Gold medal architect to discuss contemporary design

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World-renowned architect Thom Mayne, who designed houses for Brad Pitt's Make It Right development in the Lower Ninth Ward of New Orleans, will kick off the Tulane University School of Architecture's spring Eskew+Dumez+Ripple lecture series on Monday (Jan. 28) at the Lavin-Bernick Center on the Tulane uptown campus.



Thom Mayne, who designed houses for Brad Pitt's Make It Right development in the Lower Ninth Ward, will speak on campus on Monday (Jan. 28). (Photo by Reiner Zettl)

The lecture will begin at 6 p.m. in the Kendall Cram Lecture Hall. A reception will take place prior to the lecture at 5 p.m.

Mayne, a principal with the Los Angeles-based Morphosis Architects, is the American Institute of Architecture's 2013 AIA Gold Medal winner. The award honors an individual whose significant body of work has had a lasting influence on the theory and practice of architecture.

"Thom Mayne has been producing remarkable architectural projects for more than three decades, with each project teasing out provocative propositions," says Kenneth Schwartz, dean of the Tulane School of Architecture.

"For Mayne, architecture and urbanism are intertwined in ways that equally embrace intensive research and creative expression," Schwartz says. "He has taught several generations of architecture students at several institutions on the West and East coasts, extending his influence in the process."

At Monday's event, Mayne will discuss key design issues for contemporary urban settings and analyze the role of integrated design and project delivery in creating works with the highest level of sustainable design.

A professor at UCLA since 1992, Mayne has collected dozens of honors over his career, including the Pritzker Architecture Prize, the Centennial Medal from the American Academy of Rome, the Edward McDowell Medal and the Neutra Medal for Professional Excellence.

In addition to his work in the Lower Ninth Ward, Mayne's designs include the Perot Museum of Nature and Science in Dallas, the San Francisco Federal Building, 41 Cooper Square in New York, Diamond Ranch High School in Pomona, Calif., and the California Department of Transportation headquarters, also known as Caltrans, in Los Angeles.