

R E B E C A Z H U C A O

Pratt Institute | Expected Graduation 2022

Interior Design & Architectural Design

Selected Works: 2015-2021

REBECA ZHU CAO

ARCH & INTERIOR DESIGN

rebecazhu@gmail.com

(206)-488-2075

325 Lafayette Ave, Brooklyn, NY 11238

LinkedIn: Rebeca Zhu Cao

STATEMENT

I feel very fortunate to have a diverse educational background in Panama, China, Colombia and the United States. Gaining insights from other cultures really inspired me to learn nuances behind each culture, who we are, where we come from, where we live and how different living lifestyles can change us. Because of this, the intention to become a designer became firmer.

After graduating from the University of Washington in Seattle with an Architectural Design degree, I continued my design journey as a Junior Interior Designer in New York. Last year I came across a life changing job opportunity to work in an interior design firm in Soho. The experience introduced me to so many other design aspects that I started to see a change in my design perspective and aesthetic standard.

As a passionate and self-driven creative student, I'm drawn to how interior designers have the power to subconsciously influence people's emotion, lifestyle and interaction with one another. I started to pay more attention to strategically divide spaces, the choice of texture, material, furniture, lighting fixture, atmosphere and so on.

Throughout my studies at University of Washington and Pratt Institute, I have worked to refine my creative skills and have been trying different new mediums like drawing, photography, fabrication, ceramics, for creative expression. I am constantly searching for creative design solutions that welcome the opportunity to learn new skills.

In addition to my digital skills in Revit, AutoCAD, Rhino, and SketchUp, I am also a creative thinker and problem solver. My communicative skills as well as creative solving techniques were all developed during my time abroad. These experiences helped broaden my understanding of design and instilled in me the importance of effective communication as well as a strong appreciation of culture.

EDUCATION

Aug 2020 -Present

Pratt Institute

Brooklyn, NY

MFA in Interior Design

June 2019

University of Washington

Seattle, WA

BA in Architectural Design

August - 2014

Harvard University

Boston, MA

Physics & History of Architecture

(Summer Program)

INTERNSHIP/WORK

Oct-Aug 2020 New York

Chris Shao Studio Junior Designer

Participate in hospitality, residential, school, and restaurant design projects. Assist with preliminary, SD1, SD2 including design packages, detailed CAD drawings, working with fabric manufacturers and furniture makers.

Jan - Mar 2019 (Part Time), Seattle

July - Sep 2018 (Full Time), Seattle

MG2 Student Internship

Remodel and upgrade projects using AutoCAD and excel, mainly in ADA projects. Organizing and updating data base.

LANGUAGE

Fluent:

- Spanish, English, Chinese

Basic:

- French, Korean

July - Aug 2016 Yangzhou, China

Haw Par Corporation Internship

Organize AutoCAD and PowerPoint files of residential design.

Mar - Jun 2015 Medellin, Colombia

C.H. Arquitectos Internship

Develop Independent Study Project by coordinating with architects, attending meetings and making physical model.

SKILL

Rhinoceros 3D | SketchUp | AutoCad | Revit
V-Ray | Enscape | Grasshopper | Lumion

Photoshop | Illustrator | InDesign | Lightroom
3D Printing | Laser Cutter | CNC | Woodshop
Premiere | DaVinci Resolve

Hand Sketching & Drafting | Water Color
Pencil Color Illustration | Photography

COMPETITION

November 2020

Gaudi Architect Prize

Residential Interior Award Winner

This category recognizes innovation and excellence in Residential Interior projects such as Home decor and more.

Aug 2018

MG2 Intern Design Competition

Winner

Re-imagining Occidental Park located in Pioneer Square.

LEADERSHIP

2020

IIDA Campus Center

Organize panel discussions for students.

2015 - 2018

CSSA Public Relations Director

Publication Layout, Poster Design and Social Media Management

Event Planning:

Chinese New Year Gala Show, Freshmen Greeting, Student Handbook Design and etc.

AWARD

June 2018

UW College of Built Environment

Conceptual design of a studio project received the department's annual Grammy Award.

