

Barbara Bestor, FAIA
Bestor Architecture

Barbara Bestor, FAIA is the Principal and founder of Bestor Architecture. Raised in Cambridge, MA, she received a Bachelor of Arts degree from Harvard University and a Master of Architecture degree from SCI-Arc. She is a Fellow of the American Institute of Architects and serves on the Board of SCI-Arc, the Los Angeles Conservancy, and the Silverlake Conservatory of Music. Barbara has consistently pursued experimental architecture that engages the city through design, art, and urbanism. The architectural form is explored through experiments in spatial arrangements, graphics, and color. Her varied and progressive body of work connects with people on many levels, often outside the boundaries traditionally delineated for architecture. She believes that good design creates an engaged urban life and embraces the 'strange beauty' that enhances everyday life experience.

Her 24-person architectural design practice was established in 1995. Known for the new headquarters for Beats By Dre (recipient of a National AIA Honor Award for Design), Snap, Inx., and Nasty Gal; Blackbirds, an innovative small lot housing complex in Echo Park, and a variety of custom residences and restaurants, Barbara spearheads a practice that fosters community, intimacy and joy.

Currently she is exploring urban design issues that directly affect Los Angeles and beyond with a modern sensibility that will create enduring impact. Ventures include the new IKAR: a Jewish Center for Social Innovation, exhibit design for LACMA's upcoming Scandinavian Design and America, 1890-1980 (opens 2021), transitional development studies for San Fernando Road along the LA River, and the recently opened Ashes & Diamonds Winery in Napa. The Floating Bungalow House in Venice, CA was featured in MOCA's 2013 survey of contemporary LA architecture. In addition, she led the revitalization effort for John Lautner's Silvertop, a recipient of awards from the LA Conservancy, DOCOMOMO and the AIA.

Barbara received her undergraduate degree from Harvard University and her Master of Architecture from SCI-Arc. She is the executive director of Woodbury University's Julius Shulman Institute.