## FOOD FOR THOUGHT MA+HGARCHITECTS



NOON | OCTOBER 17<sup>TH</sup> CENTRE SPACE JOHN A. RUSSELL BUILDING FACULTY OF ARCHITECTURE UNIVERSITY OF MANITOBA

## HOUSING THE MISSING MIDDLE: SOCIAL DENSITY BY MA+HG ARCHITECTS

**SYNOPSIS** | Over the last number of years, issues of affordability have brought on a shift in our relationship with out home, our community and our environment. This has resulted in a grand re-envisioning of the future of Vancouver.

New housing policies are supporting the desire for a walkable, neighbourly urban environments, a participation in a culture that creates community through the sharing economy and one that relies on maximum human interaction for joy and belonging.

MA+HG Architects have developed and employed principles they call "Social Density". This lecture will outline the theory of social density and highlight built projects & research based on works that exemplify this practice ethos.

**BIO | Marianne Amodio** holds a Master of Architecture Degree (Honours) from the University of Manitoba and is a registered Architect with the Architectural Institute of British Columbia and a LEED Accredited Professional. She began her eponymous firm, Marianne Amodio Architecture Studio, in 2009. The practice was awarded the Arthur Erickson Award for Emerging Architect, followed by the AIBC Award for Emerging Firm. In 2016, the firm welcomed Harley Grusko AIBC and in 2018 was renamed MA+HG Architects. Marianne is currently a member of the City of Vancouver Regulatory Review Advisory Committee and she sits on the Board of The Eastside Culture Crawl. She is a former Board Member of the Chinatown Heritage Area Planning

Committee, the Council of the Architectural Institute of British Columbia and was the Chair of the Housing Innovation Committee for the City of Vancouver Housing Re:Set. She gleefully co-hosts Pecha Kucha Vancouver.

Harley Grusko holds a Masters Degree of Architecture (honours) from the University of Manitoba, is a registered Architect with the Architectural Institute of British Columbia and a LEED Accredited Professional. Harley joined Marianne Amodio Architecture Studio in October of 2016, after a decade devoted to design excellence at Perkins+Will Vancouver. There, he worked on a number projects focused on quality design and high-performance buildings. As the Project Architect of the award winning VanDusen Botanical Garden Visitor Centre (LEED Gold, Living Building Challenge Petal Certification), Harley was involved in the project from the earliest concept sketches through to the digital 3D computational design and through construction. He was also the project designer for the new Student Union Building at Simon Fraser University in Burnaby, the first significant building to be constructed along Convocation Mall in the heart of the Arthur Erickson designed iconic SFU Campus since Erickson's original Campus plan. Harley brings a calm expertise to the practice and he consistently strives for innovation, rigour and making the pragmatic poetic.

In 2018, Harley and Marianne Amodio launched MA+HG Architects Inc., and opened a new studio in Strathcona, Vancouver BC.

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