



## Skylar Bisom-Rapp

### Senior Strategist

Skylar Bisom-Rapp is a Senior Strategist at Practice for Architecture & Urbanism, where he currently project manages the design and engineering team for the 180 acre Sunnyside Yard Master Plan in Queens, NY. His work is informed by the belief that design and development are both inherently synthetic disciplines and must be approached holistically, with an eye towards context in the broadest sense: local culture, politics, history, social justice and the environment. His work at PAU has included a programming exercise for the planned Lowline underground park on the Lower East Side, analysis of the East Midtown Rezoning's effects on midblock development sites as well as master planning and feasibility studies for large-scale, mixed-use projects such as a 2,000 unit affordable housing project in East New York and a 1.5 million SF, transit oriented, laboratory, office and residential development in Philadelphia. Skylar has also participated in PAU's advocacy work, providing demographic analysis for a letter to Mayor de Blasio about spaces of public protest.

Skylar is a member of the adjunct faculty at Columbia University's Graduate School for Architecture, Planning and Preservation where he teaches courses with PAU founder Vishaan Chakrabarti including a seminar on theories of city form and an interdisciplinary workshop on urban development. Skylar is an alumnus of Columbia where he received dual master's degrees in Architecture and Real Estate Development, with a coursework emphasis on affordable housing finance and policy. Skylar was the inaugural recipient of the Glascock and van Buren Graduate Fellowship at Columbia's Center for Urban Real Estate (CURE) where he worked under Research Director Jesse Keenan in support of CURE publications, including Director Keenan's own research on climate change adaptation in the commercial real estate industry. Skylar's work at Columbia was recognized with the CURE Award for Transdisciplinary Work and the William Kinne Traveling Fellowship. Skylar also holds a Bachelor of Arts in Architecture with High Honors from the University of California, Berkeley. He recently authored a paper on how the flexibility of the legal definition of property ownership can benefit socially conscious architects that was published in the most recent issue of the Applied Research Practices in Architecture Journal.

Previously, Skylar worked for Pollen Architecture & Design in Austin, Texas, with Janett Kim and Eric Carver on their book, *The Underdome Guide to Energy Reform* and at Estudio Teddy Cruz in San Diego.

### Experience

#### Practice for Architecture & Urbanism

New York, NY | Strategic Analyst

Nov 2015 - present

- *Sunnyside Yard Master Plan*  
Queens, NY (2018-ongoing)
- *East New York Affordable Housing*  
Brooklyn, NY (2017 - ongoing)
- *Gowanus Office Building*  
Brooklyn, NY 2016 (on going)
- *Lowline Visioning Plan*  
New York, NY (2016-2017)
- *East Midtown Rezoning Analysis*  
New York, NY (2016)
- *Newark Bears and Eagles Stadium*  
*Redevelopment Master Plan*  
Newark, NJ (2016-17)
- *PG&E Hunters Point Power Plant*  
*Redevelopment Master Plan and Analysis*  
San Francisco, CA (2016)
- *Brooklyn Navy Yard Master Plan RFP*  
Brooklyn, NY (2016, shortlisted)
- *Detroit East Riverfront Master Plan RFP*  
Detroit, MI (2016, shortlisted)

#### Center for Urban Real Estate at Columbia University

New York, NY | Glascock & van Buren Graduate Fellow

Jun 2014 - Dec 2015

- *Literature review of office design and metrics.*
- *Research memo on the history of the Mexican housing policy, with focus on Ejido System and formation of Infonavit*
- *Diagrams and layout for CURE publications and public events materials.*

#### Pollen Architecture & Design

Austin, TX | Design & Development Intern

Summer 2015

- *Next Door Creative Offices, Austin, TX*

#### JCHousing: Mayor's Housing Taskforce

Jersey City, NJ | Team Member

Nov 2014 - May 2015

- *Maps and geospatial analysis for a policy brief.*

#### GSAPP, Columbia University

New York, NY | Teaching Assistant

2013 - 2014

- *Architectural Drawing and Representation I & II*

#### Department of Architecture, UC Berkeley

Berkeley, CA | Research & Curriculum Development

Summer 2012

- *Scholarly and archival research on the history of community design.*

#### Estudio Teddy Cruz

San Diego, CA | Research Intern

2011 - 2012

- *Research on theoretical precedents for Teddy Cruz's work.*
- *"Political Equator III" conference organization*

#### Florman Architects

San Diego, CA | Intern

2005 - 2008

### Education

#### Columbia University, Graduate School of

Architecture Planning & Preservation

New York, NY | Master of Architecture

& Master of Science in Real Estate Development  
02/2016

#### University of California, Berkeley, College of

Environmental Design

Berkeley, CA | Bachelor of Arts in Architecture, High

Honors, Minor in Global Poverty & Practice

05/2012

### Awards

William Kinne Traveling Fellowship | 2015

CURE Award for Transdisciplinary Work | 2015

Glascock & van Buren Graduate Fellowship | 2014

UC Berkeley CED Undergraduate Thesis Prize | 2012

### Publications & Public Appearances

"Displacement, Development & Driverless Vehicles: Issues at the Intersection of Equity, Transit Oriented Development and the Advent of A.V.s"

*The Politics of Public Space Panel, FLOW Festival*

The Van Allen Institute | New York, NY

June 18, 2018

[www.vanallen.org/events/the-politics-of-mobility/](http://www.vanallen.org/events/the-politics-of-mobility/)

"Ownership Unpacked: Escaping the false binary between public and private property regimes."

*Issue 05: Conflicts of Interest*

Advanced Research Practices in Architecture Journal

May 24, 2018

[www.arpajournal.net/ownership-unpacked/](http://www.arpajournal.net/ownership-unpacked/)

"Unpacking Ownership: Escaping the False Binary Between Public and Private Property Regimes to Achieve Progressive Outcomes in Architecture and Urban Development"

*Inclusive City Panel, Regenerative City Conference*

University of Oregon/ University of San Francisco

October 29, 2016

*The Underdome Guide to Energy Reform*

Princeton Architectural Press | Princeton, NJ

2015 (Contributed Illustrations)