

KEYNOTE:

Big Idea, Small Project: Cultivating Excellence in Small Firm Practice

Bart Shaw, FAIA

Bart is co-founder and Principal at Ibanez Shaw Architecture. While he was born, raised, educated and practices in Texas, his body of work has received national and international attention for an approach to design that goes beyond program to express the full power of architecture.

Bart Shaw's projects speak to us. Their narrative refrain draws us in, revealing the passions for which they were built. Every detail is crafted in service to a prescient idea resulting in work of resounding clarity.

The breadth of Shaw's projects is notable. His work reaches beyond architecture creating notable works of public art and product design. His dedication to craft and use of available fabrication technology are the foundation of projects that manifest with clarity. His intimate involvement in making and prototyping allows for the interactive development of material and idea. The buildings, interiors, public art, or design objects each harmonize a chorus of design and fabrication issues to present powerful conceptual design.

in 2011, Shaw started his own practice dedicated to design excellence, later joining with a partner of equal commitment. His diverse projects are the subject of numerous published articles and have received over fifty design recognitions from nationally recognized architectural critics and jurors. This includes recognition from Americans for the Arts, AIA Small Project Awards, The American Architecture Award from the Chicago Athenaeum, and design awards from Texas Society of Architects. His work has also been honored by various AIA and IIDA chapters and featured in numerous exhibitions. His extraordinary body of work led to his elevation to the prestigious AIA College of Fellows in 2019.

Shaw is a committed leader in the architectural community, advancing design excellence through advocacy, education, and service. A longtime member of the American Institute of Architects, he served as President of AIA Fort Worth and currently represents small practice nationally through his leadership on the Board of the AIA Small Firm Exchange. He is a sought-after juror for regional and national design award programs, a contributing editor for Texas Architect magazine, and an adjunct professor at the University of Texas at Arlington, where he mentors the next generation of architects with the same clarity and conviction that define his built work.