Harvard University
Graduate School of Design

Druker Traveling Fellowship Recipients

2024 | CURRY HACKETT (MAUD)

Finding "Southness"
Curry's research considers the South as a way of being or a manner of knowing rather than a region that can be neatly defined in conventional Cartesian terms. It argues that it might be useful to jettison the idea of "the South" altogether, in favor of the notion that there are "Souths", or places that bear varying qualities of "Southness". This lens allows one to think of the Souths as a multiplicity, while also critically examining the impacts of political bindings of land, such as the Mason Dixon Line, redlining, and others. It also invites one to discover Southness in surprising places, and draw relationships between seemingly disparately related contexts and disciplines to better understand how Black and Indigenous peoples forge devices (lingustic, spatial, or political) to make and remake their positions in urban environments.

2023 | SARAH PAGE (MAUD)

Centering Rurality
Sarah's research aims to build place based rural design theory by analyzing the historic and contemporary development patterns and lived experiences of communities in rural regions which were all connected through the empire of cotton. Additionally, this project aims to study rurality as a specific spatial typology, equating its unique material and social systems by connecting the role of the territory to the rights of the individual. Three rural regions have been identified as comparative studies to analyze urban and rural connections in relation to political power and global markets.

2022 | ELYJANA ROACH (MAUD)

A Contemporary Pacific Urban Village
Elyjana's research investigates a new paradigm for developing a contemporary Pacific urban village. In a global context, old, modern, and contemporary forms of the urban village are explored through the lens of four patterns of development: organic, desakota, peripheral, and the urban project. The regional context of the South Pacific is looked at to uncover new definitions for the way we might perceive and construct the urban village. Considerations from a Polynesian cultural perspective include social values such as customs, labor practices, forms of living, or legal/political frameworks of land.

2021 | SAM NAYLOR (MAUD)

Living Without Land: Examining Past Episodes and Present Experiments in Collective Housing
Sam's research, through an exploration of four geographical contexts, seeks to engage with historical projects and active housing experiments to ask how one might live on shared property. The sites chosen are all examples of projects that have sidestepped the common dichotomy between social housing on public property and market housing on private property, and instead seeks a third possibility in the sharing economy. Ranging from community land trusts to cooperative arrangements to co-housing, the research uses a legal property framework to survey these ensembles.

2020 | LAURA GREENBERG (MAUD)

Ecodisctricts: Exploring a Participatory Framework for Equitable, Resilient, and Sustainable Community Design
Laura's research explores the results of a participatory urban design framework that integrates all three aspects of ecodistricts: advancing social equity, resilience, and sustainability at the neighborhood scale. The largest problems facing urban environments today stem from sharply increasing inequity and the climate crisis. Scholarship has made it abundantly clear that these problems are intertwined and must be addressed together through a focus on equity, resilience, and sustainability.

2019 | CAROLYN ANGIUS (MUP)

Designing Gender Equity: An Investigation into the Spatial Implications of Gender-Informed Design Across Diverse Systems, Scales, Actors, and Contexts
Carolyn's research studies the spatial implications of gender-informed planning and design across diverse systems, scales, lead institutional actors, and cultural contexts. The relationship between sites designed with a gender-informed lens and the policies and politics that catalyzed or enabled them is also examined. While robust theory from urban design, architecture, planning, and the social sciences has well-established that gender identity affect experience and the use of space and vice versa, much less is known about the spatial implications of designing spaces that are safe, inclusive, and accessible for all gender identities.

2018 | MAXIME FAURE (MAUD)

1960-2020 The Making of a Practice: A Contemporary Portrait of Urban Design as a Globalized Practice
Maxime's research examines the legacy of urban design by bringing together urban design projects, models, and urban thoughts into a single research and travel project. In doing so, the investigation brings to the forefront the global relevance of the Harvard University Graduate School of Design in shaping urban design frameworks across geographies, generations, scales, and institutions. The research seeks to act as a milestone to portrait urban design today and to question its role through the study of its academic goals and physical implementation.

2017 | MARIOS BOTIS (MAUD)

Flows of Commercial Logistics: Urbanization in the Post-Industrial City of Online Retail
Marios' research examines the spatial and urban implications of commercial logistics—with an emphasis on the logistics of online commerce—and how these reshape the patterns of urbanization in the post-industrial city. The proposal focuses on how the physical footprint and operation of logistic zones affect the form, organization, and social life of the diverse geographic contexts where they are sited. Furthermore, the project investigates and evaluates how the agency of design can contribute to the urban form of these important economic growth poles as they continue to rapidly grow and evolve.

