

# James Sanders Studio

## James Sanders, FAIA Curriculum Vitae

### Architecture/Design/Development Strategy

#### James Sanders Studio

Principal, 1985 to present

Registered Architect, New York State, NCARB

Fellow, American Institute of Architects

Civic, cultural, and placemaking projects include: *Seaport Culture District* for The Howard Hughes Corporation; *NYU Open House*, center for New York University; *Riverways*, a waterfront initiative for the Hudson-Fulton-Champlain Quadricentennial Commission; *Seaport Past & Future*, culture hub for General Growth Properties; *Pershing Square Concept Plan*, for Pershing Square Management Association, Los Angeles.

Development strategy projects include: *Public Flight Center*, adaptive reuse of Saarinen's TWA Flight Center as a 21<sup>st</sup> century airport hotel and museum (for Ian Schrager Company, with Ennead); *The Mercer* hotel, NY (for André Balazs Properties); *Yonkers Redevelopment Study*, for the Port Authority of New York and New Jersey, an adaptive re-use of Otis industrial complex by Kawasaki.

Commercial projects include: *92 Prince Street*, proposed mixed-use building in SoHo, NY; *The Space*, photography studio, NY; *Benedict, Aiello, PC* law offices, NY; *Kogan & Co*, art gallery, NY; *American Leisure Fitness Centers*, for Lefrak, Rouse, and Related Companies.

Residential projects include: *Kirsch/Stahl Residence*, NY; *Molly Ringwald/Panio Gianopoulos Residence*, Hastings-on-Hudson, NY; *Sadler/Grill Loft*, NY; *Bresnan/Versel Residence*, NY; *Bill Buford Apartment*, NY; *Edward W. Said Residence*, NY; *Williams/Katsch Residence*, Shelter Island, NY; *Yamashita Photography Studio*, Mendham, NJ; *Dini von Mueffling*, *Bershtel*, *Hassler*, and *Williams/Katsch* projects, NY.

#### Woods Bagot

Global Design Council Chair, 2016-present

Strategic consultant to global architecture firm, collaborating on major architecture projects. Projects include *One JFK*, master plan for JFK International Airport, commissioned by Schiphol Airports, and *Renewing the Dream: The Mobility Revolution and the Future of Los Angeles*, published by Rizzoli in 2023.

#### The Parks Council

Project Director, 1979-1983

*The Bryant Park Project*, designed and built a coordinated series of amenities and improvements for Bryant Park, NY, including open-air book market, flower market, outdoor cafes, fountain restoration, landscape improvements; *Third Avenue Improvement Project*, streetscape program in Bay Ridge, Brooklyn.

### Exhibitions/Film/Media/Research

#### *The Constant Future: A Century of the Regional Plan*

Regional Plan Association, October 2022

Conceived, curated and designed a multimedia exhibition in Grand Central Terminal's Vanderbilt Hall surveying New York and its region through the four landmark Regional Plans for 1929, 1968, 1996, and 2017.

*New York: A Documentary Film*

Steeplechase Films, 1999—2021

Co-conceived and co-wrote (with Ric Burns) the eight-part, 17½-hour series, broadcast nationally on PBS in 1999, 2001, and 2003 through WNET/New York and WGBH/Boston. Co-wrote the bestselling companion volume, *New York: An Illustrated History* (Knopf, 1999, rev. edition, 2021). Series received an Emmy Award and two nominations, 2000 and 2004, and the Alfred I. duPont-Columbia Award, 2001. Episodes 9 & 10: *The Future of Cities, Parts 1 & 2*, funded by Google and the American Express and Rockefeller Foundations, will premiere in Fall 2025.

*MORE L.A.: Transforming Parking to Places in Southern California*

Woods Bagot & L.A. Plus, 2018

Co-directed a study on the re-use of existing surface parking in Los Angeles and the reimagining of new architectural opportunities based on reduced parking regulations, presented at 2018 LA CoMotion conference.

*Building Worlds: The Art & Architecture of Film Design*

Woods Bagot, SCI-Arc, and American Institute of Architects/Los Angeles Chapter, 2018

Organized and moderated a program on film and architecture featuring the Academy Award-winning production designers James Bissell, John Myhre, Jeannine Oppewall, and David & Sandy Wasco.

*Seaport Culture District*

The Howard Hughes Corporation, 2015-16

Directed, planned and co-designed a coordinated program of nine indoor and outdoor cultural spaces at the Seaport District, NY. Partners included the Guggenheim Museum, the AIA's Center for Architecture, the American Institute of Graphic Arts, Eyebeam, HarperCollins, and the Parsons School of Design.

