MY BUILDING | YOUR DESIGN
SEVEN PORTRAITS BY DAVID HARTT

The Art Institute of Chicago
On view through February 3, 2019
Curated by Maite Borjabad

David Hartt's *Seven Portraits* is a portfolio of photographs of seven contemporary buildings across the Americas that was first published as a magazine supplement to celebrate the inaugural Mies Crown Hall Americas Prize, commissioned by the Illinois Institute of Technology College of Architecture in partnership with the architecture and design magazine PIN-UP. Hartt visited the buildings with one of the magazine's editors. The booklet presented Hartt's photographs alongside texts and interviews that capture their experiences. As a unique commission for the Art Institute of Chicago, Hartt produced twelve large panels of photographs (including both published and unpublished images), entitled *Seven Portraits (Mies Crown Hall Americas Prize, PIN-UP Fall Winter 2014/15 Supplement)*.

Hartt brings a view of those buildings very emancipated from the architects design predictions and desires, and precisely emphasizes the ordinary and the unexpected – a plant growing in the crack of a deck flooring, what it looks like to open a door, or a building facade becoming the background of a quinicañera's photoshoot.

My building, Your Design brings together this dichotomy between the projected ambitions of the architects and the daily experiences of those buildings and the cultural and social implications within its most immediate built environment. Thus the exhibition unfolds as two exhibitions in one. Over the white finished side of tall slim walls, the large photographic panels by the artist are displayed accompanied by excerpts of the commentary from the magazine. On the corresponding back side of each of those walls, and exposing its construction, original materials from the different studios reveal each architect's process and ambitions for each project.

This exhibition thus pairs the subjective and fragmented encounters of a building by its inhabitants with the architects' idealized visions to prompt reflection on how our experiences of a building and its design become a new story—sometimes far, sometimes close, from the architects' predictions but equally relevant.

List of works presented in the exhibition:
Bloch Building, Nelson-Atkins Museum (Kansas City, Missouri) by Steven Holl
Capilla del Retiro (Auco, Chile) by Undurraga Devés Arquitectos
1111 Lincoln Road (Miami, Florida) by Herzog & de Meuron
Fundação Iberê Camargo (Porto Alegre, Brazil) by Álvaro Siza
Residencia Altamira (Rosario, Argentina) by Rafael Iglesia
Mestizo Restaurant (Santiago, Chile) by Smiljan Radic
The Seattle Central Library (Seattle, Washington) by OMA and LMN
Seven Portraits (Mies Crown Hall Americas Prize, PIN-UP Fall Winter 2014/15 Supplement) by David Hartt