2016 | KYRIAKI KASABALIS (MAUD)

Digital Enclaves: Mapping the Impacts of Tech-Districts on the Form of the Post-Industrial City
Kyriaki's study mapped the evolution of tech-districts and their impact on the form of the post-industrial city. Specifically, it offered the discipline of urban design a new framework for evaluating the development of tech-districts as a model of urbanism that is truly global in scope. The fieldwork tracked the transformation of the tech-districts on the basis of their design, location, and level of planning in East Asia, Europe, and the United States.

2015 | CLAYTON STRANGE (MAUD)

Monotown: Urban Dreams Brutal Imperatives
Clayton's study charted the trajectory of the monotown as a model of urban development that is global in scope by studying selected instantiations as they occur in various contexts and guises amid an array of cultures and geographies. In many places, monotowns take the form of company towns, but to term them simply thus would exclude valuable examples and obscure their most salient characteristic: the contradiction inherent in their vulnerability as single-enterprise settlements coupled with the permanency of their physical form in their presumption to constitute communities. By studying the design and evolution of the monotown as it occurs in a variety of geographies and contexts, we can start to develop a narrative of potential strategies, which will define its legacy and inscription on the landscape as either a constellation of creatively adaptable communities or the abandoned physical residue of failed national and corporate settlement policies.

2014 | FABIANA ALVEAR (MAUD)

Housing Frameworks: ~~Public/Private~~ Structuring of the Territory
Fabiana's study reviewed the models of low-income housing provision on the basis of their design, planning, and political frameworks of operation. There are two approaches to this issue: the common "Site and Services" model; and the "New Town" or "Satellite Town" development. This was a response to understand the consequences of the Right to Housing recognized in national constitutions and to begin to evaluate the current strategies. By analyzing multiple applications of the described models, the study developed a repository of global strategies through their successes and failures.

2013 | MELISSA ALEXANDER (MAUD)

Accelerated & Compressed: A Platform for Speculations on American Urbanization in the Era of High Speed Rail
As evidenced through the Interstate Highway System, transportation modes have dramatic implications on the built environment. Melissa's research was a platform from which to speculate on new models of American urbanization through the proposed implementation of a High Speed Rail system. As Albert Einstein said, "We can't solve problems by using the same kind of thinking we used when we created them." To address the problem of mobility in the United States, we must look outside of our own the traditional transportation planning processes that are still dominated by the tools, methods and assumptions, political biases, procedural failures, and instilled human behaviors of our past and current planning processes.

2012 | CARLOS GARCIAVELEZ ALFARO (MAUD)

Form and Pedagogy: The Design of the University City in Latin America
Of the twentieth-century large-scale urban interventions inscribed into the Latin American city, the university campus is the most salient symbol of progress. The academy became an epicenter of twentieth-century architectural and urban experimentation and a unique urban development within major Latin American cities. Carlos' research examined the urban and architectural structure and legacy of the principal Latin American campuses built in the past sixty years. Through visits to select universities and the examination of original drawings and archival material, he assembled a campus atlas that traces and details the historical and current state of the university-city and links these individual campuses in a de facto Pan-American project.

2011 | VÍCTOR MUÑOZ SANZ (MAUD)

Networked Utopia: A Global Survey of the Urban Legacy of the Bat'a Shoe Company's Satellite Cities
Networked Utopia was an exhaustive and global survey of the Bat'a's company towns in the post-Fordist landscape of logistics. By traveling to the network of towns founded by the company between 1930 and 1945, Víctor found it possible to document and evaluate the mechanism of adaptation of such utopian vision to multiple contexts and geographies, using photography, on site research, and interviews with local communities, governmental agencies, and the Bat'a representatives. Through this research, Víctor developed a comprehensive evaluation of approach by checking in site if the models of urbanization that emerged as a by-product of capital survived the Fordist's patterns of labor extraction and production.

2010 | LORETA CASTRO REGUERA (MAUD)

Urban Floods: Learning from Cities in Lowlands
The relationship between urban dwellers and water is a conflicting one: on the one hand, life unavoidably depends on the presence of and access to water; while on the other, urban dwellers are increasingly being exposed to water-related hazards. Such is the case of Mexico City, a megalopolis of twenty-million inhabitants lying in a closed basin and prone to urban floods and drinking water shortages. Loreta's researched featured several case studies of cities worldwide that have successfully dealt with this circumstance through a series of design strategies with the characteristic of being replicable. It showed how these tactics are pertinent in Mexico City in an enormous effort to transit into a sustainable water management system through the application of design.

