

ROBERT VENTURI, FAIA, Int. FRIBA, Principal

Robert Venturi, founding principal of VSBA, derives his reputation from both his architecture and theoretical and critical writings. His most recent book, written with Denise Scott Brown and published by Harvard University Press, refers to Mr. Venturi and Ms. Scott Brown's contributions as "[having] influenced architects worldwide for nearly half a century."

Mr. Venturi's recent and current work includes a provincial capitol building of the Haute-Garonne in Toulouse, France; the Mielparque Nikko Kirifuri resort hotel near Nikko, Japan; the Sainsbury Wing of the National Gallery in London; additions to the Museum of Contemporary Art, San Diego; the Seattle Art Museum; conceptual design of two high-rise offices in Shanghai; major expansions to Lehigh Valley Hospital; an extension to the Woodmere Art Museum; and a chapel for the Episcopal Academy near Philadelphia.

VSBA has engaged in over 70 projects for over 30 institutions of higher learning, many involving repeat work, including labs for the University of Kentucky, Princeton, Penn, Michigan, UCLA, UC Santa Barbara, and Yale; libraries at Dartmouth, Penn, Bard, and Harvard's Dumbarton Oaks; and campus centers for Princeton, Dartmouth, Penn, Delaware, Harvard, and Swarthmore. VSBA's architecture and planning are known for particular responsiveness to the client's program, schedule, and budget and to the building's context, accommodating a distinctive aesthetic for each project.

Mr. Venturi's teaching, lecturing, and writing have received widespread attention and critical review. *Complexity and Contradiction in Architecture* (Museum of Modern Art Press, 1966) has been translated and published in 18 languages, including a Samizdat edition in Czechoslovakian. It has been honored with the AIA's Classic Book Award. Mr. Venturi's awards also include the Pritzker Architecture Prize (1991) and the Presidential National Medal of the Arts (1992).

EDUCATION

Princeton University, A.B., *summa cum laude*, 1947; M.F.A., 1950
American Academy in Rome, Rome Prize Fellow, 1954-1956

ARCHITECTURAL REGISTRATION

Certificate Holder, National Council of Architectural Registration Boards
Registered Architect: California, Connecticut, District of Columbia, Indiana, Maine,
Michigan, New Jersey, New York, New Hampshire, North Carolina, Ohio, Pennsylvania,
Texas, Virginia, Washington, Colorado, Massachusetts, Delaware

PROFESSIONAL ASSOCIATIONS

Member, American Philosophical Society of Philadelphia
Member, European Academy of Sciences and Arts
Advisory Board of Directors, Sir John Soane's Museum Foundation
Fellow, American Institute of Architects
Member, Pennsylvania Society of Architects
Fellow, American Academy in Rome
Fellow, Accademia Nazionale di San Luca, Rome
Honorary Fellow, Royal Institute of British Architects
Honorary Fellow, Royal Incorporation of Architects in Scotland

Fellow, American Academy of Arts and Sciences
Member, American Academy of Arts and Letters
Member, The Royal Society for the Encouragement of Arts, Manufacture & Commerce
Honorary Member, The Bund Deutscher Architekten BDA
Member, Carpenters Company of the City and County of Philadelphia
Honorary Professor, Xi'an Academy of Fine Arts