THE RETRO HOTEL

*Where History Meets
the Contemporary Cool.*

INT 731
Hospitality Design

Fall 2020
Mariel Herrera

Brand Identity:

The Retro is a vintage boutique hotel located in the heart of downtown that allows guests to experience the positive energy, vibrant color, artistic creation and relaxed environment of St. Petersburg all in one. Here is where history meets the contemporary cool. Tracing back the city's unique history, the hotel joins the diverse and dynamic portfolio of early indigenous culture with rising urban development by founder John C. Williams and Peter Demens. The Retro is one-of-a-kind hotel that champions values of vision, design and craft. Visioning an escape from reality by creating the most comfortable and relaxed stay for the guests. Designing a vintage boutique hotel that brings the guests back in time. Crafting exclusive art pieces that speaks of history and character of St. Petersburg.





Entry & Reception



1. Braided Banana Bark Wallcovering
2. Porcelain Tile Flooring
3. Oak Engineered Hardwood Flooring
4. Hand Woven Rug
5. Matte Bronze
6. Paisley Fabric
7. Marble Stone Polished
8. Oak Wood Veneer
9. Vintage Pendant Lighting
10. Fan Decoration
11. Aged Brass Arch Console
12. Vintage Desk Lamp



Restaurant - South Wall



Restroom Hallway



Restroom Hallway Seating



Restroom



CO-LIVE

*Two-Family Residence in
Low Rise Property in
Manhattan*

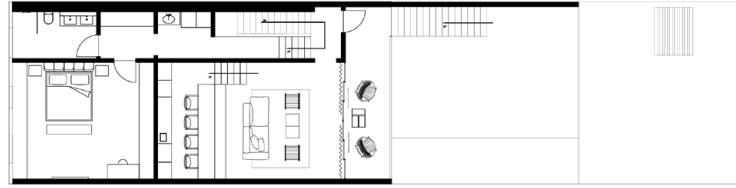
This project is designed to redefine the concept of co-living during the pandemic time, how 2 families with different cultures and backgrounds share common resources while maintaining their own privacies. In response to social isolation, openness is the key element used for public areas to create an inviting ambiance and encourage interaction and conversation among the families. Programs like library, ceramic collection, kitchen, garden, screening room, kid's play area are subtly integrated to enhance social interaction too. The change in elevation is the other key element designed in this project to re-evaluate public and private as well as enhancement of interaction in the house.

INT 701
Interior Design Studio

Fall 2020
Jon Otis



F3: Family B Bedroom & Private Family Living Room



F2: Family B Kids' Bedroom and Study Area

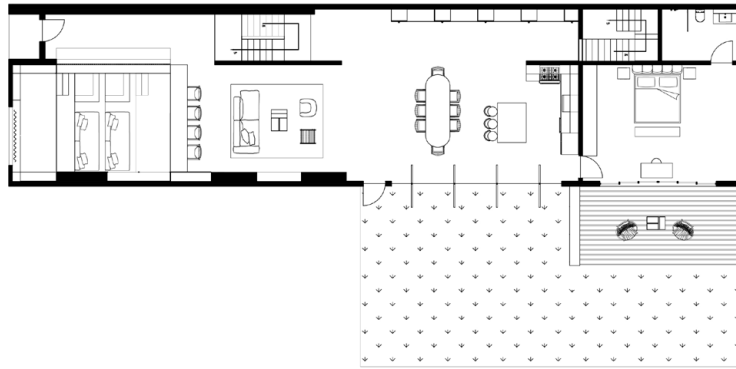
Center: Family A William's Office (writer)

North: Family A, Mina & William Bedroom

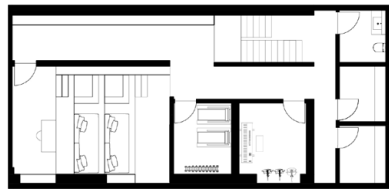


F1: Shared/Public Space

North: Family A, Mina's father Hao's Bedroom (elder)



Basement: Screening Room, Library, Gym, Music Room, Storage Room



Clinet Profile

Family A:

