Located in downtown San Antonio, Texas — a city of approximately 1.3 million — the San Antonio River Walk is a world-renowned network of walkways along the banks of the San Antonio River. Lined with restaurants, bars, and shops, the River Walk is an important part of the city’s urban fabric and a major tourist destination.

With the recent development of River North, the new Tobin Center for the Performing Arts under construction, and a new public transportation network by VIA Metropolitan Transit, the public space around the new Tobin Center provides an opportunity to conceive a truly unique place that integrates public transit and public art.

This series of events is designed to give shape to the discussion and exploration of examples and ideas that relate to the present opportunity for public engagement in our city. These events include presentations and panels from invited speakers as well as exploration of the design projects by a UTSA architecture graduate studio.

Visioning of Public Space, Public Transit, Public Art around the new Tobin Center for the Performing Arts

Community engagement project for San Antonio funded by the National Endowment for the Arts “Our Town” grant
Jan 25, Fri, 5pm  PUBLIC SPACE  @UTSA DT Campus Durango Bldg. Southwest Room, DB1.124
Introductory Remarks
Felix Padron, Director, Department of Culture and Creative Development
City of San Antonio
Tobin Center for the Performing Arts presentation
Presented by David Green, Tobin Center for the Performing Arts
and Mary Bartlett, Marmon Mok Architecture

Feb 01, Fri, 5pm  PUBLIC TRANSIT  @UTSA DT Campus Durango Bldg. Southwest Room, DB1.124
VIA Metropolitan Transit presentation
Presented by Jeffrey C. Arndt, Interim President and CEO, VIA
Jorge J. Pardo, Director, Art & Design Metro Creative Services
Los Angeles County Metropolitan Transportation Authority

Feb 08, Fri, 5pm  PUBLIC ART  @UTSA DT Campus Durango Bldg. Southwest Room, DB1.124
Cecilia Alemani, Donald R. Mullen, Jr., Curator and Director of
High Line Art, New York City
Cath Brunner, Director, Public Art program
4Culture, King County Cultural Services, Seattle
Rochelle Steiner, moderator, Professor, Roski School of Fine Arts
University of Southern California, Los Angeles

Feb 11, Mon, 5pm  ACTING IN PUBLIC  @UTSA DT Campus Frio Bldg. Riklin Auditorium, FS1.406
Jan Liesegang, raumlaborberlin, Berlin, Germany

Feb 22, Fri, 5pm  CITY  @UTSA DT Campus Durango Bldg. Southwest Room, DB1.124
AS LIVING LABORATORY
Mary Miss, New York City

Mar 05, Tue, 5pm  UTSA Studio context exhibit opening  @PASA Studio 400 N. St. Mary’s St.

March 20-22  UTSA Studio Charrette by
Sharon Johnston and Mark Lee, Johnston Marklee, Los Angeles
with UTSA architecture graduate students
and young professionals from the city

Mar 22, Fri, 2pm  UTSA Studio Charrette Review  @PASA Studio 400 N. St. Mary’s St.

Apr 23, Tue, 5pm  UTSA Studio design exhibit opening  @PASA Studio 400 N. St. Mary’s St.

May 3, Fri, 5pm  PUBLIC FORUM  @Radius Café
Presentations by UTSA Studio
Remarks by invited guests

community engagement project for San Antonio funded by the National Endowment for the Arts “Our Town” grant
David E Green
Interim Managing Director, Tobin Center for the Performing Arts (TCPA)

David Green was named Interim Managing Director for the Tobin Center in September 2012 after serving in a consulting capacity during the prior five months. As Interim Director Green is responsible for managing all aspects of TCPA including building construction, development of operational budgets through facility opening, relationships with all resident groups, and implementation of a ticketing and customer relationship system. Green has also been charged with developing plans that will maximize TCPA operating revenue while balancing the needs of its resident companies and bringing an entrepreneurial spirit in examination of partnerships to strengthen TCPA’s ability to operate in a sustainable way.

Green’s nonprofit experience includes serving as President and CEO of the San Antonio Symphony from 2006 through 2008 and as a consultant to the Briscoe Western Art Museum in 2011 and 2012. Prior to his work in these nonprofit organizations Green served in both public and private corporations during a 30 year career holding the titles of President, Chief Operations Officer and Chief Financial Officer. Green held senior management positions with Lancer Corporation, Community Coffee and Coca-Cola Bottling Company of the Southwest after beginning his career on the audit staff of Deloitte, Haskins and Sells in 1978.

Green holds a Bachelor of Business Administration in Accounting from The University of Texas at Austin and was a Certified Public Accountant in Texas from 1980 through 2002.

