

ZANNAH MAE MATSON

Assistant Professor
Program in Environmental Design
University of Colorado Boulder
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EDUCATION

- 2016 – Present **PhD Candidate**, University of Toronto, Department of Geography and Planning
Research focuses on the relationship between landscape visibility, infrastructure, and the construction of race and marginalization in Colombia's eastern piedmont landscapes
- 2015 **Master of Landscape Architecture**, Harvard University, Graduate School of Design
Thesis research on the evolution of urban infrastructure and public space through the processes of asymmetrical warfare and resulting informal development
- 2011 **Honors Bachelor of Arts**, University of Toronto, Faculty of Arts and Science
Specialist in Peace and Conflict, Major in Environmental Studies, Minor in Urban Studies

ACADEMIC APPOINTMENTS

- 2023 – Present **Assistant Professor**, University of Colorado Boulder
Program in Environmental Design
ENVD 1130 Landscape Architecture Studio I
ENVD 1030 Landscape Architecture Studio II
PLAN 3102 Strategies and Techniques in Environmental Design
- 2021 – 2023 **Assistant Professor**, University of Guelph
School of Environmental Design and Rural Development
LARC 6030 Landscape Architecture Studio III
LARC 3070 Community and Urban Design Studio
LARC 6610 Landscape Research Methods
LARC 4730 Inequity and Justice in Landscape Architecture
- 2020 – 2021 **Assistant Teaching Professor**, Penn State University
Department of Landscape Architecture
LA 315/817 Community Design Studio: Retrofitting Suburbia
LA 424/510 Entangled Infrastructures Seminar
LArch 65 Course Redesign: Built Environments and Cultures
- 2019 – 2020 **Visiting Assistant Professor & Design for Spatial Justice Fellow**, University of Oregon
Department of Landscape Architecture
LA 539 Art of Landform: Reclaiming Vance Pits
LA 4/539 Site Design: Designing Entangled Sites
LA 4/510 Issues in Infrastructures Seminar
LA 4/511 Coloniality and Countervisuality in Landscape Representation
LA 5/512 Unruly Materials Seminar
- 2019 **Studio Critic**, Toronto Metropolitan University, School of Urban and Regional Planning
Guangzhou Academy of Fine Arts, School of Architecture and Design

PLE 885 Planning, Design, and Urbanism in Guangzhou, China

- 2016 – 2019 **Course Instructor**, Toronto Metropolitan University
School of Urban and Regional Planning
PLG 220 Core Urban Planning Studio I
PLG 320 Core Urban Planning Studio II
- 2016 – 2019 **Teaching Assistant**, University of Toronto
Department of Geography and Planning and the School of Environment
- 2017 **Course Instructor**, University of Toronto
Department of Geography and Planning
GGR 217 Urban Landscapes and Planning

SELECTED PROFESSIONAL PRACTICE

- 2015 – 2016 **OPSYS Landscape Infrastructure Lab**, *Project Manager and Lead Design Researcher*
- 2014 **MassLBP Democracy Shop**, *Research Intern*
- 2013 **Public Work**, *Design Intern*
- 2010 – 2012 **University of Toronto Sustainability Office**, *Research Assistant*
- 2010 – 2011 **Canadian Urban Institute**, *Research Intern*

PUBLICATIONS

** *peer-reviewed* * *invited*

- 2024** Matson, Zannah, Tim Waterman (editors). "Edited Special Issue on Landscapes and Care." *Landscape Research Journal*, forthcoming (expected publication 2023).
- 2023** Matson, Zannah, Émélie Desrochers-Turgeon, Christopher Alton (editors). "Edited Special Issue on Architectures of Extraction and Extractive Architectures in Canada." *Journal of the Society for the Study of Architecture in Canada*, forthcoming (expected publication 2023).
- 2023** Matson, Zannah. "Painting Race in Space: *Landscape Hierarchies and Spatial Inequity in the Recursive Folds of Coloniality*." In *Spatial Inequalities and Segregation in the Urban Landscape*, edited by Thaisa Way and Eric Avila. Washington: Dumbarton Oaks Press.
- 2023* Matson, Zannah. "Designing a Future Otherwise: Optimism for Post- Extractive Site Rehabilitation." 48, no.1 (Spring 2023): 99-104.
- 2023* Matson, Zannah, Jay Wall, Christopher Pommer. "Spatial Democracy: How can landscape architecture foster equity." Roundtable Moderated by Editor Glyn Bowerman. *Ground Issue* 62 (Summer 2023): 10-17.
- 2022* Matson, Zannah. "Entry for Fieldnotes on Design Activism: 5." *Places Journal*. November 2022. Online: <https://placesjournal.org/article/field-notes-on-design-activism-5/?cn-reloaded=1>