Mina, William + Hao

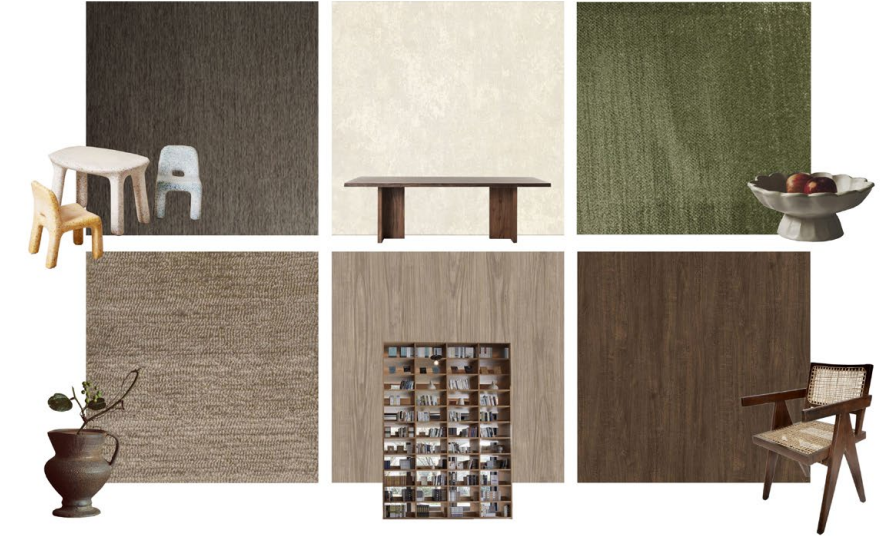
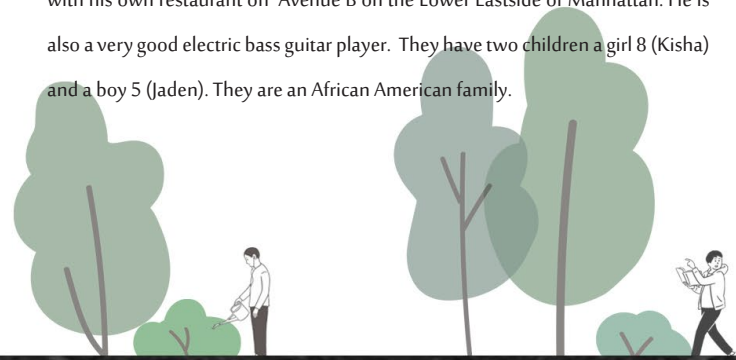
Mina is a botanist & organic farmer who works a rooftop farm at Brooklyn Navy Yard. William is a Pulitzer prize winning writer on leave from the New York Times to write a book. He has over 2000 books on a wide range of subjects including large-scale display volumes and some collectible editions that need special cases.

They live with her father Hao (who was born in China) He is a collector of contemporary Asian ceramics and loves to cook. He walks with a cane, and finds climbing steps challenging.

Family B:

Mavis, Robert + Kisha & Jaden

Mavis is a documentary film maker who works often for public television. She requires a small screening room. She meditates daily and does yoga. Robert is a chef with his own restaurant on Avenue B on the Lower Eastside of Manhattan. He is also a very good electric bass guitar player. They have two children a girl 8 (Kisha) and a boy 5 (Jaden). They are an African American family.





