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2021 AIA Fellowship

Candidate Michael Hsu
Organization Michael Hsu Office of Architecture
Location Austin, Texas
Chapter AIA Texas Society of Architects; AIA Austin

Category of Nomination

Object 1 > Design

Summary Statement

Michael Hsu designs for optimism. His work across a wide range of typologies combines diverse influences, materials and techniques to create a spirited architectural alchemy of unexpected and experiential solutions that both delight and inspire.

Education

University of Texas at Austin School of Architecture B. Arch., 1994 (six years attended)

Licensed in:

Texas #21944

Colorado #00405428

Georgia #RA015478

Arkansas #9553

Employment

Michael Hsu Office of Architecture, Founder, 2005-present

Dick Clark Architecture, Austin, Texas, Partner, 1994-2005

Malone Maxwell Borson Architects, Designer, 1994

Office of Metropolitan Architecture (Rem Koolhaas), Rotterdam, 1992-1993



October 7, 2020

Chair Nancy Rogo Trainer, FAIA
Jury of Fellows, American Institute of Architects
1735 New York Avenue, NW
Washington, DC 2006-5292

Re: Michael Chu, AIA, Candidate for Fellowship

Dear Chairperson Trainer and Members of the Jury:

It is an honor to be the sponsor for Michael Hsu, AIA, in his candidacy for Fellowship in the American Institute of Architects. Early in his career, Michael became one of the most recognized architects in Austin, enjoying the kind of public recognition most architects can only dream of. Over time, his work has just become deeper and more tangible without losing the immediate and enduring appeal that makes people take note and form attachments to his designs. The sense of place his work conveys seems particularly rooted in the new, diverse and cosmopolitan Texas and has contributed strongly to the zesty vibrancy of our cities. It is, as you will see, an architecture of optimism.

Michael opened Michael Hsu Office of Architecture in Austin in 2005 with an offshoot opening in his native Houston in 2018. Now loaded with national and local design awards his work is also broadly published in print as diverse as *Dwell, Inc.* and *National Geographic* and is in high demand, including work in New York City, Miami and Louisville. Michael is at the vanguard of a particular design language that is emerging in the national conversation. His ingenuity brings to life the visions of profit-driven clients and community organizations alike, drawing on constantly evolving and unexpected sources of inspiration. The resulting innovative spaces draw people together but are never pretentious or trendy, although they often produce a frisson of pleasure. Regardless of scale, his work has always consisted of an integrated architecture and interior architecture environment, resulting in a strong cohesiveness that reads through in the design: thoughtful material selections, furnishings, lighting, landscape and detailing all hew to a singular vision.

I have known Michael from the beginning of his career. I take delight in eating in his restaurants, and in roaming his spaces because they are authentic, clever, compelling people-magnets. I have served on panels and design juries with him and see how quickly he gets to the essence of things. I treasure him as an engaged leader in our design community, setting an example for aspiring, talented architects to find and exercise their voices for the common good. For all that he has accomplished as a truly remarkable creative architect and for the role model that he is, I strongly urge you to elevate Michael Hsu to Fellowship. His stuff makes me smile.

Sincerely,

Heather H. McKinney, FAIA
Founding Principal
McKinney York Architects

Section 1: Summary

Michael Hsu designs for optimism. His work across a wide range of typologies combines diverse influences, materials and techniques to create a spirited architectural alchemy of unexpected and experiential solutions that both delight and inspire.

Inclusionary Design

Michael Hsu's guiding design principle is to connect the community through design. His body of work encompasses projects that engage every segment of society, from high-end restaurants, hotels and boutiques to dynamic adaptive re-use and multifamily projects, to coffee shops, burger joints and community non-profits. The breadth of his influence on the architectural expression and experience of Austin and beyond have established that engaging spaces and thoughtful design are integral to the identity of a city and its people. Working primarily in Austin and Houston – both young cities on a path of becoming - Hsu's work embraces all aspects of design: architecture, interiors, furniture, landscaping planning, craft and graphics to create culturally appealing places fully aligned with modern expectations of experiential design that evokes an emotional response. At the same time, his work retains a grounded, never precious or affected quality that *Metropolis* described as “a scruffiness and individualism that can only be described as Texan.” He continually innovates and makes the visionary achievable, creating experiences that are both exceptional and approachable, memorable and functional.

Material, Scale, Composition, Craft

Hsu's work employs a simple, highly curated design palette that deftly blends material and technique to create unexpected experiences. Highlighting the innate beauty of unadorned, natural

materials that are carefully chosen, composed, and crafted, he creates imaginative and sustainable solutions, even from modest resources. By drawing inspiration from a wide range of sources – art, film, street life – he deftly combines and juxtaposes seemingly disparate themes to create something entirely new. In his hands, design can summon the familiarity of a historic Texas Hill Country dance hall, the energy of Hong Kong cinema or the restraint of mid-century Mexican modernism. Similarly, Hsu's material investigations and his use of pattern and texture at a range of scales move beyond simply visual interest to surprise and spark curiosity, often flipping convention and expectations on their head. A student of how spaces can work as emotional regulators, he approaches every project with a fluidity of detail that appeals to all senses and unifies the experience.

Recognition

Since Hsu founded his studio in 2005 in Austin it has become a nationally award-winning, fully integrated architecture and interior design practice. Having worked throughout Texas and across the country, the firm opened its second office in Houston in 2018. Hsu's work had received dozens of design accolades, including seven AIA Los Angeles Restaurant Design Awards (which recognize work from around the country), 12 awards from AIA Austin and Houston, as well as three ULI Awards and 15 awards from IIDA. His firm was awarded the 2016 AIA Austin Firm of the Year recognition for its contributions to design. In addition to routinely receiving coverage in national architectural publications – *Dwell*, *Metropolis Architectural Digest* – his work is also seen in a range of lifestyle and business publications, including *National Geographic* and *Inc.*, a testament to its wide influence on our communities and everyday life.



Section 2: Significant Work

Professional History

Michael Hsu Office of Architecture, Austin, Houston | Founder |
2005-present

Dick Clark Architecture, Austin | Partner | 1994-2005

Malone Maxwell Borson Architects, Dallas | Designer | 1994

Office of Metropolitan Architecture, Rotterdam | 1992-1993

Education

University of Texas at Austin School of Architecture

B. Arch. | 1994

AIA Austin Leadership

President | 2019

AIA Architects' Legislative Week on the Hill | 2019

Treasurer | 2018

Board Member | 2017-current

Advocacy Committee Chair | 2015-2016

Professional Leadership

Austin Design Week Advisory Board | 2020

Mueller Development Design Review Committee | 2018-present

University of Texas at Austin School of Architecture Advisory
Council | 2014-present

Lectures and Presentations

Houston Design Week: Designing Houston Heights | 2020

BisNow Houston, Architecture Panel | 2020

AIA Spokane, Architect Spotlight Presentation | 2019

Vox Media SXSW Showcase:

Balancing Growth with Cultural Identity | 2019



AIA Austin Small Firms Roundtable Panel:

How to Take Over the World | 2019

Texas Society of Architects Annual Convention

Award Winner Panel: Lamar Union | 2018

AIA Austin Summer Conference, Project Spotlight:

Lamar Union | 2018

Austin Design Week, Studio Tour and Presentation | 2017

AIA Austin Summer Conference Project Spotlight: Canopy | 2016

Creative Mornings Austin Studio Tour and Presentation | 2016

Architecture at the Umlauf Lecture Series: Adaptive Reuse | 2008

Juries

AIA Kansas City Design Excellence Awards | 2020

IIDA Oregon Design Excellence Awards | 2019

AIA Corpus Christi Design Awards | 2019

AIA Philadelphia Design Awards | 2019

AIA Birmingham Design Awards | 2019

AIA Baltimore Design Awards | 2016



Section 2: Significant Work

Select Projects | FOOD AND BEVERAGE



Michael Hsu was responsible for architectural and interior design on all projects unless otherwise noted.

