As an Associate Principal at Dattner Architects, Gia leads complex, urban projects. She has focused her career on public buildings that celebrate civic functions and the roles of those working within them. A life-long New Yorker, Gia has always had a fascination with the infrastructure of the city, and understanding the many complex and interrelated systems that make urban life possible. Gia believes that coordinating with end users, collaborating with community stakeholders and researching appropriate materials and technologies is key to creating spaces that are functional, easy to maintain, and sustainable- and that showcase design excellence. Gia will discuss the highlights and challenges of practicing architecture in the public realm, with examples from her experience working on projects for the NYC Department of Sanitation, New York City Department of Design & Construction, and the General Services Administration.