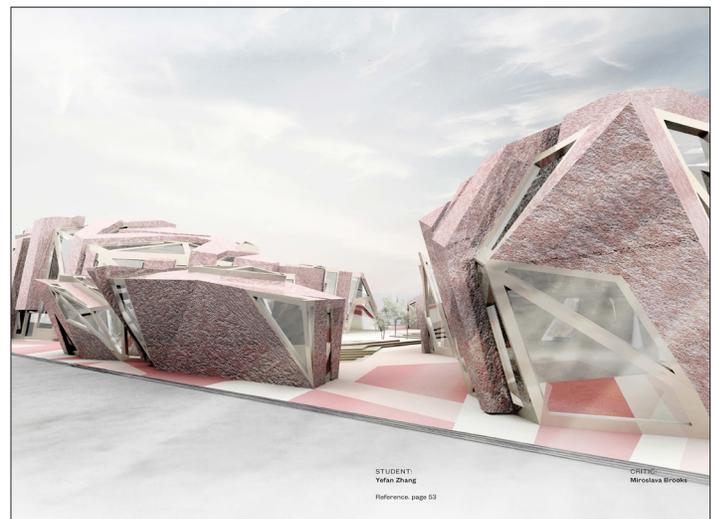


Pressing Matters 6

By University of Pennsylvania School of Design
Department of Architecture

Pressing Matters VI is an exciting design and research compilation from PennDesign's Department of Architecture, featuring recent student work, news, important symposia and lectures. Society faces many challenges: global warming and environmental change, pollution and waste, the transition to new energy and resource economies, the redistribution and reorganization of political and economic power worldwide; globalization of the construction and development industries; population growth, shrinkage and migration; urban intensification and attrition; privatization of public sector activities; and the transformation of cultural identities and social institutions. PennDesign seeks the expansion of expertise and creativity in architecture to bear on these challenges with a goal to be at the forefront of advanced research and design by creating new design methodologies and future manufacturing applications through the interlinked intelligence of digital design, scripting and robotics. Printed on recycled paper with non-toxic inks, *Pressing Matters VI* focuses on social awareness and responsibility, and endeavors to facilitate critical exchange and high-level debate within and across disciplinary boundaries. The publication reflects PennDesign's role as a connective device, linking invited experts through ongoing lectures and publications for a growing international audience and an increasing network of experts.



PENNDISIGN: With approximately 370 graduate students, the Department of Architecture is comprised of design studios, exhibition spaces, classrooms, and offices, and a facility that includes state-of-the-art laboratories for computing and fabrication. The Advanced Research and Innovation LAB, ARI, is led by Miller Professor and Chair of Architecture Winka Dubbeldam and comprises a wide variety of research groups: the Autonomous Manufacturing Lab, the Polyhedral Structures Lab or PSL, and the Baroque Topologies Lab. The Center for Environmental Building & Design, the CEBD, is directed by Dr. William W. Braham, Professor of Architecture, who also serves as Director of the Master of Science in Design with a Concentration in Environmental Building Design. PennDesign has also introduced 3-D printers in the newly renovated studio spaces and a brand new robotics lab. The Department is currently seventh in DesignIntelligence's nationwide rankings of graduate architecture programs.