

Visiting Assistant Professor  
Department of Architecture  
University at Buffalo  
margotly@buffalo.edu

**MARGOT LYSTRA, Ph.D.**.....

**EDUCATION**

**Cornell University - Doctor of Philosophy**

History of Architecture and Urban Development (December 2017).

Dissertation: "Envisioning Environments: Designs for Urban US Freeways, 1956-1968"

Mary N. Woods, Committee Chair: History of American Urbanism

Jeremy Foster, Committee Member: Landscape Theory

Sara Pritchard, Committee Member: Science and Technology Studies, Environmental History

Sonja Duempelmann, Harvard GSD, External Committee Member: Landscape History and Theory

**Cornell University - Master of Arts**

History of Architecture and Urban Development (2012).

Thesis: "Between Making and Seeing: Overlay Drawing Practices in 1960s-70s Environmental Design"

**Harvard Graduate School of Design - Master of Landscape Architecture**

Department of Landscape Architecture (2005).

Thesis: "Improvisational Design Methods for Post-industrial Sites in Chelsea, MA"

**Swarthmore College - Bachelor of Arts**

Major in Biology (1996).

**ACADEMIC EXPERIENCE**

**University at Buffalo - Visiting Assistant Professor**

Department of Architecture (fall 2018-present).

**Cornell University - Lecturer**

Department of Landscape Architecture (2017-2018).

**California Polytechnic State University at San Luis Obispo - Lecturer**

Department of Landscape Architecture (2007-10).

**University of Detroit Mercy - Adjunct Professor**

School of Architecture (fall 2005).

**PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE**

**Sasaki, Walker, and Associates, San Francisco, CA**

Independent Contractor: schematic design, construction documentation (2007).

**Conger Moss Guillard, San Francisco, CA**

Project Designer: conceptual design, sustainable open space systems, design guidelines, construction documentation, design research for Mint Plaza, Taube-Koret Center for Jewish Life, Bay Meadows open space network, Hunter's Point parks, SFMOMA rooftop garden (2006-07).

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MARGOT LYSTRA .....Curriculum Vitae

**Detroit Collaborative Design Center, Detroit, MI**

Designer: construction oversight, Russell Woods Sullivan community gateway; design-build, “You Are What You Grow” vacant storefront installation, Superbowl XL (2005-06).

**Landworks Studio, Salem, MA**

Designer: drawings, conceptual design for Wood Mill, Brandeis University (2005).

**PUBLICATIONS**

***Peer-Reviewed / Invited***

“Drawing Natures: US Freeway Controversies, Representational Techniques, and the Rise of Ecological Design,” *Journal of Design History* 30.2 (2017), 157-174 (peer-reviewed).

“McHarg’s Entropy, Halprin’s Chance: Representations of Cybernetic Change in 1960s Landscape Architecture,” *Studies in the History of Gardens & Designed Landscapes*, 34.1 (2014), 71-84 (invited).

***Web***

“The Erie Canal,” SAH Archipedia entry (upcoming).

“The Analog Condition,” CC, eds. Sophie Hochhausl and Melissa Constantine (Cornell AAP Publications, 2014).

“Sightseeing via the Erie Canal: Hybrid Tourist Landscapes in 19th-century New York State,” *Archi-tourism Online Exhibition*, ed. D. Medina Lasansky (Cornell University Library, 2012).

***Reviews / Criticism***

“The Green Divide,” *The Next American City* 14 (Spring 2007), 42-43.

“SITE: Identity in Density,” Book Review, *Crit - Journal of the AIAS* 62 (2006), 63.

“Derelict,” in *Talking Cities: the Micropolitics of Urban Space*, ed. Francesca Ferguson (Boston: Birkhäuser-Publishers for Architecture, 2006), 158-159. Co-authors Dan Pitera and Jana Cephas.

“Design for Urban Autonomy: Amplifying Resources in the Fallow City,” *Crit - Journal of the AIAS* 61 (Spring 2006), 52-55. Co-author Sarah Cowles.

**CONFERENCE PAPERS**

***Peer-Reviewed***

“Drawing as Environmental Revelation: Sketching Plans and Sections in Modernist Landscape Architectural Design,” *The Anthropology of Drawing*, session chair Frances Robertson. Art, Materiality & Representation Conference, Royal Anthropological Institute/The British Museum, London, England (June 2018).

“Mediating Climate through Everyday Design?” *Our Everyday Planet Seminar*, convened by Melissa Ragain and Lily Woodruff. The Association for the Study of the Arts of the Present Annual Conference, Oakland, CA (October 2017).