- 2022* Matson, Zannah, Camille-Mary Sharp, Christopher Alton. "Letter: Extraction Issue." *C Magazine* 153 (2022): 12.
- 2021* Matson, Zannah. "Space as Image: Countervisuality and the representation of relational landscapes." In *Spatial Concepts for Decolonizing the Americas*, edited by Felipe Hernandez and Fernando Luiz Lara. Cambridge: Cambridge Scholars Press.
- 2021* Matson, Zannah. "Como la espina de pescado: Infrastructure and the far-reaching consequence of speculation." *Topos* 117 (2021): 80-84.
- 2021* Matson, Zannah. "Review of Mapping Abundance for a Planetary Future." *C Magazine* 150 (2021): 68-69.
- 2021* Matson, Zannah. "Review of *The Promise of Infrastructure*." *Environment and Planning D: Society and Space Online Edition* (June 2021).
<https://www.societyandspace.org/articles/review-of-the-promise-of-infrastructure>
- 2019 Matson, Zannah. "Review of *Natura: Environmental Aesthetics after Landscape*." *Journal of Landscape Architecture* 14, no.3 (2019): 92-93.
- 2018* Matson, Zannah. "When the Highway Becomes a Weapon: Situating infrastructure within Colombian counterinsurgency doctrine." *The Funambulist*, Issue 16: 54-57.
- 2018 Matson, Zannah. "Land and the Seams of Colonialism: Challenging the colonial underlay of landscape design process." *Ground Up Journal*, Issue 07: 62-65.
- 2018 Matson, Zannah and Danika Cooper. "Scripting the Neoliberal City: Revealing the latent political assumptions of the digital model." *SITE Magazine* Issue 39 (online).
<https://www.thesitemagazine.com/read/scripting-the-neoliberal-city>
- 2017 Matson, Zannah. "Legacies of Conflict and [Re] Constructing Urban Futures: Urban infrastructure development in Kabul, Afghanistan." *SITE Magazine*, Volume 37: 40-45.
- 2017* Matson, Zannah. "A Geometry of Borders: The infrastructural points that construct a line." Part of the *Investigating Infrastructures Forum* in *Environment and Planning D: Society and Space Online*. <https://www.societyandspace.org/articles/a-geometry-of-borders-the-infrastructural-points-that-construct-the-line>
- 2017* Matson, Zannah and Neil Nunn. "Space Infrastructure, Empire, and the Final Frontier: *What the Mauna Kea Land defenders teach us about colonial totality*." Part of the *Investigating Infrastructures Forum* in *Environment and Planning D: Society and Space Online*. <https://www.societyandspace.org/articles/space-infrastructure-empire-and-the-final-frontier-what-the-mauna-kea-land-defenders-teach-us-about-colonial-totality>
- 2014** Donmez, Birsan, Zannah Matson, Beth Savan, Ellie Farahani, David Photiadis, and Joanna Dafoe. "Interruption management and office norms: Technology adoption

lessons from a product commercialization study." *International journal of information management* 34, no. 6 (2014): 741-750.

- 2012 Matson, Zannah, Birsen Donmez, Beth Savan, David Photiadis, Elham Farahani, and Joanna Dafoe. "Social drivers of technology adoption and use in the workplace productivity context." In *Proceedings of the Human Factors and Ergonomics Society Annual Meeting*, vol. 56, no. 1, pp. 2103-2107. Sage CA: Los Angeles, CA: SAGE Publications, 2012.
- 2011* Savan, Beth and Zannah Matson. "Changing Behaviour to Conserve Resources: What works and what doesn't." In *Non-structural Environmental Management*. Universiti Teknologi Malaysia Press, 2011.

SELECTED PRESENTATIONS

**proposal acceptance required for participation *invited

- 2023** Matson, Zannah and Camille-Mary Sharp. "Creative Counter-Pedagogies in Canada's Mining Capital." Paper Presentation at Universities Art Association Canada Annual Conference, Banff, AB, October 19-22, 2023.
- 2023** Matson, Zannah (organizer). "Extractive Entanglements in the Histories of Canadian Architecture." Panel organizer at the Society of Architectural Historians Annual Conference, Montréal, QC, April 12-16, 2023.
- 2023** Matson, Zannah, Christopher Alton. "Reading Economies of Extraction through Charles Comfort's 'A Procession of Industry'." Paper Presentation at American Society for Environmental History Annual Conference, Boston, MA, March 22-26, 2023.
- 2022** Matson, Zannah. "Re-Painting the Forest: Radical landscape art and visual representation of tropical forests in Latin America." Paper presentation at (Re)thinking Landscape Conference, Yale University, New Haven, CT, September 29-October 1, 2022.
- 2022** Matson, Zannah. "Reconfiguring Sites: Making visible contested landscape histories." Paper presentation at Future History Conference, University of Sheffield (online), September 9, 2022.
- 2022** Matson, Zannah. "Regional Construction and *Colonización* in Colombia's Eastern Territories." Paper presentation at the Society of Architectural Historians Annual Conference, Pittsburgh, PA, April 27-May 1, 2022.
- 2021 Matson, Zannah. "Marginal de la Selva: Roads and the *colonización* of Colombia's National Territories." Paper presentation at the American Association of Geographers Annual Conference, Seattle, WA, April 7-11, 2021.

