

# Zach Cohen, RA

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zach-cohen.net

## EDUCATION

- 2018            **Massachusetts Institute of Technology, School of Architecture and Planning**  
Master of Science in Architecture Studies
- 2012            **Carnegie Mellon University, School of Architecture**  
Bachelor of Architecture, Minor in Philosophy  
University and College Honors

## ACADEMIC EXPERIENCE

- 2022 - Present    **Adjunct Assistant Professor**  
The Cooper Union, Irwin S. Chanin School of Architecture
- Fall 2021        **Visiting Assistant Professor**  
Pratt Institute, School of Architecture
- Fall 2021        **Adjunct Lecturer**  
The City College of New York, Bernard Spitzer School of Architecture
- 2019 - 2021     **Christos Yessios Visiting Assistant Professor**  
The Ohio State University, Austin E. Knowlton School of Architecture
- 2019            **Research Lead**  
Massachusetts Institute of Technology, Self-Assembly Lab
- 2018 - 2019     **Adjunct Lecturer**  
Wentworth Institute of Technology, Department of Architecture
- Fall 2018        **Technical Instructor**  
Massachusetts Institute of Technology, School of Electrical Engineering and Computer Science
- 2016 - 2018     **Teaching Assistant**  
Massachusetts Institute of Technology, Department of Architecture
- Summer 2017    **Visiting Researcher**  
University of Stuttgart, Institute for Computational Design and Construction
- 2009 - 2012     **Teaching Assistant**  
Carnegie Mellon University, School of Architecture

## PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

- 2017 - Present    **Co-Founder and Partner**  
commoncraft, Brooklyn, NY

## PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE (CONT.)

- 2015 - 2016     **Junior Designer**  
Marvel Architects, New York, NY
- 2013 - 2015     **Junior Architect**  
Steven Holl Architects, New York, NY
- Summer 2013    **Designer**  
nARCHITECTS, New York, NY
- 2012 - 2013     **Junior Architect**  
Studio Christian Wassmann, New York, NY
- Summer 2011    **Intern Architect**  
LOT-EK, New York, NY
- Summer 2010    **Intern Architect**  
Acconci Studio (Vito Acconci), Brooklyn, NY
- Summer 2009    **Intern Architect**  
Elmslie Osler Architect, New York, NY
- P.S. 1 Young Architects Program Construction Team Member**  
MOS Architects, Queens, NY
- Summer 2008    **Intern Architect**  
Bade Stageberg Cox, Brooklyn, NY

## AWARDS, HONORS, AND GRANTS

- 2022, 2023     **Cooper Union Internal Grant**  
The Cooper Union  
Two grants for digital fabrication research and course development.
- 2019            **Yessios Fellowship**  
The Ohio State University, Knowlton School of Architecture
- 2018            **Arthur Rotch Special Prize**  
Massachusetts Institute of Technology, Department of Architecture  
Award for Master of Science in Architecture Studies student in honor of highest achievement.
- 2017            **Marvin E. Goody Award**  
Massachusetts Institute of Technology, Department of Architecture  
Award for thesis proposal that increases the bond between good design and good building.
- 2016            **Graduate Tuition Award**  
Massachusetts Institute of Technology, Department of Architecture  
Full Scholarship for Graduate Studies.
- 2012            **Artist-in-Residence**  
NES Artist Residency, Skagaströnd, Iceland

## AWARDS, HONORS, AND GRANTS (CONT.)

- 2009 - 2012      **Dean's List**  
Carnegie Mellon University
- 2011              **Louis F. Valentour Traveling Fellowship**  
Carnegie Mellon University, School of Architecture  
Fourth-Year Design Award in recognition of design excellence.
- 2009              **Small Undergraduate Research Grant**  
Carnegie Mellon University  
Grant to conduct urban design research on public parking structures in Pittsburgh.

## PUBLICATIONS (BOOKS)

- 2024              Cohen, Zach and Galo Cañizares. *Homing the Machine*. New York: Routledge, 2024.

