Drawing Dept is a collaborative architecture + design practice based in Cincinnati, Ohio. We strive to create a beautiful, eclectic, and inclusive architecture by working closely with and listening carefully to our clients. We believe that cost and construction methods are constraints which must be embraced in order to elegantly resolve a project.
Office Established 2005

Services architecture, master planning, interiors, graphic design, i.d.

Studio 5 architects

Robert Busch ra, aia
2007 Adjunct Professor at University of Cincinnati
2005 Established Drawing Dept.
2005 Faculty Exhibit, University of Cincinnati
1993 Ohio Registered Architect no.10923
1991 John Senhauser Architects
1991 B.Arch University of Cincinnati

Ronald Novak
2006 Colerain Township Planning Commission
2005 Established Drawing Dept.
1999 John Senhauser Architects
1998 B.Arch University of Cincinnati
1996 CMMI Architects

Karl Wallick ra
2008 Assistant professor at University of Cincinnati
2007 Ohio Registered Architect no. 14391
2005 Visiting professor at University of Cincinnati
2005 Established Drawing Dept.
2003 Managed SmartWrap exhibit at Cooper-Hewitt Museum
2000 Kieran Timberlake Associates LLP
2000 M.Arch University of Pennsylvania
1997 Adjunct Professor at University of Cincinnati
1995 B.Arch University of Cincinnati
1993 Daniel Libeskind

Kevin Kluender ra, aia
2006 Drawing Dept.
2006 Ohio Registered Architect no.13995
2001 John Senhauser Architects
2001 B. Arch University of Cincinnati

Evonne Morales ra, aia, leed ap
2007 Drawing Dept.
2005 Freelance
2004 Ohio Registered Architect no.13518
2002 Muller Architects
1998 Gensler
1998 B.Arch Cornell University

Drawing Department also employs full time graduate students and interns as necessitated by work load.
Completed
2008 Courtyard House : new residence
2008 Cayuga Cabana : pool house remodel
2008 Citroen Concept : showroom prototyping
2008 Wyoming Avenue : renovation
2007 Forest Creek Residence : new residence
2007 Box n' Box : manufacturing and office space
2007 Bosom Buds : interior
2007 Davita Dialysis : shell building
2007 Fish Residence : addition + renovation
2007 Kulkarni : new residence
2006 Pritchard : residence
2006 American Can : design proposal
2007 Fellowship Baptist Church : addition
2007 Pedato : residence
2007 Mt. Vernon Residence : addition + renovation
2007 Tarvin : interior
2007 Cheviot Road : residence
2007 Contin Ambrosini : renovation
2007 Pea Pod Cafe : interior
2007 Meuthing : addition
2007 Signor Way : home renovation
2007 Harris Avenue: residence
2007 Beechmont Station : commercial interiors
2007 Riverside : residence
2007 Schaff : residence
2007 Robben : garage
2007 Sedler : deck
2007 Ellis : residence
2007 Ambleside Kitchen : kitchen remodel + terrace
2007 Shorenstein : executive office interior
2007 KC Design Group : signage design
2007 County Line Barn : workshop + storage
2007 Oakley Graphics : "after hours" marketing
2007 Safe : sidetable
2007 Quarter Wall : design build interior

In Progress
2008 Stettinius Kitchen : renovation
2008 Winchester Circle : master plan
2008 Mount Adams Tower : new residential development
2008 Carney Street Residence : renovation
2008 Barrett Drive Residence : renovation + addition
2008 Dinkel Residence : addition + remodeling
2008 Erwin Suite : remodeling
2008 Bayard Wall : garden wall
2008 Grandin Road Residence : renovation + addition
2008 Crystal Cove : new residence
2007 Aventine : multi-family housing development
2007 Trophy Awards : custom award design + signage
2007 Gutman : residence
2007 Fisher Island NY : residence
2007 Daycare : renovation
2007 Ward : residence
2007 Kugler Mill Residence : new residence

