

TESSA | FORDE

Architectural Designer



INTRODUCTION

Hi I'm Tessa, I'm an architectural academic and practitioner interested in community-driven architecture and alternative interpretations of learning and practicing architecture.

CONTACT

tessa.e.forde@gmail.com
+642041324489



CIV

EXPERIENCE

AUT Huri Te Ao Doctoral Candidate and Tutor

I am currently pursuing a PhD at Auckland University of Technology. This research project will explore and contextualise the attempts and actuations of alternative spatial agencies, organisations, pedagogies and practices within architecture and its expanded field in Aotearoa, alongside the development of an educational platform that experiments with the role of the 'architect' in the built environment and their communities. Alongside this research I will be assisting with several teaching papers including Wānanga design studios, an Architectural Intelligence theory course, and a Masters level architectural practice management course. Tāmaki Makaurau, December 2020 to present.

Adamson Associates Inc Architectural Job Captain

This role involved producing the executive architect drawings for two towers as part of the Mission Rock Development in San Francisco, USA. As the job captain for the WORKac tower for AAI, I was the next point of contact after the project manager for all consultants on the project and responsible for architectural coordination and meeting minute taking. I was the BIM coordinator for the project - managing and building the Revit model. I saw the Mission Rock project through the developed design process and the construction documents phase. Los Angeles; September 2019 to October 2020.

LOC Architects Junior Architect

This role involved working on a range of projects from the concept design phase through to construction. Being part of a small, four person practice meant taking responsibility for all parts of the design and construction process. I saw from start to finish the conversion of a warehouse into a high school campus. I worked on several other school projects, some single residential projects and multi-family residential projects. Los Angeles; November 2017 to August 2019.

EXPERIENCE

2018 Free School of Architecture Program Coordinator

I coordinated and ran the Free School of Architecture in Los Angeles alongside three women - all former students. We re-established the school for 2018 with a focus on experimentation in pedagogy, organisation and hierarchy. This involved setting up the school as an LLC and the full scope of running a six week summer program for around 70 participants with no formal funding. The school was tuition-free and all inclusive, accepting anyone who applied. Los Angeles; September 2017 to present.

ArchDaily Fall Internship

This position entailed writing 3-4 Newsroom posts and editorials per week on a variety of assigned subjects, architectural news items and self-led topics. September 2017 to January 2018.

Bull/O'Sullivan Architects Graduate Position

Worked with BOS on a number of residential projects as well as a kindergarten, a large church renovation and a tennis club. My role predominantly consisted of concept design through the process of sketching, water colour painting and model making as well as some construction work and consent documentation. Auckland; April 2016 to June 2017.

University of Auckland Teaching Assistant and Tutor

Taught design studios for three semesters to second and third year students. I taught alongside Sophie Hamer, architecture graduate, Kathy Waghorn, Associate Head of Design, and Michael O'Sullivan, Architect. Auckland; March 2016 to June 2017.

Fletcher Earth Quake Recovery Draughtsperson

Involved surveying damaged homes with qualified engineers, and drafting details for repair strategies. Christchurch; November 2014 to February 2015.

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EDUCATION

Masters of Architecture (Professional)

University of Auckland 2014-2015

A two year professional masters degree with the first year involving design studio papers, electives and discipline based courses and the second year being a self-lead thesis project. Graduated as a University Graduate Scholar and as the top of my degree program.

Bachelor of Architectural studies

University of Auckland 2011-2013.

A three year Bachelors Program covering all facets of architectural study. Graduated as a NICAI Faculty Senior Scholar placing me in the top five graduates from my faculty (National Institute of Creative Arts and Industry).

The Free School of Architecture, Los Angeles

Northern Hemisphere Summer 2017.

Selected as one of 36 students in the inaugural class for 2017, The Free School of Architecture is an experimental school exploring the edges of architectural education. It is a tuition and salary free, not-for-profit organization focused on global knowledge exchange and changing and challenging the conversations around architecture. The School ran for six weeks in the summer of 2017 but it is an ongoing project which is now run by myself and three others.

SKILLS

Writing	<div style="width: 80%;"></div>
Hand Model Making	<div style="width: 85%;"></div>
Adobe Suite	<div style="width: 90%;"></div>
Rhino / AutoCad	<div style="width: 75%;"></div>
Revit	<div style="width: 85%;"></div>
Timber workshop skills	<div style="width: 60%;"></div>
Microsoft Office	<div style="width: 80%;"></div>
Code Analysis	<div style="width: 75%;"></div>
Google Suite	<div style="width: 85%;"></div>
Administration	<div style="width: 70%;"></div>

VOLUNTEER AND OTHER WORK

Speaker for the Pratt Futures Series - The Commons

Invited to run an experimental zoom workshop based on and about the Free School of Architecture at the Pratt School of Architecture's speakers series. November 2020.

