

Speakers

Ronald K. Abo, AIA

Ronald K. Abo, AIA, has been practicing architecture in the Denver area since 1969. His areas of practice are commercial and public architecture, educational facilities, multi-family housing, historic architecture, urban design, and planning, all with an emphasis in sustainable design. The Abo Group, Inc.'s list of clients currently include the City and County of Denver, Denver Public Schools, University of Colorado at Boulder, University of Colorado School of Dental Medicine, Chatfield State Park, National Institute of Standards and Technology, RTD, Denver International Airport, Retirement Housing Foundation and the National Renewable Energy Laboratory (NREL). Notable projects that Abo has participated in include Concourses A, B, and C at Denver International Airport; Tropical Discovery at the Denver Zoo; Morrison Horticulture Center at Denver Botanic Gardens; Highland Square at 32nd and Lowell; Grant Humphreys Mansion Historic Renovation; Castle Marne Historic Adaptive Re-use; and the NREL South Table Mountain Campus Master Plan.

Eric Anderson, AIA

Eric Anderson, AIA, has been actively practicing architecture in Colorado, California, New York and Ohio since 1986, and has built an extensive portfolio of resort/hospitality design, mixed-use residential developments, clubhouse/recreation centers, and educational, custom residential, and sustainable projects. Anderson's strengths lie in the early phases of planning and design, testing site and building program through quick and insightful conceptual studies, and establishing a strong conceptual bearing. His background in designing and managing large, complex projects and developments has provided him with the leadership and communication skills needed to build and maintain effective client and project team relations.

Aaron Betsky

Aaron Betsky is the eighth director of the Cincinnati Art Museum. Most recently, he directed the Netherlands Architecture Institute in Rotterdam, the world's largest architecture museum. Prior to that post, he served as curator of architecture, design and digital projects at the San Francisco Museum of Modern Art. Betsky served as the artistic director of the 11th International Architecture Biennale in Venice, Italy, in September 2008. He was born in Missoula, Mont. and raised in the Netherlands. A prolific writer and editor, Betsky has authored more than a dozen books and is currently writing a major volume on modernism in architecture and design titled *What Is Modernism*. Published in many newspapers and magazines, ranging from "The New York Times" to "Metropolitan Home", Betsky has served as a visiting professor at major universities across the U.S. and in Europe and has received honors from the Royal Institute of British Architecture and The American Institute of Architects. He holds a Bachelor of Arts in history, the arts and letters, and a Master of Architecture from Yale University, with a doctoral degree expected from the Technical University of Delft in the Netherlands.

Angela Brooks, AIA

Angela Brooks, AIA, is as a leader and pioneer in the field of sustainable architecture. Brooks has demonstrated an unparalleled ability to marry aesthetics, affordability and sustainability in the built environment. From the groundbreaking Colorado Court affordable housing development, the first of its kind to be 100% energy neutral and achieve a LEED Gold rating, to co-founding a nonprofit development company created to stimulate neighborhood revitalization, to Step Up on 5th, an apartment for homeless adults where an exhaustive energy-efficient strategy was implemented from construction through occupancy, Brooks' projects have set the standard for responsible 21st century design. Brooks and her Santa Monica-based firm, PUGH + SCARPA, have been recognized with more than 50 major awards, including 15 AIA National awards, AIA COTE Top Ten Green Project Awards in 2003 and 2006, the Rudy Brunner Prize, the AIA National 2009 Young Architect Award, and the AIA National and AIA California 2010 Firm of the Year Awards.

Mike Bridges

Mike Bridges is a builder and engineer. He began his career in 1972 as a site engineer and temporary works designer with John Laing and then H. Farrow. Bridges joined WS Try, which later became Galliford Try, in 1977, and became a construction director in 1991. The company has grown from a medium-sized West London general contractor to one of the U.K.'s leading construction companies, turning over £1.8 billion in 2009. During this period, Bridges has looked after his clients for many years, notably the All England Lawn Tennis and Croquet Club and Grosvenor since 1981. He has lead some unusual and unique construction projects, such as the conversion of Wembley Stadium for the Papal visit, the removal and erection of new roofs to the Centre Court roof at Wimbledon in 1991 and 2009, as well as hundreds of commercial, industrial and public projects. Bridges believes in the importance of good design and preparation before construction, and has demonstrated repeatedly that cooperation and non-adversarial contracting will always deliver successful results for all parties involved in a project.