*South Street Seaport: Between Past and Future*

The Howard Hughes Corporation, 2014

Wrote, directed and produced a 14-minute commissioned documentary, narrated by Liev Schreiber, about the past, present and future of the South Street Seaport.

*Building the Digital City: Tech and the Transformation of New York*

Center for Urban Real Estate, Columbia University Graduate School of Architecture, Planning and Preservation, 2013

Directed a research and visioning study and organized a daylong conference featuring leaders in New York real-estate, architecture, tech, venture capital, and government.

*Tide & Tide: The Waterfront in Film, 1903-2011*

South Street Seaport Museum, 2012

Produced and designed a multi-screen video installation for the reopening of the Seaport Museum.

*NYU Open House*

New York University, 2010

Designed and developed a 4,000 SF multi-use arts and activity space in Greenwich Village, including a photography gallery a 70-seat event space, and a permanent exhibition, "University in the City."

*Made in New York Podcast Tours*

NYC Mayor's Office of Media & Entertainment, 2009

Conceived, wrote, and directed podcast walking tours of film production locations in lower Manhattan, narrated by Julianna Margulies and Matthew Modine.

Seaport Past and Future

General Growth Properties, 2008

Conceived, produced, and designed a permanent multimedia exhibit about the past, present, and future of the South Street Seaport district, in a dedicated renovated space at 204 Front Street, New York, NY.

Celluloid Skyline Exhibition

Turner Classic Movies and Time Warner Cable of New York, 2007

Conceived, curated, and co-designed a large-scale multimedia exhibition on New York and the movies, in Vanderbilt Hall, Grand Central Terminal, May-June 2007.

Andy Warhol: A Documentary Film

Steeplechase Films, 2006

Co-wrote (with Ric Burns) a two-part, four-hour documentary film on Andy Warhol, broadcast on PBS through WNET/New York's "American Masters" series. The film received a George Foster Peabody Award in June 2007 and an Emmy Award for Outstanding Writing for Nonfiction Programming in 2007.

Timescapes: A Multimedia Portrait of New York, 1609 to Today

Museum of the City of New York, 2005; revised and updated, 2016

Wrote and co-directed and co-designed (with Local Projects) a three-screen, 35-minute multimedia orientation experience at the Museum of the City of New York, narrated by Stanley Tucci and featuring the voices of Joe Morton, Cynthia Nixon, John Guare, Louis Auchincloss, and Pete Hamill.

Columbia University: A Celebration

Steeplechase Films, 2003

Co-wrote an 81-minute documentary film portrait of Columbia University, broadcast by WNET/ New York in October 2003, for the university's celebration of the 250<sup>th</sup> anniversary of its founding in 1754, narrated by Brian Dennehy.

Celluloid Skyline Website ([www.celluloidskyline.com](http://www.celluloidskyline.com))

Center for Urban Experience & Parsons Schools of Design, 2003

Produced an online multimedia resource on cities, film, and architecture, as an outgrowth of the book, *Celluloid Skyline: New York and the Movies*. Honoree, Webby Awards, 2006.

Visions of Architecture in Film

University of Southern California, Los Angeles, May 11, 1990

Moderated conference on architecture and film, sponsored by the Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences, Society of Motion Picture & Television Art Directors, and American Institute of Architects.

Victory Theater Project

En Garde Arts, New York, February—April 1990

Produced multi-media presentation and served as environmental designer and dramaturge for En Garde Arts' "Crowbar," a commissioned play by Mac Wellman reopening the historic Victory Theater.

At Home in the City

Urban Center and Graduate Center of City University of New York, May—July 1983

Co-produced and co-curated a two-part exhibition on the New York residential tradition for the Municipal Art Society and the Graduate Center of City University of New York, principally funded by the Ford Foundation and the National Endowment for the Arts. Co-directed an associated conference, "Renewing the Promise," with keynote address by U.S. Secretary of Housing and Urban Development Samuel Pierce.

### Three Buildings

Graduate Center of City University of New York, September—December 1975

Produced and co-wrote an exhibition on the history, architecture and urbanism of Grand Central Terminal, the New York Public Library, and the Times Tower.

### **Education/Teaching**

Columbia University  
Graduate School of Architecture, Planning and Preservation  
Adjunct Research Fellow, 2013-2016

The New School  
Instructor in Film & Communication, and Writing, Spring-Fall 2003

Columbia University  
Graduate School of Architecture, Planning and Preservation  
Instructor, Spring 1984

Columbia University  
Graduate School of Architecture, Planning and Preservation  
Master of Architecture, May 1982

Massachusetts Institute of Technology  
School of Architecture + Planning  
Master of Architecture Program, September 1976-May 1977  
Teaching Assistant for Associate Professor Judith Weschler, Spring 1977

Columbia University  
Bachelor of Arts in Art History, May 1976  
Recipient, Chanler Prize in History, 1976

### **Awards and Fellowships**

California Court project presented in “Built by New York” member exhibition, AIA Center for Architecture, 2024.

