
Design and Practice Exchange: Navigating the (Post) Pandemic Terrain In Dialogue With...Billie Tsien, AIA and Carole Wedge, FAIA: (Post) Pandemic Reflections

November 19, 2021

Has COVID-19 propelled new opportunities for the design industry? How can architects respond to a changing world? What can our profession do to evolve in the short- and long-term to impact wellness in the places and spaces we design? Billie Tsien, AIA, and Carole Wedge, FAIA, will share their reflections on how the pandemic has forced us to re-think how we work, live, travel, shop, learn, and—most importantly—connect with one another.

Venue: Center for Architecture
536 LaGuardia Place
11:10 am – 12:00 pm EST

Speakers:

- **Billie Tsien, AIA**, Partner, Tod Williams Billie Tsien Architects | Partners (New York)
- **Carole Wedge, FAIA**, Principal, Shepley Bulfinch (Boston)

CES 1.0 LU/HSW | Learning Objectives:

- Identify how COVID-19 has impacted design industry
- Explore what designers and architects are doing to adapt to changing needs in our built environment
- Analyze the how people work and live today
- Understand the importance of work-life balance and human wellness

EVENT RUN OF SHOW

- 11:10 am – 11:50 am “In Dialogue With...Billie Tsien, AIA & Carole Wedge, FAIA” (40 min)
- 11:50 am – 12:00 pm Audience Q&A (10 min)

SPEAKER BIOS



Billie Tsien, AIA

Partner, Tod Williams Billie Tsien Architects | Partners

Billie Tsien, along with her husband Tod Williams, is a founding partner of the New York-based studio Tod Williams Billie Tsien Architects | Partners. Their practice is committed to reflecting the values of non-profit, cultural, and academic institutions toward an architecture that is serene and enduring. Some of their notable projects include the Barnes Foundation in Philadelphia, the Asia Society Hong Kong Center, and the Lefrak Center in Prospect Park, Brooklyn. Their current work includes the Obama Presidential Center in Chicago, the renovation of David Geffen Hall in New York City, and the U.S. Embassy in Mexico City.

Their dedication to this work has been recognized by numerous national and international citations, including the Praemium Imperiale, National Medal of Arts from President Obama, and the AIA Architecture Firm Award. In parallel with her practice, Tsien is a devoted participant in the broader cultural community. She was recently appointed by President Biden as the first woman and Asian American to serve as Chair of the U.S. Commission of Fine Arts. Tsien also maintains an active academic career, teaching and lecturing worldwide. She is steadfast in her mission to create a better world through architecture and to contribute to supporting a broader and more diverse cultural landscape.



Carole Wedge, FAIA, LEED AP

Principal, Shepley Bulfinch

Carole Wedge is a principal at Shepley Bulfinch, a national design firm with offices in Boston, Hartford, Houston, and Phoenix. Since 2014, she has led the firm's evolution and growth into an innovative organization with an open and diverse culture.

Throughout her career in architecture and advocacy in the wider community, Wedge has sought to challenge conventions and incite organizations to become more transparent and diverse. Her dynamic and collaborative leadership has powerfully impacted cornerstone institutions—from higher education and civic organizations to the architectural industry. In 2009, she was selected as one of seven women from the Boston Women Principals Group to pilot the AIA Women's Leadership Summit, which is now in its tenth year. In 2012, Wedge received the Boston Society of Architects Women in Design Award. Since 2017, she has served as the chair of AIA's Large Firm Round Table, a committee of the 60 largest firms in the country. Among her many leadership positions, Wedge is a member of Boston's Green Ribbon Commission, a member of the board of trustees for Boston Architectural College and a board member of Wentworth Institute of Technology. She is the recipient of 2020 AIA Edward C. Kemper Award, which is conferred on a

member for continued and significant service to the institute.