ACADEMIC ADVISING, TEACHING AND LECTURING

University of Pennsylvania, Instructor to Associate Professor of Architecture, 1957-1965;
Member, Board of Overseers of the School of Fine Arts, 1985-2002
University of Delaware, Member, Visual Arts Visiting Committee, 1995-1998
University of Virginia, Selection Committee for The Thomas Jefferson Medal in Architecture,
1987-1990
Harvard University, Graduate School of Design, Walter Gropius Lecture, 1982; the William
E. Massey, Sr. Lectures, "Toward a Mannerist Architecture for Today," (with Denise Scott
Brown) Spring 2003
Princeton University, Department of Art and Archaeology, Board of Advisors, 1977-1981;
Butler College, Fellow, 1983-present
Oberlin College, Baldwin Lectures, 1973
University of California at Santa Barbara, Regents Lecturer, 1972
Rice University, Visiting Critic, 1969
Yale University, Charlotte Shepherd Davenport Professor Architecture, 1966-1970; Morse
College Fellow, 1970; Eero Saarinen Visiting Professor of Design, 1986-1987
University of California at Los Angeles, School of Architecture and Urban Planning,
Member, Panel of Visitors, 1966-1967
State Department Grant, for Lectures and Travel in USSR, 1965
American Academy in Rome, Fellow 1954-present; Architect in Residence, 1966; Trustee,
1969-1974
Lectures, conferences, juries and panels, 1960-present: several hundred in North America,
Europe, Asia, and Africa.

PUBLIC SERVICE

Member, The Athenaeum of Philadelphia, 2005
Honorary Event Chair, Girard College Philadelphia, Celebration, 1998
U.S. Patron, The Friends of Benjamin Franklin House, London, 1996-present
Member, Master Jury, Aga Khan Award for Architecture, 1986
Trustee, National Building Museum, Washington, D.C., 1983-1987
Trustee, Old Philadelphia Development Corporation, 1983-1985
Board of Advisors, Savannah, Georgia, Ossabaw Island Project, 1977-1981

AWARDS

National Design Mind Award, Cooper-Hewitt, National Design Museum, New York, NY,
with Denise Scott Brown, 2007.
Philadelphia Artistic Legacy Award, Woodmere Art Museum, Philadelphia, PA, with Denise
Scott Brown, 2006.
The Founder's Award of the Historical Society of Pennsylvania, with Denise Scott Brown,
2006
Inaugural DesignPhiladelphia Luminary Award, with Denise Scott Brown, 2005

The Franklin Founder Bowl, The Franklin Celebration, Philadelphia, PA, with Denise Scott Brown, 2005
Society for Environmental Graphic Design Fellow Award, with Denise Scott Brown, 2003
Vincent J. Scully Prize, National Building Museum, with Denise Scott Brown, 2002
Germantown Hall of Fame, Germantown Historical Society of Philadelphia, 2002
Accademico d'Onore, College of Professors, Accademia Delle Arti Del Disegno, Rome, 2001
Commandeur de l'Ordre des Arts et Lettres, Republique Française, Ministère de la Culture et de la Communication, 2000
Joseph Pennell Medal, The Philadelphia Sketch Club, 2000
Giants of Design Award, *House Beautiful* Magazine, 2000
Honoree, French-American Chamber of Commerce, Philadelphia, 2000
Centennial Medal of the American Academy in Rome, 1998
Salutation from the American Academy in Rome on the occasion of the Celebration of the 100th Anniversary of its founding, 1994
The Benjamin Franklin Medal Award, The Royal Society for the Encouragement of Arts, Manufacture & Commerce, 1993
John Harbeson Distinguished Service Award, Philadelphia Chapter of the American Institute of Architects, 1993
The 1992 Philadelphia Award, Trustees of the Philadelphia Award, 1993
Hall of Fame Award, *Interior Design* Magazine, 1992
National Medal of Arts, U.S. Presidential Award, 1992
"Man of the Year," The Order Sons of Italy and the Council of the City of Philadelphia, 1992
The Pritzker Architecture Prize, The Hyatt Foundation, 1991
AIA Medal of Distinction, The Pennsylvania Society of Architects, 1990
The Wyck-Strickland Award, Philadelphia, PA, 1989
Creative Achievement Award, The Association of Collegiate Schools of Architecture, 1988
Commendatore of the Order of Merit, Republic of Italy, 1986
The President's Medal, The Architectural League of New York, 1986
The James Madison Medal, Princeton University, 1985
Presidential Design Award, 1984
Louis Sullivan Award and Prize, International Union of Bricklayers and Allied Craftsmen, 1983
Thomas Jefferson Memorial Foundation Medal, University of Virginia, 1983
Hazlett Memorial Award for Excellence in the Arts, Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, 1983
Citation, National Association of Schools of Art, Moore College of Art, 1979
AIA Medal for *Complexity and Contradiction in Architecture*, 1978
Philadelphia Art Alliance Medal of Achievement, 1978
Citation, Creative Art Award, Brandeis University, 1976
Arnold W. Brunner Memorial Prize in Architecture, 1973
Phi Beta Kappa, 1947

