

The Handbook of Interior Design

The Handbook of Interior Design

Edited by

Jo Ann Asher Thompson and
Nancy H. Blossom

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Editorial Offices

350 Main Street, Malden, MA 02148-5020, USA

9600 Garsington Road, Oxford, OX4 2DQ, UK

The Atrium, Southern Gate, Chichester, West Sussex, PO19 8SQ, UK

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Notes on Contributors

Abimbola O. Asojo, PhD, Associate Professor of Interior Design, University of Minnesota, studied in the US, the UK, and Nigeria. Her research includes cross-cultural design issues, African architecture, computing and design, lighting design, and global design issues. She has published in *the Journal of Interior Design*, *Traditional Dwellings and Settlements Review*, *Designing for the 21st Century* journal, and the *Journal of Design Communication*.

Janice Barnes, PhD, is the Global Discipline Leader, Principal, Planning+Strategies for the design firm Perkins+Will. With nearly twenty-five years of experience in design practice and research, the focus of Janice's work is on work practices. By bringing practical experience together with empirical research, Janice recognizes the critical aspects of business processes and links these to appropriate organizational responses.

Mary Anne Beecher, PhD, heads the Department of Design at the Ohio State University. She holds a doctoral degree in American studies (with an emphasis in material culture studies) from the University of Iowa, and interior design degrees from Iowa State University. Her research explores the evolution of interior space in the 20th century through the influence of design and culture. She has taught in the United States and Canada.

Nichole M. Campbell, PhD, is an Assistant Professor in Department of Interior Design at the University of Florida. She holds degrees from the University of Wisconsin-Madison, Illinois State University, and DePauw University. Her teaching foci are environment and behavior theory and interior design studio. Current research interests are on the design and construction of buildings that optimize health and wellness, with a particular emphasis on elderly inhabitants and supportive social interaction through the built environment.

Ji Young Cho, PhD, Leed-AP, is an Assistant Professor at the Interior Design Program in the College of Architecture and Environmental Design, Kent State University. She received her PhD in architectural studies from the University of Missouri, Columbia, and Bachelor's and Master's degrees in architecture from the Pusan National University in South Korea. Her research interests include pedagogy of design education, design cognition and process, and environment-behavior relations. As a designer for 10 years, she has completed more than 50 projects in South Korea. In 2008 one of her projects received first place in the Interior Design Educators Council Creative Scholarship category.

Stephanie A. Clemons, PhD, is Professor and Coordinator of the Interior Design Program at Colorado State University. She holds degrees from Colorado State University, Utah State University, and Michigan State University, and is certified by the National Council of Interior Design Qualifications (NCIDQ) as a professional interior designer. Her research interests are K-12 linkages with interior design, third places, and sense of self and place. She has served in several leadership roles including president of the Interior Design Educators Council and president of the American Society of Interior Designers.

Shauna Corry Hernandez, PhD, is an Associate Professor and Chair of the Interior Design Program at the University of Idaho. She received her PhD and MA from Washington State University and has taught at the University of Idaho and North Dakota State University where she served as Interior Design and Facility Management Program Coordinator. She has been with the University of Idaho since 2001, and enjoys teaching history of interiors and design studios. Her research focuses on universal design, social justice issues, and cultural responsibility in design. She has been recognized for her prowess in the classroom as the recipient of the Alumni Awards of Excellence for mentorship and the Hoffman Teaching Excellence Award.

Erin Cunningham, PhD, is an Assistant Professor in the Interior Architecture Program at the University of Oregon. She holds degrees from the University of Florida, the University of Manitoba, and the University of Victoria. Her research focuses on the history and preservation of 19th- and 20th-century interior spaces. Her research interests include social settlement houses, vernacular architecture, and public housing interiors. Erin's current work also explores the development of a social welfare focus in the interior design profession, and the application of narrative methodology to the study of historic spaces. In both her research and teaching, Erin explores interior space from a socio-historical perspective, concentrating on issues of race, gender, and class. She has presented on her research at conferences and the Vernacular Architecture Forum, and recently published "Renovating an Industry": The Expanding Role of Interior Design in Times of Recession" in *Interiors: Design, Architecture, Culture*.