P. Terry's | Austin | 2009 – 2020

Hsu designed a host of locations for P. Terry's, a local, neighborhood-focused chain of burger stands recognized for its investment in design. The architecture pulls from mid-century references to post-war design, using an abundance of glass and a natural, organic material palette that is practical for a fast food restaurant. Simple lines and playful shapes complement charming landscapes.

2017 AIA Austin Design Honor Award (to P. Terrys flagship)



P6 at the LINE | Austin | 2019

P6 converts a portion of an existing parking garage into a dynamic rooftop bar with panoramic views of Lady Bird Lake. The restaurant, bar and terrace offer a deconstructed greenhouse feel, mixing old Hollywood mirror installation with Provencal botanical wall coverings and antique furniture.

2019 AIA LA Restaurant Design Award

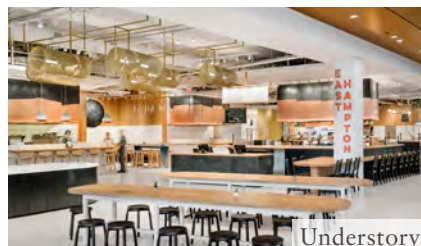


Merit Coffee | Dallas | 2019

The Deep Ellum location of Merit Coffee carefully combines textures and colors to create a warm, inviting space. The dining area features a statement banquette 'spine' that offers flexible seating options.

Ninfa's Uptown | Houston | 2019

A new location for a beloved local eatery pays homage to the history and charm of the original with signature red steel doors, textured plaster walls contrasted with dark woods, and arabesque ironwork divider screens in Ninfa's signature bright teal blue. (Interior design only)



Understory | Houston | 2019

The organic plan bridges five tunnels in downtown Houston together, which required a careful crafting of the pedestrian circulation in and out of the space. The activity from the tunnels inspired the design, layered with warm, inviting materials. (Interior design only)



Section 2: Significant Work

Select Projects | FOOD AND BEVERAGE



Ellis | Austin | 2019

The design approach was to make the building architecturally bold and unapologetic. Because this project is limited in size, the design adds detail, pattern, a mix of materials and transparency to compel a level of interest.

2020 AIA Austin Design Award



Fareground at One Eleven | Austin | 2018

A re-imagining of an existing below-grade plaza and lobby in downtown Austin, the project activates the plaza into an outdoor park adjacent to the lobby, which features Austin's first food hall, as well as lounge and meeting spaces.

2018 IIDA TX/OK Hospitality Design Excellence Award | 2018 ULI Austin Best Project Innovation | 2018 Austin Business Journal Commercial Real Estate Award



La Lucha | Houston | 2018

A cozy neighborhood dinette that combines influences from historic Texan saloons with vintage cocktail lounges. The design evokes the familiarity of a living room through an eclectic mix of materiality, furnishings and art.

2019 IIDA TX/OK Hospitality Design Excellence Award | 2019 AIA LA Restaurant Design Award



Local Foods | Houston | 2017, 2018

Located adjacent to the Heights Bike Trail, the design features a large patio with open overhang that offers an inviting and welcoming face. Natural wood tables are offset with colorful tiles and seating.

2017 IIDA TX/OK Hospitality Design Excellence Award | 2018 Houston Business Journal Landmark Award

Gung Ho | Dallas | 2018

The design creates an authentic, high-energy Chinese American dining experience and draws inspiration from the vibrancy of Hong Kong street cafés and the moodiness of Wong Kar-Wai's films.



Section 2: Significant Work

Select Projects | FOOD AND BEVERAGE



Home Slice Pizza | Austin | 2018

Original brick exterior and retro signage announce this playful neighborhood pizza restaurant that transports diners back to old-school Italian family eateries in New York City. Client-curated pieces contribute to the entertaining interior.



Superica | Houston | 2018

Drawing inspiration from Houston's Mexican and American food traditions and the relaxed vibes of the Texas Hill Country, the dining area mixes carefully selected materials with vintage pieces to create a fresh, gritty, airy, and authentic atmosphere.



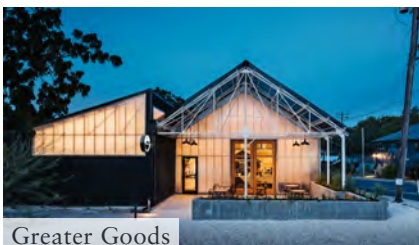
Jugo | Austin | 2017

Jugo offers fresh-pressed juices and smoothies made with local, organic and seasonal ingredients. The design blends the historic brick building with custom tile, plaster and marble in a palette of soft whites.

2018 AIA LA Restaurant Design Award

Austin Beerworks | Austin | 2017

The design for the brewery and tap room was inspired by the playful and colorful brand. Ample outdoor space features painted hops tanks and custom picnic tables. Canopies draped with lighting create a space for gathering day and night.



Greater Goods | Austin | 2017

An automotive warehouse was transformed into a modern café, coffee roastery and training facility. A material palette of whitewashed woods, polished concrete and brightly colored accents contrast with the character of the original building to create a unique café experience

2020 AIA Austin Design Excellence Award



Section 2: Significant Work

Select Projects | FOOD AND BEVERAGE



Fortright | Austin | 2016

The design concept came from the same source as the restaurant's name: the chef's emphasis on preparing quality food from scratch using simple ingredients. The goal was to deliver a space that was equally straightforward and accessible with a timeless quality. (Interior design only)



Sway | Austin | 2012

The design for Sway sought to create a unique dining experience highlighting the craft of upscale Thai cuisine. The interior opens to the garden via a series of operable windows and a large glass and steel hydraulic hangar door. Hsu designed all furniture and millwork, which was crafted by local artisans.



La Condesa | Austin | 2009

A collaboration of local designers and artists, along with structural innovation, re-create the characteristics of mid-century modern Mexican architecture. The experience focuses around a cast-in-place concrete stair and combines raw materials that contrast with softer textures.

2009 AIA Los Angeles People's Choice Award

Oporto | Houston | 2006

Responding to the authentic menu featuring Portuguese cuisine, tapas, and cocktails, Oporto creates a series of cozy spaces that reference traditional European restaurants, but with fresh detail to add a modern twist.