(Project Awards: See VSBA Firm Resume)

HONORARY DEGREES

Zhejiang University, Hangzhou, China, 2005
University of Nevada, Las Vegas, Doctor of Letters, 1998
University of Miami, Doctor of Architecture, 1997
University of Rome "La Sapienza," *Laurea honoris causa in Architettura*, 1994
Bard College, Doctor of Arts, 1993
Philadelphia College of Textiles and Science, Doctor of Humane Letters, 1992
University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, Doctor of Letters, 1989
Philadelphia College of Art, Doctor of Fine Arts, 1985

New Jersey Institute of Technology, Doctor of Humane Letters, 1984
Princeton University, Doctor of Fine Arts, 1983
University of Pennsylvania, Doctor of Fine Arts, 1980
Yale University, Doctor of Fine Arts, 1979
Oberlin College, Doctor of Fine Arts, 1977

SELECTED PUBLICATIONS (Detailed bibliography available on request.)

Architecture as Signs and Systems: for a Mannerist Time, Venturi, Robert, and Denise Scott Brown, Cambridge: The Belknap Press of Harvard University Press, 2004.

“Thoughts on the Architecture of the Scientific Workplace: Community, Change, and Continuity,” *The Architecture of Science*, Cambridge: MIT Press, edited by Peter Galison and Emily Thompson, 1999.

Iconography and Electronics Upon a Generic Architecture, A View from the Drafting Room, The MIT Press, Cambridge, 1996.

“Architecture as Elemental Shelter, the City as Valid Decon,” with Denise Scott Brown, *New Museums*, Architectural Design Profile No. 94, London: The Academy Group Ltd., 1991 (Banham Lecture, 1991).

Architecture and Decorative Arts, Two Naifs in Japan, Venturi, Robert, and Denise Scott Brown, Venturi, Scott Brown and Associates and Kajima Institute Publishing Co., Ltd., (For the “Venturi, Scott Brown and Associates” exhibition, organized by Knoll International Japan, 1991).

“From Invention to Convention in Architecture,” *Royal Society of Arts Journal*, London, January 1988, pp. 89-103 (Thomas Cubitt Lecture, April 1987).

A View from the Campidoglio: Selected Essays, 1953-1984, Venturi Robert, and Denise Scott Brown, New York: Harper & Row, 1984.

“Diversity, Relevance and Representation in Historicism, or Plus ça Change,” *Architectural Record*, June 1982, pp. 114-119 (1982 Walter Gropius lecture, Harvard University).

“The Annual RIBA Discourse, July 1981,” Transactions 1, *RIBA Journal*, May 1982, pp. 47-56.

Learning from Las Vegas, Robert Venturi, Denise Scott Brown and Steven Izenour, MIT Press, Cambridge, 1972; revised edition 1977. (Published also in French, Spanish, Italian, German, Japanese, Turkish, Serbo-Croatian, Portuguese and Chinese.)

Complexity and Contradiction in Architecture, Museum of Modern Art, New York, 1966; second edition 1977. (Published also in Japanese, French, Spanish, German, Greek, Italian, Chinese, Serbo-Croatian, Hungarian, Czechoslovakian, Turkish and other languages). Winner of Classic Book Award in the AIA’s Seventh Annual International Book Awards program, 1996.