

FIRM PROFILE & EXPERIENCE /

MICHAEL MALTZAN ARCHITECTURE



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Founded in 1995, 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. The Los Angeles-based practice, led by Michael Maltzan, FAIA, is dedicated to the design of projects that engage their context and community through a concentrated exploration of movement and perception.

CONTEMPORARY RESPONSES TO COMPLEXITY & CHANGE

MMA's work is based on the belief that architecture continues to have a fundamental, potent role in shaping how we experience the world. The firm is dedicated to the design of buildings and landscapes that create intimate, individual experiences woven into the broader urban context of the city at large. Beginning with the specific context of the region, its geography, and history, these designs integrate sustainability and form to catalyze change in the contemporary city.

Within this context, the work of our practice is dedicated to exploring the complexity and possibility inherent in architecture. It is in the interaction between the built environment and its users that ideas can find their expression.

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 was selected 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*, *Mark*, *Metropolis*, and *The New York Times*.

MMA projects have also been exhibited in museums worldwide including the Museum of Modern Art, the Canadian Centre for Architecture, the Cooper-Hewitt National Design Museum, 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 with an accompanying monograph entitled *Alternate Ground*.

AN INTEGRATED APPROACH TO SUSTAINABILITY

MMA is committed to sustainable development, energy efficiency, and natural resource conservation. A sustainable approach can be understood not only in pragmatic terms, but as a reflection of both our shared cultural aspirations and an institution's mission, as we seek to understand, express, and preserve our culture for future generations. More than appliqué, each of our projects leverage both material and technical innovation to create building systems and facades, which not only reduce their impact on our environment and running costs, but also improve qualitative factors such as daylighting, natural ventilation, temperature, and humidity control.

Our design process is deeply collaborative wherein architecture and engineering create a synthetic whole. Along with LEED Certified Professionals on staff, we also work closely with groundbreaking engineering and sustainability practices worldwide. Our experience has been that there is a significant added benefit when these disciplines are combined, especially in museum environments where the resulting design is more than the sum of its materials, systems, and technology.

SERVICES

DELIVERING AWARD-WINNING DESIGN /



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, qualities 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.

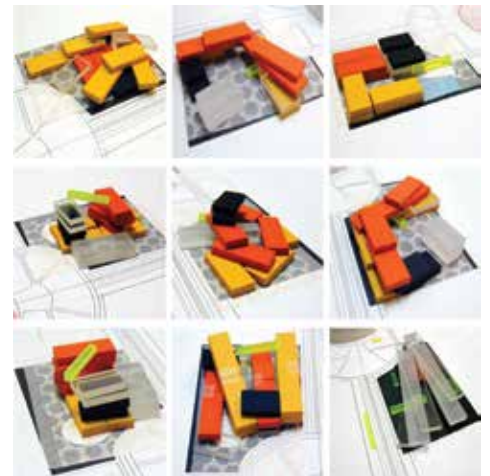
ENVISIONING NEW DEVELOPMENTS /



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 in early development 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 into the design.

UNDERSTANDING CLIENT NEEDS /



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 single day, a year, or an entire lifecycle, giving the design a greater degree of programmatic adaptability over time.

ENGAGING THE NATURAL ENVIRONMENT /



PUBLIC SPACE & LANDSCAPE DESIGN

Our approach to landscape begins with our understanding that the relationship between exterior and interior spaces is reciprocal—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.

BUILDING HEALTHY COMMUNITIES /



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 believe long-term sustainability lies not only in reducing our impact on our biosphere, but in the reconciliation of our culture and natural environment. In this way, a sustainable approach can be understood in pragmatic terms as well as in the reflection of our shared cultural aspirations and an institutional mission, as they seek to understand, express, and preserve our culture for future generations. We create projects which truly integrate architectural design and a commitment to the environment.

CREATING NEW LANDMARKS /



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 based 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 core.



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