

LAURA NICA

Curriculum Vitae 2024

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+44 0741 3176 181

London, UK

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

April 2021 - present

Laura Nica Studio

- Founder & Director, Sole-Trader Architect -

Private Houses & Flats

- Somerset Rd, Brentford, London; (residential extension & refurbishment);
 - Pandora Rd, West Hampstead, London; (residential extension & refurbishment);
- Replingham Rd, Southfields, London; (residential extension & refurbishment);
 - Highfield Avenue, High Wycombe; (bungalow extension & refurbishment);
- Denmead Cl, Gerrards Cross, London; (bungalow extension & refurbishment);

Historic & Listed Buildings

- Rutland Gate Mews, Knightsbridge, London; (Grade II Listed Building refurbishment);
- St George's Drive, Pimlico, London; (Grade II Listed Building refurbishment);
- Hunters, Hadleigh; (large house, Grade II* Listed Building in CA; refurbishment);
 - Hall Cottages, Bramfield (conservation area, AirBnB renovation);
- Willows, Windsor Rd, Datchet (large house, conservation area);
 - Butler's Wharf, Shad Thames (Grade II Listed Building, flats amalgamation);

Commercial Mixed-Use

- London Rd, St. Leonards-on-Sea; (commercial, change of use from office to 3 flats, conservation area);
 - Alexandra St, Southend; (large commercial, change of use from office/club to 7 flats);
 - Hackney Rd, London (commercial, refurbishment, conservation area);
- CYENS - Old Municipal Market, Nicosia, Cyprus (commercial, refurbishment, listed building);
 - Livery House, Pratt St, Camden (commercial, refurbishment);



August 2021 - Oct. 2023

Fathom Architects

- Part-time Architect -

- Qualified Architect working part-time on a variety of commercial projects, ranging from bespoke pavillions, residential development & office.
- The Waterman, Clerkenwell (planning);
 - Blackfriars Almshouses, Southwark (planning & tender);
 - 18-20 Saville Row, Mayfair (concept, design development, planning);

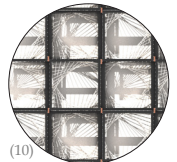
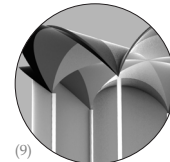


Dec. 2020 - Oct.2023

Gilles Miller Studio

- Part-time Architect & Digital Designer -

- Designer collaboration & Project architect for private residential (house extension + refurb);
- Designer collaboration for private residential parametric facade;



Oct. 2019 - Dec. 2020

dRMM

- Architect -

- Better Queensway (mixed-use masterplan), Southend; (RIBA Stage 1-2)
- Better Queensway Phase IA (300 modular residential scheme), London; (RIBA Stage 0-2);
In charge of facade development , Block B full coordination (GAs, SE meetings and modular design).

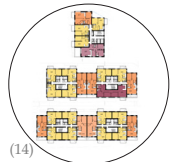


May 2018 - Sept. 2019

Marek Wojciechowski Architects

- Part II Architectural Assistant

- Bartholomew Place (12 flats, conversion B1 to C3), London; (RIBA Stage 3-4)
- 9-12 Bell Yard (9 high-end residential units), London; (RIBA Stage 5)
 - Diorama (Grade I, mixed-use), London; (RIBA Stage 0-2)
 - Brentford (new build, mixed-use, 150 residential units), London; (RIBA Stage 0-2)
 - Eastcastle Street (office), London; (RIBA Stage 1-3)
 - Palmer Street (office), London; (RIBA Stage 0-2)
 - Carlton Hill (private residential), London; (RIBA Stage 0-2)
 - Springfield Rd (private residential), London; (RIBA Stage 0-2)



Aug. 2017- May 2018

Foster + Partners

- Part II Architectural Assistant -

- Shenzhen Mixed-Use (mixed-use masterplan), China; (RIBA Stage 0-2)
 - Bangna Masterplan (mixed-use masterplan), Bangkok, Thailand; (RIBA Stage 1-2)
- 'Double Happiness' (artificial island, masterplan), Xiamen, China; (RIBA Stage 1-3)



