

Marysol Rivas Brito

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EDUCATION

Harvard University | Graduate School of Design | Harvard GSD
Master in Architecture II 2017

Massachusetts Institute of Technology | School of Architecture and Planning | MIT SA+P
Cross-Registered Graduate Student 2017

Universidade de São Paulo | Faculdade de Arquitetura e Urbanismo [School of Architecture and Urbanism] | FAU USP
Bachelor in Architecture and Urbanism 2012

Universidade de São Paulo | Faculdade de Filosofia, Letras e Ciências Humanas [School of Philosophy, Languages, Literature and Human Sciences] | FFLCH USP
Cross-Registered Bachelor Student 2011-12

Universitat Politècnica de Catalunya | Escola Tècnica Superior d'Arquitectura de Barcelona [Barcelona School of Architecture] | ETSAB UPC
International Exchange Undergraduate Student 2009-10

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Foster and Partners | Designer | New York (USA) | 2024 - Current
Formulated and developed architectural and urban design solutions for massive transit hubs. Contributed to concept and design development with an emphasis on urban strategies, enclosure performance, and spatial quality. Supported value-engineering and multidisciplinary coordination to help advance a cohesive, resilient, sustainable and future-ready transit hubs. Collaborated on the analysis and preparation of RFIs, RFQs, and LOIs responses for prospective clients and new project opportunities. Main Projects: Port Authority Bus Terminal and Penn Station Renovation Competitive Procurement.

Skidmore, Owings & Merrill | Senior Architectural Designer I | New York (USA) | 2021-24
Development of ideas, solutions, representation and coordination documentation for several design phases (Competition, Concept, Schematic Design, Design Development and Construction Administration). Typologies contemplated included skyscraper, cityscale development of building prototypes, large scale high-end mixed use, landmark redevelopment, and hospitality. Main Projects: AXA Tower redevelopment (Singapore), LG Headquarters renovation (Seoul), Waldorf Astoria NY, Luxury hotel in Miami, Military base in Saudi Arabia.

Plan A | Architectural designer/ Project manager | New York (USA) | 2018-21
Project manager responsible for commercial, educational, and landmark intervention projects in Manhattan. Responsible for the master plan and building design, and for the landscape coordination of the new campus of Plaksha University in India. Main Projects: Plaksha University masterplan and buildings (Chardigarh), Storefront renovation at 509 Madison (NYC), IANY Landmark renovation (NYC).

Prophet | Design and Branding Consultant | New York (USA) | 2017-18
Worked with strategic branding designing interior, exterior spaces and retrofits with a focus on identity for brands like Kia and MetLife.

Preston Scott Cohen INC. | Architecture and Urban Design Consultant | Cambridge | USA | 2017
Designed Planning, Landscape and Urban Design strategy for the ecological development of a new centrality in Northeast China.

+ D // Design with Purpose | Architect and Urban Designer | Rio de Janeiro | Brazil | 2016
Work and Immersion at the "Vidigal" slum at Rio de Janeiro, living in there and learning how to work with the local community for the maintenance of a community park, meanwhile working on an architecture competition producing thermo-dynamic studies, models and diagrams.

JBMC Arquitetura e Urbanismo | Architect and Urban Designer | São Paulo | Brazil | 2014-2015
Administrated preliminary studies, executive project, approval at city council, and compatibility with subcontractors. Project: Salvador's new subway line (15 stations) and renovation of the existing bus terminals and subway stations.

GCP Arquitetos | Architect and Urban Designer | São Paulo | Brazil | 2013-2014
Developed preliminary studies, construction drawings, compatibility with subcontractors, layout proposals, and presentations. Main Projects: Arena Pantanal (Stadium for Brazil's World Cup), Northeast's Olympic Training Center, and Unilever headquarters.

Nitsche Arquitetos Associados | Architecture and urbanism intern | São Paulo | Brazil | 2011-2012
Conducted meetings with clients, developed studies and drawings for construction and approval at city council, developed presentations and mock-ups, and supervised construction. Main Projects: Renova SP, João Moura Building, "No Galpão" Buffet, Private Residences.

Office of Landscape of the Municipality of São Paulo | Landscape intern | São Paulo | Brazil | 2010-2011
Designed drainage and planting projects, development of preliminary/feasibility studies and helped developing edict for outsourcing. Main Projects: Anhanguera Park, Ten. Brig. Roberto Faria Lima Park, Brasília Park.

