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Making Things Jay Baker Architects

By Jay Baker

Making Things reviews the collective portfolio of Jay Baker Architects through 19 projects across varied design platforms. Fifteen of these projects feature houses, commissioned over a twenty-five year period, and are complimented and contrasted with an additional four projects that were self initiated, ranging from the design of a toy to a public park. Uniting these discernably diverse projects is a common denominator. Baker's work contributes to his belief that in order to make things well, it is necessary to serve the integrity of an idea, ensuring greater incisiveness in response to design challenges. The body of work presented in *Making Things* extols the virtue of creating fit, particularly when working in multifarious contexts. The book's preface is an appraisal of Baker's comprised life's work by esteemed historian, Stephen Fox.

Authors

Jay Baker Since founding his firm in 1991, Jay Baker has produced a body of work recognized for design excellence, and in 2002 was honored by the American Institute of Architects as a Fellow. Receiving his Master of Architecture degree from Rice University School of Architecture (1980), he subsequently taught architectural design at the university for 10 years. As President of the Rice Design Alliance (1992), Jay recognized the dormant potential of Houston's historic Hermann Park, spearheading an international design competition intent on achieving built improvements to the park, efforts resulting in the commission of a Master Plan, subsequently adopted by City Council. Today, as Past Chairman of the Board of Hermann Park Conservancy, Jay is Chair of the Projects Committee.

Stephen Fox is a Fellow at Anchorage Foundation of Texas and has served as an adjunct associate professor at Gerald D. Hines College of Architecture and as a lecturer in architecture at Rice University School of Architecture.