

# SAW is a transdisciplinary design firm, operating at the nexus of architecture, landscape, and urban design.

This mix allows us to work across scales (from the tactile object to the city) and timelines (from the immediate to the ecological) at the onset of a project. We work to identify the blind spots between disciplines and take advantage of the hidden opportunities therein. We believe in the transformative power of good design, in the inextricable relationship between building and context, and in the vital role the built environment plays in the development of community. We view design as a collaborative, research based process, and work closely with clients to better understand their needs and advance their goals.

## **Dan Spiegel, AIA**

### **Founding Partner, Principal**

Dan received a Master of Architecture from the Harvard University Graduate School of Design and B.A. in Public Policy from Stanford University. Prior to founding SAW, Dan worked for a number of leading architecture offices in New York, Beijing, and Boston. He currently teaches architecture at UC Berkeley and California College of the Arts (CCA) and has been an invited design critic at several schools of architecture, including Harvard University, Rhode Island School of Design, and California College of the Arts. Dan is a licensed architect in the states of California and Hawaii.

## **Megumi Aihara, ASLA, PLA**

### ***Founding Partner, Principal***

Megumi has ten years of professional experience creating landscapes, big and small. Prior to joining SAW, Megumi was a Senior Project Manager at Michael Van Valkenburgh Associates, and a Landscape Architect with Andrea Cochran Landscape Architecture. Megumi received a Master of Landscape Architecture from the Harvard University Graduate School of Design and a B.A. in Visual Arts from Brown University. She is an Adjunct Professor of architecture at California College of the Arts (CCA). Megumi is a licensed Landscape Architect in the states of California and Hawaii.

## **Jeremy Ferguson, Associate**

Jeremy received his Master of Architecture from the University of California at Berkeley where he was the recipient of The Mario Ciampi Art in Architecture Award demonstrating outstanding artistic merit. Originally from Hawai'i, he received his Bachelor of Arts in Environmental Design from the University of Hawai'i at Manoa before moving to the Bay Area. His other professional experience includes positions at MODEM in Oakland, Randolph Designs in San Francisco, Dean Sakamoto Architects in Honolulu, and the National Disaster Preparedness Training Center at the University of Hawai'i.

**Sharon Ling, *Associate***

Sharon received a Louisiana ASLA student honor award in 2015 before earning her Masters in Landscape Architecture from Louisiana State University. Originally from China, Sharon holds a Bachelor degree of Landscape Architecture from Nanjin Forestry University.

**Namhi Kwun**

Namhi received the San Francisco CSI Foundation award in 2017 before earning her Bachelor of Architecture degree from the California College of the Arts. Her other professional experience includes positions at Urban Works Agency, Mark Cavagnero Associates in San Francisco, and The Plus Architect in Korea.

**Avery Sell** Avery is a landscape designer educated at the Pennsylvania State University Stuckeman School of Architecture and Landscape Architecture where he received an ASLA Student Honor Award and was named the 2014 Student Marshall. He brings to every project ideas that blend the mundane and the extraordinary, social science and sustainability, and past and future histories. Prior to moving to San Francisco, Avery worked in Philadelphia as a creative consultant, an artist's assistant, and as a project manager at David Rubin Land Collective.

**Shinji Miyajima** Shinji is an international designer from Japan and received his Master of Architecture from Rice University and Bachelor of Science in Architecture from the University of Cincinnati. Prior to joining SAW in January 2021, he worked at architecture and architectural lighting design offices in New York, San Francisco, Los Angeles, Dallas and Houston.

**Tiffany Xu**

Tiffany Xu is an architectural designer. She earned her Master of Architecture from Rice University where she was Co-Editor-in-Chief of PLAT Journal and recipient of the William D. Darden Thesis Award. She completed a B.A. in Natural Resource Conservation and Art History from University of California, Berkeley. Prior to joining SAW she worked at the offices of Jim Jennings Architecture, Sidell Pakravan, and Mollet Geiser & Co.