



President and Founder of SITE, Distinguished Professor of Architecture at the New School for Social Research, Visiting Professor of Landscape Architecture at the University of Pennsylvania

James Wines is the President and Founder of SITE Environmental Design, an architecture and environmental arts organization started in 1970 for the purpose of exploring a more socially and environmentally responsive approach to the design of buildings, interiors, public spaces and commercial products.

From 1984 to 1990 Mr. Wines served as Chairman of Environmental Design at the Parsons school of Design in New York. In January of 1991 he became Distinguished Professor of Architecture at the New School for Social Research.



Under Mr. Wines' direction, **SITE** has become identified internationally with innovative concepts for buildings and public spaces. A number of the firm's earliest projects anticipated such recent directions in architecture as Narrative, Deconstructivist, and Green Architecture. His projects, drawings, and essays have been extensively published in the professional, popular, and academic journals of twenty-five countries, and his architectural works have been exhibited in more than 100 museums and galleries in North America, Europe, and Asia. In addition, **SITE** buildings and interiors have been given major design awards.

Since 1970, Mr. Wines has lectured and participated in symposiums on art and environmental design at more than one thousand colleges, universities, and professional conferences in fifteen countries. He has taught extended courses and special workshops at New York University, Pratt Institute, The New School, Parsons, Cornell University, Dartmouth College, The State University of New York, The University of Wisconsin, Cooper Union, The New Jersey School of Architecture, University of Pennsylvania, and the Domus Academy, Politecnico di Milano, and Universita di Calabria in Italy.

He has been awarded fellowships in visual art by the Pulitzer Foundation, Guggenheim Foundation, and American Academy in Rome, for theater design by the Ford Foundation, for critical writing in architecture by the Graham Foundation and the Kress Foundation, for architecture and environmental design by the New York State Council on the Arts, and the National Endowment for the Arts.

At Parsons School of Design, Mr. Wines shaped an undergraduate program in environmental design around the principle of the technically prepared, interdisciplinary designer, with a strong grounding in philosophical and conceptual thinking. During his tenure at Parsons, he started the USA's first graduate program in architectural criticism and, in 1989, he established a full graduate professional degree in architecture.

Author of several books in the past - ARCHITECTURE AS ART 1980 and DE-ARCHITECTURE 1987- Mr. Wines is currently finishing a book on environmental architecture in the Age of Ecology for Taschen Publishers in Germany. James Wines lives and works in New York City, with frequent travels abroad to locations where **SITE** has on-going projects.

**FOR SCHEDULING,
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The current focus of James Wines' creative work is in the area of green architecture, the fusion of buildings with landscape, and advocacy of a new role for all building arts in the global environmental protection movement. He continues to write on green issues for LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE, ARCHITECTURAL RECORD, INTERIOR DESIGN, and ARTFORUM in the USA and other publications in England, France, Italy, Korea, and Japan.

Program Descriptions:

New Wave Organic Architecture: Building Art in the Age of Ecology

Architecture of the 20th Century began as a celebration of the age of industry and technology; but this is rapidly changing in response to a new age of information and ecology. This presentation is an overview of architects in the 1990's who are seeking to change the relationship between buildings and natural environment. It is a compendium of their constructed and proposed works that, with varying degrees of success, are dealing with such issues as environmental technology, energy conservation, and sustainability. At the same time, these designers are trying to translate this emerging revolution into an appropriate language of form. While there are many publications that cover the technological side of green design, Wines approaches the subject from a conceptual, philosophical, and aesthetic perspective.

*20th Century green history from a critical viewpoint, looking at the growth of various environmental movements and the influence (or lack of influence) they have had on architectural design, building technology, and city planning

*The history of technocentrism and anthropocentrism as they relate to ecological issues in architecture and how these negative influences have translated into the wasteful technology and anti-green messages communicated by most contemporary buildings

*The growing influence of eco-psychology and theories regarding how a state of "nature deprivation" has negatively affected the human psyche; including a review of the ways that architecture has been a contributor to this condition

*The increasing scientific and anthropological interest in Aboriginal cultures' relation to nature as an example of admirable eco-centrism (which is now being seen as a qualification for environmental salvation) versus the vast problems of trying to reconcile this model against the destructive path of Western technocentrism and economic expansion

*A condensed history of various ancient civilizations and their relationship to the environment, examining the development of religious, agricultural, and cosmological rituals that influenced the concept of architecture as an extension of nature; also reviewing the relevance of these examples in the context of building art today

*The work of contemporary architects that deals with a combination of ecological initiatives, energy/land/atmosphere conservation, and environmental technology who are, at the same time, trying to translate these concerns into a new architectural language.



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Identity in Density

James Wines discusses the belief that a building should not be conceived as an object sitting *in* the environment, but as a fusion of inside and outside elements that can be seen *as* the environment. He will also discuss how buildings and public spaces should move away from the influences of the 20th-century Age of Industry and Technology to respond more effectively to the present Age of Information and Ecology.

“James Wines is both an original eye and a refreshing voice. As a speaker, he has wit, erudition, and above all, joie de vivre. He has eyes like a pair of 300 watt lamps and the best smile and most infectious laugh in all of architecture.”

Tom Wolfe



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