Additional Food and Beverage Projects

ATX Cocina | Austin (exhibit) • Birdcall | Colorado Springs, Boulder • Epicerie | Austin • Local Foods | Austin Loro | Austin, Dallas (exhibit) • Malibu Poke | Austin and Dallas • Oporto | Austin • Shake Shack | Nationwide (exhibit) • Tropicales | Houston • Uchi | Austin, Houston, Dallas, Miami (exhibit) • Uchiko | Austin, Houston (exhibit)



Section 2: Significant Work

Select Projects | HOSPITALITY



Hotel Ella | Austin | 2013

The renovation of this historic landmark hotel is a refined take on traditional Southern vernacular, where elegant trim meets contemporary upholstery and lighting.



LINE Hotel Austin | Austin | 2018

Drawing on the spirited feel of downtown Austin and the soul of adjacent Lady Bird Lake, the hotel reimagines an existing 1960s building and balances old and new traditions. The design, renovation, and expansion use a variety of contrasting materials, with hard and soft textures, and disposable and revered elements to create a sense of playfulness while stripping away layers of remodels to reveal the original, modernist building.

2019 Hospitality Design Award



Malverde | Austin | 2009

Malverde reinvents the lush rooftop gardens of Mexico by incorporating contrasting textures of angled yellow pine wood walls, a green moss wall and recycled steel shipping containers used as light fixtures. Large sliding glass doors pocket away to open the lounge directly to the downtown Austin skyline.



Mercury Hall | Austin | 2006

Hsu's renovation of this South Austin event venue on four acres of land allowed for a seamless transition to the outdoors layered in structure, depth, and dimension to the landscaping to enhance the event experience.

Additional Hospitality Projects

Brazos Hall | Austin • South Congress Hotel | Austin (exhibit)



Section 2: Significant Work

Select Projects | MIXED USE



Zadok Mixed Use | Houston | 2021 (under construction)

To elevate a traditional retail experience, the design invokes a hotel-inspired arrival. Care was taken to define spaces by staggering entry points for the ground floor storefronts and utilizing different materials for each exterior.

Plaza Saitillo | Austin | 2020

This large mixed-use development in East Austin includes creative office, multifamily and retail components. The project pays close attention to the pedestrian experience and incorporates a variety of commissioned murals throughout the development.



Patchrail | Louisville, Kentucky | in progress

A large mixed-use development set in the industrial warehouses of the Vogt Ice factory, this project celebrates the existing architecture and connects the massive campus and disparate buildings through an engaged public realm.

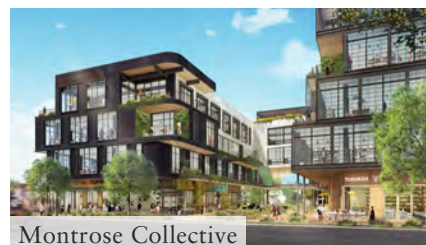


MKT | Houston | 2020 (under construction)

MKT is a former industrial campus being transformed into a creative mixed-use destination adjacent to the Heights Hike and Bike Trail. The project incorporates carefully designed cutaways and roof openings in the existing structures to provide ample outdoor space and connections to the trail.

Montrose Collective | Houston | 2021 (under construction)

A large paseo and expanded sidewalks provide an activated pedestrian corridor, lined with chef-driven food and beverage and first-to-market retail. The project is infused with the creative character and energy of the neighborhood and includes a library and creative office space.



Bissonnet Mixed Use | Houston | 2019

Set in Boulevard Oaks, the building takes cues from residential design with parts of its form and material selections. Large picture windows and lush greenery speak directly to the neighborhood.



Section 2: Significant Work

Select Projects | MIXED USE

Additional Mixed Use Projects

707 Yale | Houston • Fulshear Marketplace | Fulshear • Heights Mercantile | Houston (exhibit) Lamar Union | Austin (exhibit) • Palace Lanes | Houston

Select Projects | COMMUNITY AND ARTS



Community First! Tiny Victories | Austin | 2020

Community First! provides affordable, permanent housing for men and women coming out of chronic homelessness. Hsu's design for the Tiny Victories project features a small screened porch and additional storage, which is important to these tenants. A cupola opens the roof and offers additional natural light, giving height to the small space.

Habitat Row Homes | Austin | 2020 (under construction)

Habitat for Humanity's Row Homes offer a new affordable option for Austin's missing middle. The project features 11 attached homes with three- and four-bedroom layouts. This style of housing keeps residents close to the city, while using less land for the project.



Relay Coworking | Austin | 2019

This workspace for small, social entrepreneurs who are just starting out and likely to scale out of the space quickly is designed for maximum flexibility. Features include a DIY-inspired conference room, clad in pegboard with adjustable shelving.



Austin Film Society | Austin | 2017

The two-screen theater and programming space is designed for everyday movie goers, as well as premieres. The flexible space features custom lighting, red velvet curtains and velvet upholstered furnishings, harkening back to the golden age of movie theaters.

Additional Community and Arts Projects

Canopy | Austin (exhibit) • Springdale General | Austin (exhibit)



Section 2: Significant Work

Select Projects | CREATIVE OFFICE



Foundry II | Austin | 2020 (under construction)

A dynamic workspace in East Austin is equipped with amenities to attract the creative workforce. Thoughtful exterior brick and window details connect the project to the neighborhood streetscape.



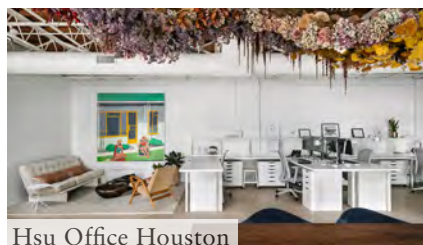
Four Hands | Austin | 2020

The classic and nostalgic, yet forward-thinking and refined, modern aesthetic brand of furnishings inspired the design for its offices. A warm, light and neutral palette serves as a background to showcase the rich textures and design of Four Hands' furnishings.



Bouldin Creek | Austin | 2020 (under construction)

Bold patterning and massing create a creative and exciting atmosphere with an array of experiences for future office tenants. Large amenity decks, balconies, and an interior courtyard that opens to the greenbelt beyond create unique opportunities for formal meetings and informal gatherings.



Hsu Office | Houston | 2019

MHOA's Houston office embraces the mid-century storefront's character by exposing the wood ceiling and maintaining the original awning. The interiors feature work by a host of Texas artists, including a striking dried floral sculpture that welcomes visitors.

2020 AIA Houston Divine Detail Award

Platform Group | Houston | 2019

The office space for this developer is designed to feel like the clients' second home. Cozy furnishings, warm wood finishes and a central seating area are complemented by custom steel sliding doors and clerestory windows.



Section 2: Significant Work

Select Projects | CREATIVE OFFICE



Tecovas Office | Austin | 2019

Rooted in adventure, the Tecovas brand is inspired by Western lore. Hsu worked with Tecovas to find ways to reflect, re-envision and strategically stretch the brand through the design of their headquarters. (Interior design only)



612 Brazos | Austin | 2018

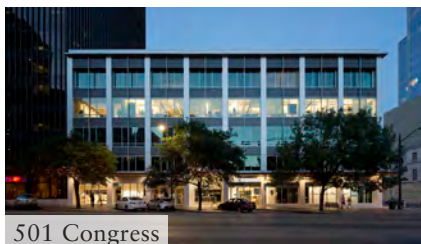
This renovation for an all-woman coworking space and social lounge features warm woods and cozy, residential furnishings. The exterior features biophilia and the ground level included a vibrant juice bar.