2006 Newtown Lumber : lumberyard renovation
2006 Ashton Oaks : clubhouse
2006 Sedler Residence : colonnade renovation + addition
2006 Kunkelmoeller : pool house
2006 Zimmer : addition
2006 Gilhardt : addition
2006 Locust Lane : single family residence
2006 Gerhardt : single family residence
2006 Moravec : renovation
2006 Vap : addition + renovation
2006 Sedler : residence
2006 Hutton-Gross : screen
2006 Beluga : restaurant int. / ext. renovation
2006 Alper : ongoing renovations and landscape
2006 Dorsey : interior
2006 Fried : kitchen and landscape
2006 Speckled Bird Cafe : interior
2006 Hubert : addition
2006 Cotton : garage
2006 Alliston Street : mixed use development
2006 Eye Tech Optical : interior
2006 Li : residence
2005 River City Rivalry : award design
2005 Hyde Park Residence : garage + room addition
2005 D+V : law office interior
2005 Delev : interior
2005 Smith : interior
2005 Engel : interior
2005 Wissel : interior and landscape
2005 Tarvin : interior
2005 Ecker : single family residence
2005 Williams : addition
2005 Schur : addition
2005 Cooper Road : addition

Under Construction
2008 Westside Ave : addition + renovation
2008 Indian Hill Residence : addition + renovation
2008 Fort Thomas Residence : renovation
2008 Integra Lifescience : clean-room renovation
2008 CTL Aerospace : mixing room
2007 Museum Tower Penthouse : casework + detailing

Competitions
2008 Anton Art Center Shop Shack : proposal submission
2008 Ice Hotel : proposal submission
2007 G2 Venice lagoon : proposal submission
2005 Eden Parking : re-design proposal

Honors, Exhibits:
2008 5x5 under 30 entry on display
Cincinnati Contemporary Arts Center
2005 Mound Residence Exhibit at University of Cincinnati
What started as a shelter for keeping firewood dry soon became a site structure with the task of absorbing the clutter that accumulates around people and their hobbies. The program soon expanded to include parking for a tractor and pickup truck, woodshop, bathroom, storage loft, garden shed, and screened porch.

The initial modular proportion for the structure derives from the dimensions of a cord of firewood and evolved into a translucent screen wall under the overhanging roof. The rest of the design strives for invisibility by using a strategy of carving away at the simple rectangular typology of a traditional tobacco barn. Spaces such as the screened porch and garden shed are subtracted from the volume without compromising its utility.
Project ambleside kitchen
Location cincinnati, ohio
Status completed

The design strategy developed from a holistic analysis of the existing home and site which recognized the existing kitchen’s physical and social segregation from the rest of the home and its surroundings. The existing cabinetry was understood as an interior liner of poche, reinforcing the reading of the kitchen as a self-referential, static box reluctantly contained at the perimeter of the household.

Circumventing the latest technical contrivances and design fashion, the result pursues simplicity in an integrated, clean, modern kitchen that prioritizes efficacy while celebrating a new social and spiritual component in harmony with the house.
An existing cluster of disparate buildings in need of a face-lift was the site for this project. The buildings while functional, did not present the type of coherent face to the street needed for a retail lumber yard. Nor did the existing structure give any hint as to its purpose.

The design for the Newtown Lumber face-lift consists of alternating series of 2x2, 2x4, 2x6, and 2x8 cedar boards. Our rules were simple: no cuts allowed. Where windows, downspouts, and doors interrupted the façade, boards turned into fins. Moments of conflict between the purity of the wooden skin and the existing functions of the lumberyard were exploited as opportunities for introducing syncopation into the skin pattern.
Project beluga
Location Cincinnati, Ohio
Status speculative

The proposed exterior screen and canopy seeks to unify the different character of the former additions, mediate their disparate massing, provide a strong urban edge at the sidewalk, and act as a transition element between the commercial and residential zones. This project is the third in a series of wooden screen explorations seeking to gain the greatest possible ornamental articulation from inexpensive and readily available materials.

Inside, we used a similar strategy of screens to mask the various soffit heights and light fixtures accrued over the course of several renovations. These screens also serve as orientation devices through the contorted circulation routes; east-west walls will be clad in the wooden screen and north-south walls will have a translucent polycarbonate liner to bring a common identity to the separate bar, dining, and lounge spaces.
An earlier addition to this small house turned its back on fantastic views of the Little Miami River Valley. Besides satisfying the program of a 2-car garage, family room, and master bedroom suite, our overriding goal was to take advantage of the rear yard views. Lines of sight from the existing house are maintained via a slot between the addition and the new tandem garage while the impact of shadow on the yard is minimized by keeping the bulk of the addition from spreading into the backyard.

The proposed addition seeks a balance between the contradictory requirements of view and shade through the use of vertical cedar fins. Eventually these fins were absorbed from their role in solar performance into the structural plane of the facade. This is an agitated system, intentionally ambiguous: sometimes a fin is structural, sometimes for shade, sometimes a rainscreen; it may have both ornamental and performative roles. However, altogether they are subsumed into a rhythmic cladding which seeks to agitate perceptions of function and decoration.