

## Nicholas Pisca – Curriculum Vitae

526 Hill Street, Inglewood, CA 90302  
310 862 1142  
nickpisca@gmail.com  
www.nickpisca.com

Last Updated August 29, 2010

### ° Education

Master of Architecture, Southern California Institute of Architecture, 2006

Concentrations: Computational Architecture, Parametric Design

Thesis: Flesh[]logically-transparent

BSAS, University of Wisconsin Milwaukee School of Architecture and Urban Planning, 2003

Concentrations: Advanced techniques of 3D digital design

Magna cum laude with structural engineering minor.

### ° Work

Gehry Technologies. Los Angeles, California

May 2005-Present Automation Manager

Technical director and researcher focusing on the design, development, and implementation of advanced parametric architectural projects, scripting, & construction automation. Major emphasis on high-rise, museum, and large-scale construction and rationalization. As Knowledge

Manager: conducted training seminars, managed GT content, developed project-specific & universal programs, and co-edited the GTwiki.

Projects: Confidential

Xefirotarch (Hernan Diaz Alonso). Los Angeles, California

2005 Design Team Member and Chief Programmer

Developed the automation tools, construction/fabrication documents, and optimization techniques to rationalize the 2005 PS1 Sur project.

Projects: 2005 PS1 Sur

Mudrovich Architects. Wausau, Wisconsin

May 2003-Aug 2004 Architectural Intern

Worked on several regional financial institution projects through all phases of design.

Projects: River Valley State Bank, Wausau, Wisconsin  
Heritage Credit Union, Madison, Wisconsin

Flad & Associates. Madison, Wisconsin

May 2002-Aug 2002 Architectural Intern

Worked on design and construction documents; Explored schematic design and produced three-dimensional computed-aided renderings and models. All work consisted of hospital and pharmaceutical research facilities.

Project Inc. Milwaukee, Wisconsin

Jul 2002-Jan 2003 Student and Volunteer

Served as a structural consultant and detailing advisor for an orphanage project. Worked on illumination, construction administration, and promotional design.

Projects: Los Guidos Project, San Jose, Costa Rica

Major Industries Inc. Wausau, Wisconsin

Jul 1999-Aug 2001 Engineering Technician and Design Drafter

Drew submittal and production (shop) drawings for large commercial skylights and curtainwalls. Worked with architects, engineers, and contractors for scores of projects worldwide.

## ° Academic Teaching

### University of Southern California School of Architecture, Los Angeles, California

Sep 2009-Dec 2010

Teaching of computational design in architecture and urban planning, collaborating with Neil Leach in grad and undergrad studios.

### University of California Santa Barbara Media Art and Technology Department, Santa Barbara, California

Apr 2007-May 2009

Lecturer

Research and teaching focus on computer programming in design, representation, and animation. Emphasis on generative systems for visual and transdisciplinary effects.

### Southern California Institute of Architecture, Los Angeles, California

Spr 2006-Fall 2008

Instructor and Co-Adviser

Instructed the "Generative Scripting" workshop seminars, exploring the field of programming and computation in the context of architectural frameworks. Investigating diverse fields as generative systems, automated construction documentation, program communication, et cetera.

## ° Independent Projects and Collaborations

### 0001d Design. Los Angeles, California

Dec 2005-Present

0001d Founder

0001d is a design research lab investigating new methods of digital and computational techniques for architecture, visual effects, web and other media.

Major Projects:

2009: "Lake Effects," (with Kieran McCaughey), Detroit, Michigan

2008: "INTRUDER" Installation (with Kieran McCaughey), Los Angeles (Built November 2008)

2007: "Balcony Project," Los Angeles, ScriptedByPurpose

2006: "Glendale Satellite Library" Digital Process (with Juan Azulay), Glendale (Built 2008)

2006: "GenTower," Los Angeles, Evolo Book

### Vivarium (SCIARC Installation)

Ma77er Management Installation by Juan Azulay

March 2010

Virtual Organism Designer

Designed and implemented a multi-topological virtual organism that lived off of and evolved from live video feeds of physical organisms.

### The History Channel's City of the Future Competition for Los Angeles

Collaboration with Jennifer Siegal (OMD), Roland Wahlroos Ritter, Paulette Singley

Dec 2006

Collaborator

Authored scripts to simulate urban-scale organic bio-infranature and simultaneous representational value for the Infiniti Design Excellence Award winner. Also completed rendering and video compilation.

### MAK Center Vertical Garden Competition 2006

Collaboration with Juan Azulay, David Fletcher

May 2006-Jun 2006

Collaborator, Digital Manager, Visual Effects Supervisor, Computer Graphics

Authored scripts to produce simulation abnormal plant growth and simultaneous representational value for the winning entry for the MAK Center Vertical Garden Competition. Also completed the digital modeling, rendering, execution and drawing extraction.