Aziza Chaouni

Aziza Chaouni is founding principal of Bureau E.A.S.T (Los Angeles/Toronto/Morocco) and an assistant professor at the John H. Daniels Faculty of Architecture Landscape and Design at the University of Toronto. She holds a Master of Architecture with Distinction from the Harvard Graduate School of Design (GSD), and a Bachelor of Science with Honors in civil engineering from Columbia University. Chaouni developed her professional experience in offices in Morocco, Europe, Canada and the United States, including Hashim Sarkis Studios; Diller Scofidio + Renfro; and Renzo Piano Building Workshop. Chaouni's personal research is focused both on developing world design issues and on methodologies to integrate architecture and landscape, and more particularly through investigating the potential of green technologies in arid climates. At the University of Toronto, Chaouni teaches graduate options studios set in the Moroccan Sahara, investigating sustainable modes of construction and xeriscaping techniques and their integration with tourism. She is the director of the research board of DO.CO. MO.MO Morocco, a chapter of an international organization that seeks the preservation of the modern heritage. She received the 2007 Progressive Architecture award for her research project, "Hybrid Urban Sutures." She was the Aga Khan Visiting Fellow at GSD from fall 2006 to fall 2007. She collaborated in the production of a seminar on desert tourism and a studio on the Medina of Fez.

Axel Fridman

Axel Fridman graduated as an architect at the University of Buenos Aires in 1997. Between 1994 and 1997, he worked as a designer with Berdichevsky Cherny Arquitectos, and from 1997-1999 he was with M|SG|S|S|S. In 1998, he started the Master in Advanced Architectural Design program at Columbia University (New York), graduating with honors in 1999. In 2000, he returned to Buenos Aires and began, with Tristan Dieguez, their independent practice building several residential and commercial projects. In 2004, the firm, Dieguez Fridman Arquitectos, won its first major architectural competition, a 100,000-square-foot addition to the University of Buenos Aires School of Economics, currently under construction. They have recently been selected by Jacques Herzog, Hon. FAIA, to be one of the 100 firms participating in the Ordos 100 project in China. Each firm will design a 1,000-square-meter house on a master plan by Ai Weiwei. The firm also has been invited by Yansong Ma to design one of the buildings of the Guiyang Hua Xi Urban Center, in the Chinese province of Guizhou. Their work has been published in numerous websites and specialized magazines throughout the world, and they were part of several exhibitions and events in Buenos Aires. At present, they are design studio assistant professors in the University of Buenos Aires School of Architecture, Design and Urbanism.

Angeline Kinnaird Linn

Angeline Kinnaird Linn is the program director for the Board of Licensure for Architects, Professional Engineers and Professional Land Surveyors. Linn recently returned to the program director position, where she is responsible for executing the board's authority to regulate the professional practice of architecture, engineering and land surveying in Colorado and to assure that all licensees satisfy essential standards of professional competence. Day-to-day implementation of board policy includes management of the administrative, disciplinary, legal and financial activities. Previously, Linn served as Director of the Business and Technical Section within the Division of Registrations from spring 2006 to spring 2010. In that role, she oversaw all of the non-healthcare programs in the division, including accountancy, boxing, electricians, outfitters, plumbers and tramways, as well as the Architects/Engineers/Surveyors Board. Her responsibilities included policy development, implementation of legislation and consistency of the programs. Prior to working for the State of Colorado, Linn worked in the design and construction industry as a marketing professional with several types of companies, including architectural, engineering, real estate development and construction firms. In addition to the technical knowledge gained through this experience, Linn served for five years as a public member of the Engineers/Surveyors Board from 1987-92.