- 2021** Matson, Zannah. "Reconfiguring Sites: Collage as a pedagogical tool in the design process." Paper presentation at the Environmental Design Research Association Conference, Detroit, MI, May 19-23, 2021.
- 2021* Matson, Zannah and Christopher Alton. "'Golden Reflections, Ghostly Projections: Haunting the extractivist city'". Paper presentation at the Beyond Extraction Open House, March 16, 2021.
- 2021* Matson, Zannah. "Infrastructural Entanglement: Spatial justice and design pedagogy in landscape". Presentation at the Projecting Fellows Dialogue Series hosted by UVA, Charlottesville, VA, January 5-February 2, 2021.
- 2020** Matson, Zannah. "Painting Race in Space: Landscape Hierarchies and Spatial Inequity in the Recursive Folds of Coloniality." Paper presentation at the Dumbarton Oaks Garden and Landscape Studies Symposium, Washington, DC, July 1-September 14, 2020.
- 2020** Matson, Zannah. "Subverting the Colonial Gaze: Spatial manifestations of landscape visibility and the decolonial potentials of countervisuality." Paper presentation at the Decolonizing the Spatial History of the Americas Colloquium, Austin, TX, February 10-11, 2020.
- 2019* Matson, Zannah. "Highway Stories: Infrastructure as a method to resist scalability and linearity". Public lecture for the University of Oregon School of Architecture and Environment Portland Campus. Portland, OR, November 19, 2019.
- 2019* Matson, Zannah. "Highway Stories: Infrastructure as a method to resist thinking in scalability and linearity" Public lecture for the University of Oregon School of Architecture and Environment Eugene Campus. Eugene, OR, October 21, 2019.
- 2019 Matson, Zannah. "Countervisuality and the Possibility of Subverting the Colonial Gaze of Landscape." Paper presentation at Critical Geographies 14th Annual Mini-Conference, Eugene, OR, October 18-19, 2019.
- 2019** Matson, Zannah. "Racialized Landscapes: The Production of Urban Segregation through the Coloniality of Power." Paper presentation at the Society of Architectural Historians Annual Conference, Providence, RI, April 24-28, 2019.
- 2018** Matson, Zannah. "Landscape and the Right to Look: Considering the role of landscape visibility in the afterlives of coloniality." Paper presentation at the Landscape Citizenship Symposium, London UK, November 16, 2018.
- 2018* Matson, Zannah. "Visual and Spatial Research in the Afterlives of Coloniality." Lecture for History and Theory of Environmental Architecture Program, Royal College of Architecture, London UK, November 15, 2018.
- 2018 Matson, Zannah. "Visibility and Landscape in the Afterlives of Coloniality." Canadian Association of Geographers Ontario Chapter, Toronto, ON, October 19-20, 2018.

- 2017* Matson, Zannah. "Classification and Complexity: Researching and representing landscape in contexts of coloniality." Lecture for Landscape Architecture and Environmental Design Thesis Preparation at Berkeley College of Environmental Design, Berkeley CA , October 2, 2017.
- 2017 Matson, Zannah. "Post-Conflict Urbanism: Territorial Construction, Designed Landscapes, and Counterinsurgency Infrastructure." Presentation at the World Design Summit, Montreal QC, October 16-25, 2017.
- 2017* Matson, Zannah. "A Geometry of Borders: The infrastructural points that construct a line." Paper presentation at the 12th Annual Refugee and Migration Studies Student Conference, Toronto ON, October 12-13, 2017.
- 2015** Matson, Zannah and Christina Geros. "Redefining Urban: Kotzebue, Alaska as a case study for the dual influences of settlement and junction." Poster presentation at the Arctic States Symposium at University of Virginia, Charlottesville VA, April 17-19, 2015.