2009 | MONICA FRANKLIN (MAUD)

Monica's research involved the new and developing electric car promises to be an important evolution in automotive technology. There are many electric car models being developed worldwide with slight variations in operation and applicability. She studied the different electric car networks in the varied contexts to understand how we might develop tactics to engage a currently under-conceptualized network.

2008 | GARY LEGGETT (MUP)

Surrogate States: Failure by Design in the Amazon Basin
Gary's research investigated the Transoceanic Highway and the Evangelical Church of Brazil. They are both metonymic examples—operating in close proximity of each other—of the two largest forces currently controlling the social and economic development of Latin America. They define the discursive and dialectical nodes of development.

2007 | RICK BROENE (MARCH/MUP)

Rick's research examined the vast majority of Turkish society in some 34,000 villages spread out across the rugged Anatolian landscape. His research explored the role of Turkey's national highway system, which was largely designed and constructed with American assistance in Turkey between 1947-1960, as it relates to their modernization. The study compared current villages across the different regions of Anatolian Turkey. To understand the nature of the sociospatial transformations, the primary comparisons included extensive mapping analysis of the current villages. The research included comparisons of village morphology, commercial and housing typologies, public space, civic institutions and amenities, and the physical relationship of the village to its major roadway.

2006 | KONSTANTINOS PAPADIMITRAKOPOULOS (MAUD)

Konstantinos' research investigated illegal migrants and the typology of transit cities and towns along the coast of the Mediterranean. Through drawings, interviews, maps, photographs, and video, he documented the long-term and temporal effects the phenomenon of clandestine migrations has on every life and the urban tissue, identifying how the physical characteristic of the threshold (sea, land, fence) defines different types of passages and different kinds of urban conditions. Transit cities in Italy, Libya, Morocco, and Spain were the specific focus.

2005 | DAN ADAMS (MARCH)

Dan's research investigated the integration of large-scale global industries into local communities with a particular focus on shipping and the salt industry. Through the techniques of mapping and documentation, the influence and interrelationship of the salt industry in the landscape is pursued as a dynamic and often subtle set of perceptions: the practices of mapping attempting to unearth perceptions and relations, which are governed as much by temporal and intangible characteristics as by the physical presence of the industry in the landscape.

2004 | WYNNE MUN (MARCH/MUP)

Tax Havens: Searching for Urban Design
Wynne's research investigated the potential of urban design to bridge the gulf between the broad policies that establish tax-incentive areas and the provincial architecture that arises. Through a series of mapping analyses and case studies developed from government documents, photographic documentation, constituent surveys, and urban geographical techniques of representation, he attempted to reconfigure the status of tax-incentive areas from two distinct vantage points: from the larger framework of global competition between dynamically changing cities and from the more specific understanding of the attributes of the provincial context that capitalizes on the dynamism of city regions.

2003 | IAN CHODIKOFF (MAUD)

Migration, Remittances, and Urbanization: Transnational Migration Between Senegal and Italy
Ian's research investigated the relationship between migration, remittances, and urbanization between Italy and Senegal. The situation of the Senegalese is not unique. Across the globe, there are several forms of transnational behavior affecting the urban dynamics of cities. As is the case with the Senegalese, transnational migration has been responsible for considerable land speculation and urbanization in Senegal and places considerable stress on the government's ability to respond to the needs of education, infrastructure, affordable housing, and a coherent design strategy for its growing urban populations. Ian's research documented the Senegalese living in Italy and the significant growth across several regions of Senegal. The intention is to validate the beneficial effects of transnational migration and the importance for both developed and developing countries to understand how this symbiotic relationship relates to urban design and development.

2002 | FRANK RUCHALA JR. (MARCH/MUP)

Frank's research examined the world's airports and the areas immediately around them as they begin to rival the traditional downtown as the focus of their urban regions. The goal of the study was to explore the blurring boundary between airport and city, and to gain a greater understanding of what this new "airport urbanism" may mean for the city and those who plan and design it. Airports at the forefront of the phenomenon in Asia, Europe, and North America were studied.

2001 | YURI SUZUKI (MAUD)

Yuri's research investigated how the revolution in digital communication technologies has affected the design and use of our physical environment. The travel traced the evolving building typologies and changing roles of civic places in Germany, Holland, England, Ireland, Japan, and the United States. The purpose of the study is to develop a blueprint not only for designing cities of tomorrow, but for transforming existing cities by integrating digital technology into the layout, program, and infrastructure design of the site.