ACADEMIC EXPERIENCE

25th International Biennale of Architecture of São Paulo | Exhibiting Architect | São Paulo - Brazil | 2025

Proposal “The Performative Unit” included in the main exhibition, recognized by the curatorial team for its relevance and design merit. The project was developed alongside lead author Yasamin Mayas, advancing its conceptual, visual, and architectural expression.

European Association for Urban History | Speaker at 14th International Conference on Urban History | Rome - Italy | 2018

Selected to present the article “Spatialized Ideologies - Company towns in the Amazon and their inherent challenges” in the Session SS32 - Living in the projects: Company towns imagined, planned and lived.

Harvard Graduate School of Design | Teaching Assistant of GSD OPTION STUDIO | Cambridge - USA | 2016-2017

Worked with Prof. Felipe Correa researching about the evolution of the morphology of the city of São Paulo, geo-referencing historical data, preparing graphic materials for the students, organizing deliverables and helping on the critiques for the Option Studio “São Paulo: The Rescaling of Rail Infrastructure and New Models of Domestic Life”.

Roger Williams University | Design critic | Bristol - USA | 2016-25

Participation as a design critic at gallery style final and mid-term reviews.

Harvard Graduate School of Design | Personal Exhibition | Cambridge - USA | 2016

Proposal “Urban Fragmentations at the Amazon” selected to exhibit at the “News Wall” at the GS Building. The authors (Marysol Rivas Brito and Ana Mayoral Moratilla) were responsible for the development of conception, design, production and installation of the exhibition, with one month of duration.

Harvard University / David Rockefeller Center for Latin American Studies | Harvard-Brazil Cities Research Fund Fellow | Brazilian Amazon - Brazil | 2016-2017

Developed personal research “Urbanization in the Amazon: Subversion of spatial impositions” sponsored by the David Rockefeller Center for Latin American Studies (DRCLAS), Claudio Haddad, and the Harvard-Brazil Cities Initiative. The work included research in historical archives, geo-referencing of historical maps, conduction of interviews, field research and interviews through the Transamazônica Highway. This research was developed with the Ana Mayoral Moratilla.

Mexican Cities Initiative at the Harvard GSD | Yucatán Initiative Fellow | Yucatán Peninsula - Mexico | 2016

Worked with Prof. Diane Davis, Prof. Jose Castillo and other 5 researchers from the GSD in the development of the conceptual framework and data gathering/processing methodology for a Visual Dictionary of the Mayan cities at the Yucatán Peninsula. It was an intense field research where we had total autonomy and had to coordinate a group of local undergraduate architecture students. The final products were an open web platform and a publication with all the data interpreted by us.

Harvard University / Harvard Mellon Cities Initiative | Research Assistant | Cambridge - USA | 2016-2017

Worked with Prof. Dr. Sibel Bozdogan, Nese Dogusan and Nil Tuzcu in the development of an exhibition about the urban development of Istanbul. The research process included the development of graphic analysis of the morphological development of the city of Istanbul through time, analysis and processing of historical data and geo-referencing of historical maps.

Harvard University / Harvard Mellon Cities Initiative | Article published | Cambridge - USA | 2015

Publication of the Article “Wet Politics”, based on personal research developed for the course “Staging the city: Urban Form and public life in Istanbul”, with Prof. Dr. Sibel Bozdogan and Prof. Dr. Cemal Kafadar. The Article explored how political agendas dictated the physical distribution of water across the city of Istanbul, and how it influenced the urban development of the city through different periods and contexts.

Faculdade de Arquitetura e Urbanismo da Universidade de São Paulo | Teaching Assistant | São Paulo - Brazil | 2012 Worked with Prof. Angelo Bucci, Prof. Álvaro Puntoni, Prof. Milton Braga, Prof. Alexandre Delijaicov, Prof. Antonio Carlos Barossi and Prof. André Takiya at the Core Studio “PROJETO V: Urban Social Housing at the Canal city”. The activities included coordination of deliverables and support on desk critiques for the students engaged on developing proposals for urban social housing at the “Canal city”.

16th Simpósio Internacional de Iniciação Científica da Universidade de São Paulo [International Scientific Initiation Symposium of the University of São Paulo] | Presenter | São Paulo - Brazil | 2008 Presentation of the personal research “Analysis of Auditorium subsystem - Design, Construction and Performance”, for production of audiovisual material, covering acoustics, thermal, luminosity and ergonomic performance, video scripting and production.

