FIRM PROFILE & EXPERIENCE /

MICHAEL MALTZAN ARCHITECTURE



STUDIO/



MICHAEL MALTZAN ARCHITECTURE, INC.

Michael Maltzan Architecture is an architecture and urban design practice committed to the creation of progressive, transformative experiences that chart new trajectories for architecture, urbanism, and the public realm.

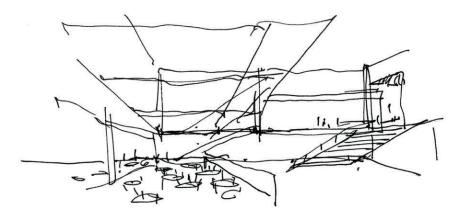
Led by Michael Maltzan, FAIA, the practice is dedicated to the design and construction of projects which engage their context and community through a concentrated exploration of movement and perception. Through a shared belief in the role architecture can play in the contemporary city, this work has created new connections and catalyzed change across a range of scales, programs, and contexts from MoMA Queens to Skid Row.

CONTEMPORARY RESPONSES TO COMPLEXITY & CHANGE /

The Los Angeles-based practice addresses the increasingly complex reality of our information-driven culture, crafting intimate, individual experiences woven into the broader context of the city or the campus at large. Each design emerges from its specific context—the city, the campus, geography, program, history, and technology, equally. The 30-person firm's intensely creative, collaborative studio culture is focused on developing partnerships across disciplines to integrate sustainability and form, producing unprecedented detail and beauty.

The practice's work has been recognized with numerous accolades, including five Progressive Architecture awards, 31 citations from the American Institute of Architects, the Rudy Bruner Foundation's Gold Medal for Urban Excellence, and as a finalist for the Smithsonian/Cooper-Hewitt Museum's National Design Award. This work has been featured in a number of international publications including Architecture, Architectural Record, Architectural Review, Artforum, A+U, Domus, Blueprint, GA Houses, Lotus, Los Angeles Times, Newsweek, The New York Times, and the monograph Alternate Ground.

MMA projects have also been exhibited in museums worldwide including the Museum of Modern Art, the Cooper-Hewitt National Design Museum, the Canadian Centre for Architecture, and the Los Angeles Museum of Contemporary Art. Monographic exhibitions have been featured at the Southern California Institute of Architecture, the Harvard Graduate School of Design, and the Carnegie Museum's Heinz Architectural Center.





SERVICES

DELIVERING AWARD-WINNING DESIGN /

ENVISIONING NEW DEVELOPMENTS /

UNDERSTANDING CLIENT NEEDS /



ARCHITECTURE & INTERIOR DESIGN

Our work focuses on creating an architecture of connection: designing buildings that are informed by and respond to the dynamic qualities of their settings. In doing so it is possible for architecture to become transformative and not merely additive. We believe design solutions are found precisely within the unique challenges posed by each project. Our approach concentrates on the most vibrant aspects of a project, gualities that are inherent in the site, program, or other conditions. The work of design then becomes a process of discovery, one of delving deeply into the nature of use, identity, and performance, and through which we arrive at the most sustainable solution.



PLANNING

Successful design is rooted in the creation of an informed context for good decision making. As buildings become increasingly complex and the demands placed upon them more diverse and interrelated, collaboration between the key participants of the project team early in the development curve is ever more critical. A thorough engagement of stakeholder interests establishes the means by which development criteria can be precisely defined, with the resulting basis of design assuring a shared, comprehensive understanding of desired project outcomes. By considering factors as diverse as identity and historical context, we bring the full range of stakeholder values forward into the design.



PROGRAM & ANALYSIS

In designing buildings that foster connection between people, understanding both the functional requirements of specific uses, and their relationship to one another and the larger community, is imperative. Our approach to programming is simultaneously definitive and flexible, enabling the detailed capturing of both quantitative and qualitative requirements while allowing project stakeholders the opportunity to consider previously unexplored possibilities in the arrangement, integration, and utilization of programmatic components. This dynamic analysis considers projected use over a day, a year, or an entire lifecycle, allowing the design to possess a greater degree of programmatic adaptability over time.

ENGAGING THE NATURAL ENVIRONMENT /

BUILDING HEALTHY COMMUNITIES /

CREATING NEW LANDMARKS /



PUBLIC SPACE & LANDSCAPE DESIGN

Our approach to landscape begins with our commitment to creating an architecture of connection. The connection between exterior and interior is a reciprocal one-not only can the interior program of a building extend outward, but the relationship between building and site can be informed by the topography, use, and other qualities of the surrounding landscape. In this way, the consideration of the role of landscape and its relationship to interior spaces can extend to include the building, its landscape, its history, and its larger context. As a result, one might ask: where does the building end, or the landscape begin?



SUSTAINABILITY

Sustainability not only drives the technical development of our buildings' systems and exterior envelopes, it shapes their form, orientation and conceptualization from the outset. We create projects which truly integrate architectural design and a commitment to the environment. More than appliqué, each of our projects employ both material and technical innovations to integrate energy efficient mechanical systems and facades. This means reducing operating costs while improving the livability of interior spaces by incorporating daylighting, natural ventilation, and temperature and humidity control.



IDENTITY

Great design creates a strong identity-and great design is rooted in a thorough understanding of the needs and desires of the people who will experience it. As our work is rooted in a deep understanding of the motivating forces behind a project, our design process is inherently one of branding as well. Through focus groups, interviews and observation, we establish the design criteria that inspire and guide our architectural, product, and graphic design. The evolution of a design is then driven forward in concert with the branding and experiential aspects of the project, and through this thoughtful integration, reflects and expresses the key aspirations at its heart.

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