Domain 5 | Austin | 2017

Domain 5 models Hsu's intent to create locally-engaged, design driven spaces through the thoughtful use of simple materials and an edited palette.

2017 Austin Business Journal Commercial Real Estate Award



Hsu Office | Austin | 2015

The MHOA office was renovated to expand the space for additional employees. The exterior includes a cor-ten feature wall and large windows to provide ample daylighting.

Additional Creative Office Projects

701 South Lamar | Austin • Argodesign | Austin • Foundry II | Austin • Shake Shack Headquarters | New York City (exhibit)



Section 2: Significant Work

Select Projects | RETAIL



Tecovas | National Locations | 2019, 2020

Hsu worked closely with the popular online boot retailer to envision its brick-and-mortar presence. Beginning with Austin's South Congress location, he has brought the brand to life in a retail experience in shops across the country. (Interior design only)



Howler Brothers | Austin | 2020

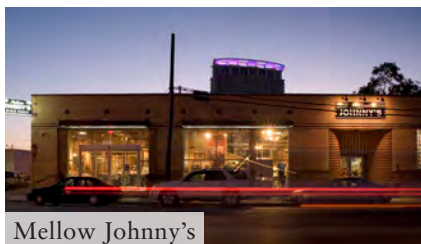
The local men's apparel brand's first retail store has a basement vibe with found outdoor structures. Natural, organic space serves as a backdrop for its colorful and original products, with multiple species of wood including white oak, pecan and douglas fir complementing concrete flooring. (Interior design only)



Raven and Lily | Austin | 2016

The design for this retail store reflects Raven + Lily's sustainable designs that are inspired by nature and the environment through its simple white-washed walls, incorporation of natural woods and a featured green wall. (Interior design only)

2017 IIDA TX/OK Retail Design Excellence Award



Mellow Johnny's | Austin | 2008

For the adaptive reuse of an existing building in downtown Austin into a bike shop and coffee shop, industrial interiors provide ample space for bikers to wheel in for repairs, a beverage and social interaction with likeminded riders.

2008 Heritage Society of Austin Preservation Merit Award

Additional Retail Projects

Tenover | Austin • Viva Spa | Austin • Weathered Coalition | Austin
Westlake Dermatology | Austin, Houston (exhibit)



Section 2: Significant Work

Select Projects | MULTIFAMILY



44 East | Austin | 2021 (under construction)

At the threshold of downtown, Hsu's interior design for this 51-story condominium tower combines the richness of an urban experience with the elegance of the city's beloved trail and water's edge. With unobstructed views of the lake and downtown, the design combines soft and hard edges, natural and manmade materials. (Interior design only)



Terminal at Katy Trail | Dallas | 2022 (under construction)

Katy Trail is an eight-story mixed use building in the Oak Lawn neighborhood. The building incorporates tactile metals, brick and stone, materials inspired by the grandeur of historic train stations and the site's history. The interiors feature rich finishes of bronze, marble, stone and wooden detailing.



Elan Parkside | Austin | 2019

Elan Parkside features ground level retail and a clubhouse with 300 apartment units. Subtle tonal shifts of brick contrast to wood and pops of color while alternating balconies provide visual interest along the facades.

Fifth & West | Austin | 2019

"Form follows emotion" was the guiding principle behind the design of the amenity spaces at this large multifamily tower in downtown Austin. Generous displays of naturality throughout the building offer genuine warmth and reflect the natural green spaces that surround Austin. (Interior design only)

2019 IIDA TX/OK Residential Design Excellence Award



Agave | San Antonio | 2016

Located on the River Walk, Agave is a luxury, mid-rise apartment development in downtown San Antonio. The design balances industrial style with the warmth and comfort of regional materials and delivers amenities that take advantage of the River Walk locale.

Additional Multi-Family Projects

Microunits | Austin



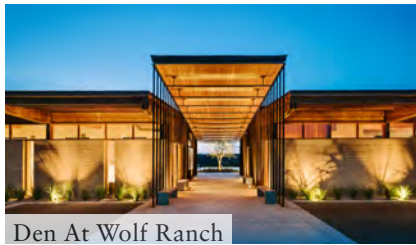
Section 2: Significant Work

Select Projects | RESIDENTIAL



W Penthouse Residence | Austin | 2020

The design pulls inspiration from Art Deco style, high fashion, and designer Gio Ponti. The project features marble-clad cabinetry, inlaid brass hardware details, fully customized mahogany and marble flooring, and hand-painted Eglomise glass. (Interior design only)



Rollingwood Residence | Austin | 2020

This house for a family of five draws on a palette of brick, steel and glass to present a modern, restrained integration into an established neighborhood. Simple forms with fine details arranged in beautiful proportions fulfill the owners' desire for a house that does not broadcast its own importance but draws friends and family inside.



Den at Wolf Ranch | Austin | 2018

Designed as an amenity center for residents, the Den at Wolf Ranch embodies a community-minded sense of place with an empathetic response to the landscape around it. Layered earthen walls built with lifts of sandy soils from nearby quarries pay homage to the regional vernacular.

Bluebonnet Townhomes | Austin | 2017

The design gives each resident a feeling of ownership, privacy and connection to the landscape within a shared setting. Natural materials such as brick, stucco, ash wood, steel and concrete tiles define the palette. Simple modern forms give way to bold formal moments that create expanses of glass that drench the interiors with natural light.



Llano Retreat | Mason, Texas | 2016

Located on a remote stretch of the Llano River, the family found the property from years of fly fishing this section of the river. The house was designed around the principle to retain the original campsite experience of being connected to nature with minimal impact on the environment.

2017 IIDA TX/OK Residential Design Excellence Award



Section 2: Significant Work

Select Projects | RESIDENTIAL



Tilley Row Homes | Austin | 2014

Tilley Row Homes is an eight unit, five-star Austin Green Building rated townhome project. The traditional three-gabled roofs are modernized by removing of the overhangs, cladding in white stucco and adding steel and glass balconies and rich material details, including wood shingles and colorful tile.

2017 AIA Austin Design Award

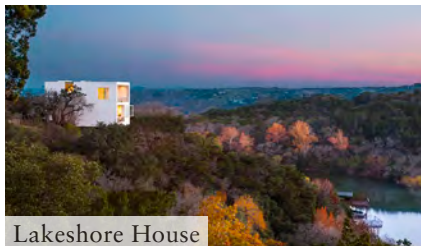


Lakeshore House | 2014

This small home, perched on its steeply sloping, stamp-sized lot, was designed for a painter and collector. The design is an inwardly focused box, subtle and restrained to the outside while remaining dynamic and active within. Each space inside the house was specifically organized and shaped to frame views westward to the lake below and hills beyond.