10th Urban Seminar “Montevideo’s Perimetral Collector Road-ring” | Participant | Montevideo - Uruguay | 2008 Production and presentation of urban research and proposal at the workshop, organized by the Faculty of Architecture of the University “La Republica”, Montevideo’s Municipality, Ministry of Transport and Public Works, and Ministry of Housing, Spatial Planning and Environment from Uruguay.

Laboratório de Tecnologia da Faculdade de Arquitetura e Urbanismo / Coordenadoria de Saúde e Assistência Social da Universidade de São Paulo | Scientific Initiation Fellow | São Paulo - Brazil | 2007-2008

Developed the research: “Analysis of the Auditorium Subsystem - Design, Construction and Performance” under the coordination of Prof. Dr. Erica Yukiko Yoshioka. The theme of this specific work was the atmosphere of the Audience of a theater, demonstrating how the architectural project is developed and executed according to the criteria of performance that this environment demands. The project focused on the thematic issues for the challenges of teaching and learning architectural construction at Bachelor courses. Therefore, it culminated on the production of didactic videos showcasing the process of spatial production and the interactions between project, construction site and users.

AWARDS AND FELLOWSHIPS

Harvard-Brazil Cities Research Fund | David Rockefeller Center for Latin American Studies | 2016-17

Yucatan Initiative Fellowship | Mexican Cities Initiative at the Harvard GSD | 2016-17

Claudio Haddad Family Fellowship | Claudio Haddad Family | 2015-17

Pró-vida Scholarship | Cooperativa da Pró-vida | 2015-17

Bolsa Programa Ensinar com Pesquisa | COSEAS - USP | 2007-08

LICENCES AND CERTIFICATIONS

American Institute of Architects (AIA) | Associate

Conselho de Arquitetura e Urbanismo do Brasil - CAU/BR | Registered Architect and Urbanist

LANGUAGES

English: full proficiency

Portuguese and Spanish: native

Guarani, Ancient Tupi, Nheengatu, French and Catalan: Basic

SOFTWARE SKILLS

Rhino, Enscape, Revit, AutoCAD, Adobe, Office, Sketchup: Advanced

QGIS, V-Ray: Intermediate

Grasshopper: Basic

LEADERSHIP AND OTHER ACTIVITIES

Mentor | Architectural League of New York | 2023-26

Communications Director | SOM's Women's Initiative | 2023-24

Professional Singer and TV host | Brazil | 2001-24

Record and production of CDs, DVDs, and concerts, co-hosting of weekly television and radio shows.

Volunteer | Habitat for Humanity | 2017-18

Helped with construction and painting of houses, also helped with

Vice President and Member of the Latin GSD | Harvard Graduate School of Design | 2015-17

As part of the directive of Latin GSD, a student organization devoted to spread awareness and integrate students with interest in Latin America, contributed to the organization of symposiums (most remarkably the International Symposium "Burred Territories"), panels, lectures, a study group and social activities related to Latin America contemporary issues.

M.Arch II Student Representative | Harvard Graduate School of Design | 2016-17

Mediation between students and faculty, voicing student concerns, proposing solutions, and attending Student Academic Affairs Committee (SAAC) to discuss academic issues with faculty representatives.

Brazilian Student Ambassador | Harvard University | 2015-17

Worked in coordination with Harvard's Brazil Office in São Paulo and Brazil Studies Program in Cambridge to strengthen outreach and resources available to faculty, students, and staff.

Kung-Fu Athlete | São Paulo Federation of Kung-Fu | 2013

Representation of the state of São Paulo at the Brazilian championship of kung fu, having been summoned after the regional and state playoffs.

Varsity Swimmer | University of São Paulo swimming team | 2006 -11

Representation of the University of São Paulo in inter-university national championships for being summoned for USP's selection of swimmers.

Captain of the swimming team | Faculdade de Arquitetura e Urbanismo da Universidade de São Paulo | 2006-09

Coordinated training schedules, participation in championships, payments for the coach, and strategic distribution of the team across competitions.

General Director of Sports and collaborator of the Academic Athletic Association of the Architecture School | Faculdade de Arquitetura e Urbanismo da Universidade de São Paulo | 2006-08

Organized university championships and events for fundraising, negotiated with suppliers and sponsors, articulated partnerships, and negotiated with Municipalities logistics to conduct championships for more than 2000 students.