**The Sixth Sense**

**CONCEPT:**
An existing structure will be adapted to support five new occupancies, each with its own physical and environmental requirements. Yet, some organizing element must give meaning to their union. This design studio will investigate the formal, qualitative, and functional nature of this organizing entity — this Sixth Sense. Whether it is defined by some common quality, a connective medium, an ordered module, an imposed container, the influence of internal and/or external forces or a strong central image, this organizing entity will be instrumental in giving meaningful coherence to this quantitative arrangement of discreet elements, as they relate to one another and to the essential qualities of interior architectural expression.

**PROGRAM:**
Students will use the organizing concept of the sixth sense to direct a path of inquiry, research, experimentation, technical expertise, material application and coherent visual expression in the meaningful interior design of a multi-use private arts organization.

The given existing site will entail the adaptive re-use of a single building, housing:

- A music rehearsal studio / informal performance space
- A professional photography studio
- A visual arts studio (2-D and 3-D media)
- An apartment
- A commercial space.

**METHOD:**
Taught in tandem by Garrett Martin and David Suttle, this studio will be introduced by both instructors then divided into two 5-week modules, the first being led by Garrett and the second by David. Selected presentations, Mid-term and Final reviews will be conducted by both instructors in conjunction with outside critics representing the profession and the department. Garrett and David will also confer following each class meeting.

Module 1—moderated by Garrett Martin—will focus on inquiry, research, and analysis. Conceptual possibilities for the Sixth Sense will be identified and given visual and formal expression. Spatial expression and material selection will be made for each program element through detailed precedent research, conceptual refinement, diagrammatic interpretation, written expression, scalar and spatial analysis, scientific documentation and phenomenological assertion. Coherent proposals which elegantly define the relationship between the parts and the whole will serve as the basis for a mid-term evaluation, involving both professors and members of the profession and/or faculty.

Module 2—moderated by David Suttle—will focus on the translation and direct application of Module 1 parameters and concepts into an original, coherent, practically-designed and elegantly-crafted interior architectural project. This second half of the studio will focus on the continuation and realization of Module 1 concepts and the resolution of earlier design investigations, with particular emphasis on technical precision and comprehensive production, as is consistent with departmental curricula. Projects will be evaluated in a final, formal critique involving both professors and members of the professional and academic communities.

Due to constraints of travel and professional commitments, studio meetings will take place two days per week, typically on Mondays and Wednesdays from 12pm to 6pm. While students are asked to modify their schedules accordingly, instructors understand that some may have class at noon or 5pm. All studio group discussions and reviews will take place during 1-5. Some weeks will follow the regular MWF, 1pm to 5pm schedule.
The Sixth Sense

Interior Architecture Studio: IARC 484/584
University of Oregon Fall Term 2010
Instructors Garrett Martin + David Suttle

PROCESS AND PRODUCT:

Studio meetings will consist of lectures, informal desk-critiques, small and large group discussions, and both formal and informal pin-up presentations. Class meetings will at times be augmented and/or replaced by field trips to buildings and sites in Eugene, Portland, and points in-between. Students might be asked to provide their own transportation to remote class meetings.

Students will be required to present work in a variety of formats, including but not limited to: written and oral expression, sketches, technical and interpretative diagrams, hard-line drawings, experiential perspectives, material samples and physical scale models. Ideas communicated and works produced will demonstrate the student’s passion for the discipline, as well as her/his facility with color, texture, light, volume, acoustics and material properties as they relate to functional demands and experiential potency of space.

INSTRUCTORS:

Garrett Martin and David Suttle are founding partners of ARCHITECTURE OFFICE LLC, an award-winning architecture firm based in Portland, Oregon.

Architecture Office was founded on a shared commitment to the sustainable improvement of our built environment, valuing sensibility over style and permanence over fashion. Ours is a collaborative practice, dedicated to crafting meaningful places that heighten emotion and enrich the senses. We aspire to actively participate in the ethical evolution of the city while maintaining a deep connection to the natural forces and landscapes that surround us.

Our ideals and efforts are applied toward crafting highly detailed interiors and exteriors, in both new and adaptive re-use construction, employing a strong sense of scale, incorporations of mixed materials and attention to natural and artificial light.

Our partnership combines the practical knowledge of construction gained through decades of professional practice with a belief in the power of the imagination to cultivate an ethic of respect for the art of building, an appreciation of history and culture, and of ideas made tangible.

David Suttle is a registered Oregon architect and LEED® Accredited Professional with balanced experience in architectural research, teaching and practice. Prior to co-founding Architecture Office, David worked in Austin TX, Boston MA, and Portland OR gaining experience in sustainable architecture and the design of institutional buildings. His portfolio includes a new student center at Brandeis University, visual art studios and a classroom building at the Foote School in New Haven CT, an outdoor classroom at Boston’s Arnold Arboretum and plans for an archaeological services building and visitor’s center in Castellammare, Italy. Most recently, David was an associate at Allied Works Architecture, serving as project architect on the award-winning Booker T. Washington arts magnet high school in Dallas, Texas.

Garrett Martin has combined a decade of teaching with over 15 years of design-based critical practice in Portland, OR. His professional career has demonstrated a wide range of experience in managing and collaborating with others in a variety of project types and sizes, including community sports centers, schools, residences, restaurants, clubs, spa facilities, and award-winning design competition entries. Prior to co-founding Architecture Office, Garrett gained experience in a variety of Portland architecture firms, before serving as a partner for two years at a successful design-build firm and joining the faculty at Portland State University. As an adjunct professor there, he has taught design studios as well as building technology courses and has overseen student design-build projects for Habitat for Humanity, among others.