Additional Residential Projects

Elm Street House | Austin • Greenbelt Residence | Austin • Rosedale Residence | Austin • Zilker Residence | Austin



Section 2.2: Awards

PROFESSIONAL RECOGNITION

2016 AIA Austin Firm of the Year Achievement Honor Award to
Michael Hsu Office of Architecture

2009 Texas Asian Chamber of Commerce Sustainable Horizon
Award to Michael Hsu

DESIGN RECOGNITION

Texas Society of Architects

2018 Design Award to Lamar Union

AIA Austin

2020 Design Excellence Award to Greater Goods

2020 Design Award to Ellis

2019 Design Award to Loro

2019 Design Award to Springdale General

2018 Design Award to Lamar Union

2017 Design Award to Tilley Row Homes

2017 Design Honor Award to P. Terry's Flagship

2016 Design Award to Canopy

2016 Design Award to South Congress Hotel

2013 Design Honor Award to Uchiko

2010 Design Merit Award to Sushi Raku

2007 Citation of Honor Award to 04 Development

AIA Houston

2020 Divine Detail to MHOA Office

2019 Design Award to Heights Mercantile



AIA Los Angeles

2019 Restaurant Design Award to Loro

2019 Restaurant Design Award to P6

2019 Restaurant Design Award to La Lucha

2018 Restaurant Design Award to ATX Cocina

2018 Restaurant Design Award to Jugo

2011 Restaurant Design Award to Icenhauer's

2009 People's Choice Award to La Condesa

* *Note: The restaurant award recognizes work from around the country.*

IIDA Texas | Oklahoma Chapter Design Excellence Awards

2020 Best in City Center Award to Shake Shack Headquarters

2020 Design Excellence Award to Mendocino Farms Uptown Park

2020 Design Excellence Award to Westlake Dermatology, Dripping
Springs

2019 Residential Award to Fifth & West

2019 Hospitality Award to Loro

2019 Best in City Center Award to La Lucha



Section 2.2: Awards

IIDA Texas | Oklahoma continued

- 2018 Best in Show Award to Fareground at One Eleven
- 2018 Hospitality Award to Fareground at One Eleven
- 2018 Best in City Center Award to ATX Cocina
- 2017 Retail Award to Raven + Lily
- 2017 Residential Award to Llano Retreat
- 2017 Hospitality Award to Local Foods Downtown
- 2015 Residential Award to Cliff House
- 2015 Small Healthcare Award to Westlake Dermatology
- 2012 Hospitality Award to Uchi Houston
- 2012 Residential Award to W Penthouse
- 2011 Design Excellence in Hospitality Category to Icenhauer's
- 2011 Honorable Mention in Retail to Westlake Dermatology

ULI Awards

- 2020 Houston Development of Distinction to Bank of America Tower/Understory
- 2019 Austin Impact Award, Most Influential Project to Springdale General
- 2019 Houston Development of Distinction Award to Heights Mercantile
- 2018 Austin Best Project Innovation Award to Fareground at One Eleven

Best of Year Honoree by *Interior Design Magazine*

- 2012 Uchi Houston
- 2011 Icenhauer's

Hospitality Design Award

- 2020 Westlake Dermatology, Dripping Springs
- 2019 The LINE Austin
- 2019 Loro



Shake Shack Fort Worth Stockyards

Austin Business Journal Commercial Real Estate Awards

- 2020 Project of the Year to Plaza Saltillo
- 2018 Fareground at One Eleven
- 2017 Domain 5

Houston Business Journal

- 2018 Landmark Award to Heights Mercantile
- 2018 Landmark Award to Local Foods
- 2017 Commercial Real Estate Award to Lamar Union
- 2017 Commercial Real Estate Award to Domain 5

Industry Awards

- 2020 Rethinking the Future Second Award to Springdale General
- 2018 James Beard Foundation Outstanding Restaurant Design Nominee to Otoko
- 2017 AHEAD Urban / New Build Hotel Award to South Congress Hotel
- 2008 Heritage Society of Austin Preservation Merit Award to Mellow Johnny's



The New York Times

Cooped Up Indoors? There's a Reason You Don't Feel Well

Create an Alternative Visual Connection to Nature

Dried flowers are another option. Michael Hsu, an architect in Texas, commissioned a ceiling-mounted installation of dried flowers from the floral design studio Davy Gray when he recently opened an office in Houston.

"I call it a flower cloud," Mr. Hsu said. "You see a lot of green walls in offices right now, but they have their own challenges with lighting and water. This is easier to maintain, but still changes the mood of the conference room."

Add Natural Materials and Patterns

Adding finishes, furniture and accessories made from natural materials — wood with an appealing grain pattern, for example, or natural stone — can evoke nature, too.

"We try to use natural materials with the least amount of processing possible," Mr. Hsu said. "It's the architectural equivalent of eating organic food. With wood, we want to celebrate the grain and character of each species. It does so much for us, emotionally."



Michael Hsu, an architect in Texas, commissioned a ceiling-mounted installation of dried flowers from the floral design studio Davy Gray when he recently opened an office in Houston. Chase Daniel

Select Publications

- "Llano Retreat," *Minimal Select* (Australia) | September 29, 2020
- "A Design Insider Shares His 5 Predictions for the Future of Hotels," *Forbes* | August 21, 2020
- "Cooped Up Indoors? There's a Reason You Don't Feel Well," *The New York Times* | May 5, 2020
- "Michael Hsu Expands His Office of Architecture with Launch of Houston Studio" *Interior Design* | March 1, 2020
- "Like its Signature Burgers, Shake Shack's New York City HQ is a Richly Layered Creation" *Azure* | January 10, 2020
- "The Synergistic Relationship Between Shake Shack and Designer Michael Hsu" *Metropolis*, January 10 | 2020
- "Sean Knibb and Michael Hsu-Designed LINE Hotel "Keeps Austin Weird" *Interior Design* | January 3, 2020
- "Austin Architect Michael Hsu on Balancing Roughness with

- Sophistication" *Archinect*, December 11, 2019
- "Shake Shack Renovates a Print Building for New York City Headquarters" *designmilk* | December 4, 2019
- "Michael Hsu's New Houston Office Blends Whimsy and Modernism for Opening," *Architectural Digest* | November 14, 2019
- "Most Instagrammable Hotels" *National Geographic* | September 11, 2019
- "Behind the High-Design Hub to Houston's Tunnel System" *luxé* | August 16, 2019
- "Shake Shack's NYC Headquarters Is a Triple-Decker Dripping with Stylish Design" *dwel* | July 24, 2019
- "AIA/ALA Announces Restaurant Design Winners—and More News This Week" *Architectural Digest* | July 2, 2019
- "Michael Hsu On Fire" *PaperCity Magazine* | July-August, 2019



Section 2.3: Publications

AUSTIN
MONTHLY

Blueprint for Success

In the 10 years since starting his architecture firm, Michael Hsu has changed the faces of Austin real estate, restaurants and neighborhoods as we know them

July 2015



Admit it, Austin. You love Michael Hsu. You may not know his name or face, but you love him.

You dine in restaurants he's designed and built, savor the views from his penthouses and porches and patronize businesses and hotels he's helped shape and define. You may even be lucky enough to live in one of his homes. As one of the city's most influential and innovative architects and interior designers, he has a touch seen everywhere in our city.

Yet if you don't recognize him if you pass him on the street, don't feel bad. Reserved and modest, Michael Hsu actually prefers his low public profile. "I like the anonymity," he says in his quietly modulated voice. "I think as any creative individual you make something, put it out there and then it becomes its own thing. It's not yours anymore."