Upper Living Room for Family A



Dining Room and Kitchen

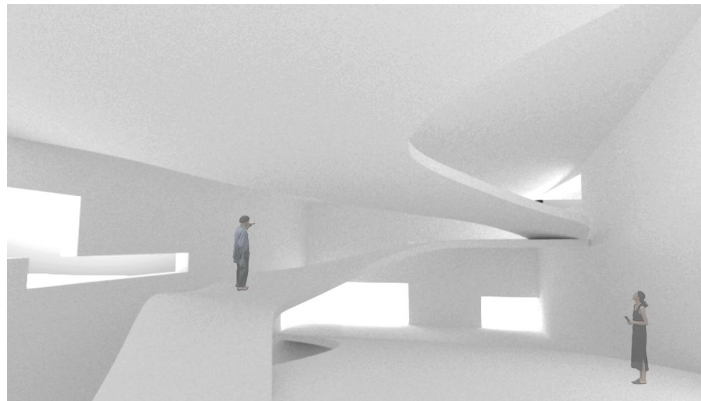
SEAMLESS CONVERGENCE

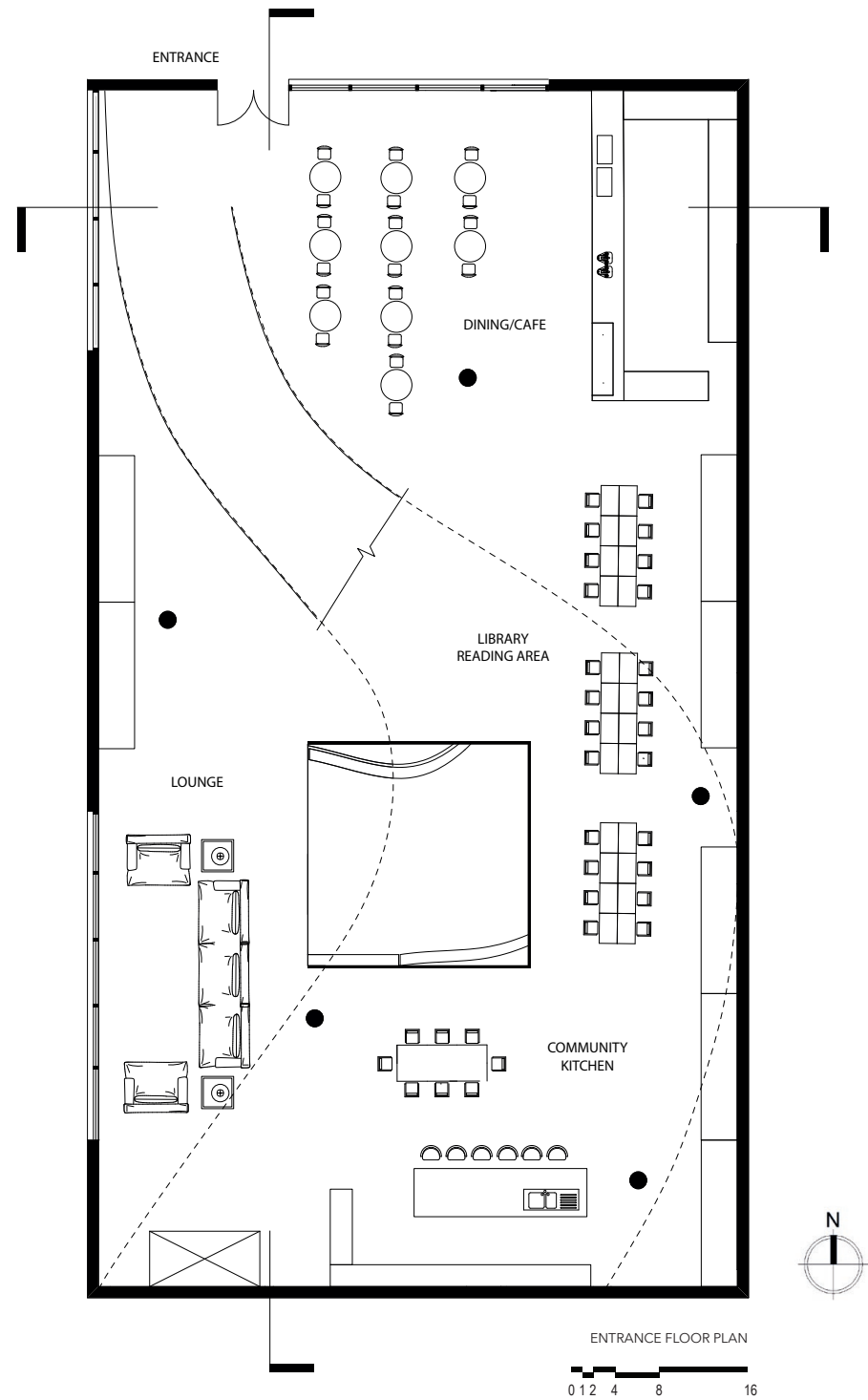
*Urban Integration of
Food Production,
Consumption, and
Neighborhood.*

ARCH 302
Arch Studio Coffee Group

Spring 2018
Daniel Stettler &
Scott Claassen

This project focuses on the urban integration of food production and consumption and its ability to affect transformation of the neighborhood. Urban food production will anchor an architectural design process exploring inside vs. outside, natural vs. manufactured, and public vs. private. Inspired by the aroma, smooth texture, and the romanticism of coffee, Seamless Convergence is a composition of interlocking spaces that result from a series of the overlapping of 2 spacial fields and the emergence of a zone of shared space. A place to gather people in the community and that also allow them to learn about coffee production.