Ronn M. Daniel, M.Arch., is the Interior Design Program Coordinator at James Madison University in Harrisburg, Virginia, where he teaches design theory, design

history, and interior design studios. His research explores the intersections between interior space, technological modernization, and social and ideological change in the 20th century.

Sheila Danko, Professor and Chair of the Department of Design and Environmental Analysis at Cornell University, has a multi-disciplinary design background with training in architecture, industrial, graphic, and interior design. Professor Danko has received the honor of being named a J. Thomas Clark Professor of Entrepreneurship for her research entitled *Values-Led Entrepreneurship by Design*.

Halime Demirkan holds a PhD from the Middle East Technical University in computer-aided architectural design and now serves as the Chairperson and Associate Dean of the Department of Interior Architecture and Environmental Design at Bilkent University, one of Turkey's leading research universities. She is an industrial engineer and experienced as an instructor at the Middle East Technical University and as a researcher at the Scientific and Technical Council of Turkey. Her current research and teaching include design education, universal design, and ergonomics.

Newton D'Souza is a Professor in the Department of Architectural Studies at the University of Missouri, Columbia where he teaches design studio, environment behavior, and design research. He holds a PhD from the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee and has an academic and practice background as an architect and design researcher in the US, Singapore, and India. Over the past 10 years, intrigued by his own experience as an architect, he has conducted research in design process, learning environments, creativity research, and the use of new media in design education. His current work includes research in the potential of virtual reality for design education and the use of multiple intelligences among architectural designers.

Jessica Goldsmith holds a PhD in design, construction, and planning from the University of Florida. She is an Assistant Professor at Radford University in Valdosta, Georgia, and is certified by the National Council for Interior Design Certification (NCIDQ) as a professional interior designer. Her research focus is on student learning and historic preservation.

Mads Nygaard Folkmann is an Associate Professor in the field of design studies and design culture in the Department of Design and Communication at the University of Southern Denmark. His research interests are design culture, aesthetics, and symbolism in design. His work has been published in Danish and English in journals such as *Design Issues* and *Design and Culture*.

Kathleen Gibson is an Associate Professor of Interior Design at Cornell University. She is also the Director of Undergraduate Studies for the Department of Design and Environmental Analysis. Her research focuses on computer-aided design (CAD)

where she investigates the effect of digital media on creativity, studio processes, and decision-making. Gibson practices interior design and has achieved national publication and award recognition for her work.

Amber Joplin, D. Des., completed her doctoral degree at the Interdisciplinary Design Institute at Washington State University. Prior to completing her degree she assisted in the WSU GIS and Simulation Lab and participated in research on pedestrian accessibility and public transportation modeling. Her dissertation research involves developing, and testing with GIS, a matrix for sustainable aging that includes individual, social, material support and natural systems.

Siriporn Kobnithikulwong, PhD, serves as Department Chair and Head of the Interior Design Master's Program for the Department of Interior Architecture at the Thammasat University, Thailand. Thammasat is the second-oldest institution of higher education and known as one of the most prestigious universities in Thailand. She holds a Bachelor of Architecture degree in interior architecture from Chulalongkorn University in Bangkok and a Master's of Interior Design from the University of Florida. She was the recipient of an international student academic award for her doctoral work at the University of Florida.

Dak Kopec, PhD, holds a doctorate in environmental psychology with a concentration in perception and design and two Master's degrees, one in architecture and another in community psychology. He is currently an Assistant Professor at Radford University, and has served twice as a visiting lecturer at Virginia Commonwealth University in Doha Qatar and visiting professor at the University of Hawaii in the Schools of Architecture and Medicine. He is the author of several journal articles and three books: *Environmental Psychology for Design; Health, Sustainability and the Built Environment*; and *Evidence-Based Design: A Process for Research and Writing*.

