

LECTURE SERIES UPDATE

BY DANIEL J. STRENING, AIA

For those of you seeking Design inspiration, I have to apologize for the absence of the NXNC Series this Spring. The Series had some last minute cancellations, but it will be back and better than ever in the Fall. Stay tuned to the newsletter for updates on the Fall NXNC Series. However, as a result of these cancellations, I do have some good news, The 2x4 Series is back.

After a small hiatus the Design Forum is returning to the Redwood Empire AIA chapter. This series is intended to showcase local Architects and foster a more collegial environment within our Design Community. The Series Title – 2X4, is meant to convey the initial concept of the series: 2 Architects, 4 Works. However, so far, no one has stuck to those parameters, and the series is much richer for that fact. I expect this month's speakers to build on the successes of previous events and help foster some great dialogue about local design.

On Thursday evening May 19th at 6pm come hear from Nate Bisbee and Juan Carlos Fernandez. The venue is the ArtSpace 404 (Arts Council of Sonoma County) at 404 Mendocino Avenue, Santa Rosa, CA 95401

JUAN CARLOS FERNANDEZ, AIA

After two decades designing spaces in his native Mexico, Japan, Canada, Europe and across the United States, Juan Carlos' architecture defies cultural and creative limitation. He brought his taste for clean modernity, enlivening the clarity of glass, steel and concrete with fervent accents of color, evocative of the pioneering Luis Barragán and in bright contrast to Napa Valley's usual stone and wood.

Quintessentially practical, with a poet's belief in the power of art, Juan Carlos creates surprisingly simple function in open, understated forms that provoke feeling. Combining an engineer's precision with an intrepid passion for difference, he crafts signature buildings as individual as their owners. Juan Carlos is a strong critical thinker, as incisive, honest and charismatic as his contemporary style. He advocates for progress, seeking unexpected ideas, favoring renewable materials, and orienting our choices to the purpose and pleasure of future generations. From tennis to golf to biking, he tackles activities as distinct as his projects.

NATE BISBEE, AIA, LEED AP, NCARB CERTIFICATE

Nate Bisbee, AIA is Design Director at TLCD Architecture. He is educated in California, Italy, and New York. Nate has experience in a wide range of project types from commercial and urban mixed-use buildings to school and college campus projects.

Nate views Architecture as an acrobatic act, walking the line between the rationality of building and deeper meanings uncovered through experience. Architecture occupies a unique place between utility and poetics - It is through construction that structure and material converge with space and light. The negotiation between these terms reveals the spirit of the work.

Nate's design work often emphasizes common terms of negotiation in form and detail - Inside vs. Outside, Public vs. Private, Old vs. New. The new Library building at Napa Valley College is a study in the relationship between Program and Light. ■