Mary Bartlett
Associate Partner, Marmon Mok Architecture

Mary Bartlett has more than 25 years experience in Texas and currently leads Marmon Mok’s interior architecture practice. In this role she is a project director and lead interior designer on major civic, corporate, federal and higher education projects. Recent project experience includes the City of San Antonio Lila Cockrell Theatre renovation, Tobin Center for the Performing Arts, Henry B. Gonzalez Convention Center renovations, the Euro-Nato Joint Jet Pilot Training Operations Center at Sheppard AFB and a Corporate Auditorium renovation for a financial services client. In addition, Mary is Marmon Mok’s design project manager for the $300 million addition/renovation of the Henry B. Gonzalez Convention expansion, one of the largest civic projects in San Antonio’s history.

Mary is a past President of the San Antonio Chapter of the American Institute of Architects and a Director for the Texas Society of Architects. She is active in the profession as a design awards juror for many organizations including NEOCON and the Air Force Center for Environmental Excellence. She is a member of the Downtown Alliance, International Facilities Manager Association and Society of American Military Engineers.

Mary earned a Bachelor of Architecture in Environmental Design from Texas A&M University.
Jorge Pardo is Director of Art & Design for Metro Creative Services in the Los Angeles County Metropolitan Transportation Authority. For over 10 years he has overseen Metro Art, a program that has commissioned over 300 artists for a variety of permanent and temporary artwork projects as well as overseeing Metro's environmental signage program and customer environments.

Prior to Metro, Pardo was Cultural Planner for the Community Redevelopment Agency/Los Angeles, engaging in the development and implementation of public and private sector artworks, programs and facilities. As Director of Visual Art & Design for the Arts Council for Long Beach, he served as catalyst for kick starting the development of the city-designated arts district by providing expertise in public art, design, planning and promotion. A native of Cuba, he received a Bachelor of Fine Arts degree from the Universidad de las Americas in Mexico, a Master of Fine Arts degree from Florida State University and a Master of Architecture from the University of Texas at Austin. Mr. Pardo received honor awards from the Texas Society of Architects and the American Institute of Architects.

He has been adjunct faculty for the Master of Public Art Studies Program at the University of Southern California and for the California State University, Long Beach where he co-created one of the first public art courses for visual artists. Mr. Pardo makes his home in the City of Santa Monica, where he served as Chairman of the Arts Commission and Chair of their Public Art Committee.

Jeffrey C. Arndt began with VIA Metropolitan Transit in February 2012, and has served as interim president and chief executive officer of VIA Metropolitan Transit since November 2012.; VIA provides transit service to the 7th largest city in the United States.

In Arndt's capacity as deputy CEO and the Chief of Business Support Services, he supervises the areas of Finance and Procurement, Information Technology, Human Capital and Development, Government Affairs, and Public Affairs, assists in organizational oversight, and is responsible for coordination with internal and external entities. Arndt's expertise encompasses transit service and capital facility development, training and safety, financial management and planning, labor relations, special event transit/traffic management, and transit operations. He is working to bring innovations to VIA and San Antonio, and provided oversight for the implementation of Primo, VIAs signature bus rapid transit service and the agency's first foray into multimodalism.

Arndt came to San Antonio from Houston where he most recently served as the general manager of fixed route transit services for First Transit in Houston. Arndt previously worked for Houston METRO for 25 years and achieved the position of senior vice president of operations/chief operating officer before moving on to the Texas Transportation Institute, or TTI. Arndt spent five years as a research scientist/research specialist at TTI, and then he became the senior planning manager at Parsons Brinckerhoff before taking his position at First Transit.

Arndt holds a master of arts degree in public administration from the University of Houston, and a bachelor of science in civil engineering from the University of Notre Dame. He currently serves on the Bus Safety Committee and the Paratransit Committee for the American Public Transportation Association. He also has served as an adjunct professor in the graduate program in public administration at the University of Houston. He recently was selected for the 38th Leadership San Antonio Class (2013).
Cecilia Alemani
Donald R. Mullen, Jr. Curator and Director of High Line Art
New York City

Cecilia Alemani is the Donald R. Mullen, Jr. Curator and Director of High Line Art, presented by Friends of the High Line, which commissions and produces public art projects on and around the High Line. Since joining in 2011, Alemani has curated projects by El Anatsui, John Baldessari, Simone Forti, Thomas Houseago, Paola Pivi, Virginia Overton, Jennifer West and many more.

In 2012, Alemani collaborated with the first New York edition of Frieze Art Fair, where she curated Frieze Projects and Frieze Talks. She will also curate Frieze Projects for the 2013 edition. In 2011 Alemani worked as guest curator for Performa and from 2009 – 2010, she served as Curatorial Director of X Initiative, New York, a year-long experimental non-profit space. She is the co-founder of No Soul For Sale, a festival of independent spaces, non-profit organizations, and artists collectives which took place at X Initiative in June 2009 and at Tate Modern – Turbine Hall in May 2010. From 2007 – 2008, she served as Curator of Special Projects for Artissima, Turin, Italy.