METROPOLIS

The Synergistic Relationship Between Shake Shack and Designer Michael Hsu

Having designed several of the beloved fast-casual chain's outposts, plus its Manhattan HQ, the Austin-based designer nurtures a new "hospitality quotient."

by Addie Broyles
January 10, 2020



The Austin location Michael Hsu designed for burgers and fries giant Shake Shack occupies the ground floor of a mixed-use development in an up-and-coming neighborhood. Courtesy Lars Frazer

Forbes

A Design Insider Shares His 5 Predictions For The Future Of Hotels



Jordi Lippe-McGraw Contributor

Travel

Sharing inspiring and practical stories from around the world.



- “Michael Hsu - Michael Hsu Office of Architecture” *Design:ED* podcast | May 15, 2019
- “Houston’s La Lucha Pairs Fighting Good Seafood with Spunky Design” *domino* | May 5, 2019
- “Architect Michael Hsu Keeps Design Weird and Wonderful in Austin, Texas” *Metropolis* | March 20, 2019
- “Sneak a Peek at Austin’s Newest Rooftop Bar” *Garden & Gun* | February 25, 2019
- “Journey by Design: Austin, Texas” *dwel* | January 17, 2019
- “The Ground Up” *Texas Architect* | November / December, 2018
- “An Exclusive Look Inside Shake Shack’s New NYC Headquarters and Test Kitchen” *Inc.* | November 16, 2018
- “Michael Hsu creates Llano Retreat for remote spot in Texas Hill Country” *dezeen* | October 29, 2018

- “Greater Goods’ new coffee roasters in Austin started life as a car warehouse” *Wallpaper** | October 3, 2018
- “A retail district in Houston reimagines the strip mall, one building at a time,” *The Architect’s Newspaper* | March 5, 2018
- “9 Best Modern Staircase Designs,” *dwel*, April 12, 2017
- “Escape to the South,” *Metropolis* | October 2016
- “Wooden ceiling curves over restaurant in Austin by Michael Hsu” *dezeen* | December 28, 2017
- “ATX Cocina - Austin, USA,” *Wallpaper* | December 12, 2017
- “The Glass House,” *Garden & Gun* | June / July 2017
- “9 Best Modern Staircase Designs,” *dwel* | April 12, 2017
- “Sustainability is the Centerpiece of This New Austin Development,” *dwel* | October 27, 2016
- “Blueprint for Success” *Austin Monthly* | July 2015



Section 3: Exhibits

FOOD AND BEVERAGE

1 **Loro | Austin | 2018**

photographer: Casey Dunn

2 **ATX Cocina | Austin | 2017**

photographer: Casey Dunn

3 **Uchi + Uchiko + Uchiba
Austin, Houston, Dallas | 2003-Present**

photographers: Casey Dunn, Paul Bardagy

HOSPITALITY

4 **South Congress Hotel | Austin | 2015**

photographer: Chase Daniel, Nick Simonite

MIXED-USE

5 **Heights Mercantile | Houston | 2017**

photographer: Chase Daniel

6 **Lamar Union | Austin | 2014**

photographer: Erika Brown, Chase Daniel



COMMUNITY AND ARTS

7 **Springdale General | Austin | 2019**

photographer: Chase Daniel

8 **Canopy | Austin | 2012**

photographer: Jody Horton

CREATIVE OFFICE

9 **Shake Shack Headquarters | New York City | 2018**

photographer: Chase Daniel

10 **Westlake Dermatology**

Austin, Houston, Dallas, San Antonio | 2011-2020

photographer: Chase Daniel



FOOD AND BEVERAGE


Loro Austin | 2018

Design Firm
Michael Hsu Office of Architecture

Role of Candidate
Design Principal | Architecture
& Interior Design

Awards
2019 IIDA TX/OK Hospitality
Design Award

2019 AIA LA Restaurant Design Award
2019 AIA Austin Design Award
2019 Hospitality Design Award

The image shows the interior of the Loro restaurant, featuring a rustic and modern design. The space is characterized by dark wood paneling on the walls and ceiling, with exposed wooden beams. Large windows and skylights provide natural light, and the dining area is furnished with wooden tables and benches with orange leather cushions. Two large, orange and white pendant lights hang from the ceiling. The floor is made of dark wood planks. The overall atmosphere is warm and inviting, reflecting the traditional Texas dance halls of the Hill Country.

Challenge | This casual interior's broad timber trusses create expansive dining spaces naturally lit by large windows and skylights that recall the traditional Texas dance halls of the Hill Country.



Outcome | Loro’s menu of shareable plates conceived with rich, tender flavors and a soulful Japanese influence are reflected in the color and textures of the design. Nestled into a grove of heritage Live Oaks in South Austin away from the busy adjacent street, the unassuming building with its low-slung roofs and natural materials hides within the dappled light and shadows of the tree canopies. Exposed structural wood timbers lift the space and shou sugi ban—wood treated with a traditional Japanese technique involving charring as a preservative heat treatment—lines the walls of the interior, creating contrast and soft natural tones. Playful, bohemian decorations and pegboard quotes enliven the bar area, adding subtle color and jest.



Declaration of Responsibility

I have personal knowledge of the nominee’s responsibility for the exhibit listed above. That responsibility included: *nominee largely responsible for design.*

Mike Zayas
NavCon
General Contractor



FOOD AND BEVERAGE

ATX Cocina Austin | 2017

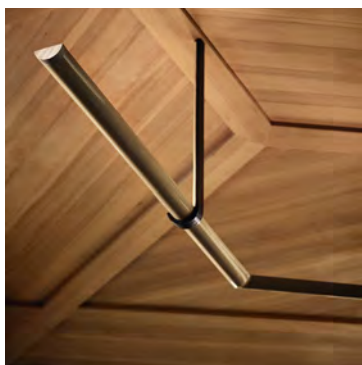
Design Firm
Michael Hsu Office of Architecture

Role of Candidate
Design Principal | Interiors

Publications
Wallpaper, December 12, 2017
dezeen, December 28, 2017

Awards
2018 IIDA TX/OK Design
Excellence Award, Best in City Center
2018 AIA LA Restaurant Design Award

Challenge | A modern Mexican restaurant in an area of downtown Austin in the early stages of a full redevelopment, this restaurant was intended to serve as a place-making element that also begins to form the identity of the neighborhood.



Outcome | Located inside a prescriptively commercial building shell comprised of concrete structure and a full-height glass façade, ATX Cocina is designed as a ring of sunlit cozy rooms around a completely open communal kitchen that beckons guests in with delightful interplay of texture and pattern. A vaulted ceiling of hemlock and pine arches elegantly over the open kitchen and greenhouse-like dining rooms, which are furnished with pecan table tops and floors, custom cast-concrete pendant lights, colorful fabrics and work by local artist Aaron Michalovic. Blackened steel cabinetry, concrete tile floors and copper accents complement the warm

natural woods. Sitting above the bustling street with large windows and soft drapery, the restaurant allows for enchanting views from the restaurant to the greenbelt and Lady Bird Lake beyond.

