective and is recipient of the 2011-2012 Rome Prize in Landscape Architecture from the American Academy in Rome. His visionary contribution to the field in “empathy-driven design” is a hallmark of the studio, earning increasing renown for fusing issues of social justice in cities with excellence in the design of public spaces. His work has received awards and honors from the American Society of Landscape Architects and the American Institute of Architects.

Briana Hensold, Principal, Sasaki



Brie is an urban planner and principal in Sasaki's Urban Studio. With a passion for understanding and improving cities and urban institutions, Brie brings a focus on integrating communities, context, and the human experience to Sasaki's planning and design ideas. She has extensive experience with community engagement processes and an understanding of the complex range of constituencies involved in implementing a successful project. Her work encompasses multiple scales and regions. She leads Sasaki's parks planning work and frequently bridges disciplines, integrating design perspectives into strategic planning work. Her expertise includes a range of project types, reflecting the diverse nature of contemporary cities and encompassing city park systems, arts and cultural institutions, resilience strategies, and urban environments.

Isabel Zempel, ASLA, Principal, Sasaki



Isabel has led the design of high profile projects all around the world on award-winning urban, academic, cultural, hospitality landscape projects in the United States, Asia, Europe, and the Middle East. Her work includes large urban scale public landscapes, plazas, botanical gardens, waterfront developments, art installations, and the design of sculpture parks. Isabel has a passion for contemporary and bold design expression of landscapes where culture, identity, architecture, engineering, and poetry form unique concepts within the urban context of her work. She is an accomplished design initiator with a consistent eye toward collaboration and integration of art and allied disciplines—on her projects, she collaborates frequently with artists and architects.

Thomas Woltz, FASLA, PLA, NZILA, Principal and Owner, Nelson Byrd Woltz Landscape Architects



Thomas is Principal and Owner of Nelson Byrd Woltz Landscape Architects. He and his firm have achieved a body of work that integrates the beauty and function of built form and craftsmanship with an understanding of complex biological systems, and has yielded hundreds of acres of reconstructed wetlands, reforested land, native meadows, and flourishing wildlife habitat. NBW's designs reveal narratives of the land in places where people live, work, and play creating a sense of connection and inspiring stewardship. Current NBW projects include Houston's Memorial Park, Centennial Park in Nashville, the Aga Khan Garden in Alberta, Edmonton, and the Hudson Yards Public Square and Gardens in Manhattan.