+6 Floor

Growing & Picking
Five years after planting, as berries ripen from green to red, the bush is ready to be harvest.

+5 Floor

Processing & Drying
Beans are dried naturally in the sun, this process takes longer (2-4 weeks) but the result is better.

+4 Floor

Milling
Remaining fruit or parchment will be removed and dry coffee will become sought after "green coffee" beans. The milling process includes hulling, cleaning & sorting, grading, polishing.

+3 Floor

Roasting
By applying heat, green coffee will transform into fragile, easily opened packets of flavor.

+2 Floor

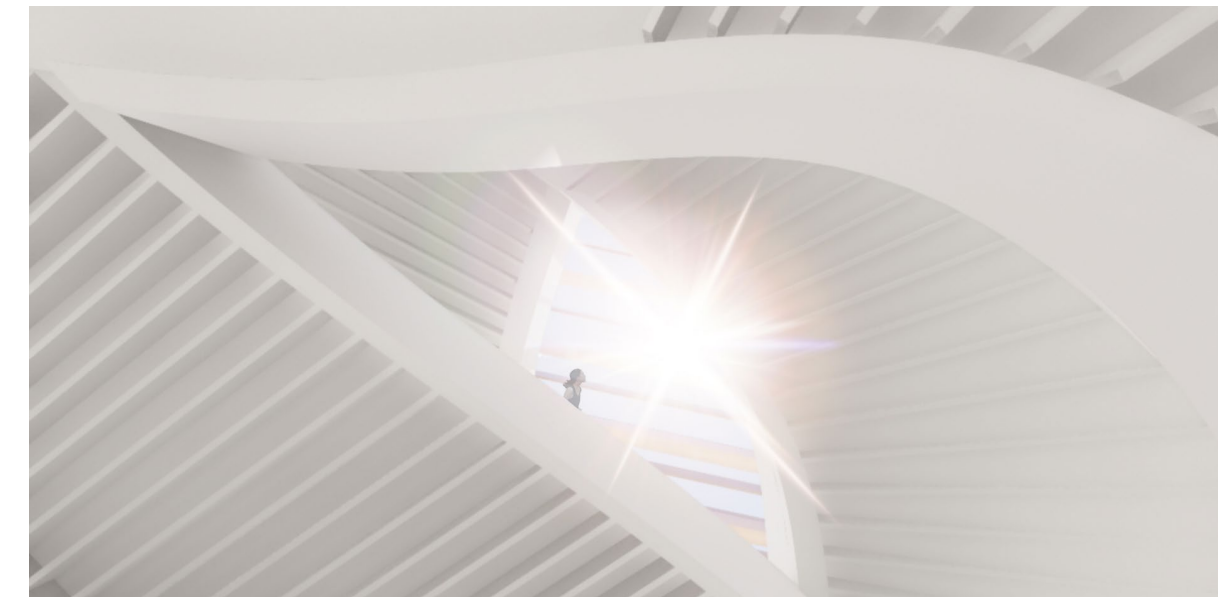
Office & Library
Office administration area for coffee production and room to do research, learn more about coffee!

+1 Floor

Coffee Shop + Reading+ Community Kitchen
A welcoming area that invites people in the community to taste different flavors.

+Basement

Storage
Beans are ideally put into cool, dark, dry airtight containers.



Looking Up View



Entrance View

DIGITAL FABRICATION

Lighting Fixture

ARCH 430
Material & Process

Spring 2019
Jack Hunter

Procedure:

1. Setting+Concept:

Bedroom nighstand. A lighting fixture with freeform curve.



2. 3D Modeling:

Getting a general idea of scale, position, light intensity, and material.



3. Testing:

Trial 1 ended up too big, scale needs to go down.



4. Finalization:

Metal base that holds the fixture in place.



+ Measurements:

Height: 16.5"
Footprint: 6" x 3"
Weight: 5 lbs

+ Materials:

4 feet long brass pipe x recycled metal piece

+ Lighting:

Vintage 40 W light bulb