## PUBLICATIONS (CONFERENCE PAPERS)

- 2021              Cohen, Zach. "Recasting Concrete: A Case Study in Concrete 3D Printing as an Architectural Pedagogy." *109th Association for Collegiate Schools of Architecture (ACSA) Annual Meeting Proceedings*, Eds. Lynne Dearborn et al., ACSA Press, (Forthcoming).
- 2020              Cohen, Zach. "Waiting to Get Cut Out." *2020 Association for Computer-Aided Design in Architecture (ACADIA) Conference Proceedings*, Eds. Shelby Doyle et al., (Forthcoming).
- 2019              Cohen, Zach. "Speed Limits: The Architectural Design Possibilities of the 3D Printed Corner." *107th Association for Collegiate Schools of Architecture (ACSA) Annual Meeting Proceedings*, Eds. Jeremy Ficca et al., ACSA Press, 349-354.
- 2018              Cohen, Zach. "Hold Up: Machine Delay in Architectural Design." *Robotic Fabrication in Architecture, Art, and Design 2018 Conference Proceedings*, Eds. Fabio Gramazio et al., Springer, 126-138.

## PUBLICATIONS (PEER REVIEWED JOURNAL ARTICLES)

- 2021              Cohen, Zach. "Building Sympathy: Waiting-with Digital Fabrication Machines as a Form of Architectural Labor." *International Journal of Architectural Computing*, Vol. 19, No. 2, Eds. Maria Yablonina et al., Sage, 553-567.
- 2020              Cohen, Zach, Nathaniel Elberfeld, Andrew Moorman, Jared Laucks, Douglas Holmes, and Skylar Tibbits. "Superjammed: Tunable and Morphable Spanning Structures through Granular Jamming." *Technology / Architecture + Design*, Vol. 4, No. 2, Eds. Marci Uhlein and Chad Krause, Taylor and Francis, 211-220.
- Cohen, Zach and Nicholas Carlson. "Piling and pressing: towards a method of 3d printing reinforced concrete columns." *Journal on Construction Robotics*, Vol. 4, No. 1, Eds. Andrew Wit and Ethan Kerber, Springer, <https://doi.org/10.1007/s41693-020-00029-6>.
- 2019              Cohen, Zach. "Time and Freestyle Piling: A Subjective Approach to 3D Printing." *Digital Creativity*,

#### PUBLICATIONS (NON PEER REVIEWED JOURNAL ARTICLES)

- 2021 Cohen, Zach. "French Curve Frustration." *One:Twelve*, 16, Eds. Malena Grigoli, et al., Knowlton School of Architecture, 36-38.
- 2018 Cohen, Zach. "Being Real-Time: A Critique of Instantaneous Architectural Making." *Pidgin*, 24, Eds. Sheila Lin et al., Princeton School of Architecture, 24-31.
- 2013 Cohen, Zach. "Semiotics of Parametricism." *Interpunct, Journal of Architectural Discourse*, Eds. Talia Perry et al., Carnegie Mellon School of Architecture, 55-60.

#### EXHIBITIONS AND PERFORMANCES

- 2021 "Building Productions"  
Banvard Gallery, Knowlton School of Architecture, Columbus, OH  
Solo exhibition and performance.
- 2020 "Bag of Breath (B.O.B.)"  
Banvard Gallery, Knowlton School of Architecture, Columbus, OH  
Sculpture in group exhibition, "Fulfilled."
- 2019 "Corner #2" and "Material Clocks"  
MIT Museum, Cambridge, MA  
Concrete prototype and video installation in group exhibition, "Drawing, Designing, Thinking."  
  
"The Robot Dripped on the Floor, Again"  
The Parachute Factory, Lexington, KY  
3D printed concrete prototype in group exhibition, "Unsupported."  
  
"Imprint #1"  
Knowlton School of Architecture, Columbus, OH  
Long-durational performance of "improvisational 3D printing (or, imprinting)."
- 2017 "Rapid and Deployable: An Experiment in Fast Construction"  
MIT Museum, Cambridge, MA  
Exhibition of work from graduate architecture studio co-taught with Skylar Tibbits.  
  
"Slip Stitch"  
Gallery 224, Allston, MA  
Ceramic Wall Prototype in group exhibition, "Material Practice as Research."
- 2015 "Fine"  
The Kitchen, New York, NY  
Performance and installation with artist/choreographer Yve Laris Cohen.
- 2011 "Giant Self-Squeezing Sponge"  
Carnegie Mellon ArtPark Lab, Pittsburgh, PA  
Temporary public art installation.

2010           “Public Parking”  
Edge Studio Gallery, Pittsburgh, PA  
Sculpture and video installation with designer Stephanie Newcomb.

#### EXHIBITIONS AND PERFORMANCES (CONT.)

2010           “Cocoon”  
Unsmoke Systems Art Space, Braddock, PA  
Long-durational performance art and installation in group exhibition, “Steel Works.”

