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Trahan Architects Promotes Staff In Both NYC and New Orleans Studios

New Orleans, LA/ New York, NY – Trahan Architects, an award-winning global architecture firm founded on the belief that the mindful design of everyday spaces can elevate human experience, announced today that it has promoted four team members in both of its offices. With its roots in New Orleans and a global perspective in New York, it is ranked the number one design firm by Architect Magazine, the official publication of the American Institute of Architects (AIA).

Trahan Architects brings a poetic approach to its work, considering each project as part of a unique ecosystem. It uses the tools of architectural practice—artistic expression, technical innovation and the mindful selection of materials—in its search for designs that are socially impactful, sincerely sustainable and aesthetically sublime. This process enables the firm to shape its communal environments in new and meaningful ways and has led to work that has received over 100 national, regional and local awards, as well as several international design competitions, including four National AIA Awards.

Robbie Eleazer promoted to Design Director in New York City Studio

Robbie Eleazer is a licensed New York architect with more than 12 years of experience residing in Brooklyn with his wife and daughter. Eleazer is a leading voice in performing arts, cultural and public sector projects and was a founding member in the establishment of Trahan Architect's NYC studio. Eleazer's project highlights include: The Coca-Cola Stage at the Alliance Theatre, Luther George Park, The National Bonsai and Penjing Museum at the National Arboretum and the Ochsner Center for Innovation.

A proud graduate of Clemson University in his home state of South Carolina, Eleazer expanded his studies at SCI-Arc in Los Angeles where he received his Master of Architecture. Studying at SCI-Arc ignited a passion for innovative design that has persisted for over a decade.

As a leader in the computational design community, he engages with technology to expand his understanding of what architecture can be and how it can impact people's lives. On the Alliance Theatre, Eleazer leveraged cutting edge BIM modeling and

augmented reality tools to document over 100,000 linear feet of steam bent millwork – leading to multiple industry innovation awards. From concept to completion the project demonstrates innovation across scales – from material usage to a more egalitarian layout.

He has shared his expertise with students in Finland, Croatia, Los Angeles and New York City. Eleazer has contributed his guidance to studios at Yale, Columbia, SCI-Arc, UCLA, Texas Tech, ADD Lab and Die Angewandte. In addition to teaching, he has mentored Clemson undergraduate students and most recently mentored a UNC Charlotte student. He is proud that she graduated this past spring and is currently pursuing her graduate studies in architecture.

“I see my role as a continuation of our firm’s ethos of openness: it is about listening to our clients and collaborators points of view, making sure every voice in our firm is contributing towards our design excellence, and leaving ourselves open to outside influences,” said Eleazer. “I’m honored and humbled to contribute to the ongoing work of Trahan Architects.”

Trey Trahan, FAIA, founder and CEO of Trahan Architects said, “Robbie joined our New York Studio at the outset of its founding more than six years ago. Over the years he has grown into what I call a ‘360-degree architect’ – caring deeply about our clients, our work and our environment – believing we have a responsibility beyond architecture. I look forward to continuing to work closely with Robbie as we strive to make a meaningful impact through our designs.”

Nathan Petty Promoted to Director in New Orleans Studio

Nathan Petty has two decades of professional experience in internationally recognized and award-winning design practices. He is a key project leader in the design of institutional, higher-education, high-rise and custom residence project types in major cities across the U.S. and abroad. At Trahan Architects, he is instrumental in the daily management of studio operations and the firm’s most complex and demanding project – the Mercedes-Benz Superdome renovation.

As a practitioner and an academic, Petty is adept at managing the balance of theoretical and practical issues in the practice of architecture. He holds a Master of Architecture from Princeton University and a Bachelor of Science in Architecture from the University of Virginia.

“Trahan Architects continues to uphold one of the most important aspects of design – the intersection of geometry with the craft of building,” said Petty. “For me, there is no limit to the level of fascination that this can offer.”

Trahan said, “Nathan’s potential will be a key component to our ongoing growth. As a collaborator, we are aligned in our constant pursuit of design excellence. I truly appreciate his dedication and focus as an architect and look forward to the successful projects ahead.”

Sheena Garcia Promoted to Project Designer/Visualization Specialist in New Orleans Studio

Sheena Garcia brings more than ten years of experience as a lead visualizer and creative manager for many celebrated design projects and marketing campaigns across the world. Her work as an architect and artist focuses on the development of 3D media techniques as a tool for the advancement of design through representation. Based in New Orleans, she will play a significant role in the high level of visual refinement for which Trahan Architects is known. Garcia holds a Master of Architecture from Princeton University and a Bachelor of Science in Architecture from the University of Michigan.

“Trahan Architects is committed to the integration of visualization in the studio’s process,” said Garcia. “There is no substitute for the sense of joy in seeing a client’s response to our design of their future space. I am pleased to use my experience to help develop the firm’s efforts in the use of representation.”

“Sheena is a leader in the field of contemporary visualization and her discipline and focus help bring resolution to the ideals that we both share – a respect for pure materiality and effects of light in space,” said Trahan. “We are very happy to have Sheena as a resource and as a part of our team.”

Jonathan Fidalgo Promoted to Design Architect in New Orleans Studio

Jonathan Fidalgo joined Trahan Architects in 2018 after receiving his M.Arch degree from M.I.T. There, he had the opportunity to travel and explore various methods of production including 3D printing, CNC milling and sand-casting aluminum. His master’s thesis employed an “opportunistic architecture,” proposing a series of inclusive public spaces built atop otherwise unoccupied urban infrastructure.

"I'm grateful for the support and mentorship provided by the senior members of the Trahan team," said Fidalgo. "The path to architecture licensure is strenuous, Trahan's commitment and encouragement throughout the process was invaluable."

"We always encourage our designers to work towards licensure," said Trahan. "It shows a commitment not just to the firm but to the practice of architecture as a whole. Congratulations to Jonathan on achieving the first of many career milestones. His high-design approach and thoughtfulness he brings to our projects are remarkable for such a young architect."

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