Aug. 2014 - July 2015

Wilkinson Eyre Architects

- Part I Architectural Assistant -

- Lille Langebro bridge (successful competition entry), Denmark; (RIBA Stage 0-2)
 - Tappan Zee Hudson River Crossing, New York, USA; (RIBA Stage 2-5)
 - City Walk Bridge, Sydney, Australia; (RIBA Stage 4-5)

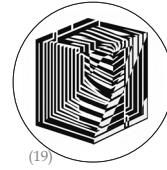


ACADEMIC EXPERIENCE

Oct. 2023 - present
(*expected March '27)

PhD Doctoral Researcher - University of Westminster & The Zaha Hadid Foundation -

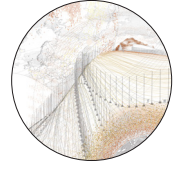
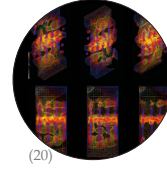
- (19) ● Full - time, TECHÉ AHRC Collaborative Doctoral Training Partnership - Studentship (October 2023 - March 2027);
● Collaborative Research with The Zaha Hadid Foundation;
● Thesis: "An Archaeological Exploration of Zaha Hadid's Fonds through Reverse Digital Fragmentation";
● Areas of interest: Architecture, Digital Design, Digital Archives, Computational tools, Zaha Hadid;



Jan. 2024 - present
(*expected July '24)

Digital Research Student Placement - The National Archives, UK -

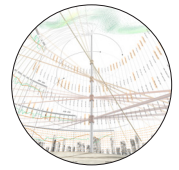
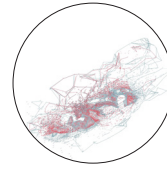
- Part-time placement in the Digital Research team at the UK National Archives;



Sept. 2019 - present

Visiting Lecturer of Design, Master in Architecture - University of Westminster -

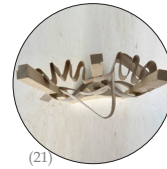
- (20) ● Part - time (1 day a week) Design Studio Tutor at Master level (Design Studio 18);
● Preparation of briefs, feedback, presentations, personal tutorials, external talks; (specialising in Grasshopper, CFD, Blender & digital fabrication)
● Supervising app. 18 students each year with research, brief development, site analysis and selection, experimental design, architectural development and representation.
● Studio Ethos: Climate & Ecological Crisis, Data & Computational Design, Design & representation; (www.designstudio18.com)



March - May 2024
March - May 2023

Module Tutor of Material Studies - University of Westminster -

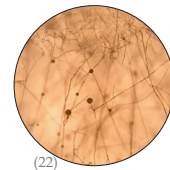
- (21) ● Module Tutor of Material Studies at Bachelor level (Year 1);
● Supervising app. 32 students with selecting, reflecting, developing, testing and experimenting, representing a unique material exploration for their architectural proposal;



March - August 2023

Thesis Supervisor - University College London (UCL), Bartlett School of Architecture -

- (22) ● Thesis Supervisor for Year 1 at Master Level for Bio-Integrated Design, advising, guiding and training student to use Autodesk CFD for a final 5000 long written report with illustrations, demonstrating how experimental outputs from design and scientific sources are synthesized in the project.



March - May 2021

Module Tutor of Applied Technical Studies - University of Westminster --

- Module Tutor of Applied Technical Studies at Master level (Year 1);
● Supervising app. 22 students with selecting, reflecting, developing, testing and experimenting, representing a unique construction technique that minimises the project's embodied energy.

Various

Invited Guest Critic

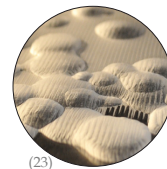
- University of Westminster, United Kingdom -
- UCL Bartlett School of Architecture
- Technical University of Delft, The Netherlands -
- Technical University of Eindhoven, The Netherlands -
- The University of Tennessee - College of Architecture + Design, USA

OTHER EXPERIENCE (BUILDING/ FABRICATION)

Aug 2013 - June 2017

Digital Fabrication Lab Assistant

- (23) Part-time, FabLab Fabrication Workshop, London
● Advanced model making techniques - 3D printing, laser cutting, CNC milling, casting;



July 2017

Pavilion Builder - 'Voluta' Architectural Robotic Fabricated Pavilion

August 2016

Pavilion Builder - 'Tangential Dreams' (24) Burning Man Festival, Nevada, USA - copyright: Mamou-Mani