## ° Proficiencies and Credentials

### Two- & three-dimensional computer-aided drafting (and scripting):

AutoCAD (VBA), Rhino (RVB), Maya (MEL), CATIA (VBA, KWE), Digital Project (VBA, KWE), 3D Studio VIZ

### Script-writing & programming languages:

*Proficient:* Visual Basic, MEL, Action Script; *Comfortable:* C++, PHP, HTML, Python, Processing

### Image, website, & video/DVD editing software:

Photoshop, Illustrator, Flash (ActionScript), Adobe Premiere, Jasc Pro, Adobe Encore (DVD), iDVD, iMovie

### Still frame & animation rendering capabilities:

Maya software/mental ray, Rhino treefrog & flamingo, DP/CATIA Photo Studio, 3DSMax/VIZ, Accurender

### Scheduling and sequencing programs:

Microsoft Excel (VBA scripting), Microsoft Project (VBA scripting), Primavera

### CNC and prototyping experience:

3-axis CNC milling, Laser cutting, Powder and Plastic 3D Printing, Z Corp Machine Repair, Vacuum Forming

### Drafting, painting, and drawing capabilities:

Ink on Mylar, charcoal, pencil, acrylics

NCARB IDP Completion. Architect Registration Examination in progress.

## ◦ Workshops and Preliminary Teaching

2007	RMIT	Instructor: BIM Automation Workshop
2007	UW-Seattle	Instructor: Parametric Design Workshop
2006	Ohio State University	Instructor: Parametric Design Workshop
2005	SCIARC	Assistant Teacher: Scripting Workshop (Nick Puckett)
2005	SCIARC	Assistant Teacher: Digital Genera (Jean Michel Crettaz & Richard "Doc" Bailey)
2004	SCIARC	Assistant Teacher: Digital Chimera (Dennis Shelden & Cristiano Ceccato)
2001-2	UW-Milwaukee	Volunteer: AutoCAD Training Seminars
1999	UW-Marathon County	College Mathematics Tutor

## ◦ Lectures and Presentations

Jun 2, 2010	Interview	ArchiBureau, Patrick Drewello.
Dec 12, 2009	Panelist/Respondent	Intensive Fields Conference; Parametric Techniques Panel (Neil Leach, Roland Ritter)
May 29, 2009	Lecture	UCSB Media Arts Technology Department Lecture Series (Curtis Roads)
March 12, 2008	Introducer	SCIARC Lecture Series (Robert Hodgkin)
Apr 2007	Panelist/Presenter	Agentcode Los Angeles Symposium (Ed Keller)
Jan 2007	Interview	Interview in the documentary "On the Way to Babylon" by Moshe Hacmon.
Sep 2005	Interview	Interview in the documentary "Sur, An Architectural Tango."

## ◦ Reviews and Academic Presence

May 2010	Faculty Critic	USC Fall Graduate Studio Final-Review (collaboration with Neil Leach)
May 2010	Faculty Critic	USC Fall Seminar Final-Review (Swarm Intelligence Roland Snooks)
Mar 2010	Faculty Critic	USC Fall Graduate Studio Mid-Review (collaboration with Neil Leach)
Dec 2009	Faculty Critic	USC Fall Graduate Studio Final-Review (collaboration with Neil Leach)
Dec 2009	Faculty Critic	USC Fall Graduate Studio Final-Review (Roland Ritter)
Dec 2009	Faculty Critic	USC Fall Seminar Final-Review (Swarm Intelligence Roland Snooks)
Oct 2009	Faculty Critic	USC Fall Studio Mid-Review (collaboration with Neil Leach)
Sep 2009	Outside Critic	SCIARC Graduate Thesis Final Review (Hernan Diaz Alonso, JM Crettaz)
Feb 2009	Faculty Critic	MediaScapes/UCSB MAT Mid-Review (JM Crettaz, Marcos Novak)
Feb 2009	Outside Critic	SCIARC Spring Studio Mid-Review (Ed Keller)
Oct 2008	Faculty Critic	MediaScapes Fall Studio Mid-Review (Ed Keller)
Oct 2008	Outside Critic	USC Fall Studio Mid-Review (Kara Bartelt - Lettuce)
Sep 2008	Faculty Critic	SCIARC Graduate Thesis Final Reviews (Hernan Diaz Alonso)
Jul 2008	Faculty Critic	SCIARC Graduate Thesis Mid-Reviews (Elena Manfredini)
2008	Co-Adviser	Graduate Student Eric Battino (with Ed Keller)
2008	Co-Adviser	Graduate Student Dave Wolfe (with Tom Wiscombe)
2008	Co-Adviser	Graduate Student David Kuelby (with Ramiro Diaz Granados)
Jun 2008	Faculty Critic	SCIARC Summer Studio Mid-Review (Ed Keller)
May 2008	Faculty Critic	SCIARC Thesis Prep Final Review (Hernan Diaz Alonso)
Mar 2008	Outside Critic	SCIARC Spring Studio Mid Review (Juan Azulay)
Feb 2008	Outside Critic	SCIARC Spring Seminar Mid Review (Roland Snooks)
Oct 2007	Outside Critic	USC Fall Studio Mid Review (Roland Ritter)
Sep 2007	Outside Critic	SCIARC Thesis Final Review (Marcos Novak)
Mar 2007	Outside Critic	SCIARC Spring Seminar Project Review
Mar 2007	Outside Critic	SCIARC Spring Studio Mid Review (Ed Keller)
Jan 2007	Outside Critic	SCIARC Spring Seminar Early Review
Oct 2006	Outside Critic	SCIARC Fall Studio Mid Review (Ed Keller, Perry Hall)
Oct 2006	Outside Critic	SCIARC Fall Studio Mid Review (Jean Michel Crettaz)
Aug 2006	Outside Critic	SCIARC Summer Elective Final Review
Jul 2006	Outside Critic	SCIARC Summer Studio Mid Review (Ed Keller, Juan Azulay)