Michael D. Kroelinger, PhD, is a Professor at the Herberger Institute for Design and the Arts at Arizona State University, Tempe. He has lectured extensively on various aspects of the built environment and has conducted research projects that evaluate how buildings perform and how they should be designed. He maintains relationships with universities throughout the world and is a frequent lecturer on architectural lighting and daylighting. Kroelinger is a registered architect in Arizona and is also lighting certified by the National Council on Qualifications for the Lighting Professions. Michael received a PhD from the University of Tennessee, an M.Arch. from the University of Arizona, a Master's degree from the University of Tennessee, and a Bachelor's degree from the University of Alabama.

Gwo Fang (Max) Lin, PhD, is a full-time instructor on the Interior Design Program at the International Academy of Design & Technology (IADT) in Seattle. His varied career includes higher education, interior design, construction, commercial and

residential property management, and business development. Dr. Lin graduated from Washington State University with a PhD in the individual interdisciplinary doctoral program with study focus in the field of interior design. Through his professional practice in interior design he had developed knowledge and experience in green building practice and holds a LEED Accredited Professional credential. He is also a National Council for Interior Design Qualification (NCIDQ) certificate holder. Following six years of high-end residential interior design experience, he followed his passion in interior design and founded GC Design Group. He continues building his professional experience through his design practice and teaching design.

Patrick Lucas, PhD, serves as the Director of the School of Interiors at the University of Kentucky College of Design. He holds a PhD in American studies from Michigan State University; he is the author of numerous articles and has presented his work at conferences around the world. His work includes the development of a manuscript entitled “Athens on the Frontier: Grecian Style in the Valley of the West, 1820–1860.” His current research focuses on Greensboro, North Carolina, architect Edward Lowenstein and his mid-20th-century design aesthetic. While at the University of North Carolina he was the recipient of the Board of Governors Excellence in Teaching Award, recognizing his community-engaged approach to design and his commitment to quality education.

Yu Fong Lin holds an interior design graduate degree from the University of Houston and is a graphic design undergraduate degree from the Chung Yuan University. He has many years of experience in the graphic design and interior design industries. He is interested in visual effects in interior spaces, product design, and human behavior. His current research is focused on using virtual reality technology to explore human behavior and perception in virtual environments, specifically in relation to lighting design and purchasing behavior. Other research interests include the exploration of how cultural differences and environmental stimuli influence consumers’ visual perception and cognition in retail stores.

Jason Meneely, PhD, is an Associate Professor in the Department of Interior Design at Florida State University. Prior to joining the department he served as a Research Associate in the department of Design and Environmental Analysis at Cornell University. His research examines strategies for enhancing creative performance in individuals, teams, and organizations. He also examines the use of technology to support creative problem-solving and is leading an effort to integrate digital sketching in design education. His work has been published in the *Creativity Research Journal* and the *Journal of Interior Design*, and he has received awards at international conferences.

Bryan D. Orthel, PhD, is an Assistant Professor of Interior Design at Kansas State University. His research interests focus on preservation actions associated with

communal perceptions of history and the scholarship of teaching and learning for design. His scholarship examines how people understand and use history in their lives and living environments. Other research interests include the pedagogy of design, design thinking, and creativity. In his teaching and scholarship he attempts to merge pragmatic, everyday issues with creative problem-solving.

Isil Oygur, PhD, is an Assistant Professor of Industrial Design at Bahçeşehir University. She holds a PhD from Washington State University and a Master of Science degree from Istanbul Technical University. Her research interests include qualitative user research and user-centered design, with a specific focus on ethnography and contextual differences in the application of user-research methods.

Jill Pable, PhD, is an Associate Professor in the Department of Interior Design at Florida State University and an NCIDQ-certified interior designer. She served as national president of the Interior Design Educators Council in 2009–2010 and is the author of *Sketching Interiors at the Speed of Thought* and co-author, with Catherine Ankerson, of *Interior Design: Strategies for Teaching and Learning*.

Tiiu Poldma, PhD, is a Professor at the University of Montreal. Currently she serves as Vice Dean of Graduate Studies at the Faculty of Environmental Design and coordinates the baccalaureate interior design program at the School of Industrial Design. Her research and design expertise includes work in the commercial and residential sectors and creating interiors with a particular interest in how light, color, and design elements impact interior spaces.