Kevin Knebl

Kevin Knebl is a Colorado-based professional speaker, trainer and coach whose clients include small, medium and Fortune 500 companies. He is an in-demand online and offline networking keynote speaker and trainer for conferences, conventions, company trainings and many other events. Knebl was originally a professional pianist in the New York area. He started his career in sales after getting married and soon discovered that the interpersonal and relational skills that he used in the arts applied just as well to sales. Within three years, he was the top salesperson worldwide for an international consulting company with more than 300 salespeople and offices in 11 countries. More than a decade ago, he started an international speaking and training career, and now assists companies all over the U.S. and internationally in growing their revenues through building and sustaining mutually beneficial win-win relationships. Since 2004, Knebl has trained thousands of professionals and businesses on the most effective uses of LinkedIn as a business development, brand management and revenue generation tool. He also has more recommendations on his LinkedIn profile (720+) than anyone else in the world, regardless of industry. Knebl's presentation style has been described as a blend of comedian, therapist and stimulating teacher. He assists individuals and organizations in significantly growing their networks and businesses through dynamic, inspirational and humorous trainings, webinars, teleseminars, workshops and individual and group coaching.

Brian Laartz, LEED AP

Brian Laartz, LEED AP, is the senior vice president of Golden Triangle Construction, Inc. Laartz has 25 years of experience providing pre-construction and construction services on a variety of commercial construction projects. As a project principal for the firm, his role is to manage the transition of design knowledge to the on-site construction team. He has been a presenter for the Curt Dale Roles and Relationships seminar for more than 10 years and a co-chair of the AIA/AGC/ACEC committee for the last three years.

Brant Lahnert, PE

Brant Lahnert, PE, has 25 years of experience in the field of structural engineering. He has a Bachelor of Science in architectural engineering (structures) and a Master of Civil Engineering (Structures) from the University of Colorado. After two years with Atkinson-Noland & Associates in Boulder, Colo., Lahnert went to Menlo Park, Calif. and worked for Failure Analysis Associates (now Exponent), the largest forensic engineering firm in the U.S. at the time. While in California, Lahnert worked as a senior engineer investigating failures of engineering structures which included building collapses, foundation settlements, earthquake damage and other performance problems. In 1994, he moved back to Colorado and founded KL&A of Colorado (now KL&A, Inc.) with a former colleague from Failure Analysis Associates. As principal engineer, he is responsible for the analysis, design and construction review of new buildings of all material types, and evaluation and retrofit of existing structures. Lahnert, who is registered in eight states and is a LEED Green Associate, has been engineer-of-record for more than \$1 billion worth of construction, including the Aspen Music Tent, the Janus/JW Marriot complex in Cherry Creek North and, most recently, the net-zero Research Support Facility at the National Renewable Energy Lab in Golden, Colo. In 2003, Lahnert assumed the position and responsibilities of chief financial officer for KL&A, which has expanded over the years to four locations with 35 employees.

Joe Levi, AIA

Joe Levi, AIA, is a principal and CEO of OZ Architecture, a 120-person, Denver-Boulder-based architecture, interior design, and planning firm that has four times been named Firm of the Year by AIA organizations. Throughout the past thirty years, Levi has worked on scores of projects concentrating in institutional work for governmental and private agencies, including the Denver Detention Center; Yosemite and Grand Canyon National Park Housing; United States Air Force Academy Offices, Dorms and Classrooms; the Denver Human Services Center Headquarters; Firestone New Town Hall; and Fitzsimmons Bio Sciences. Levi is the author of published articles on the architectural and construction standards and practices, and he is actively involved in the Denver community, serving on committees that contribute to the growth of the design and construction industries. Levi's practice stresses understanding client goals and expectations and developing strong, communication-oriented relationships with all the participants. His conviction that an inclusive and dynamic process is a vital key to projects, resulting in excellent design while meeting budgets and schedules, has earned him the respect of consultants and clients alike. Levi is a graduate of the University of Cincinnati's School of Architecture.

Paul Lewis, AIA

Paul Lewis, AIA, received a Bachelor of Arts from Wesleyan University in 1988 and a Master of Architecture from Princeton University School of Architecture in 1992. He is a fellow of the American Academy in Rome and the winner of the 1998-1999 Mercedes T. Bass Rome Prize in Architecture. He is an assistant professor at Princeton University School of Architecture and has taught at Ohio State University as the Richard Trott Visiting Professor, Columbia and Barnard Colleges, The Cooper Union Chanin School of Architecture, and Parsons The New School for Design. He is on the board of directors of the Architectural League of New York.

