



**For Immediate Release**

Los Angeles, CA (March 9, 2017)

**Unmentionables Symposium**  
**April 7-8, 2017**  
**Department of Interior Architecture**  
**Woodbury University School of Architecture**

The [Unmentionables Symposium](#) is an inaugural two-day event hosted by the Department of Interior Architecture at [Woodbury University School of Architecture](#) and held at **Helms Design Center in Culver City, April 7-8, 2017**. Coinciding with the 85th anniversary of the university's Interior Architecture program, the event highlights critical latent issues within the discipline today. [Registration](#) is open on the [Unmentionables website](#).

Unmentionables is aimed at exploring new narratives for interior architecture and establishing a precedent for welcoming previously unmentioned ideas in spatial practice and theory. The symposium will serve as a provocation for marginalia, taboos, illicit ideas, and undertheorized issues such as critical interiority and physical and virtual constructed environments.

While interior architecture is often misread as marginal in relationship to more established allied disciplines (such as architecture), in recent years the field has emerged as its own site of questioning. No longer mute or "unmentioned", it is a rich territory for interdisciplinary and transdisciplinary writings, research, and designs.

Unmentionables brings together a broad range of notable thinkers and designers drawn from literature, architecture, film, art, philosophy, and interior design. Over two-days, the symposium will feature persistently critical voices drawn from across the country.

The symposium kicks off on Friday, April 7 with a keynote conversation between award-winning novelist **Mona Simpson**, production designer **Bruce A. Block**, and 2017 AIGA Medalist and Cooper-Hewitt National Design Award recipient **Rebeca Méndez**, moderated by **Raymund Ryan**, curator at Heinz Architectural Center, Carnegie Museum of Art.

On Saturday, April 8, three panel discussions, cheekily titled *Flavorings*, *Feelings*, and *Trimnings*, will feature the work of some of the brightest minds in practice. (A [full list](#) can be found on the Unmentionables [website](#).) These sure-to-be lively conversations will be moderated by experts in the field of interior architecture and design: **Billie Tsien**, Principal of Tod Williams Billie Tsien Architects | Partners; **Susan Szenasy**, editor-in-chief of *Metropolis Magazine*; and **Edward Lifson**, former director of communications for the Pritzker Prize. Unmentionables

closes with remarks by **Rossen Ventzislavov**, associate professor of Philosophy at Woodbury University, and **Heather Peterson**, symposium co-coordinator.

The Unmentionables symposium is supported by the work of its advisory board: **Lois Weinthal**, chair of Interior Design at Ryerson School of Interior Design; **Frank Clementi**, principal of Rios Clementi Hale and a transdisciplinary design educator; **Raymund Ryan**, curator at Heinz Architectural Center, Carnegie Museum of Art; and **Gloria Gerace**, renowned museum and cultural consultant. Symposium organizers include **Christoph Korner**, chair of Interior Architecture, and faculty members **Annie Chu**, FAIA IIDA, **Heather Peterson**, and **Matthew Gillis**, Assoc. AIA.

### **Unmentionables Symposium**

April 7-8, 2017

Department of Interior Architecture, Woodbury University School of Architecture

Location: Helms Design Center, 8745 Washington Boulevard, Culver City 90232 ([map](#))

Website: [Unmentionables website](#)

### **Registration**

Friday Event registration: \$40 (\$20 for Woodbury alumni and educators)

Saturday Panel Events registration: \$50 (\$25 for Woodbury alumni and educators)

Combo Fri/Sat Events registration: \$80 (\$40 for Woodbury alumni and educators)

Student and Woodbury faculty registration: All events free with valid ID

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**Woodbury University's School of Architecture** is a network of hubs strategically sited within the Southern California megalopolis: Burbank/Los Angeles, San Diego and Hollywood. Together, these sites form a critical infrastructure for architectural investigations. The school's undergraduate and graduate programs in architecture and interior architecture train students as entrepreneurs, architect citizens, and cultural builders.

### **About Woodbury University**

Founded in 1884, Woodbury University is one of the oldest institutions of higher education in Southern California. The university ranks 15th among the nation's "25 Colleges That Add the Most Value," according to Money Magazine, and is a 2016-17 College of Distinction. With campuses in Burbank/Los Angeles and San Diego, the university offers bachelor's degrees from the School of Architecture, School of Business, School of Media, Culture & Design, and College of Liberal Arts, along with a Master of Business Administration, Master of Architecture, Master of Interior Architecture and Master of Science in Architecture. The San Diego campus offers Bachelor of Architecture and Master of Architecture, Master of Interior Architecture and Master of Landscape Architecture degrees, as well as a Master of Architecture degree with a concentration in Real Estate Development. Visit [woodbury.edu](http://woodbury.edu) for more information.