For the first time ever, Pratt Institute has partnered with a local real estate developer to completely outfit two model residence interiors with every element in the two units designed or created by a Pratt faculty member, student, or alumnus. The concept was developed from an original idea by Pratt professor and alumnus Bruce Hannah. The residences are located inside the new Third + Bond townhouses at 115 Third Street in Carroll Gardens, and were developed by Hudson Companies, which unveiled the interior designs of the two units with a celebration on October 15 at the site.

Pratt professor of architecture and alumnus Anthony Caradonna coordinated the curating, styling, and staging of the apartments creating holistic interior home environments that include conceptually innovative and aesthetically stunning floor and wall coverings, home accessories, furniture, textiles, art, lighting elements, and more—all by Pratt fine artists, designers, and architects. The Pratt-outfitted 3-bedroom duplex and floor-through model residence include eco-conscious designs made from both natural and recycled/recyclable materials that reflect a playful and affordable modern design sensibility. Caradonna selected objects that rely on no-waste design and material strategies made from cutting-edge technologies like laser-cutting and inventive traditional design methods.

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PRATT TALENT SHOWCASED IN NEW CONDOS AT THIRD + BOND IN BROOKLYN

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PRATT SUBMITS CLIMATE ACTION PLAN OUTLINING STRATEGIES AND SUSTAINABILITY INITIATIVES

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Since earning your Pratt M.F.A. in 1978, you have been a N.Y.-based sculptor working on large-scale projects at the intersection of public art and environmental interpretation as well as teaching at Pratt for 20 years. What would you like to see as your legacy? On campus, I envision an outdoor “lab” site for interdisciplinary faculty-student projects and events integrated into our rich landscape. Off campus, I would like to grow an ongoing accredited affiliation with our National Parks to offer an unprecedented art and design opportunity for students and faculty to contribute to America’s unique landscapes. Which of your many public art projects for the National Park Service has been the most effective and why? I would have to say the permanent 15-foot ценоты for the Acadia National Park Visitor Center in Maine, built by a Pratt/MASSArt team from architecture, exhibition design, and sculpture to convey information and experiential sensations of the region. Rangers, hikers, and ocean kayakers alike use it to grasp the scale and experiences available to the public. Your award-winning work also is found in major museums, corporate, and private collections, including the Smithsonian Institution, Library of Congress, Philadelphia Museum of Art, Norton Simon Inc., and former Vice-President Al Gore. What’s the secret of your achievement? At the heart of my work is an intimate connection with the wilderness. Tell us about your current project to reinvigorate park benches. I am developing with Mile, the fabricator, a set of retrofit extensions for a ubiquitous park bench, transforming it with a winged canopy of structure, acoustic, and text components. A “handwritten” poetic phrase changes each season, animating the sky space overhead. At the Banff Centre in the Canadian Rockies we will create a solar driven, whispering sound score of bird songs that gradually slows to a rhythmic tempo of the human heartbeat at rest. The recycled bench becomes a sensory and perceptual instrument, wrapping the user in an amplified experience of time and place.

Does nature really need such artificial enhancement? Nature doesn’t need enhancement; it needs protection. We city dwellers need a filter to lose our internal noise and address our often fragile, sometimes fractured relationship with the natural world. New information brought to the bench site changes how we pause and observe the still moment. Retrofits by their nature allow for temporary elements that can change with the seasons to add multiple perspectives. As a child, what did you want to be when you grew up? A soaring tree.
STUDENT SPOTLIGHT

LAUREN TURNBULL
Senior Year Film Major

You spent part of your summer biking across Massachusetts for climate change. Tell us more.

I was a part of a team of seven who traveled over 700 miles in seven weeks from the northwest point of Massachusetts to towns around Boston and the North Shore to build a network of supporters of 100 percent clean energy. Every day, we went door to door to discuss climate change with residents. We hope to take the thousands of signatures collected to the Massachusetts legislature, where a resolution for 100 percent clean electricity can be made into law.

What inspired you to become an advocate for the environment?

My parents work for the government so I have had the opportunity to live among a wide variety of ecosystems and cultures. Poverty and environmental degradation had a large affect on me as I witnessed the hardships of obtaining food, water, and shelter. This effect was heightened after I took an ecology class with Professor Christopher Jensen. It mobilized me to take action.

How does environmental advocacy tie into your work as a film student?

I work with several aspects of new media, including film, photography, and animation. One of my favorite things about sustainability is that it is inclusive by nature—you don’t have to be a scientist or policy maker to talk about these issues. Art and sustainability both rely on abstract thinking to build creative solutions. I aspire to utilize my artistic talents to raise awareness and inspire others to take action as well.

What are your future plans?

My film thesis touches upon the notion of seed diversity and climate change issues. I hope to attend graduate school to study communicating the science of sustainability to visual thinkers. I nearly failed chemistry in high school!