Declaration of Responsibility

I have personal knowledge of the nominee's responsibility for the exhibit listed above. That responsibility included: *nominee largely responsible for interior design.*

Larry Foles
Partner, Larry & Guy Restaurants
Owner



HOSPITALITY

Uchi + Uchiko + Uchiba Austin, Houston, Dallas | 2003-Present

Design Firm
Michael Hsu Office of Architecture

Role of Candidate
Design Principal | Architecture & Interior Design

Awards
2013 AIA Austin Design Honor Award, Uchiko Austin
2012 Best of Honoree, *Interior Design Magazine*, Uchi
Houston
2012 IIDA TX/OK Design Excellence Award, Uchi
Houston

Challenge | The original Uchi (“house” in Japanese), designed by Hsu and opened in Austin in 2003, established a celebrated chef-driven sushi restaurant that has expanded into a sister restaurant, Uchiko (“child of Uchi”), and locations in three states.





Uchi, Dallas



Uchiko, Austin

Uchi, Houston, 2012 | Situated in Houston’s bustling Westheimer district, this project fuses elements from Uchi Austin and Uchiko inside the bones of the landmark 1937 Felix Mexican food restaurant, retaining the massing and parabolic window shapes of the beloved original. A refined level of detail emphasizing hand-crafted materials is evident in the custom textured plastered walls, cast concrete window jambs, rough-sawn walnut cabinetry, spalted pecan booths, and reclaimed longleaf pine stacked screen entry wall. Custom walnut light boxes create a warm, diffused lens and a custom branch-like fixture of glass globes with an adjustable arm is featured throughout the dining areas.

Uchi, Dallas, 2015 | Hand-selected Japanese antique décor and color and material interplay within the dining room reveal the familiar Uchi elements of custom red coral wallpaper and walnut wood showcasing the activity of the sushi bar and adjoining cocktail bar. Finishes such as artisan-raked plaster walls, custom-bent, brass-accented plywood booths and light fixtures with hand-spun ceramic shades enhance and unite the space. A private dining room waits behind brass-screened doors that reference the traditional Japanese shoji screen. The experience transports the senses to the convivial and bustling modern Japan.

Uchiko, Austin, 2016 | Uchiko is the sister restaurant to Uchi, one of Austin’s most respected restaurants. The



Uchi, Houston

restaurant anchors one end of a renovated 1970s two-story mixed use building, also designed by Hsu. Concrete shingled roof tiles used as exterior wall finish create a distinct facade. The interior design evokes the atmosphere of a simple Japanese farmhouse with an emphasis on expressive natural materials with the evidence of handcrafted quality. Hand-rubbed solid bronze, individually stained bricks, rough-sawn walnut wall and ceiling finishes, and shou-sugi-ban siding comprise the material palette. Custom walnut recessed fixtures and bronze ceiling bubble pendants control the light and fuse these elements into a warm inviting cohesive restaurant.

Declaration of Responsibility

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Todd Reppert
Chief Development Officer, Hai Hospitality
Owner

ADDITIONAL LOCATIONS

- Denver Uchi, 2018
- Dallas Uchiba, 2018
- Miami Uchi, (design phases)
- Houston Uchiko, (design phases)



HOSPITALITY

South Congress Hotel Austin | 2015

Design Firm
Michael Hsu Office of Architecture

Role of Candidate
Design Principal | Architecture & Interior Design

Architect of Record
Dick Clark Architects

Principal Interior Designer
Studio MAI

Awards
2017 AHEAD Urban / New Build Hotel Award
2016 AIA Austin Design Award

Challenge | This ground-up hotel along South Congress Avenue draws on a range of inspirations and styles to blend into its eclectic context and reflect the sophisticated but laid-back Austin culture.





Outcome | As the largest building in the immediate surroundings, the hotel’s pedestrian experience is intentionally composed as an assembly of smaller vignettes with a variety of uses, including active outdoor restaurant patios at each corner and boutique retailers in between. The block-long façade uses quiet materials with a handmade quality to focus the visitor on the entry experience, courtyards, and interiors. Exterior materials are modern and intentionally gritty: steel intended to weather and rust, ivory clay brick, exposed concrete, and custom terra cotta screen block from a centuries-old Texas fabricator.

Inside, wood floors warm the space, balancing the light plaster, steel walls, and custom terra cotta screen blocks. Work by local artists and comfortable furnishings create an approachable interior. The ballroom and adjoining pre-function space have large glass doors that open to a sunlit exterior courtyard anchored by native bald-cypress

trees and a lush fern wall. The hotel’s 83 rooms continue the palette of warm woods, plush upholstery and local art. Suites surround and overlook the lush pool terrace that hovers just above the street bustle.

Declaration of Responsibility

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Bart Knaggs
 Parnter, New Waterloo Partners
 Owner



MIXED-USE

Heights Mercantile Houston | 2017

Design Firm
Michael Hsu Office of Architecture

Role of Candidate
Design Principal | Architecture & Interior Design

Awards
2019 AIA Houston Design Award
2019 ULI Houston Development of Distinction
2018 *Houston Business Journal* Landmark Award

Challenge | A low-rise urban market district in Houston's historic Heights neighborhood reimagines several forgotten structures into a collection of adaptive spaces along the Heights Bike Trail.





Outcome | A reflection of the neighborhood, the project tells the layered story of the Heights' history through a varied language of building types, materials and colors. The juxtaposition of new construction with adapted warehouses, bungalows and commercial buildings folds old and new together. Its presence has enhanced the vibrancy of a key city corridor and provided the community with an easy place to gather.

The landscape and preserved tree canopy work together with a series of patios, decks and walkways to tie the distinct buildings together. Existing structures were opened with ample glazing and clerestory roofs to capture natural light while detailing in the masonry, steel and glass activate the spaces. The curated tenant mix includes first-to-market specialty brands and chef-driven restaurants, their signage, artwork, color and material textures adding unique character to each piece of the project. Playful artwork adorns the paving while an allée of trees with string lights connects the development to the trail and city beyond.



Declaration of Responsibility

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Steve Radom
Managing Principal, Radom Capital, LLC
Developer



MIXED-USE

Lamar Union Austin | 2014

Design Firm
Michael Hsu Office of Architecture

Role of Candidate
Design Principal | Architecture
& Interior Design

Architect of Record
Boka Powell

Awards
2018 Texas Society of Architects
Design Award
2018 AIA Austin Design Award
2017 *Austin Business Journal*
Commercial Real Estate Award

Challenge | The design for this ground-up, mixed-use development provides a varied urban experience while capturing the character of its south Austin neighborhood.





Outcome | The site, home to an Alamo Drafthouse Cinema, incorporates three buildings of varying heights with an internal drive that terminates in a pedestrian plaza anchored by the cinema. Its bold façade is inspired by vintage theater components, reimagining the familiar red stage curtain using a pre-fabricated metal channel system in gradients of red, held delicately from the ground.

At the ground level, the project mixes local retail and restaurant tenants, all encouraged to assert their identities through individually designed storefronts. The apartment blocks above are clad in two tones of metal panels, accented with wood and bold colors that vary across the façade. Large glassy volumes anchor each main building, housing club amenities that provide a direct interaction between residents and the streetscape. Along the residential neighborhood side street, the development steps down in scale with two-story walk-up units clad in undulating masonry. A community garden and integrated bike trail follow the west side of the project closest to the residential neighborhood.

