

DENISE SCOTT BROWN, RIBA, Int. FRIBA

Denise Scott Brown is an architect, planner and urban designer and a theorist, writer and educator whose projects and ideas have influenced designers and thinkers worldwide. Working in collaboration with Robert Venturi over the last half century, she has guided the course of Venturi, Scott Brown and Associates by serving on the broad range of the firm's projects in architecture, and as Principal-in-Charge of urban planning, urban design and campus planning. Her experience in interdisciplinary work, teaching and research has contributed to VSBA's breadth and depth in architectural design.

Scott Brown made plans for South Street and Old City, Philadelphia, Jim Thorpe PA, Princeton Borough NJ, Miami Beach FL, and Memphis TN. She has written and advised on New York's World Trade Center site, Philadelphia's Penn's Landing, the Bouregreg Valley in Morocco, and the city of New Orleans and was Principal for VSBA's programming of the Smithsonian's National Museum of the American Indian.

She conducted master planning for the University of Pennsylvania and the University of Michigan, and area planning studies for Dartmouth, Bryn Mawr and Williams Colleges; the Radcliffe Institute of Advanced Studies at Harvard University; and Kentucky, Brown and Tsinghua (Beijing) Universities. She evolved precinct plans and conceptual designs for architecture projects that grew from these studies, at Dartmouth (Baker-Berry Library), Penn (Perelman Quadrangle), Kentucky (Biomedical /Biological Sciences Research Building) and Michigan (Life Sciences Institute, Undergraduate Science Building, and Palmer Commons). She then continued on design teams for these and other major architecture projects, including the Sainsbury Wing of the British National Gallery; Mielparque resort in Kirifuri National Park, Japan; and the Département de la Haute-Garonne provincial capitol building in Toulouse, France.

Scott Brown held architecture and planning professorships at the Universities of Pennsylvania, Harvard, UCLA, UC Berkeley and Yale, and visiting positions at Rice, Oberlin, UC Santa Barbara and Princeton. Her research projects, *Learning from Las Vegas* (1972; revised edition 1977, with Robert Venturi and Steven Izenour) and *Learning from Levittown* (1970 with Robert Venturi) investigated the emerging automobile city, the relation of social and physical in architecture and urbanism, and the role of symbolism and communication in architecture. Their techniques have influenced the evolution of architectural research over the last forty years.

She has lectured extensively and published in professional journals and the architectural press. Her books include *Learning from Las Vegas* (1972; revised edition 1977, with Robert Venturi and Steven Izenour); *The View from the Campidoglio* (1984 with Robert Venturi) *Urban Concepts* (1990);

Architecture and Decorative Arts, Two Naifs in Japan (1991 with Robert Venturi); *Architecture as Signs and Systems for a Mannerist Time* (2004 with Robert Venturi) and *Having Words*, London: Architectural Association, 2009.

After attending the University of Witwatersrand and graduating in architecture from the Architectural Association, London, she received master's degrees in architecture and city planning from the University of Pennsylvania. Twelve institutions have awarded her honorary doctorates; she has been a Fellow at Princeton's Butler College and has served as overseer or advisor at, inter alia, MIT, Penn, Carnegie Mellon, Temple, Washington and Harvard Universities. She is a Fellow of the American Academy of Arts and Sciences and the American Philosophical Society, and an International Fellow of the Royal Institute of British Architects. She has been awarded The Vilcek Prize (2007), the US National Medal of Arts (1992), the Royal Society for the Encouragement of the Arts' Benjamin Franklin Medal (1993), the Association of Collegiate Schools of Architecture's AIA Topaz Medallion (1996), Italy's Commendatore of the Order of Merit (1987), the Chicago Architecture Award (1987) and Harvard's Radcliffe Institute Medal (2005).