As an independent curator she organized numerous exhibitions including Glee (Blum and Poe, Los Angeles, July 2011), The Comfort of Strangers (MoMA PS1, New York, July 2010), Solaris (Giò Marconi Gallery, Milan, June 2009), ONLY CONNECT (Bloomberg Headquarters with Art in General, New York, 2008), boundLES (several venues in the Lower East Side, New York), and Things Fall Apart All Over Again (Artists Space, New York, May 2005).

Alemani has a BA degree in Philosophy from the Università degli Studi in Milan (2001) and an MA in Curatorial Studies (2005) from the Center for Curatorial Studies, Bard College, Annandale-on-Hudson, New York. She has contributed to several art publications including Artforum, Domus, Mousse, Klat, Modern Painters, Art Press, October, and Flash Art.

Cath Brunner
Director of Public Art, 4Culture, King County Cultural Services Agency
Seattle

Cath Brunner directs Public Art 4Culture, bringing over 20 years’ experience as a built environment innovator. Cath specializes in managing large-scale integrated public art, acting as project manager for 4Culture projects including Harborview Medical Center and Brightwater Wastewater Treatment System, and consulting services management for projects such as SeaTac International Airport Terminal Expansions. A strong advocate for the economic, social and environmental benefits of public art incorporated into the built environment, Cath lectures on integrating art in infrastructure, place-making and best practices in the field.

4Culture invests public resources into public experiences that cultivate memory and imagination throughout King County, Washington. 4Culture is a new model for public support of cultural development: a tax-exempt public corporation that combines the resources of the public sector with the flexibility of a non-profit. 4Culture integrates four program areas – Public Art, Heritage, Arts and Historic Preservation – into one organization that enhances the assets that distinguish our communities as vibrant, unique, and authentic. 4Culture's public resources are derived from lodging taxes and 1% for Art capital construction. It is the largest public funder of cultural activities in Washington State.

Public Art 4Culture ensures that the work and thinking of artists is reflected in our built environment, bringing art into the everyday lives of people. Public Art 4Culture is a pioneer in the public art field, setting national standards for working in partnership with cities, design teams, developers and citizens to plan and commission artworks. A 5-person program staff has extensive experience in art planning, policy and legislative development related to public and private percent for art programs, commissioning art for large capital projects, and maintaining civic art collections. Public Art 4Culture manages projects characterized by artistic integrity and commitment to client and community.
Mary Miss  
Artist, New York City  

Mary Miss has reshaped the boundaries between sculpture, architecture, landscape design, and installation art by articulating a vision of the public sphere where it is possible for an artist to address the issues of our time. She has developed the ‘City as Living Laboratory, a framework for making issues of social and environmental sustainability tangible through collaboration and the arts. Trained as a sculptor, her work creates situations emphasizing a site's history, its ecology, or aspects of the environment that have gone unnoticed.  

Mary Miss has collaborated closely with architects, planners, engineers, ecologists, and public administrators on projects as diverse as creating a temporary memorial around the perimeter of Ground Zero, marking the predicted flood level of Boulder, Colorado, revealing the history of the Union Square Subway station in New York City or turning a sewage treatment plant into a public space. Recent projects include an installation focused on water resources in China for the Olympic Park in Beijing and she is currently developing a project to transform Broadway into the new ‘green’ corridor of New York City. A proposal for a permanent project at the North Carolina Museum of Art explores the presence and movement of water through the site by recovering and revitalizing elements of the watershed to reveal the wetland processes in the region.  

A recipient of multiple awards, Mary Miss has been the subject of exhibitions at the Harvard University Art Museum, Brown University Gallery, The Institute of Contemporary Art in London, the Architectural Association in London, Harvard University’s Graduate School of Design, and the Des Moines Art Center. Among others, her work has been included in the exhibitions: Decoys, Complexes and Triggers at the Sculpture Center in New York, Weather Report: Art and Climate Change organized by Lucy Lippard at the Boulder Museum of Contemporary Art, More Than Minimal: Feminism and Abstraction in the 70’s, Brandeis Museum’s Rose Art Museum, and Century City: Art and Culture in the Modern Metropolis at the Tate Modern.  

Rochelle Steiner  
Professor, Roski School of Fine Arts, University of Southern California, Los Angeles  

Rochelle Steiner is a curator, public art producer, writer, and professor at the Roski School of Fine Arts at the University of Southern California. She was dean of the USC Roski School from 2010-2012.  