July 2015

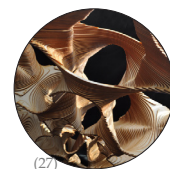
Pavilion Builder - 'The Rolling Pub' (25) Hello Wood Summer Camp, Hungary

June 2012

Pavilion Builder - 'KREOD' (26) Parametric pavilion for Olympics 2012

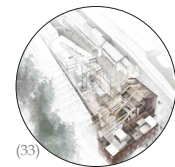
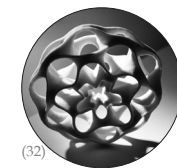
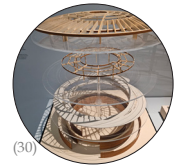
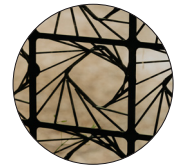
August 2016

Circadian Rythms Installation (27) Personal commission for BuroHappold engineers;



AWARDS & PUBLICATIONS

- April 2024 **TU Berlin Symposium**
Invitation to participate at the international symposium in the field of architecture teaching - "Impact through Teaching. Architectural Education within Changing Environmental Conditions".
- February 2024 **Globally Engaged Research Scholarship**
Winner of the GER Scholarship application for doctoral students pursuing innovative and high-quality research projects.
- February 2024 **Surface Design of the Year 2024**
(28) Winner of the Exterior Surface of the Year design, at the Surface Thinking, dedicated to surface and material innovation.
- May - August 2023 **Norman Foster Exhibition**
(30) Centre Pompidou, Paris, France major figure of world architecture of the British architect Norman Foster; my name and various works in collaborations with F+P were exhibited.
- June 2023 **DocTalks - Paper presentation**
(31) "Hacking - Fractures of Urban Accessibility" thesis presentation.
- February 2023 **AHRC TECHNE Studentship**
Winner of the TECHNE Studentship, supporting outstanding students pursuing the 'craft' of research through innovative, interdisciplinary and creative approaches across the range of the arts and humanities.
- January 2022 **Winner of Maths Art Exhibition**
(32) Winner of the American Mathematical Society for Maths Imagery on Scherk Minimal Surfaces;
- July 2020 **100 Days Studio**
Invited talk (online/ youtube) for the Architectural Foundation on Teaching Pedagogies for Design Studio 18.
- March 2019 **Monsoon [+others] Book**
Publication of the entire research and experimental Master project.
- Apr. 2017 **The Politics of Environments Conference**
(29)- Faculty of Architecture, Tallin, Estonia -
Presentation of Final Master Dissertation at the international conference on 'Big Data'.
- June 2016 **Detail Magazine Award**
Awarded for the best technical studies report on minimal surfaces construction.
- July 2014 **RIBA - Bronze Medal Shortlisted-**
(33)-Royal Institute of British Architects-
- Oct 2013 **Polyport- International Collaboration**
Winner of scholarship for a creative workshop held in Rome, Italy.



EDUCATION

- Oct. 2023 - present (expected: March 2027) **PhD Doctoral Researcher**
- University of Westminster & The Zaha Hadid Foundation -
- Oct. 2019 **Architecture Registration Board**
-Fully qualified UK architect - 094629J -
- Sept. 2018 - Oct. 2019 **Post Graduate Diploma (RIBA Part III)**
-University of Westminster, London, UK-
- Sept. 2015 - July 2017 **Master of Architecture (RIBA Part II)**
- Distinction -
University of Westminster, London, UK-
- Sept. 2011 - July 2014 **Bachelor of Arts in Architecture (RIBA Part I)**
- First Class Honours-
University of Westminster, London, UK-
- Sept. 2008 - July 2011 **Romanian and Spanish Bacalaureat**
-Bilingual Highschool 'Miguel de Cervantes'-
Bucharest, Romania

SKILLS

- Adobe Creative Suite (13 years)
- Rhinoceros 7.0 (13 years)
- Microstation V8i (13 years)
- Grasshopper (5 years)
- Autodesk Revit 2019 (5 years)
- Digital Fabrication (CNC, Laser cut & 3D print and complex geometry) (5 years)

LANGUAGES

- Romanian (Native)
- English (Full Professional Proficiency)
- Spanish (Bilingual Proficiency)