2000 | MARSHALL BROWN (MARCH/MAUD)

Frontieriority: Urban Design in Morocco, 1912-1965
Marshall explored the use of Morocco as a territory for exploring the notion of frontieriority in urban design. By creating vignettes of three different cities during three different periods (Rabat, Casablanca, and Agadir), we can view the shifting role of urban design in a context, where it was pushed to develop new schemes of inhabitation for a rapidly evolving population. In the end, we can ask ourselves the following question: is it possible again for our discipline to take a leading position by aggressively stating not only what the city is, but also what it can (im)possibly become?

1999 | SARA ELLIOTT (MUP)

Sara's research investigated large, industrial, adaptive reuse projects as economic development and regional urban revitalization strategies, along with the shift in perceptual identity that such projects must affect. European approaches were compared to American ones to determine the critical elements of community revitalization through strategic conversion, including design, program, and policy considerations. She traveled to Sweden, Germany, Spain, the Netherlands, and the United States.

1998 | STEVEN WILSON (MAUD)

Steven's research examined the urban effects of high-speed rail with an emphasis on the qualitative effects of the resulting new developments around new high-speed rail stations and their relationship to the planning policies that shaped them. This involved a critical evaluation of the surrounding urban environment before and after the stations, concentrating on a precise analysis of the physical and qualitative aspects of the new developments, the character of the public spaces they create, and the local infrastructure systems that support them. He researched sites in Japan, France, Germany, and Spain.

1997 | MICHAEL PETRUS (MAUD)

Michael's research examined renewed railway infrastructure as urban catalyst in Europe. He conducted analyses into the physical results of regeneration strategies for underutilized railway yards and entrepôts in European post-industrial city centers.

1996 | DAVID BARNARD (MAUD)

David's research evaluated the pieces of infrastructure installed by some of the recent Olympic host cities for the games and considers how successfully these cities benefited from this infusion of city pieces. After two weeks of performing in front of the world, these cities are left with the issue of reabsorbing the Olympic infrastructure back into the city. How a metropolis manages the integration of these event-specific components depends greatly upon the implementation and long-term design intent of these pieces. David's research involved travel to Seoul, Barcelona, Montreal, Los Angeles, Moscow, and Mexico City.

1995 | JANNE CORNEIL (MAUD)

Janne's research involved the spatial and social organization of cities and regions where the economy is based primarily on networks of small and locally based enterprises that are able to compete in international markets. Her research took her to Modena, Northern Italy, and Taipei, Taiwan, to investigate the implications of a fine-grain, decentralized economy for urban policy and form.

1994 | KATHRYN CLARKE ALBRIGHT (MDES)

Kathryn's research examined emblematic paradigms of the present in public realm in seminal American suburbs and new towns which represent shifts over time in ideas and civic space and its associated sense of community. She visited Forest Hills Gardens, Coral Gables, Radburn, Irvine, Kentlands, and Laguna West, as well as community squares in London and Savannah, to document the form and constituent components of the public realm as civic.

1993 | KATE DUNHAM (MUP)

Kate's study involved an investigation of the urban housing patterns of low-income, working individuals who live in shared, non-family accommodations in large Asian and American cities. She looked at the formal and informal systems of high-density housing serving this increasingly large and economically important sector of the world's rapidly expanding urban populations.

1992 | JACQUELINE TATOM (MAUD)

Jacqueline's program was to identify design principles that can potentially preserve the local character of the landscape along beltways and arterials at the periphery of several cities despite the universal engineering standards of highway design and the common economic pressures on land use experienced by cities as mass merchandising, industry, and single-family subdivisions implant themselves at their edges. She traveled to Barcelona, Frankfurt, and Milan.

1991 | PEDRO M. CARDONA-ROIG (MAUD)

Pedro's program of study concerned recent urban developments in Barcelona and the policies involved in the making of urban public spaces in the city during the last decade. He also investigated recent urban developments in Western Europe and their relationships to the Barcelona precedent through direct interaction with the officials who were leading these developments.

1989 | BILL TSAKALOS (MAUD)

Bill's research entailed an extensive examination of contemporary American and Australian urban conditions. In particular, he studied the phenomenon of the American Australian "middle landscapes" that exist between urban centers and rural land. He visited nineteen states and compared the American middle landscape to seven major Australian cities.

1988 | GUY PERRY (MARCH/MAUD)

Guy considered the relationship between airports and the landscapes and cultures in which they are set. His objective was to evaluate airports as thresholds to the cities and cultures to which they provide service. His research took him to Chicago, Moscow, Amsterdam, Singapore, Hong Kong, and Madrid.

1987 | BILL MCILROY (MAUD)

Bill's research involved the evolution of small outlying communities into a series of disparate, diverse, and ever-conflicting metropolitan landscapes. His study took him to three cities that have undergone rapid transformations: Calcutta, Shanghai, and Tokyo.