A recognized curator, she has organized over 60 major art exhibitions and large-scale public art projects in the U.S., Europe and Asia. Rochelle was Director of New York’s Public Art Fund from 2006-2009; under her leadership 35 public art projects were commissioned, including Olafur Eliasson’s The New York City Waterfalls, as well as works in NYC’s outdoor spaces by Chris Burden, Peter Coffin, Anish Kapoor, Damian Ortega, Sarah Morris, and Sarah Sze.  

As Chief Curator at the Serpentine Gallery in London (2001–2006), she curated exhibitions by John Currin, Ilya & Emilia Kabakov, Gabriel Orozco, Cindy Sherman, Monica Sosnowska, and Rirkrit Tiravanija, and many others. As Associate Curator of Contemporary Art at the Saint Louis Art Museum (1996-2001), she organized the large-scale exhibition Wonderland, with new works by Olafur Eliasson, Ernesto Neto, Pipilotti Rist, among others, as well as the Museum’s Currents contemporary exhibition series with solo shows, including Peter Doig, Elizabeth Peyton, and others.  

Rochelle was Project Director for 6 Under 60, a multi-media exhibition at the 2011 Shenzhen & Hong Kong Bi-City Biennale of Architecture & Urbanism, and organized the North American artists in the 1995 Gwangju Biennale in Korea. She was a consultant to the Miami Art Museum in developing curatorial and collections strategies for their new Herzog & de Meuron–designed building, opening in 2013.  

Rochelle earned PhD and MA degrees in Visual and Cultural Studies from the University of Rochester, and a BA from Syracuse University in English and Advertising. In 2009 she was one of ten fellows selected from U.S. museums for the Center for Curatorial Leadership program in association with Columbia University Business School. Her more than 50 essays and interviews with artists have appeared in numerous exhibition catalogues, journals, and magazines including Parkett, Modern Painters, Art Review, and World of Interiors.
Jan Liesegang, raumlaborberlin
Berlin, Germany

raumlaborberlin began working on the issues of contemporary architecture and urbanism in 1999 in various interdisciplinary working teams. We investigate strategies for urban renewal. raumlabor does urban design, architectural design, build, interactive environments, research.

Partners of raumlaborberlin are Francesco Apuzzo, Markus Bader, Benjamin Foerster-Baldenius, Andrea Hofmann, Jan Liesegang, Christoph Mayer, Axel Timm.

Jan Liesegang was born in Cologne in 1968. He studied Architecture in Berlin (TU Berlin), Copenhagen (Kunstakademie) and New York (Cooper Union, School of Architecture). He graduated from the TU Berlin with a Diplom (Masters) in 1997 and was awarded the Prize for Best Diplom (Masters) Thesis. 1998–2001 he worked for Sauerbruch Hutton Architects in Berlin. In 1999 he co-founded raumlaborberlin. He has been teaching at the Art Academy, Stuttgart from 2001-2008. In 2010, he carried out a study visit at the German Academy at Villa Massimo in Rome.

Sharon Johnston and Mark Lee
JohnsonMarklee, Los Angeles

Since its founding in 1998 Johnston Marklee's diverse portfolio has been unified by a conceptual approach to each project where the relationship between design and building technology are explored to create unique works of architecture. Principals Sharon Johnston and Mark Lee’s approach to projects, varying in scale from master plans to buildings and temporary installations, distills the inherent complexity of each project into coherent solutions. Johnston Marklee has a substantial architectural portfolio including residential, commercial, institutional, and exhibition environments with a particular focus on the arts.

While maintaining a deep commitment to architecture history and the discipline's ongoing discourse, Johnston Marklee draws upon an extensive network of collaborators in related fields, engaging the expertise of contemporary artists, graphic designers, and engineers to broaden the breadth of design research. Johnston Marklee ascribes to the model of collaboration in which the expertise of joining disciplines are sharpened, rather than blurred, maintaining permeable boundaries for greater results.

Current projects include The Menil Drawing Institute, in Houston, Texas, a new studio campus for the UCLA Graduate Art Program in Culver City, California; DEPART Foundation’s Grand Traiano Art Complex in Grottaferrata, Italy and Poggio Golo winery in Montepulciano, Italy; Vault House, a private beachside residence in Oxnard, California; and Chile House/META, a community arts center in Penco, Chile, for the Chilean government.

The firm has garnered many notable awards including Progressive Architecture Design Awards, AIA Los Angeles & AIA California Council Honor Awards, American Architecture Award, and an AR Award for Emerging Architecture. A book entitled HOUSE IS A HOUSE IS A HOUSE IS A HOUSE IS A HOUSE, on the work of Johnston Marklee is forthcoming in 2013 published by Springer Wien.
Public Space, Public Transit, Public Art is made possible by National Endowment for the Arts Our Town initiative.

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Special thanks to program partner
Artpace San Antonio

Additional support provided by
Radius Café