EDUCATION

University of Pennsylvania, M. Arch., 1965
University of Pennsylvania, M.C.P., 1960
Architectural Association, London, AA Dipl., 1955
University of the Witwatersrand, Johannesburg, South Africa, 1948-1952

ARCHITECTURAL REGISTRATION

Architects Registration Council of the United Kingdom, 1956-present

PROFESSIONAL ASSOCIATIONS

National Academy Museum & School
American Academy of Arts and Sciences
American Philosophical Society
American Planning Association
Architects, Designers and Planners for Social Responsibility
Architectural Association, London
Athenaeum of Philadelphia

Bund Deutscher Architekten
Carpenters Company of the City and County of Philadelphia
Royal Institute of British Architects International Fellow and RIBA
Royal Society for the Encouragement of Arts, Manufacture & Commerce
Society of Architectural Historians
Society for College and University Planning

ACADEMIC ADVISING, TEACHING AND LECTURING

University of Pennsylvania, School of Fine Arts, Instructor, 1960; Assistant Professor, 1961-1965; Visiting Professor, 1982 and 1983; Member, Board of Overseers of the University Libraries, 1995-2004
University of California at Berkeley, School of Environmental Design, Visiting Professor, 1965
University of California at Los Angeles, School of Architecture and Urban Planning, Associate Professor, 1965-1968
Rice University, Visiting Critic, 1969
Yale University, Department of Architecture, Visiting Professor in Urban Design, 1967-1971; Morse College, Fellow, 1970; Exhibition of VSBA work "What Did You Learn?," 2010.
Philadelphia College of Art, Chairwoman, Evaluation Committee for Industrial Design Program, 1972
University of California at Santa Barbara, Regents Lecturer, 1972
Massachusetts Institute of Technology, School of Architecture and Urban Planning, Visiting Committee, 1973-1983
Oberlin College, Baldwin Lectures, 1973
Philadelphia Jewish Children's Folkshul, Curriculum and Adult Education Committees, 1980-1986
Temple University, Department of Architecture, Advisory Committee, 1980-2001; Consulting Advisor, Architecture, Landscape and Horticulture Initiative, 1998; Advisor to Board of Visitors for the Tyler School of Art, 2008-
Princeton University, Butler College, Fellow, 1983-present. Kassler Lecturer, and Whitney J. Oates Fellow in the Humanities Council and School of Architecture, 2006
Chestnut Hill Academy, Board of Trustees, 1985-1989
Harvard University, Graduate School of Fine Arts, Eliot Noyes Visiting Critic, 1989-1990; Jury Member, the Prince of Wales Prize in Urban Design, 1993; The William E. Massey, Sr., Lectures in the History of American Civilization, "Toward a Mannerist Architecture for Today," (with Robert Venturi) Spring 2003; Committee to Review the Policies and Practices of the Graduate School of Design, 2006; "Progress in Process: A Women in Design Symposium," 2008; Class Commencement Speaker, 2010

University of Delaware, Interior Design Program, Advisor, 1990-1992
Carnegie Mellon University, Department of Architecture Advisory Board,
1992-present
Washington University in St. Louis, School of Architecture, Consultant to the
Dean Search Committee, 1992
Lectures, conferences, juries and panels, 1960-present: some hundreds in
Europe, North America, Africa, Japan and China.

PUBLIC SERVICE

Carpenters' Company Master Builder Lecture, "Dreams and Themes," 2005
The Royal Society for the Encouragement of Arts, Manufacture & Commerce,
in the US, Honorary Vice Patron 2004
Penn's Landing Public Forums, 2003.
Civic Alliance Planning and Design Workshop for Lower Manhattan, 2002
Girard College Philadelphia Celebration, 1998
The Friends of Benjamin Franklin House, London, U.S. Patron, 1996-2008
Greater Philadelphia Urban Affairs Coalition, Advisory Council Member,
1991-present
Urban Affairs Partnership, Philadelphia, Board of Directors, 1987-1991
Central Philadelphia Development Corporation, Board of Directors, 1985-
present
Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, Capitol Preservation Committee, 1983-1987
National Trust for Historic Preservation, National Main Street Center,
Advisor, 1981-1985
Society of Architectural Historians, Board of Directors, 1981-1984
National Endowment for the Arts, Design Arts Program, Policy Panel, 1981-
1983

AWARDS

The Mario Pani Award, Mexico City, Mexico, 2013
The Edmund N. Bacon Prize, The Ed Bacon Foundation, 2010
International Award, The Society of American Registered Architects (SARA),
Philadelphia, PA, with Robert Venturi, 2010.
Anne d'Harnoncourt Award for Artistic Excellence, Arts & Business Council
of Greater Philadelphia, Philadelphia, PA, with Robert Venturi, 2010.
National Design Mind Award, Cooper-Hewitt, National Design Museum,
New York, NY, with Robert Venturi, 2007
Athena Award, awarded to pioneers who have laid the foundation for New
Urbanism, Congress for New Urbanism, 2007