Declaration of Responsibility

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Derek Brown
 Managing Director, Greystar Real Estate Partners
 Owner



COMMUNITY AND ARTS

Springdale General Austin | 2019

Design Firm
Michael Hsu Office of Architecture

Role of Candidate
Design Principal | Architecture &
Interior Design

Awards
2019 ULI Austin Impact Award
Most Influential Project
2019 AIA Austin Design Award



Challenge | This affordable workspace supports a strong nonprofit, small business and creative community and upholds a commitment to affordability without sacrificing design and functionality.



Outcome | Austin's breakneck speed of growth has priced out the city's creative class. A primary goal of this project was to keep rents significantly below market to give this community a place to call home.

The design preserves all existing trees on the property. All buildings are prefabricated in a kit-of-parts construction method and simple, industrial materials such as corrugated metal siding, as well as ample daylighting, were used to minimize cost. Recessed entryways, porches and patios make the spaces more welcoming and open than a traditional industrial development.

Pedestrian friendly corridors, ample gathering opportunities and grouped communal uses make room for serendipitous collisions of like-minded people.

The minimal landscape reduces maintenance costs and rainwater is collected and housed in cisterns, which also add to the industrial aesthetic. A yellow solar canopy marks the entry and provides energy through a photovoltaic system for the front buildings.

Declaration of Responsibility

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Daryl Kunik
 Owner, Central Management Group
 Developer



COMMUNITY AND ARTS

Canopy Austin | 2012

Design Firm
Michael Hsu Office of Architecture

Role of Candidate
Design Principal | Architecture
& Interior Design

Awards
2016 AIA Austin Design Award



Challenge | Located in East Austin, Canopy is an adaptive reuse of an industrial concrete warehouse located on almost four acres into creative office suites, art galleries, affordable maker studios, and a café.



Outcome | The design eschews total renovation in favor of a more thoughtful exploration and exploitation of the site's unique textures and tones. The centerpiece of the property, a former Goodwill warehouse, was carved into three buildings to create 45 small studios, three galleries, several creative offices and the café/coffee shop.

Portions of the existing building footprint were removed to create exterior communal courtyards and covered breezeways. Higher visibility and increased daylighting are introduced into each tenant space through a new central courtyard. Interaction between artist and audience is encouraged to foster a creative community. The aesthetic of the project remains minimal

and industrial to allow the color and life of the artist residents to be the main focus. The anchor tenant, Big Medium, a nonprofit dedicated to promoting contemporary art in Texas, operates a gallery on site and helps manage the property.

Declaration of Responsibility

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Gib Jones
Blue Construction
General Contractor



CREATIVE OFFICE

Shake Shack Headquarters New York City | 2018

Design Firm
Michael Hsu Office of Architecture

Role of Candidate
Design Principal | Interior Design

Award
2020 IIDA TX/OK Best in City Center

Publications
Metropolis, January 10, 2020
designmilk, December 4, 2019
dwell, July 24, 2019

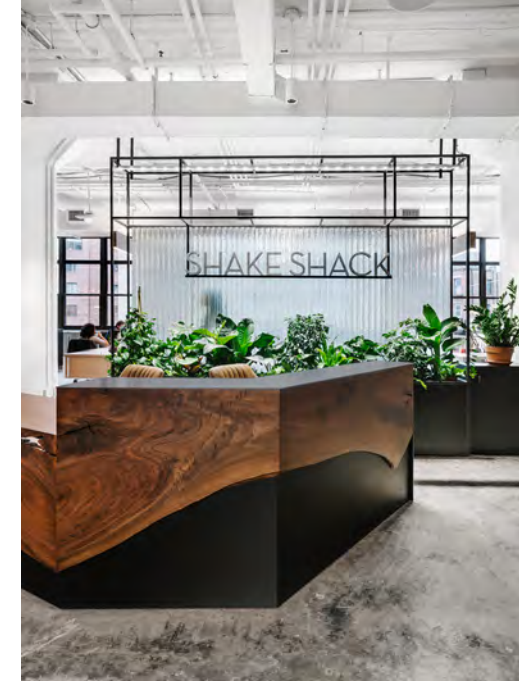


Challenge | The renovation of a printing building in Lower Manhattan into an open, creative office space that expresses the company's brand culture of hospitality and collaboration.



Additional
Shake Shack Restaurants

- Austin* South Lamar
- Chicago* Old Orchard
- Fort Worth* Stockyards
- Houston* Galleria, Rice Village
- Los Angeles* Glendale / Americana,
West Hollywood
- New Jersey* Garden State Plaza
- New Orleans* Canal Place
- New York* Varick Street, Upper
West Side
- Palo Alto* Stanford Shopping
Center
- San Antonio* Alamo Heights
- San Diego* Little Italy, Westfield
UTC
- Santa Monica* Third Street
Promenade
- Seattle* Southlake Union
- Washington, DC*



Outcome | Maintaining much of the original architecture, the space uses natural materials set against white-washed walls and amplified with black accents. The renovation includes the company’s Innovation Kitchen and a Shake Shack restaurant on the ground level, where new recipes are developed and tested.

The CEO’s office is designed with windows on two of the three internal walls and divides the employee workstations from the “park” – a large lounge space that pays homage to Madison Square Park, which is where the company’s first restaurant was located. A custom light fixture sprawls through the space, reminiscent of the original Shack’s iconic string lights, while abundant plants, large windows, organic warm woods and curated furniture further reinforce the park connection. A large staff kitchen featuring hand glazed tile and end-grain walnut butcher block counters encourages group dining and social activities amongst team members.

A white oak and black steel benching system provides over 200 seats to define individual workspaces. Custom conference room tables and breakout tables with signature Shake Shack chairs and stools reinforce the brand. Additional curated furnishings include comfortable leather and green fabric upholstered sofas and chairs, supporting a variety of gathering opportunities and work functions.

Declaration of Responsibility

I have personal knowledge of the nominee’s responsibility for the exhibit listed above. That responsibility included: *nominee largely responsible for interior design.*

Andrew McCaughen
Chief Development Officer, Shake Shack



CREATIVE OFFICE

**Westlake Dermatology
Austin, Houston, Dallas,
San Antonio | 2011-2020**

Design Firm
Michael Hsu Office of Architecture

Role of Candidate
Design Principal

Awards

2020 IIDA TX/OK Design Excellence
Award, Dripping Springs

2019 Hospitality Design Award,
Dripping Springs

2015 IIDA TX/OK Small Healthcare
Design Award, Round Rock

2011 IIDA TX/OK Honorable
Mention Retail Award, Westlake

Challenge | Attentive detailing
and design offer a hospitality-level
experience for several locations –
each one unique – across Texas.





Dripping Springs



Far West, Austin

Outcome | Westlake Dermatology interiors feature rich materials and finishes to create an environment more akin to a spa experience than that of a traditional medical office. Each location is unique, thanks to the inclusion of the work of local artisans and craftsmen. Ample daylighting and custom light fixtures are carefully used to create a comfortable environment in the lobbies, retail areas, and exam rooms. Custom art and furnishings are accented with details such as decorative pulls and unexpected curtains. Intricate screening designs provide texture as well as privacy to separate the lobby experience from the nurse's station and exam rooms. Hsu has designed 13 Westlake Dermatology clinics throughout Texas, with more on the boards.



Houston



Houston

Declaration of Responsibility

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Jason Dzubinski
 Director of Operations, Westlake Dermatology

