

KEYNOTE:

Practice Not Perfect: Design Process Of A Small Firm Practitioner

Gerard Damiani, AIA

Gerard Damiani, AIA, Associate Professor at Carnegie Mellon University School of Architecture, is the founder and president of studio d'ARC architects, P.C. in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania. Gerard, originally from the Hudson Valley in New York State with ties to eastern Pennsylvania, received his architectural education at Syracuse University. Gerard spends his time both as a practitioner and as an architectural educator teaching courses in architectural fundamentals, building construction, architectural detailing, building integration and advanced upper level design studios focusing on the architecture of place, technology and theory.

Confronted with what he considered a disconnect between architectural education and the profession, he established his practice six years after graduation. Considering his practice as a laboratory for the search for architecture, he has produced a limited but thoughtful body of work that takes into consideration aspects of place, time and circumstance. The practice operates on a rational approach to materials with careful consideration given to both their meaning and their assembly. He has received national recognition from the National AIA and AIA Pennsylvania for his Live/Work Studio II and has also been recognized for his contributions to the region outside of the awards programs. His work has been featured in U.S. and international architectural publications such as Architectural Record (US), Dwell (US), GreenSource Magazine (US), Azure Magazine (Canada), Architectural Review (UK), C3 (Korea), Elle Decoration (Romania), A Vivre (France) and most recently, The Plan (Italy) in the November 2024 issue 158.