The Vilcek Prize, awarded to a foreign-born American, for outstanding achievement in the arts (architecture) and for contribution to society in the U.S., The Vilcek Foundation, 2007
Philadelphia Artistic Legacy Award, Woodmere Art Museum, Philadelphia, PA, with Robert Venturi, 2006
The Founder's Award of the Historical Society of Pennsylvania, with Robert Venturi, 2006
Carpenters' Company Master Builder Award, with Robert Venturi, 2005
Harvard Radcliffe Institute Medal, 2005
Inaugural Design Philadelphia Luminary Award, with Robert Venturi, 2005
The Franklin Founder Bowl, The Franklin Celebration, Philadelphia, PA, to Denise Scott Brown and Robert Venturi, 2005
Visionary Woman Award, Moore College of Art and Design 2003
Fellow Award, Society for Environmental Graphic Design, to Denise Scott Brown and Robert Venturi, 2003
Vincent J. Scully Prize, National Building Museum, with Robert Venturi, 2002
Edith Wharton Women of Achievement Award for Urban Planning, 2002
Germantown Hall of Fame, Germantown Historical Society of Philadelphia, 2002
Joseph Pennell Medal, The Philadelphia Sketch Club, 2000
Chevalier de l'Ordre des Arts et Lettres, Republique Française, Ministère de la Culture et de la Communication, 2000
Giants of Design Award, *House Beautiful* Magazine, 2000
Honoree, French-American Chamber of Commerce, Philadelphia, 2000
Topaz Medallion, ACSA-AIA Joint Award for Excellence in Architecture Education, 1996
Best of Philly Hall of Fame award, *Philadelphia* Magazine, 1996
The Benjamin Franklin Medal Award, The Royal Society for the Encouragement of Arts, Manufacture & Commerce, 1993
John Harbeson Distinguished Service Award, Philadelphia Chapter of the American Institute of Architects, 1993
The 1992 Philadelphia Award, Trustees of the Philadelphia Award, 1993
The Wyck-Strickland Award, Philadelphia, PA, 1992
Hall of Fame Award, *Interior Design* Magazine, 1992
National Medal of Arts, U.S. Presidential award, 1992
Tau Sigma Delta Gold Medal, 1991
Distinguished Professor, Association of Collegiate Schools of Architecture, 1991
Chicago Architecture Award, 1987
Commendatore of the Order of Merit, Republic of Italy, 1987
The President's Medal, The Architectural League of New York, 1986
The Trailblazer Award, National Home Fashions League, 1986

Commendation for Innovative Leadership in Architecture, Women's Way,
1986
Hazlett Memorial Award for Excellence in the Arts, Commonwealth of
Pennsylvania, 1983
National Association of Schools of Art Citation, Moore College of Art, 1979
(Project Awards: See VSBA Firm Resume)

HONORARY DEGREES

Drexel University, Doctor of Humane Letters, 2012
University of Witwatersrand, RSA, Honorary Doctorate, 2011
Lehigh University, Doctor of Humane Letters, 2002
University of Nevada, Las Vegas, Doctor of Letters, 1998
University of Miami, Doctor of Architecture, 1997
University of Pennsylvania, Doctor of Fine Arts, 1994
Pratt Institute, Doctor of Humane Letters, 1992
Philadelphia College of Textiles and Science, Doctor of Humane Letters, 1992
Technical University of Nova Scotia, Doctor of Engineering, 1991
Philadelphia College of Art, Doctor of Fine Arts, 1985
Parsons School of Design, of The New School for Social Research, Doctor of
Fine Arts, 1985
New Jersey Institute of Technology, Doctor of Humane Letters, 1984
Oberlin College, Doctor of Fine Arts, 1977

SELECTED PUBLICATIONS (Detailed bibliography at:
<http://venturiscottbrown.org/bibliography/>)

BOOKS

AA Words 4: Having Words, Denise Scott Brown. London: Architectural
Association, 2009
Architecture as Signs and Systems for a Mannerist Time, Robert Venturi, and
Denise Scott Brown. Cambridge: The Belknap Press of Harvard University
Press, 2004.
Architecture and Decorative Arts, Two Naifs in Japan, Robert Venturi, and
Denise Scott Brown, Venturi, Scott Brown and Associates and Kajima
Institute Publishing Co., Ltd., (For the "Venturi, Scott Brown and
Associates" exhibition, organized by Knoll International Japan, 1991).
Urban Concepts, Architectural Design Profile 60: January-February 1990.
London: Academy Editions.