Chris Naughton

Chris Naughton has been practicing architecture since 1985 and has been concentrating on delivering high-quality healthcare projects since 1988. Throughout his 25-year career, Naughton has advocated for the involvement of the family members as an integral part of creating healthy outcomes. Naughton has further specialized as a national expert for women's and children's programs and planning. He has completed numerous projects around the world and speaks regularly about healthcare projects and new delivery methods.

Bruce Nichol, Int'l Assoc. AIA

Bruce Nichol, Int'l Assoc. AIA, is a founding partner of Front. He brings nearly 20 years of diverse architectural experience to the Front team. Nichol received his Bachelor of Arts with Honors from Huddersfield Polytechnic and his Master of Architecture from Oxford Brookes University. He is a licensed architect in the U.K., and his professional experience includes high-rise construction, international airport and transportation projects. His cultural projects include the Miami Art Museum, the Kimbell Art Museum, and the Isabella Stewart Gardner Museum. Nichol has also been responsible for educational building types, including work at Harvard, Cornell and Yale. At Foster + Partners, he worked with international contractors and engineers and was responsible for the design of exterior façade work, skylights, glass screens and floors, and interior elements from design concept to project completion. While with Polshek Partnership, his role as architect focused on aspects of exterior façade design for cultural and educational facilities. This addressed technical performance and construction issues pertinent to spaces for the production, preservation and exhibition of art works. Just prior to founding Front, he was involved in the architectural design and façade design of the New York Times Building while a member of the Renzo Piano Building Workshop in Paris. In addition to practice, Nichol also participates in AIA New York's Professional Practice and Technology Committees.

Steve Rondinelli, AIA

Steve Rondinelli, AIA, has extensive knowledge in fire protection and fire code enforcement. His experience includes being the Denver regional manager for the National Fire Protection Association (NFPA), providing training and technical support to a nine-state region. Rondinelli also served as the chief fire protection engineer for the Denver Fire Department, administering all fire prevention and code enforcement activities for the Denver International Airport and Fire Prevention Bureau. These responsibilities also included a significant amount of "performance-based" code application and approval of numerous unique and complex large-scale mixed-use projects. He has been actively involved in the acceptance testing and commissioning of large projects, as well as the technical review and approval of all phases of life safety, fire protection, fire alarm and smoke control systems design and installation.

Oren Safdie

Oren Safdie attended the Graduate School of Architecture at Columbia University before turning his attention to writing. Safdie is a playwright-in-residence at La MaMa E.T.C. in New York and, until recently, was the artistic director of the Malibu Stage Co. in Los Angeles, where PRIVATE JOKES, PUBLIC PLACES first debuted before running off-Broadway. His next play, "The Last Word" ran off-Broadway in 2007 and starred two-time Emmy Award Winner Daniel J. Travanti ("Hill Street Blues"). Other plays include "West Bank," "UK," "Jews & Jesus," "Fiddler Sub-Terrain," "sMOTHER" and "L.A. Compagnie," which he developed into a half-hour pilot for CBS. As a screenwriter, Safdie scripted the film "You Can Thank Me Later" starring Ellen Burstyn and the Israeli film "Bittersweet." Safdie has written for "Metropolis," "Dwell," "Beyond," and "The New Republic." His most recent play, "The Bilbao Effect," opened in May 2010 at the Center for Architecture (New York).

Jack "Jay" Sanders

Jack "Jay" Sanders received his Bachelor of Architecture from Auburn University and his Master of Architecture from the University of Texas. At Auburn, he studied with Samuel Mockbee, FAIA, at the Rural Studio, where he completed his senior thesis, "The Newbern Baseball Club". The project represented the Rural Studio at the 2002 Whitney Biennial in New York. Sanders' work at the Rural Studio is featured in Proceed and Be Bold: The Rural Studio After Mockbee, published by Princeton Architectural Press, and has been exhibited worldwide. Founder of Design Build Adventure, Sanders' recent works include CO2 LED, a large-scale temporary public art project installed in Arlington County, Virginia in the summer of 2007. Sanders is also collaborating with Liz Lambert of Bunkhouse Management and Lake|Flato Architects on El Cosmico, a residential-hotel-performance space village in Marfa, Texas. In fall 2009, he was a visiting professor at the University of Texas.