#### PRESS

2019           “Commoncraft Designs Whimsical Gertie Cafe in Williamsburg,” Dezeen

2017           “MIT’s Flying Building Assembles Itself in Mid-Air,” Wired

2015           “Yve Laris Cohen’s ‘Fine’ Dissects the Nature of Performance Spaces,” The New York Times

#### INVITED SPEAKER

2024           “Leaky Machines (or, How to Build Sympathy with a Building Machine)”  
Princeton University, School of Architecture, “Indiscrete Histories” Seminar

“Leaky Machines (or, How to Build Sympathy with a Building Machine)”  
Cornell University, Department of Architecture, “Uncertain Matter” Seminar

2021           “On Piles and the Potential of Digitally Fabricated Traces”  
University of Virginia, School of Architecture, Robotic Additive Manufacturing Studio

“On Piles and the Potential of Digitally Fabricated Traces”  
ETH Zurich, Master of Advanced Studies in Architecture and Digital Fabrication Lecture Series

“Not-Classical, Not-Digital: The Resistance of Digitally Fabricated Piles”  
University of Virginia, “Projecting Fellows” Virtual Symposium

2020           “Leaky Machines (or, How to Build Sympathy with a Building Machine)”  
University of Toronto, Daniels Faculty of Architecture, “Physical Computing” Seminar

“Leaky Machines (or, How to Build Sympathy with a Building Machine)”  
The Ohio State University, Knowlton School of Architecture, Baumer Lecture Series

2019           “Pouring vs Printing”  
Ohio State Department of Civil, Environmental, and Geodetic Engineering, Graduate Seminar

#### SYMPOSIA ORGANIZED

2020           “Homing the Machine”  
The Ohio State University, Knowlton School of Architecture  
Symposium on how architectural designers orient their research in digital fabrication.

## INVITED INSTRUCTOR

- 2021 “The History, Theory, and Practice of G-Code”  
Bezalel Academy of Arts and Design, “Digital Crafts” Seminar  
Workshop on the history and principles of g-code, as well as how to write g-code software.
- 2018 “Bergson and the Philosophy of 3D Printing”  
MIT, Department of Architecture, “Thinking Architecture” Seminar  
Workshop on how Henri Bergson’s thinking can be used to reinvent interactions with 3D printers.

## TEACHING

- Cooper Union**
- 2023-24 Graduate Elective: Robotic Fabrication I  
2021-23 Undergraduate/Graduate Workshop: Introduction to Digital Techniques
- Pratt Institute**
- Fall 2021 Undergraduate Workshop: “Technics”
- City College of New York**
- Fall 2021 Graduate Architecture Unit: “Robotic Ecologies” (with Prof. Frank Melendez and Alan Cation)
- The Ohio State University**
- Spring 2021 Undergraduate Core Studio: Architectural Design II  
Fall 2020 Undergraduate/Graduate Option Studio: “The Distributed Manufacturing Lab”  
Spring 2020 Undergraduate Option Studio: “Recasting Concrete”  
Fall 2019 Undergraduate Core Studio: Architectural Design I
- Wentworth Institute of Technology**
- Spring 2019 Graduate Elective: “Architectural Design Workflows for 3D Printing”  
Fall 2018 Undergraduate Core Studio: Architectural Design I
- Massachusetts Institute of Technology**
- Fall 2018 Undergraduate/Graduate Elective: “How to Make (almost) Anything”  
Spring 2017-18 Undergraduate/Graduate Elective: “Design Across Scales and Disciplines” (with Profs. J. Meejin Yoon and Neri Oxman)  
Fall 2017 Graduate Option Studio: “On the Strategic Potential of Mud” (with Prof. Joel Lamere)  
Fall 2016 Graduate Option Studio: “Fast, Cheap, and Out of the Box” (with Prof. Skylar Tibbits)
- Carnegie Mellon University**
- 2009-2012 Undergraduate Workshop: Introduction to Digital Media (with Prof. Jeremy Ficca)  
Fall 2011 Undergraduate Workshop: “Materials and Assembly” (with Prof. Dale Clifford)

## INVITED JURIES

Columbia University, Yale University, University of Virginia, University of Pennsylvania, The Cooper Union, ETH Zurich, Pratt Institute, University of Miami, Massachusetts Institute of Technology, Carnegie Mellon University, Kent State University, The Ohio State University, Barnard College, Wentworth Institute of Technology, City College of New York

## PROFESSIONAL LICENSURE

New York State