MARTHA ELLEN LaGESS lagess@lamastudio.com

SUMMARY

An energetic and knowledgeable environmental sector businesswoman and project manager, strongly committed to social enterprise against climate change. Skills and experience include:

Business Development

- can effectively assemble and use business case studies to assess business challenges and develop new ideas
- articulate and at ease with public speaking to represent organizational interests
- possesses a rare combination of analytical skills, innovative foresight, and awareness of how people prioritize time/ money
- hands on practical knowledge of the environmental sector through work experience

Communication

- excellent writing skills developed through years of writing construction project business proposals and academic proposals for projects and grants
- can write interesting and informative content quickly by touch typing at speed
- considers it a pleasure to talk to people in any situation
- strong interpersonal team-building skills, whether acting as team member or team leader
- has developed environmentally focused presentations and lectures for people at all environmental knowledge levels
- user of online social enterprise tools including Facebook, LinkedIn, Wordpress, Twitter.

Project Management

- as project manager and design director of a limited company, developed a successful business servicing the specialized needs of residential developers and clients; services included fast and proactive on site problem solving for design/build projects.
- as lead consultant architect to a large architecture firm, produced large and medium-sized institutional, residential and commercial on time and on budget leading to high level of client satisfaction and repeat business.
- as professor of architecture wrote course and research proposals, including proposals that attracted funding
- strong interpersonal team-building skills, whether acting as team member or team leader
- currently beginning free-time study for the Prince2 project management qualification

Visualization

- skilled with several MicroSoft Office software packages (Word, Powerpoint, and Excel); also experienced with Adobe Photoshop and Indesign and able to use CAD package MicroStation.
- ability to create uncluttered and interesting narrative presentations in Powerpoint combining visual assets with text
- hand drawing and diagramming skills sufficient to make complex ideas simple and clear

EXPERIENCE

LaMa Studio Limited / 2004 - present

residential and commercial design and development company

- as design director, responsible for new business development and running all phases of existing projects; also for creating and developing company policies and procedures, including commitment to sustainable design and construction practices.

accomplishments: grew the business from a single contract with a small UK residential developer in 2004 to multiple contracts with UK, continental European and American private residential clients and developers by 2008; also responsible for expanding the business to consulting on institutional and educational projects in 2008-09; responsible for firm becoming known for in-house and consulting success with large and small planning applications, and for ability to achieve high-end design goals with moderate budgets using small, agile teams; due to the firm's good reputation the directors were invited as visiting lecturers at Cambridge University for the academic year 2006-07.

projects: • Dulwich Road Flats, Herne Hill, London, 2008-Present • Taslim Elias Apartment Towers, Victoria Island, Lagos, Nigeria, 2008 • 86 Beaufort Street Maisonette, Chelsea, London, 2007-8 • 26 Westwick Gardens, Sheperd's Bush, London 2005-6 - Designer, Developer and Contractor for Full Renovations and Additions • 45 Colvestone Crescent, Hackney, London, Entwistle Residence • Addison Bridge Place Offices, Kensington, London 2004-5, Planning Permission Design and successful Application.

Cambridge University / 2006 - 2007

Visiting faculty in the School of Architecture for an academic year; taught design and design theory to a group of 20 architecture students

accomplishments: created a design course based on the generative methods found in nature and primitive building; one of the group's students won project-based year prize for a design based on the structure of a daffodil; another student went on to graduate first in her degree class

LaGess McNamara Architects / 1994 - 2003

architecture partnership

- as architect in private practice, responsible for working with private and public clients to develop a diverse series of small, medium and large projects, including houses and housing, mixed use masterplans, and commercial shops and buildings.

accomplishments: grew the firm to international recognition status as it developed a solid reputation for design expertise and building skill among clients and fellow architects; invited to lecture on the firms work and exhibit the firm's projects at prestigious institutions in Europe (Italy, Germany, France, the USA, and Asia (China and Korea), including the Architectural Association, Harvard University, the University of Texas, Milan Polytechnic, and Hong Kong Polytechnic University, the Royal Institute of British Architects, and the Royal College of Art.

projects: Zingaro House and Studio, Houston, 2003 • Silverstone Residence, Eccleston Square, London, 2001-2 • London Borough of Camden Depot building and Urban Plan (with RLE), 2000-1 • Kotoka Airport Additions and Urban

Plan, Accra, Ghana, 1999; Lyme Street Office and Flat Renovation, London,1999, Designed and contracted by LaMa Studio • Ministry of Agriculture, Farms, and Fisheries Building and District Plan, Westminster, (with FRL Ltd.) 1997-99 • Snake Table System, 1998 • House Prototype and urban plan, '36 Modeles pour une Maison,' Arc-en-Reve Centre d'Architecture, Bordeaux, traveling exhibition, 1996-2000 • Poole Harbour Crossing Competition, 1995 • HMV shop and furnishings, Milton Keynes, UK, 1995-1996 • HMV shop façade, Dublin, 1996 • Old Broad Street Offices, (with EPR) 1994 • Master Plan and Garden Houses, Neuenhagen Bei Berlin, (with EPR) 1994 • De Bijenkorf Store Renovation, The Hague, Holland, (with Greig + Stephenson) 1994.