## ◦ Professional Recognition

May 2010	Rouse D Exhibit 2	Invited Exhibitor. "Lake Effects" Exhibited at the Southwest Detroit Business Association in Detroit.
Sep 2009	Rouse D Exhibit	Invited Exhibitor. "Lake Effects" Project Exhibited at the 555 Gallery in Detroit.
Nov 2008	Main Event 7	Installation "INTRUDER" exhibited in downtown Los Angeles for the Main Event 7.
Oct 2008	Arch Digital	"GenScriptingSpr2008" featured.
Jun 2008	eVolo Book	"Gen Tower" published in the book "Skyscraper for the XXI Century."
Jan 2008	SICA Gallery	"Flesh[]logically-transparent" showcased at the SICA "Architects without Architecture" exhibit.
Nov 2007	Scriptedbypurpose	"Balcony Project" exhibited on Xplicit&Ncoded on "scriptedbypurpose."
Feb 2007	LACE Gallery	City of the Future collaboration work exhibited at LACE in Los Angeles.
Feb 2007	Gehry Partners Group Show	Digital genetic research showcased.
Nov 2006	A+D Magazine	Fleshology collaboration work printed in A+D.
Jun 2006	eVolo	"Gen Tower" awarded Special Mention in worldwide 2006 Skyscraper Competition.
Nov 2005	Beyond Media	Collaboration work exhibited.
Sep 2005	SCIARC	"Flesh[]logically-transparent" showcased on SCIARC website.
Apr 2005	Orange 22 Gallery	"Fleshology" architecture design group exhibit. Downtown Los Angeles.
Apr 2005	WIRED	Collaboration work and images posted on Bruce Sterling's WIRED blog.
2005	EVIDENTS Magazine	Agitprop project imagery published in EVIDENTS. ISBN 0976007924
2001-2	AIA	Two-time Southwest Chapter AIA-W Scholarship recipient.

Dec 2002	UWM	Richard Hunzinger Memorial Scholarship recipient.
May 2002	MIAD Gallery	"IldmrsGUKdswbiGMVmVjfemaEhmeLg" and "experience—space&details" exhibited.
Sep 2002	Flad	"visual representation 001" displayed at the Flad Gallery Night.
Dec 2000	UWM	"300 Chairs Competition." Honorable Mention.

## ° Publications and Postings

Pisca, Nicholas. YSYT - Maya MEL Basics for Designers. Los Angeles: 0001d Publishing, 2009.

Pisca, Nicholas. "Genotower." Skyscraper for the XXI Century. Ed. Carlo Aiello. New York: eVolo Publishing. April 2008. 20-22.

0001d Sherpa Blog. <http://www.nickpisca.com/sherpa>  
Aug 2009-Present      0001d Sherpa Blogger and Founder

0001d Blast Meta Scripting Wiki. <http://www.nickpisca.com/blast>  
Dec 2008-Present      0001d Blast Founder and Contributor

Gehry Technologies' GTWiki. <http://www.gtwiki.org>  
Jun 2006-Present      Co-Editor and Main Contributor

## ° Extracurricular

Waste Vegetable Oil (WVO) Travel and Awareness. <http://www.nickpisca.com/wvo>  
Mar 2006-Present      Co-Founder

Wausau Daily Herald. Current Events and Political Contributor.  
May 2004-Aug 2004      Editorial Panelist