

STEFAN AL PhD RA LEED AP

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BIOGRAPHY

Stefan Al is an architect, urban designer, and Assistant Professor of Architecture at Virginia Tech. He has published eight books that explore the pressing design challenges in our contemporary cities, including climate change and high density. They have been widely acclaimed including by *The New York Times*, *The Wall Street Journal*, *Architectural Record*, *The Times* and *NPR*. His co-authored book, *Beyond Mobility: Planning Cities for People and Places*, has won the National Urban Design Award.

As a practicing architect and urban designer, Stefan has worked on the design of mixed-use developments, master plans, and multi-functional buildings across the world. Early on, he co-designed the competition-winning design of the 2000-foot tall Canton Tower (2010), briefly the world's tallest tower. Upon its construction, as a Senior Associate Partner at KPF, he contributed to the design of large-scale projects in the US and Asia. His work has been exhibited in cultural venues worldwide, including the Shenzhen Biennale (2011, 2013, 2017) and Venice Biennale (2021).

In addition, he has served in various capacities to major institutions, such as the World Heritage Center of UNESCO, working on the preservation of world heritage in Latin America, the Hong Kong government, consulting on the development of the city's harbor and external lighting guidelines, the Chinese ministry of housing, advising on healthy city design, and the United Nations High-Level Political Forum on Sustainable Development, contributing as an expert on compact city design. In 2018, Stefan was chosen to become a TED Resident, with several of his videos exceeding 2 million views.

Over the years, Stefan has served as a professor at Columbia University, Pratt Institute, the University of Pennsylvania, the University of Hong Kong, and Virginia Tech, where he recently received the New Faculty Teaching Award. He is a registered architect in New York state and the Netherlands, and a LEED accredited professional. He has a PhD in city and regional planning from UC Berkeley, and master's degrees in architecture from University College London and Delft University of Technology, with distinction.

EDUCATION

- 2010 **PhD in City and Regional Planning**, University of California, Berkeley, College of Environmental Design
- 2005 **MArch in Architectural Design** with Merit, University College London, Bartlett School of Architecture
- 2004 **MSc in Architectural Design** with High Distinction, Delft University of Technology, Faculty of Architecture.
- 2002 **Erasmus Program**, ETSAB Barcelona School of Architecture

LICENSURE

- 2020 **Licensed and Registered Architect**, New York State
- 2008 **LEED Accredited Professional**, U.S. Green Building Council
- 2005 **Licensed and Registered Architect**, The Netherlands