**MARGOT LYSTRA .....Curriculum Vitae**

“Urban Design, Local Culture, and Emergent Environmentalism: The San Francisco Panhandle Freeway Debates, 1959-1966,” Across the Great Divide California Design Colloquium, convened by Marc Treib, Greg Castillo, Andrew Shanken, and Waverly Lowell. University of California, Berkeley (March 2016).

“Drawing Natures: US Freeway Controversies, Representational Techniques, and the Rise of Environmental Design,” Environmental Histories of Design Workshop, convened by Kjetil Fallan and Finn Arne Jacobsen. Rachel Carson Center, Munich, Germany (June 2015).

“The San Francisco Freeway: Landscape, Hybridity, and Revolt,” Graduate Student Lightning Rounds, session chairs Maryl Gensheimer, Michael McCulloch, Erica Morawski. Society of Architectural Historians Annual Conference, Buffalo, NY (April 2013).

“Models and Scores: Cybernetics and Conceptions of Time in 1960’s Landscape Architectural Representation,” Landscapes in Time, SAH Landscape Chapter Symposium, convened by Sonja Duempelmann and Susan Herrington. Detroit, MI (April 2012).

“Neighborhood = Client: Design as Public Process,” The Right to Landscape: Contesting Landscape and Human Rights Workshop, convened by Jala Makhzoumi, Gloria Pungetti, Shelley Egoz. University of Cambridge, Cambridge, England (December 2008).

***Invited***

“‘A Great Functioning Whole’: Urban Design and Emergent Environmentalism in San Francisco’s Panhandle Freeway Debates, 1959–66,” Midday Dialogues, Mellon Initiative in Urban Landscape Studies, Dumbarton Oaks, Washington, DC (March 2017).

“Drawing the Hybrid Freeway: Urban Design and Non/Human Relationship,” Frontiers in Urban Landscape Research Workshop, convened by Thaisa Way and John Beardsley. Dumbarton Oaks, Washington, DC (November 2015).

***University***

“Designing Infrastructures, Envisioning Environments: Lessons from the 1960s,” Landscape Architecture Lecture Series, Cornell University, Ithaca, NY (October 2017).

“Locating I-95: Freeway Controversy and the Rise of Environmental Design,” Contested Global Landscapes Conference. Institute for Social Sciences, Cornell University, Ithaca, NY (April 2015).

“Duplicitous and Revelatory: Lawrence Halprin’s Drawings for the Panhandle Freeway,” Notes from the Archive Research Exchange, convened by Sophie Hochhausel and Torsten Lange. Cornell University / Bartlett UCL, Ithaca, NY / London, England (January 2013).

“Public/Private Thresholds and Site-Specific Dance in Dot-com Era San Francisco,” Producing Publics Graduate Student Symposium. Cornell University, Ithaca, NY (October 2011).

**CONFERENCE SESSIONS ORGANIZED**

“Longer Views: Integrating the History and Studio Sequences,” organized and co-chaired with Erin Putalik, Association of Collegiate Schools of Architecture Annual Meeting, Pittsburgh, PA (upcoming: March 2019).

**FELLOWSHIPS / GRANTS / AWARDS**

***National***

**Finalist, Rome Prize Fellowship in Landscape Architecture** - American Academy in Rome (Spring 2018).

**Short-term Predoctoral Residency** - Dumbarton Oaks Garden and Landscape Studies  
Three weeks of dissertation writing in Washington, DC (March 2017).

**Designer in Residence** - SEEDS Interdisciplinary Arts and Ecology Festival, Northampton, MA (July 2010).

***University***

**John Nolen Research Fund** - Carl A. Kroch Library, Rare and Manuscript Collections, Cornell University  
One month of dissertation research in Ithaca, NY (2015).

**Clarence Stein Fellowship** - Clarence Stein Institute for Urban and Landscape Studies, Cornell  
Two months of dissertation research in Los Angeles, Philadelphia, New York (2014).

**Contested Global Landscapes Research Grant** - Institute for Social Sciences, Cornell University  
Three weeks of dissertation research in Cambridge, Philadelphia (2014).

**Sage Fellowship** - Graduate School, Cornell University  
Full tuition and stipend for two academic years, research fellowship for five summers (2010-11, 2013-14).

**Project Grant** - Council for the Arts, Cornell University  
Two weeks of collaborative research, techniques for site-driven design. With Margit Galanter (2011).

***Departmental***

**Robert D. MacDougall Scholarship** - Architecture Department, Cornell University  
One month of dissertation research in San Francisco, Sacramento (2015).

**A. Henry Detweiler Traveling Fellowship** - Architecture Department, Cornell University  
One week of thesis research in Philadelphia (2013).