A View from the Campidoglio: Selected Essays, 1953-1984, Robert Venturi, and Denise Scott Brown, New York: Harper & Row, 1984.

Learning from Las Vegas, Robert Venturi, Denise Scott Brown and Steven Izenour, Cambridge: MIT Press, 1972; revised edition 1977. (Published also in French, Spanish, Italian, German, Japanese, Turkish, Serbo-Croatian, Chinese, and Portuguese.)

SELECTED ARTICLES

Blanc, Françoise, "Robert Venturi and Denise Scott Brown: Learning from Shanghai," *Architecture Aujourd'hui*, No. 382, March-April 2011, pp. 16-43 (includes excerpts of DSB's essay "Words About Architecture," from *Having Words* [2009], pp. 145-153 and RV & DSB's essay, "Two Naifs in Japan," from *Iconography and Electronics Upon a Generic Architecture* [1996], pp.109-118)

"The Art in Waste," In: Gleiniger, Andrea, et al, eds., *Transdiscourse 1: Mediated Environments*, Vienna: Springer-Verlag, 2010, pp. xxviii-xxix, 161-177, 184

"Where's the Big Idea?" *RIBA Journal*, March 2009, pp.46-48

"Functionalism, Yes Yes," *SPACE*, 487, August 2008, pp. 22-23.

"What Should New Orleans Do?" *Art Forum*, December 2005, pp. 10, 264, 266, 268-69, 300, 308.

"A Buildable Dream for Penn's Landing," *Philadelphia Inquirer*, February 24, 2003. (Includes link to VSBA's report: <http://go.philly.com/plreport>)
<http://www.philly.com/mld/philly/5247886.htm>

"Activities as Patterns: Lessons About Architecture from Planning," www.metropolismag.com, February 2003.
<http://www.metropolismag.com/html/vsba/index.html#activitiesaspatterns>

"Imparare da Vaccaro," *Giuseppe Vaccaro*, Marco Mulazzani Ed., Milan: Electa, May 2002, pp. 66-75. (Italian) ("Learning from Vaccaro")

"Measuring Downtown's Future," *The New York Times*, August 16, 2002. (Op-Ed article, future of the WTC site)
<http://www.nytimes.com/2002/08/16/opinion/16SCOT.html>

"What Shall We Do About The World Trade Center?" *Metropolis*, April 8, 2002.
http://www.metropolismag.com/html/wtc/wtc_denisescottbrown.html

- “Houses and Housing In The Late 20th Century and Beyond,” *American Home: From Colonial Simplicity to the Modern Adventure*, New York: Rizzoli/Universe Publishing, 2001, pp. 240-243.
- “The Hounding of the Snark,” *The Architecture of Science*, Cambridge: MIT Press, edited by Peter Galison and Emily Thompson, 1999 pp. 375-380.
- “With the Best Intentions: On Design Review,” *Harvard Design Magazine*, Winter/Spring 1999, pp. 37-42.
- “Learning from Africa: Denise Scott Brown talks about her early experiences to Evelina Francia,” *The Zimbabwean Review*, July 1995, pp 26-29.
- “Wright in the Rear-View Mirror,” *The New York Times*, September 12, 1993, p. 55 H.
- “Invention and Tradition in the Making of American Place,” *American Architecture: Innovation and Tradition*, David G. De Long, Helen Searing, Robert A.M. Stern, editors, New York: Rizzoli, 1986, pp. 158-170.
- “Architectural Taste in a Pluralistic Society,” *The Harvard Architecture Review*, Vol. 1, Spring 1980, pp. 41-51.
- “Revitalizing Miami,” *Urban Design International*, January-February 1980. Pp. 20-25.
- “On Formal Analysis as Design Research,” *Search/Research, Journal of Architectural Education*, Vol. xxxii, No. 4, May 1979, pp. 8-11.
- “On Architectural Formalism & Social Concern,” *Oppositions 5*, Summer 1976, pp. 99-112.
- “On Pop Art, Permissiveness and Planning,” *Journal of the American Institute of Planners*, May 1969, pp. 184-186.
- “The Meaningful City,” *Journal of the American Institute of Architects*, January 1965, pp. 27-32.