American Academy in Rome, Visiting Artist and Scholar, 2024.

College of Fellows, American Institute of Architects, 2021.

Riverways project selected for “New York Now” Exhibit, American Institute of Architects, New York Chapter, October 2009 (with Pentagram).

Emmy Award for Outstanding Writing for Nonfiction Programming, Academy of Television Arts and Sciences, for *Andy Warhol: A Documentary Film*, 2007.

George Foster Peabody Award, for *Andy Warhol: A Documentary Film*, June 2007.

AIGA Design Award, 2007, for Interactive Model of Lower Manhattan (with Pentagram).

Bronze Medal, International Design Excellence Awards, 2007, for Interactive Model of Lower Manhattan (with Pentagram).

Fellow in Architecture, John Simon Guggenheim Memorial Foundation, 2006-2007.

Emmy Award, Long-Form Historical Programming, National Academy of Television Arts and Sciences, for “The Center of the World,” Episode 8 of *New York: A Documentary Film*, 2004.

CINE “Golden Eagle” award for *New York: A Documentary Film*, Episode 7, 2002.

Special Jury Prize for Distinguished Achievement, Theater Library Association, for *Celluloid Skyline*, 2002.

Alfred I. duPont-Columbia University Award, for *New York: A Documentary Film*, 2001.

Emmy Award Nomination for Outstanding Non-Fiction Series, Academy of Television Arts and Sciences, for Episode 4 of *New York: A Documentary Film*, 2000.

Design Award Nomination, American Theater Wing, for *Crowbar*, Victory Theater Project, 1990.

Certificate of Merit, Copley Square National Design Competition, Boston, February 1984.

Winner, Architectural League Prize for Young Architects and Designers, 1981.

Municipal Art Society Merit Award, for Bryant Park Project, April 1981.

Design Arts Fellowship, National Endowment for the Arts, 1980.

Research Grant, Ernest O. Grunsfeld Foundation, 1977.

General Scholarship Award, Massachusetts Institute of Technology, 1977.

New York City Landmark Scholar, Landmarks Preservation Commission, 1975-1976.

## **Professional Memberships**

College of Fellows, American Institute of Architects, 2021-present.

Fellow, Forum for Urban Design, 2012-present.

Member, American Institute of Architects, New York Chapter, 2008-present.

Member, Century Association, New York, 2009-present.

Member, Board of Directors, The Skyscraper Museum, New York, 2006-present.

Member, Advisory Council, Center for Architecture, AIA New York Chapter, 2003-2008.

Member, Writers Guild of America/East, 2001-present.

Member, Founding Committee, Young Architects Forum, Architectural League, 1981.

## **Publications**

### Books

*Renewing the Dream: The Mobility Revolution and the Future of Los Angeles*. New York: Rizzoli, 2023. Contributions by Frances Anderton, Eric Avila, Greg Lindsay, Michael Manville, Donald Shoup, and Mark Vallianatos.

*New York: An Illustrated History* (with Ric Burns). New York: Alfred A. Knopf, 1999; expanded edition, 2003; expanded edition, 2021. Munich (German language-edition): Frederking & Thaler, 2002. Contributions by Carol Berkin, Marshall Berman, Robert A. Caro, Ester Fuchs, Adam Gopnik, Kenneth T. Jackson, David Levering Lewis, Phillip Lopate, Suketu Mehta, Robert A.M. Stern, and Mike Wallace.

*Scenes from the City: Filmmaking in New York*. New York: Rizzoli, 2006, expanded edition, 2014. Produced with the Mayor's Office of Media and Entertainment. Contributions by Martin Scorsese and Nora Ephron.

"Riverways: Reconnecting the City to the Water," New York: Pentagram Publications, 2009.

*Celluloid Skyline: New York and the Movies*. New York: Alfred A. Knopf, 2001. London: Bloomsbury, 2002. Funded by the National Endowment for the Arts, the Graham Foundation for Advanced Studies in the Visual Arts, the New York State Council on the Arts, and Furthermore, a program of the J.M Kaplan Fund. Theatre Library Association Merit Award, 2002.

*New York City 2012* (with Ric Burns). General introduction and chapter introductions for New York City's official bid book for the 2012 Summer Olympic Games. New York: NYC2012, 2001.

*At Home in the City*, exhibition catalogue (with Roy Strickland). New York: Graduate Center of the City University of New York, 1983. Funded by the New York State Council on the Arts.

