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Women in the Design World: Work in Progress

Sam Fox School of Design and Visual Arts

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9-7-2014

Freda Chu, Laura Wang, Ray Chau, AIA, LEED  
A.P. -BD+C / Master of Architecture, 2013

Sam Fox School of Design and Visual Arts

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**UPLIFT  
DESIGNER  
2014**

Uplift is an entry for The Architectural League New York Call for Proposals: Folly 2014, which aims to explore the interactions between architecture and sculpture. An architectural folly magnifies even the most minute and most hidden details of the site for our sensation, and through our elevated perception of the environment, we shall begin to discover our role as a participant in nature and our community. Uplift amplifies the relationship between observers and the park by exposing its past as a landfill. The 14-foot tall rectangular prism represents a section of the land carved from the earth and elevated for our examination. Waste – the intrinsic contents that supports the beautiful landscape, is emblemized by the thousands of disposed coffee cups and a sequence of reclaimed fishnets that are stretch and draped across the 6 wooden box frames in checkerboard arrangement. From afar, the Uplift appears dense, yet it's seemingly solid façade fragments with our shifting perspective. Inside, one is guided to the back of the green alcove by sense of uplift as the fishnets free the structure from the cup's rigidity. The flowing nets draw our sight to the surrounding nature, allowing us to ponder on the beautiful coexistence between human and the natural landscape.



Alumnae Biography

**BIOGRAPHY**

Freda, Laura and Ray embody expertise in design of various scales, from urban planning to furniture design. Most importantly, their appreciation for architecture is driven by the integrative quality of design in which one can draw references from diverse fields of study and engage members from various disciplines

during the deliberation process. Through rigorous analysis and development, they challenge and improve the existing paradigm, while satisfying practical demands. Their experience and education equipped them with the precise tools to initiate and execute design projects from the perspective of professionalism, comprehensiveness, innovation and implementation.

**AWARDS 2013-2014**

- Frederick Widmann Prize
- Degree Project Award Spring Semester
- Hugh Ferriss Architectural Drawing Award
- Re-Thinking the Future International Architectural Thesis Awards, Honorable Mention
- Unbranded Design Furniture Design Competition, Second Place

**PUBLICATIONS 2012-2014**

- AIA Emerging Professional Exhibition
- Sam Fox School of Design and Visual Arts Approach publication for select exceptional student work