CREATIVE OUTPUTS

**juried *invited

- 2024 Desrochers-Turgeon, Émélie, Zannah Matson, Camille-Mary Sharp, Caitlynn Beckett, Neil Nunn, Jordan Kinder. "Extracting: A counter-extractive colouring book." (forthcoming with Beyond Extraction Collective, March 2024)
- 2022 Sharp, Camille-Mary, Zannah Matson, Christopher Alton, Emma McKay. "Mining at the Museum: A counter tour." Toronto Ontario, June 2022.
- 2019* Alton, Christopher and Zannah Matson. "Golden Reflections | Ghostly Projections." Installation included in *The bank, the mine, the colony, the crime walking tour of Toronto's Financial District*, Toronto, Ontario, October 2019.
- 2018* Matson, Zannah. "Glitch Infrastructure." Image chosen for *Form N-X00*, the online accompaniment to the *US Pavilion, Architettura Biennale di Venezia*, May-November 2018.
- 2017** Matson, Zannah and Jacob Moginot. "Landmines and Landgrabs: Landscape remediation and infrastructure development in post-war Colombia." Multimedia exhibition at the *XX Bienal de Arquitectura y Urbanismo*, Valparaíso Chile, October-December 2017.
- 2016** Belangér, Pierre, Zannah Matson, Christopher Alton. "EXTRACTION." The official Canada Pavilion at the *Architettura Biennale di Venezia*, Venice Italy, May-November 2016.
- 2015* Matson, Zannah and Christina Geros. "Alaska: So Urban, So Brave." Exhibition at the *Kirkland Gallery* at Harvard GSD, Cambridge MA, April 2015.

PROFESSIONAL AND ACADEMIC AFFILIATIONS

- 2022 – Present **Editorial Board Member**, Journal of Architectural Education
2020 – Present **Social Media Editor**, Landscape Research Journal
2020 – Present **Architecture and Empire Writing Group**, Society of Architectural Historians Great Britain
2021 – 2022 **Research Fellow**, Infrastructure Institute, School of Cities, University of Toronto
2017 – 2019 **Graduate Associate**, Center for Critical Development Studies at UTSC

SELECTED AWARDS AND HONORS

- 2022 **Antipode Right to the Discipline Grant**, Antipode Foundation
2021 **Lincoln Institute Case Study Award**, Lincoln Institute of Land Policy
2018 **Joseph A May Scholarship**, University of Toronto
2018 **Joseph-Armand Bombardier CGS Doctoral Scholarship**, SSHRC
2018 **Research Travel Fellowship**, University of Toronto
2017 **Ontario Graduate Scholarship**, University of Toronto
2017 **Research Travel Fellowship**, University of Toronto
2017 **Department of Geography and Planning Entrance Award**, University of Toronto
2014 **Teaching Creativity Travel Grant**, Harvard University
2014 **Penny White Research Grant**, Harvard University
2012 **Fulbright Canada Student Scholarship**, Fulbright Foundation
2011 **John H. Moss Scholarship**, University of Toronto
2011 **Mary Ann Duffy Scholarship**, University of Toronto
2011 **Innis GRADitude Scholarship**, University of Toronto
2011 **Gordon Cressy Award for Student Leadership**, University of Toronto
2010 **Robert Hunter Environmental Scholarship**, University of Toronto
2007 **University of Toronto Bank of Montreal National Scholar**, University of Toronto
2007 **Millennium Excellence Award National Scholarship**, Millennium Foundation

INVITED EXTERNAL JURIES

- 2022 **University of British Columbia, School of Architecture and Landscape Architecture**
Landscape Core Studio Final Reviews
2022 **University of Calgary, School of Architecture, Planning, and Landscape**
Landscape Core Studio Mid-Reviews
2022 **University of Manitoba, Faculty of Architecture**
Landscape Core Studio Mid-Reviews
2022 **Carleton University, Azrieli School of Architecture and Urbanism**
Thesis Semester 1 Reviews
2021 **Cornell University, Department of Landscape Architecture**
Landscape Core Studio Final Reviews
2020 **University of Oregon, Department of Landscape Architecture**
Site Design Studio Final Review
2020 **Harvard University, Graduate School of Design**
Cotton Kingdom Now, Course Mid-Review
2020 **University of Toronto, Daniels Faculty of Architecture, Landscape and Design**
Landscape Option Studio Mid-Reviews

2020 **University of British Columbia, School of Architecture and Landscape Architecture**
Landscape Core Studio Final Reviews

2012 **UC Davis, Department of Landscape Architecture**
Landscape Core Studio Mid-Reviews

2019 **UC Berkeley, College of Environmental Design**
Landscape Thesis Final Reviews

2018 **Ryerson University, School of Architecture**
Option Studio Final Reviews

2018 **Ryerson University, School of Interior Design**
First Year Studio Final Reviews

2018 **University of Texas at Austin, School of Architecture**
Landscape Option Studio Mid-Reviews

2018 **University of Toronto, Daniels Faculty of Architecture, Landscape and Design**
Landscape Core IV Final Reviews

2017 **Berkeley College of Environmental Design**
Landscape Core First Review

2017 **University of Tennessee School of Architecture and Design**
Final Reviews in Architecture and Landscape Architecture

2016 **University of Toronto Daniels Faculty of Architecture, Landscape and Design**
Summer Workshop Final Reviews