

DEMOCRACY, EQUITY AND THE DESIGN OF PUBLIC SPACE

BEYOND ZUCCOTTI PARK IS A KEY COMPONENT OF A LARGER INITIATIVE—DEMOCRACY, EQUITY, AND PUBLIC SPACE—WHICH WILL INCLUDE A TRAVELING MULTIMEDIA EXHIBIT, PUBLIC FORUMS, POPULAR AND ACADEMIC STUDY GROUPS, POLICY ADVOCACY, AND A WEBSITE. TOGETHER, THE BOOK AND INITIATIVE AIM TO ENGAGE THE PUBLIC IN ADDRESSING ISSUES OF DEMOCRACY AND EQUITY, BUILDING UNDERSTANDING, AND IMPROVING THE DESIGN AND USE OF PUBLIC SPACES FOR SOCIAL INCLUSION AND FREE CREATIVE EXPRESSION.

BEYOND ZUCCOTTI PARK AND ITS CONSTELLATION OF PROJECTS ARE A COLLABORATION OF CITY COLLEGE OF NEW YORK SCHOOL OF ARCHITECTURE AND THE PRATT GRADUATE CENTER FOR PLANNING AND THE ENVIRONMENT TOGETHER WITH NEW VILLAGE PRESS AND ITS PARENT ORGANIZATION, ARCHITECTS/DESIGNERS/PLANNERS FOR SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY. PROJECT COORDINATORS AND COLLABORATORS ARE EACH DISTINGUISHED, LIFELONG SUPPORTERS OF PARTICIPATORY CIVIC PROCESS.

RON SHIFFMAN, FAICP, HON. AIA

RON SHIFFMAN, FAICP, IS THE DIRECTOR EMERITUS OF THE PRATT CENTER FOR COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT, WHICH HE CO-FOUNDED IN 1964 AND IS CURRENTLY A PROFESSOR AT PRATT'S GRADUATE CENTER FOR PLANNING AND THE ENVIRONMENT. RON IS A CITY PLANNER WITH FOUR DECADES OF EXPERIENCE PROVIDING PROGRAM AND ORGANIZATIONAL DEVELOPMENT ASSISTANCE TO COMMUNITY-BASED GROUPS IN LOW- AND MODERATE-INCOME NEIGHBORHOODS. HE IS RECOGNIZED AS ONE OF THE FOUNDERS OF THE COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT AND COMMUNITY DESIGN MOVEMENTS IN AMERICA. HE WAS LEAD EDITOR OF "BEYOND ZUCCOTTI PARK: FREEDOM OF ASSEMBLY AND THE OCCUPATION OF PUBLIC SPACE" AND WITH HIS CO-EDITORS HAS LAUNCHED THE DEMOCRACY, EQUITY AND PUBLIC SPACE INITIATIVE.

SIGNE NIELSEN, FASLA

SIGNE NIELSEN IS A NEW YORK LANDSCAPE ARCHITECT AND URBAN DESIGNER AND HAS OVERSEEN THE PLANNING, DESIGN AND CONSTRUCTION OF MORE THAN \$400-MILLION WORTH OF PROJECTS. CURRENTLY THE PRESIDENT OF THE PUBLIC DESIGN COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF NEW YORK AND A FELLOW OF THE ASLA, SHE IS THE RECIPIENT OF OVER 60 NATIONAL AND LOCAL DESIGN AWARDS FOR PUBLIC OPEN SPACE PROJECTS AND IS PUBLISHED EXTENSIVELY IN NATIONAL AND INTERNATIONAL PUBLICATIONS. SHE IS ALSO A PROFESSOR OF URBAN DESIGN AND LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE AT PRATT INSTITUTE IN BOTH THE GRADUATE SCHOOL OF URBAN DESIGN AND UNDERGRADUATE SCHOOL OF ARCHITECTURE. MS. NIELSEN ACTIVELY PARTICIPATES IN ALL ASPECTS OF A PROJECT SERVING AS THE DESIGN DIRECTOR AND AS A PRIMARY LIAISON WITH THE CLIENT, COMMITTEES AND COMMUNITY GROUPS.

PAULA Z. SEGAL

PAULA Z. SEGAL IS THE FOUNDER AND DIRECTOR OF 596 ACRES, A PUBLIC SPACE ACTIVIST, AND AN EDUCATOR. HER ORGANIZATION, 596 ACRES, CONNECTS NEIGHBORHOODS TO LOCAL CITY-OWNED VACANT PROPERTY ENABLING NEIGHBORS TO ORGANIZE AROUND THE CREATION OF COMMUNITY GARDENS AND OTHER CIVIC PROJECTS. SHE WRITES ABOUT LAW AND GEOGRAPHY AND IS A GRADUATE OF CUNY LAW SCHOOL AT QUEENS COLLEGE, WHERE SHE WAS A HAYWOOD-BURNS FELLOW IN HUMAN AND CIVIL RIGHTS AND WORKED IN THE ECONOMIC JUSTICE PROJECT AT MAIN STREET LEGAL SERVICES. SHE IS A FOUNDING MEMBER OF THE NYC NATIONAL LAWYERS GUILD STREET LAW TEAM. BEFORE JOINING THE LEGAL PROFESSION, PAULA TAUGHT ENGLISH TO SPEAKERS OF OTHER LANGUAGES, DEVELOPED CURRICULA AND RAN AN ALL-VOLUNTEER ADULT ENGLISH SCHOOL ON THE LOWER EAST SIDE. HER RECENT WORK ALSO INCLUDES A COLLABORATIVE PROJECT WITH SWOON AND THE SAO PAULO MUSEUM OF ART AND SHE IS A FORMER MEMBER OF THE EMPTY VESSEL PROJECT. PAULA IS A LAW CLERK AT RANKIN & TAYLOR; SHE IS AWAITING ADMISSION TO THE NEW YORK STATE BAR.

Space is limited.
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