#### Articles, Essays and Book Chapters

"Only Connect: Red Hook Houses and the Making of Modern New York," chapter in *KPF in New York*, New York: Monacelli, 2024.

"A Step Away from Them: The New York Street Photographs of Gus Powell," in *Sidewalks*, Barcelona, Spain: Sidewalk Publishing, Issue 1, Spring 2024.

"Make It There," *Avenue*, March/April 2021: 49.

"Life After Parking Lots," *Los Angeles Times*, December 17, 2018: A15 (with Nik Karalis).

"Top of the Town: Manhattan's Observation Decks," *The New Yorker*, May 2, 2016: 50.

"Building the Digital City," *Volume*, Number 42, Spring 2015: 54.

"Keeping a City-by-the-Sea From Becoming a City in It," Reuters, July 21, 2014 (with Jesse M. Keenan).

"A New Kind of Dream: From City to Suburb in American Movies," TCM Festival Program, April 2012.

"Adventure Playground," chapter in Sam Roberts, ed., *America's Mayor: John V. Lindsay and the Reinvention of New York*, New York: Columbia University Press, 2010.

"Dreams and Nightmares: Filmic Visions of New York since September 11<sup>th</sup>," in *New York*, London: Gloria Books, 2008.

"The L.A. Moderns: Raise High the Roofbeams, Carpenters!" *BlackBook*, March 2007: 74

"The Dream City Revisited," *C on Cities* 03 (London), September 2006: 12.

"La Calle, Cuna de Criminales: Barriadas, Niños, y Gangsters en el Cine NeoYorkino," *Bifurcaciones: Revista de Estudios Culturales Urbanos* (www.bifurcaciones.cl), Number 6, Spring 2006.

"Thanks to the Movies," Introduction to *Tribeca Talks*, Milan: Fondazione Prada and Distributed Art Publishers, 2004.

"On the Back Lot, New York 90210," *New York Times*, February 26, 2004: F1.

"'Sex' and the Mythic Movie Dream of New York City," *New York Times*, February 22, 2004: 2:17.

"Taking the Memorial Designs for a Test Drive, Steered by Computer," *New York Times*, November 30, 2003: 2:40.

"Honoring the Dead in the City That Never Weeps," *New York Times*, August 31, 2003: 2:19.

"In the Dark, Big City Dreams," *New York Times*, October 6, 2002: 14:1.

"In New York, Seeking a Grand Vision of Public Works," *New York Times*, September 1, 2002: 4:5.

- “Footnotes: Gotham Popcorn,” *New York Times Magazine*, Part 2, February 24, 2002: 174.
- “The Long Goodbye,” *Interiors*, v. 159, No. 6, June 2000: 41.
- “Daniel Solomon: Creating a New City and New Hope for the Urban Future,” *Los Angeles Times*, April 21, 1996: M3.
- “City’s Sprawl May Be Its Saving Grace,” *Los Angeles Times*, March 25, 1995: M1.
- “Picture This,” in *The Guardian* with Channel Four Television, December 1993: 50.
- “Dialogue: Celluloid Skyline,” *Design Book Review 24*, Spring 1992: 16.
- “Robert Venturi/Denise Scott Brown: An Architectural Team to Reshape the American Landscape,” *Los Angeles Times*, August 18, 1991: M3.
- “Cotton Candy and Electric Dreams,” *New York Times*, February 3, 1991: 2:29.
- “Look at Downtown, the New Los Angeles,” *Los Angeles Times*, February 16, 1986: 3.
- “An Ocean Liner Museum is Born, But for a Berth,” *Avenue*, v. 9, No. 6, June/July/August 1985: 101.
- “Towards the Return of the Public Place: An American Survey,” *Architectural Record*, v. 173, No. 4, April 1985: 92.
- “Henry Hope Reed: After Years in the Cold, a Feisty Critic is Back in Style,” *Avenue*, v. 9, No. 2, February 1985: 92.
- “The Ultimate Hotel,” *Vanity Fair*, v. 46, No. 3, May 1983: 86 (with Roy Strickland).
- “Bryant Park’s New Lease on Life,” *Place*, v. 3, No. 7, July-August 1983: 1 (with Roy Strickland).
- “Will They Ever Finish Bruckner Boulevard?’ and ‘Kicked a Building Lately’ by Ada Louise Huxtable” (book reviews), *The Livable City*, v. 9, No. 2, May 1982: 6.
- “Harlem River Houses,” *Harvard Architecture Review*, No. 2, Spring 1981: 48 (with Roy Strickland).
- “In Search of a School,” *Precis: Columbia University Journal of Architecture*, v. 2, May 1979: 4.
- “First Houses—Where It All Began,” *The Livable City*, v. 5, No. 2, March 1978: 4 (with Roy Strickland).