Architectural Association / 2006 - 2007

Tutor 1991-93, then Unit Master 1993-2001 taught design and design theory to a group of 15 architecture students annually.

accomplishments: created an environment-based architecture course based on study of the relationship between human beings and nature; pioneered the use of computing tools and social collaborations in design teaching; pioneered the introduction of energy issues to undergraduates by utilizing in-house expertise from the graduate energy programme

Kohn Pedersen Fox International/ 1990 - 1993

multi-national architecture practice

- as project manager working directly with firm's partners, responsible for design proposals and technical detailing on a number of high profile British, German, and Dutch projects.

accomplishments: gained a thorough knowledge of European project management and architectural practice, including the differing expectations of international clients; gained deep experience with design process for large and medium size fast track projects using computer methods; developed CAD skills.

projects: • Great St. Helens office building, City of London 1990 • Broomielaw Development including office buildings, hotel and residences, Glasgow, Scotland, 1991 • Hanseatic Trade Center Master Plan and Office Building, Hamburg, Germany, 1991-92 • de Hoftoren Office Tower, the Hague, Holland, 1992-93.

James Stirling, Michael Wilford and Associates / 1988 - 1989 architecture practice

- as architect, worked on small teams producing Stirling and Wilford designs for high-profile international institutions; was able to work directly with the firm's partners on an everyday basis, producing design and detailing ideas for their projects.

accomplishments: learned the unique Stirling/Wilford design process; gained skill in designing a broad range of project types, met and worked with internationally famous design consultants; traveled to Germany to work for a time in the Stirling-Wilford Berlin office before the fall of the Berlin Wall.

projects: University of California at Irvine, Library; Music Academy and Theater School, Stuttgart, Germany; Walt Disney Concert Hall competition, Los Angeles, California, USA.

EDUCATION and QUALIFICATION

Architectural Association School of Architecture *London, UK* Histories and Theories Programme, Graduate School, 1987-1988.

Rice University School of Architecture *Houston, Texas* Bachelor of Architecture, 1984.

Rice University School of Architecture Houston, Texas

Bachelor of Arts in Architecture & Art History, 1981.

Registered UK architect and member of Royal Institute of British Architects.

PUBLICATIONS, EXHIBITIONS and COMPETITIONS

Publications: • http://studios.gsd.harvard.edu/1501f01 • www.aaschool.ac.uk/inter2, annual websites from 1999-2001
• Architectural Association *Prospectus, *Projects *Review*, eight years from 1993 to 2001 • '36 *Modeles pour une *Maison', Centre Arc-En-Reve, Bordeaux, France, 1997, Book and Travelling Exhibition • Primary Speaker's Lecture (group of six): 'Concerning *Cities and *Silicon', *Proceedings of *Arcasia *Conference *Technology and Tradition, *Seoul, Korea, 1999 • *A *J *Special *Report: *Poole *Harbour *Crossing *Competition, 1997 • *Glasgow *Tower: The *Entries to *Competition, *Publication, 1992 • *Dulwich *Picture *Gallery *Competition, *Publication, 1990 • *Publications on practices of *Kohn *Pedersen *Fox *Architects and *James *Stirling *Michael *Wilford.** *Exhibitions: • *Architectural *Association *Projects *Review** *Exhibitions, 1994 to 2001. *Each *Unit designs and builds an end of year exhibition in the *AA* *workshop** and on site; this exhibition is tied to simultaneous publication of the yearly *Projects *Review** publication, produced jointly by the *Units and the *AA** Publications *Office. *Ham *Yard *- *Soho**, *Academie *St *Joost, *Breda**, *Holland, 1998. *London *Millennium *Bridge** *Competition *Entries, *Tate *Bankside, *London 1997 ** *Poole *Harbour *Crossing** *Competition *Entries, *RIBA** *Exhibition, 1997.**

Selected Competition Entries: World Trade Center Memorial, 2003 • *Building Design Magazine* Concept Houses, 1998 • London Millennium Bridge, 1996 • *Europan:* Tampere, Finland, 1996 • Poole Harbour Crossing, 1995 • Gorbals Housing Competition, Glasgow, 1994.

PERSONAL

- enthusiastic business and recreational cyclist
- wide range of non-business interests including British history, science fiction, films and film history, gardening, ecology and biodiversity
- UK / US dual citizen

REFERENCES

Available on request.