**Best in Studio** - Landscape Architecture Department, Harvard GSD  
“Detritus Park,” Post-industrial Waterfront Redevelopment (2004).

**Penny White Research Travel Grant** - Landscape Architecture Department, Harvard GSD  
Site-specific community design research in Los Angeles, Seattle, Philadelphia (2004).

**REVIEWING**

**Article Review** - *Planning Perspectives*.

**Submission Review** - Annual Meeting, Association of Collegiate Schools of Architecture.

**Curatorial Advisement** - Design With Nature Now Exhibit, University of Pennsylvania School of Design

**MEDIA**

Quoted in Caroline Tracey, “Redlining Returns to Denver, but with a Neoliberal Twist,” *The Nation*, July 31, 2017.

Interviewed in *Erie: The Canal that Made America*, documentary, WCNY Public Television (fall 2017).

Quoted in Nate Berg, “Take the Parkway to the Freeway to the Automated Roadway,” *Boom: a Journal of California*, 6.1 (2016).

**TEACHING**

**Original Courses**

**Architecture - University at Buffalo**

- Graduate/Undergraduate Survey, “Introduction to Architectural History I, Prehistory to 1450”
- Graduate Thesis Preparation, “Research Methods”
- Cross-Disciplinary Lecture Course, “Introduction to Landscape” (upcoming spring 2019)
- Graduate Technical Methods Seminar, “Ecological Practices” (upcoming spring 2019)

**Landscape Architecture - Cornell University**

- Graduate Studio, “Culturing the Soil City: Re-Envisioning Carbon, Waste, and Climate, Site to Planet”
- Undergraduate Studio, “Landscapes for Survival and Delight”
- Advanced Topics in Representation
- Graduate Independent Study Course, “Theories of Landscape Architectural Representation”
- Independent Study, “Digital Media: Pedagogical Approaches”

**Landscape Architecture - California Polytechnic at San Luis Obispo**

- Cultural Environments Studio, “Strategic Greening for Folsom Street, San Francisco”
- Theory Studio, “Mapping Idea to Making Site: Sutro Baths, San Francisco”
- Introduction to AutoCAD and Digital Media
- Traditional and Digital Media Integrated Learning Course
- Senior Seminars, “Accidental Landscapes,” “Landscape Infrastructures”

**Architecture - University of Detroit Mercy**

- Option Studio, “Urban (Agri)culture: Productive Landscapes for Southeast Detroit”

**Teaching Assistantships**

**American Studies, Cornell University**

- Popular Culture in the United States, 1900-1945, Glenn Altschuler, instructor (Fall 2015).

**Architecture, Cornell University**

- Theories and Analyses - Lily Chi, Instructor (Fall 2014).
- History Survey - D. Medina Lasansky and Mary N. Woods, Instructors (2011-12, 2012-13).

**Landscape Architecture, Harvard Graduate School of Design**

- Core Studio - Michael Blier, Holly Getch Clarke, Michael Van Valkenburgh, Instructors (Fall 2005).
- Introduction to Drawing - Christian Werthmann, Michael Blier, Instructors (Fall 2005).

**Guest Reviews**

Landscape Architecture Department, Cornell University (2010, 2012, 2013, 2016).  
Architecture Department, Cornell University (2011, 2016).  
Architecture Department, California College of the Arts (2007).  
Landscape Architecture Department, University of California - Davis (2006).  
College of Architecture and Design, Lawrence Technological University (2005).  
Landscape Architecture Department, Harvard GSD (2005).

**SERVICE**

**University**

**Sesquicentennial Memorial Selection Committee** - Cornell University (2012-13).  
**Student Library Advisory Council** - Cornell University (2011-12).  
**Penny White Grant Selection Committee** - Harvard GSD (2003-04).

**Departmental**

**HAUD Student Society** - Architecture Department, Cornell University  
Coordinator: Curated and organized guest lecture series (2015-16).  
President: Organized graduate student conference, solicited funding (2011-12).  
Vice President (2010).

**Convivium Student Salon** - Architecture Department, Cornell University  
Member/Coordinator (2010-11).

**Landscape Lunchbox Lecture Series** - Harvard GSD  
Curator: Invited and organized lectures and discussions with design professionals (2004-05).

**Community**

**Citizens' Climate Lobby** - State District 23, Ithaca, NY  
Member: Researching carbon sequestration, building coalition with regional farmers (2016-2017).

**PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS**

Society of Architectural Historians, Landscape Chapter  
European Architectural History Network, Architecture & Environment Interest Group  
College Art Association  
American Society of Landscape Architects

**LANGUAGES**

**French** - advanced reading  
**Spanish** - intermediate reading