

**EDUCATION**

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- Master of Architectural Studies**, The Catholic University of America Washington, DC 2013  
Post-Professional degree • Specialization in Sacred Space and Cultural Studies. Thesis: "The Effects of Catholic Sacred Architecture on Transformative Human Experience: A (Re)evaluation of Evidence-Based Design through an Empirical Test of a Conceptual Model"
- Bachelor of Architecture**, California State Polytechnic University, Pomona Pomona, CA 2011  
Professional degree, Magna Cum Laude. Thesis: "The House of the LORD: (Re)interpreting the Latter-day Saint Temple Morphology"

**PROFESSIONAL PRACTICE EXPERIENCE**

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- Professional Registration:** *Licensed Architect*, State of Utah (10785107-0301); member of *American Institute of Architects*
- Architect**, Lombard Conrad Architects Boise, ID July 2018–Present
- Associate / Architect / Research Leader**, VCBO Architecture Salt Lake City, UT June 2013–June 2018  
Related project experience: *Religious - (LDS) Temples:* Memphis, TN; Oklahoma City, OK; Raleigh, NC; Baton Rouge, LA; 99-240 Prototype; Los Angeles, CA; San Diego, CA; Santiago, Chile; *(LDS) Meetinghouses:* European standard plan prototypes; Utah/Idaho standard plan prototype; Rome, Italy; *Research:* Post-occupancy evaluation surveys/reports for healthcare, office, K-12, higher education, religious, and recreation facilities
- Graduate Research Assistant**, The Catholic University of America Washington, DC Aug 2012–May 2013  
Related research experience: Architectural topics explored phenomenology, aesthetics, atmosphere/ambiance, memory, sacred space, architectural experience, sociality, communicability, gender, age, education, empirical data, neuroscience in architecture (fMRI), hermeneutics, and quantitative/qualitative survey data.
- Graduate Teaching Assistant**, The Catholic University of America Washington, DC Aug 2011–May 2012  
Related teaching experience: *History of Architecture I (3500 BC - 1000 AD); History of Architecture II (800 - 1750 AD)*

**PUBLICATIONS + SYMPOSIA****BOOKS / EDITING**

- 2015 *Transcending Architecture: Contemporary Views on Sacred Space*. Editor Julio Bermudez; assistant to the editor **Brandon Ro**. (Washington, DC: The Catholic University of America Press, 2015).
- Ro, Brandon**, Corey Bowman, Kristi Faught, eds. *The Box City Experience: Educating Elementary Children Through Architecture*. Book design by **Brandon Ro**. (Salt Lake City: VCBO Architecture & Uinta Elementary School, 2015).
- 2010 *Port of L.A. Visions: Reclaiming the Port of Los Angeles Waterfront*, Bobby Brooks Memorial Interdisciplinary Design Studio: A Collaboration of Cal Poly Pomona's College of Environmental Design and Walt Disney Imagineering. Edited by Leonardo Micolta, Irma Ramirez, **Brandon Ro**. Book Design by Leonardo Micolta and **Brandon Ro**. Pomona, CA: California State Polytechnic University, Pomona, 2010.

**REFEREED JOURNAL / MAGAZINE ARTICLES**

- 2015 **Ro, Brandon**, and Julio Bermudez. "Understanding Extraordinary Architectural Experiences through Content Analysis of Written Narratives." *Enquiry: A Journal of Architectural Research*, v.12, no.1 (2015): 17-34.
- 2013 **Ro, Brandon**. "(Re)Interpreting the Cosmic History of the Mormon Temple Experience: Theological Connections between Jewish and Catholic Sacred Space." *Journal of Comparative Theology* at Harvard Divinity school, v. 4, no. 1 (June 2013): 21-73.
- 2012 Bermudez, Julio, and **Brandon Ro**. "Experiencias Extraordinarias De La Arquitectura Sagrada. Los Casos De Chartres, Ronchamp y El Panteón." *Revista Arquitecturas del Sur [Chile]*, Special issue on "Rite and Architecture," no. 42 (December 2012): 88-101.

**REFEREED CONFERENCE PAPERS / ABSTRACTS / POSTERS**

- 2015 **Ro, Brandon**. "Sacred Time as One Eternal Round: Understanding the Chiasmic Pattern of Temple, Cosmos, History." In *Collected Abstracts of the Seventh Architecture, Culture, and Spirituality Symposium*, edited by Julio Bermudez, Norman Crowe and Paul Tesar. Ghost Ranch, NM: ACS Forum, 2015.
- 2014 Bermudez, Julio, and **Brandon Ro**. "Measuring Architectural Phenomenology through Qualitative Analysis: Studying Written Narratives of Extraordinary Architectural Experiences." In *Building with Change: Proceedings of the 45th Annual Conference of the Environmental Design Research Association*, edited by Jeffrey A. Carney and Kristi Cheramie, 386-87. New Orleans, LA: Environmental Design Research Association, 2014.
- Ro, Brandon**. "What is a Temple? A Preliminary Assessment of Mormon and Non-Mormon Architectural Perceptions for Designers." Paper presented at the "Bridges and Byways: Traversing the Mormon Landscape" Sunstone Symposium, University of Utah, Salt Lake City, UT, July 30 – August 2, 2014.