Speaker at the Bauhaus 100 Festival

Invited to present the Free School of Architecture at the School Fundamental Festival as part of the Bauhaus 100 year anniversary in Dessau, Germany. March 2019.

Docent Volunteer at the Venice Biennale

Volunteer Attendant to the New Zealand Pavilion for the Venice Architecture Biennale. Involved welcoming people to the pavilion and explaining the principles behind it. October 2016.

Aspiring Leaders Forum 2015 Attendee

Nominated to attend the Aspiring Leaders Forum at Parliament House in Wellington. ALF is a four day conference event including workshops, lectures, community work and discussions with distinguished New Zealanders and Politicians.

Student Work Exhibition Coordinator

Exhibition coordinator and curator with a fellow student Sam Boanas at Auckland Architecture Week. September 2015.

Volunteer for Aussie Action Abroad in Nepal

Travelled to Nepal to participate in community development and construction work in the Lamjung district. January 2015.

Student Rep on the Student Consultative Committee

Representative for my year group on consultative matters with staff, faculty and the university. 2011-2014.

Competitor in the CCANZ ArchEng Student Workshop

Selected to travel to Christchurch and collaborate with an engineering student in a 48 hour design competition. July 2014.

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AWARDS

- Dissertation Commendation in the Royal Institute of British Architects (RIBA) President's Medals 2016
- New Zealand Institute of Architects Cadimage Student Design Awards Commendation 2015 (Top 3 in country)
- Silver Award in the Student Category of the Designers Institute of New Zealand Best of Design Awards 2016
- Highly Commended in the Australasian Dulux Colour Awards 2016 (student category)
- Co-Winner of the New Brighton Tiny Huts Competition 2016 with Elena Lochore-Ward
- Winner of the Warren Trust prize for Architectural Writing 2015 (Open Category)
- NZIA Cadimage Group Year 4 First Prize 2014 (Top student in the first year Master's program)
- National Institute of Creative Arts and Industries Senior Scholar Award 2013 (Top in Faculty)
- Vernon Brown Memorial Award 2013 (Best third year bachelor's design project)
- Warren Trust Prize 2013 (Masters Scholarship)
- NZIA Graphisoft Student Design Award 2013 (Top in year group)
- Environmental Design: First in Course Award 2013
- Design 6: First in Course Award Semester 2 2013
- Winner of the University of Auckland Creative Writing Competition 2013
- Highly Commended in the Auckland University Press and Divine Muses emerging poets competition, 2013

PUBLICATIONS AND ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Online Portfolio:

<https://archinect.com/tessaforde>

Published Writing:

Forde, Tessa. **Starting a Free School of Architecture.** *Charette: Flipping the Script: Foregrounding the Architecture Student.* 2020; Vol. 6, No. 1: 121-143. *Association of Architectural Educators.*

<https://www.ingentaconnect.com/contentone/arched/char/2020/00000006/00000001/art00007>

Forde, Tessa. **Wear it Out.** *10 Stories: Writing about Architecture/5.* 2020; 24-29. NZIA.

Forde, Tessa. **LA Like Nicotine.** *10 Stories: Writing about Architecture/3.* 2018; 42-47. NZIA.

Forde, Tessa. **Heaven's Embroidered Cloths.** *10 Stories: Writing about Architecture/1.* 2016; 14-19. NZIA.

<https://www.nzia.co.nz/awards/warren-trust-writing-awards/open-winner-tessa-forde>

Forde, Tessa. **Lyttelton Studio - Bull O'Sullivan Architecture.** *City House Country House.* 2016; 163-171. *Penguin Random House New Zealand.*

ArchDaily Author Profile:

<https://www.archdaily.com/author/tessa-forde>

Dissertation Press:

Royal Institute of British Architects President's Medals:
<https://www.ribaj.com/culture/tessa-forde>

New Zealand Institute of Architects Student Design Awards:

<https://www.nzia.co.nz/awards/student-design-awards/2015-student-design-awards/highly-commended-tessa-forde>

Free School of Architecture:

<https://www.freeschoolofarchitecture.org/>