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Sumi Fasolo, AIA / BA Architecture, 1993

Sam Fox School of Design and Visual Arts

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Alumnae Biography

Sumi Fasolo, AIA
BA Architecture | 1993

The Marine Technology and Life Sciences Seawater Research Complex (MTLSS) is a new gateway to the campus and is designed to enable the bridging of theoretical and practical research that is at the leading edge of science. Located on Virginia Key, the Rosenstiel School of Marine and Atmospheric Science is a leading oceanic and atmospheric research and teaching institution. The MTLSS Complex is a 86,000 square foot laboratory building that houses two distinct but interconnected components: the Marine Life Science Center and the Surge-Structure-Atmosphere Interaction (SUSTAIN) research facility. Laboratories in the Marine Life Science Center are for the study of marine organisms and for researching the impact of climate change on coral reefs. The SUSTAIN Building features a hurricane simulator with a fan generating winds up to 150 mph into a transparent acrylic tank that holds 28,000 gallons of seawater pushed by a paddle wave generator. In this controllable test environment, the interaction of wind, waves and storm surge will be analyzed by scientists, engineers and architects to study the impact of hurricanes on coastal structures and buildings.

BIOGRAPHY

While attending Washington University I was inspired by the many parallels across disciplines. I continue to explore ways in which architecture engages music, art and science. I received my Master in Architecture from Harvard University’s Graduate School of Design. During my architecture internship I spent vacations as a volunteer builder in rural Nicaragua constructing a school. I joined Cambridge Seven Associates (C7A) after gaining experience as a design architect at firms in Boston and New York. Currently, I am on the design team for a 60 story tower that will be Boston’s tallest residential building. The project is a collaboration between C7A and Pei, Cobb, Freed & Partners.

AWARDS
First prize for menorah design competition - Steelcase, Boston, 2003
Scholarship recipient for “Designing with Natural Stone” program in Verona, Italy, 2003

EXHIBITIONS
CHANGE: Architecture and Engineering in the Middle East, 2000-Present, Center for Architecture, NY, 2012
Women In Design Network’s Leadership for Change Exhibit, Boston Society of Architects, 2005

MARINE TECHNOLOGY & LIFE SCIENCES SEAWATER RESEARCH COMPLEX, UNIVERSITY OF MIAMI
MIAMI, FLORIDA, COMPLETED IN 2014
ARCHITECT: CAMBRIDGE SEVEN ASSOCIATES
SUMI FASOLO, AIA: SR. DESIGNER + SR. SITE ARCHITECT