- 2013 **Ro, Brandon.** "The Idealized Temple Morphology: Surveying the Public Perception of Sacred Architecture." In *The Visibility of Research: Proceedings of the 2013 ARCC Spring Research Conference, Architectural Research Centers Consortium*, edited by Chris Jarrett, Kyoung-Hee Kim and Nick Senske, 740-41. University of North Carolina at Charlotte: ARCC, March 27-30, 2013.
- Bermudez, Julio, and **Brandon Ro.** "Memory, Social Interaction, and Communicability in Extraordinary Experiences of Architecture." In *The Visibility of Research: Proceedings of the 2013 ARCC Spring Research Conference, Architectural Research Centers Consortium*, edited by Chris Jarrett, Kyoung-Hee Kim and Nick Senske, 677-84. Charlotte, NC: University of North Carolina at Charlotte, 2013.
- Bermudez, Julio, and **Brandon Ro.** "The Effect of Gender, Age, and Education in Extraordinary Aesthetic Experiences." In *Healthy + Healing Places: Proceedings of the 44th Annual Conference of the Environmental Design Research Association*, edited by Jeremy Wells and Eleferios Pavlides, 279-80. Providence, RI: Environmental Design Research Association, 2013.
- 2012 Bermudez, Julio, and **Brandon Ro.** "Extraordinary Architectural Experiences: Comparative Study of Three Paradigmatic Cases of Sacred Spaces, the Pantheon, the Chartres Cathedral and the Chapel of Ronchamp." In *Ambiances in Action: Proceedings of the 2nd International Congress on Ambiances*, edited by Jean-Paul Thibaud and Daniel Siret, 689-94. Canadian Centre for Architecture, Montreal, Canada: International Ambiances Network, 2012.
- Ro, Brandon.** "The Mormon Temple Ritual-Architectural Experience: Connections to Jewish and Catholic Ritual Contexts and Sacred History." In *Abstracts of the 30th Meeting of the Southeast Society of Architectural Historians*, 18. Athens, GA: SESA, 2012.

#### INVITED PRESENTATIONS, WORKSHOPS, SEMINARS, LECTURES, SPEECHES (selected)

- 2017 **Invited lecture,** "The Transformative Power of Sacred Architecture: Exploring Ritual-Architectural Priorities and Evidence-Based Design for Sacred Spaces," presented to the Graduate Sacred Space Theory Seminar, *School of Architecture and Planning, The Catholic University of America* (October 23, 2017).
- Invited presentation,** "What is a Temple? Exploring Architectural Concepts for Temple Design," given to Ecclesiastical Studio at *VCBO Architecture, Salt Lake City, UT* (March 20, 2017).
- 2016 **Invited workshop,** "Ornament is (not) a Crime," given to Ecclesiastical Studio at *VCBO Architecture, Salt Lake City, UT* (December 15, 2016).
- Invited presentation,** "Templum Dei: Exploring the Language of Sacred Architecture," Evening Salon discussion hosted by the *Institute of Classical Architecture & Art – Utah Chapter, Salt Lake City, UT* (September 1, 2016).
- Invited presentation,** "From Esquisse to Analytique: Learning Design Composition through Analytical Sketching & Measured Drawings," given at *VCBO Architecture, Salt Lake City, UT* (May 4, 2016).
- 2015 **Invited Design Studio Charrette,** "The Sacred: A Design Charrette," team advisor to undergraduate and graduate architecture, planning, and design students, *University of Utah College of Architecture + Planning, Salt Lake City, UT* (Fall 2015).
- 2014 **Invited lecture,** "One Eternal Round: Temple, Cosmos, and History," presented to the *Temple Department, The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, Salt Lake City, UT* (July 2, 2014).
- 2013 **Invited artist talk,** "David's Tower: Between Heaven and Earth," given at the opening reception for the exhibit "Box of Miracles: Contemplating a 21st Century Convent." Presented at the Henry Luce III Center for the Arts and Religion, *Wesley Theological Seminary, Washington, DC* (January 29, 2013).
- 2011 **Invited lecture,** "The Sacred Return Home: The Existential Narrative of Sacred Space," presented to the Solar Decathlon Design Studio, *School of Architecture and Planning, The Catholic University of America* (September 12, 2011).

#### AWARDS / HONORS / EXHIBITIONS

- Awards:** 30 design and professional awards (organizations include: U.S. Green Building Council, American Institute of Architects, NEWH, Walt Disney Imagineering, Environmental Design in University Curricula and Architectural Training in Europe, North China University of Technology, Alliance to Save Energy, American Planning Association, Designers Lighting Forum, California State University Chancellor's Office, International Awards Program for Religious Art & Architecture, etc.)
- Honors:** 37 academic honors and scholarships (includes: President's List, Dean's List, Certificate of Achievements, Tau Sigma Delta Honor Society in Architecture and Allied Arts, Golden Key International Honour Society, Phi Theta Kappa International Honor Society, Magi Endowment for the Liturgical Arts)
- Exhibitions:** various design projects have been exhibited over 40 times (events include: Greenbuild, California Higher Education Sustainability Conference, Alt-Build, BESS: Sustainability Symposium, EE Global, American Institute of Architects, The Henry Luce III Center for the Arts and Religion - Wesley Theological Seminary, Catholic University of America, Cal Poly Pomona, etc.)
- Design Projects:** 10 projects have been published in books, conference proceedings, and magazines (e.g. *Faith & Form; Márgenes Arquitectura* [Spain]; *LaRoche, Carbon-Neutral Architectural Design* [Boca Raton: CRC Press, 2012]; *California Higher Education Sustainability Conference 2010; BESS 2010: High Performance Building Enclosures - Practical Sustainability Symposium*).