

## **PERFORMANCE HALL ON PORTLAND'S EASTIDE WATERFRONT**

Portland, Winter 2018, ARCH 4/584 Intermediate Architectural Design Studio

### **STUDIO ABSTRACT**

Centered on the Lower Albina and Rose Quarter areas of Portland, this studio will research the neighborhood's complex history, examine its current condition, and adopt the recently unveiled 'Albina Vision' framework for architectural exploration; culminating in the design of a Performance Hall on the edge of the Willamette River. With a strong emphasis on physical models, particular attention will be paid to conceptual development, the ability to communicate intent, and boldness of form.

### **CONTEXT**

Starting at the Steel Bridge and stretching north, the Albina neighborhood has historically been a physical and cultural hub for Portland's black community. Once a thriving neighborhood, a large portion of Lower Albina was demolished, and residents displaced, through a series of urban renewal policies. Hundreds of homes and businesses were razed to build the Memorial Coliseum in 1958 and while building Interstate-5 through Portland, completed in 1964. The connection to the Willamette River was previously severed by the railroad and the water polluted through years of industry use.

The Albina Vision framework seeks to reintroduce a neighborhood that is human centric, supportive of environmental systems, inclusive in its development, and acknowledging of the past. With views to downtown Portland, strong links to public transportation, the proposed Green Loop, and its prime location on the waterfront, the plan creates public open space and an effective cultural and events district within a greater neighborhood.

Through the adoption of the Albina Vision framework, this studio will focus on architectural solutions for the proposed Performance Hall through thoughtful concept development and evocative form.

### **COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT**

The Albina Vision master plan has been shaped and developed by a group of engaged citizens and high profile community leaders. Students will have the opportunity to work with and present design ideas directly to members of the Albina Vision team including: Tim Eddy, Principal and President of Hennebery Eddy Architects; Rukaiyah Adams, Chief Investment Officer of Meyer Memorial Trust; and Christopher Mattaliano, Director of the Portland Opera.

### **INSTRUCTORS**

Gerry Gast is an architect/urban designer and member of the University of Oregon Portland Urban Architecture faculty. He served for several years as Visiting Associate Professor in the Program on Urban Studies at Stanford University, where he developed and taught the two core courses in urban design. He is a founding principal of Gast Hillmer Urban Design in the San Francisco Bay area. Recent projects include design of the new Stryiskyi Park campus for the Ukrainian Catholic University in Lviv, Ukraine. Other (selected) professional work includes School Site Redevelopment Studies for the San Francisco Unified School District, "Uptown District" (a mixed use inner site urban development of 313 dwellings and neighborhood retail center in San Diego's Hillcrest neighborhood), the San Diego County Government Center master plan on the downtown waterfront, the Oregon Science and Technology Park (OSTP) in Gresham -Troutdale, OR, citywide urban design studies for San Clemente, Dana Point and San Diego, CA. Research interests focus on recent seminal and urban design work, including a comparative study of projects in North America, South America and Europe.

Ivy O'Neal holds a Bachelor of Architecture from the University of Oregon and a Masters in Education Policy from the University of Washington. Her work and research has focused on civic architecture, urban planning, education, and public policy with particular interest in how policy and design can address issues of social equity.