Margaret Portillo, PhD, Professor and Chair of the Interior Design Department, University of Florida, is the author of *Color Planning for Interiors: An Integrative Approach to Color*. Her research program focuses on design thinking and creativity, particularly emphasizing workplace environments. Portillo led the FIDER Research Council (now known as CIDA) and currently serves as editor-in-chief for the *Journal of Interior Design*.

May Sayrafi is a member of faculty in the Architecture Department at Birzeit University, Palestine. Her research interests include home environments, cultural and historical preservation, and human behavior in the built environment. She was a Fulbright scholar at Washington State University and received an Award of Excellence from the Interior Design Educators Council in 2010.

Benyamin Schwarz, PhD, is a Professor in the Department of Architectural Studies at the University of Missouri. In 2011 he was named one of the top 25 professors and education leaders in the US by DesignIntelligence magazine. He received his Bachelor's degree in architecture and urban planning from Technion, the Institute of Technology of Israel, and his PhD in architecture, with an emphasis on environmental gerontology, from the University of Michigan. He has designed numerous

buildings and facilities for the elderly in Israel and in the US. Dr. Schwarz has been the editor of the *Journal of Housing for the Elderly* since 2000.

David Seamon, PhD, is a Professor of Architecture at Kansas State University. His interests focus on a phenomenological approach to place, architecture, environmental experience, and environmental design as place-making. Selected books that he has authored include *Dwelling, Seeing, and Designing: Toward a Phenomenological Ecology* and *Goethe's Way of Science: A Phenomenology of Nature*, edited with physicist Arthur Zajonc.

Lisa Tucker, PhD, is an Associate Professor and Chair of the Interior Design Program at Virginia Tech. She is a practicing interior designer and architect with a BS in architecture, a Master's in architectural history, a Certificate of Historic Preservation from the University of Virginia, and a PhD in architectural studies from the University of Missouri-Columbia. In 2013 she was the recipient of the university's Alumni Award for Excellence in Teaching. Her research and professional work focuses on the relationship between historic preservation and sustainability.

John C. Turpin, PhD, is Dean of the School of Art and Design and Professor of Interior Design at High Point University. His scholarship on the history of the interior design profession focuses on the early decorators. His work has been published in numerous design journals such as the *Journal of Interior Design* and the *Journal of Cultural Research in Art Education*. He is currently a co-editor of *Interiors: Design, Architecture, Culture*.

Dana Vaux is an Assistant Professor of Interior Design at the University of Nebraska-Kearney. Her research focuses on the cultural qualities that generate an ethos of place. Through this research, she hopes to identify universal characteristics of "place" that transcend physical localities, and thereby to derive a general theory of common characteristics.

David Wang, PhD, is Professor of Architecture at Washington State University. He teaches courses in architectural theory, architectural ethics and practice, and East/West philosophies of architecture and aesthetics. He is co-author of *Architectural Research Methods*, and over the years has lectured widely in the US, Scandinavia, and China on design research.

Preface

This compilation of essays is shaped by our long-held view that there is not a single way to think about interior design. Rather, the body of knowledge that has accumulated over the relatively brief history of the discipline reflects the multiple philosophies, theories, and perspectives that shape this knowledge. The intent is to explore this multiplicity through diverse voices, challenging readers to consider how this diversity shapes interior design.

In putting together this work, we invited worldwide participation to ensure a broad spectrum of contributors. Each author's experiences, academic training, cultural background, and understanding of both the discipline and the profession of interior design shape each essay. Similarly, these are what shape a collective perception of how the discipline is understood, how it is taught, and how it is practiced.

Some essays in this collection present issues that are well known. These issues are revisited with new information or through new voices. Others present new ways of thinking and framing ideas about interior design. Each chapter offers any reader, student, instructor, or practicing designer an in-depth discussion of a topic with theoretical base, exploration, and explanation. Each chapter demonstrates the way the author thinks about interior design. As a group the essays, although limited by the scope of a single volume, portray the complexity and reality found in the field.

With this in mind, we invite you to pay careful attention to how these scholars approach research questions, argue positions, or seek to apply knowledge. We encourage you to use this volume as a means to explore and to challenge your own way of thinking about interior design.