PRESIDENT’S CIRCLE
APRIL 1 THROUGH JUNE 30, 2009

On behalf of Pratt Institute, President Thomas F. Schutte thanks the following donors for their generosity to the Institute’s Annual Fund and welcomes them as new or renewing members of the President’s Circle for the period of April 1 through June 30, 2009. The President’s Circle is Pratt’s giving society for donors who contribute $1,000 or more, cumulatively, to the Annual Fund within the Institute’s fiscal year. Their support provides Pratt with important resources to help fulfill the Institute’s most fundamental needs and to sustain its mission of providing a world-class education to its students. Pratt gratefully recognizes these individuals:

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Katharine L. McKenna, ’84 (Trustee) and Mark S. Braunstein
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Madeline Burnett-Vigeland ’81 and Nils Vigeland
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Henry W. Grussinger ’48
Myron Harpole
Yuhmin Hwang (Parent)
Thelma K. Stevens ’54 and Jay P. Stevens
Theresa M. Moran ’87 and Christopher Moran
Alessandro Papa (Parent)

DR. SCHUTTE ATTENDS JOURNEY FOR CHANGE EVENT

Dr. Schutte attended a ceremony in September honoring the first 30 participants to complete Journey for Change: Empowering Youth Through Global Service program run by Malaka Compton-Rock, wife of comedian Chris Rock. Dr. Schutte gave inspirational remarks to the young people in the program, which uplifts the lives of at-risk youth through travel, service, and education.

STUDENT NOTES

AIGA honored four Pratt students this year alongside all Worldstudio Scholarship winners at the Design Legends Gala at the Waldorf Astoria on September 17. CommD sophomore DIEGO TORRES was honored with a Coyne Family Foundation Award for Illustration; graduate student JINY UNG won a Mohawk Fine Papers Award; freshman KRHYSTYNA CHEHLATA won a Young Photographer’s Alliance Award; and graduate student NICOLE NOLAN won a Young Photographer’s Alliance Honorable Mention. Divers, a digitally animated short film by PARIS MAVROIDIS, M.F.A. Digital Arts ’09, will be screened in the Children’s Special Programme of CINANIMA 2009. The 33rd International Animated festival will take place from November 9–15 in Espinho, Portugal. Graduate CommD student YOON KYUNG EOM won first place in the European and International round of the 2009 Design Against Fur poster competition. Graduate student MAOWEI YU was selected as a finalist for the 2009 Adobe Design Achievement Awards. Graduate CommD student MARISTELLA GONZALEZ’S poster design will be published in Taschen’s upcoming book Design for Obama. Posters for Change: A Grassroots Anthology. First-year students in Prof. IRINA DANILOVA’S 4-D Design Foundation class debuted a collection of works at Videominuto 2009 in Italy on September 19. Participants included RACHEL SHUMEL, BEN LANKTON, GABRIELLE GODINO, WILLIAM YANG, DANA DECAMP, YOON YOUNG HA, and JAMES EMERY. ALEXANDRA SZYMczAK won the second annual student-designed recyclable D’ag Bag competition, a $1,000 scholarship, and a $500 D’Agostino gift certificate for her Leafy Greens design.

GATEWAY
OFFICE OF PUBLIC RELATIONS AND COMMUNICATIONS
DIVISION OF DEVELOPMENT
PRATT INSTITUTE

View Gateway online at http://www.pratt.edu/pr-comm. To submit information for Gateway, please contact Mara McGinnis at mmcginni@pratt.edu.
EYE ON ALUMNI

Alumna LYNN ZELEVANSKY, B.F.A. ’71, one of the world’s leading curators of contemporary art, assumed her new position as director of the Carnegie Museum of Art in Pittsburgh this summer after 14 years at the Los Angeles County Museum of Art (LACMA). The Pratt photography major had launched her career as a curatorial assistant at the Museum of Modern Art, N.Y. in 1987 and has since curated numerous exhibitions.

“Beyond Geometry: Experiments in Form, 1940s to 1970s,” an exhibition she organized at LACMA in 2004, won the first place award for best thematic museum show nationally that year from the U.S. branch of the International Association of Art Critics. “Museums need to find creative, meaningful ways to redefine what they do to fit the 21st century,” says Zelevansky, who mounted a major exhibition of contemporary Korean art at LACMA this summer in response to the Korean presence in Los Angeles.

Following graduation, Zelevansky began working as a fine arts photographer. “The photography department at Pratt was one of the best things that ever happened to me,” she recalls. “My most memorable professor was Philip Perkus; the discourse around pictures was fascinating.”

But Zelevansky soon discovered that she preferred writing about photographs to making them and transitioned her career accordingly. “At some point I was a teaching adjunct at three different schools and writing about seven reviews a month,” she says. “I decided to go to graduate school in order to become fully employable.” Before pursuing her studies at NYU’s Institute for Fine Arts, Zelevansky taught photography and criticism classes at Pratt. She has published widely and taught at universities on both the East and West coasts.

Her advice to young artists: “It’s hard to sustain the artist’s life. Meet other artists and become part of the dialogue. It’s a community like any other that respects and pays attention to those who give back to it.”