

# THOMAS GREENE RANKIN

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**curriculum vitae**  
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## EDUCATION

- 2009 **Università di Roma “La Sapienza”**, Facoltà di Architettura. *Laurea in Architettura* (completed exams and thesis as required for equivalency to 5-year Italian professional degree for architectural licensing).
- 1991 **Harvard University Graduate School of Design**. Masters in Architecture (with honors). Coursework with Massimo Scolari, Wilfried Wang, Rafael Moneo, Dagmar Richter, Joan Busquets, Manuel de Solà Morales, Marcel Meili, William Mitchell. Thesis title: “Infrastructure and the Practice of Everyday Life: Housing on the Highway in Caltagirone, Italy” completed with Jorge Silvetti
- 1983 **Princeton University**. Bachelor of Arts, majoring in History and Theory of Architecture. Thesis title: “Ecology, Planning and Design; Approaches to Urban Growth in the American Southwest” dealing with passive solar design and sustainable urbanism. Courses with Alan Colquhoun, Anthony Vidler, David Coffin, Steven Slaby, Alan Plattus
- 1979 **Milton High School**, Milton, MA. Diploma.

## PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

- 2008-present **TRA\_20 (Tom Rankin Architects)**. Rome, Italy. Founder and Director of professional consulting firm focusing on sustainable urbanism and cultural management.
- 2013-2016 **Tevereterno, Onlus**. Director of multidisciplinary cultural project dedicated to revitalizing Rome’s Tiber River waterfront as a public space for site-specific contemporary art.
- 2002-present **Context Travel**. Partner and Docent, helping strategy for dynamic travel business now active in over 20 cities in Europe, Asia and the US, as well as leading architectural walks, talks and seminars.
- 2002-2008 **The American Institute for Roman Culture, Inc.** Co-founder and President of 501c3 non-profit institute aimed at promoting and defending Roman heritage through projects such as excavations and restoration and educational programs. Job responsibilities included:
- writing business plan and coordination of incorporation process
  - overseeing day-to-day administration
  - fundraising management and public presentations
  - university course instruction in Program in Architecture
- 1996-2003 **Scala Reale Associazione Culturale**. Founder and President of the successful not-for-profit cultural association committed to the appreciation and defence of Rome’s architectural, historical and cultural patrimony. Acclaimed in the international press and on the internet for its network of knowledgeable docents and innovative itinerary design, Scala Reale became the model for an alternative form of cultural tourism. Prior to its merger with Context Rome, SR counted thousands of members and a cumulative network of over 50 docents
- 1992-1999 Business and Language consulting for Italian companies: **Alitalia** (worked directly with CEO), **Autostrade, Spa** (worked directly with CEO), **Aeroporti di Roma** (worked directly with CEO), **BNL**, Archivio Alighieri-Boetti, ESRI Italia, Università di Roma, Secret Walks, and more.

1992-1999 Translations for Italian publications, films and television.

## DESIGN PRACTICE

- 2008-present **TRA\_20 (Tom Rankin Architects)**. Rome, Italy. Projects have included, plans for the revitalization of, and numerous renovations.
- Porta Portese Urban Makeover. Project for the transformation of under-utilized urban area as a center for material re-use
  - Center for Compact Urbanism in Castelvechio Calvisio, Abruzzo
  - Sustainable Urban Mixed Use proposal for Ex Mira Lanza Marconi area
  - Car-free City: Rome, theoretical projects for urban transformations
- 2004-2005 **The American Institute for Roman Culture, Inc.** Site architect for Rome Forum Excavation.
- Measured, photographed and produced manual and digital drawings of archaeological sites and finds.
  - Produced rough 3D CAD model of dig site for use in evaluation of hypotheses
- 1992-2004 **Independent architectural practice**, Rome. Interior design and furniture production  
Projects included:
- Design-build projects for offices and teaching facilities of AIRC in four different locations throughout Rome
  - Offices of **Gemini Consulting**, Milan (with **Arch. Cino Zucchi**). 1500 m2 complete renovation for innovative consulting firm. Design strategy aimed at providing flexible, campus-like workspaces and domestic atmosphere
  - Atrium House in **San Gemini**, Umbria. Brought through design development phase project for 300 m2 independent rural house in masonry and wood
  - Custom Furnishings for house in Fiano Romano, Lazio
  - Competition entry for European sustainable design award.
  - Interior renovation of 50 m2 apartment near Termini Station
  - Interior renovation, including custom furniture, of 100 m2 apartment near Termini Station
  - Interior renovation including custom furniture, of 85 m2 apartment in Monteverde
  - Interior renovation of 65 m2 apartment in Terracina, Italy
  - Design development for residential prototype, Worcester, MA
- 1993 **E.R. International** Designer and draftsman for new villa designs in Rome and Saudi Arabia
- 1992 **Studio Massimiliano Fuksas**, Rome. Designer and draftsman. Team leader for invited competition to design pedestrian bridge in Paris, working closely with Fuksas and Ove Arup Engineers
- 1991 **Wilfried Wang**, architect, Cambridge MA. Designer and draftsman for Berlin Amerika Gedenkbibliothek Addition Competition
- 1990 **Leers Weinzapfel Architects**, Boston. Designer and draftsman for courthouse project
- 1990 **William Rawn Associates**, Boston. Model construction for Tanglewood Concert Hall

- 1990 **D.W. Arthur, architect.** Designer and draftsman, responsible for design development and working drawings for office renovations in Boston
- 1987-89 **Stephen Tise Associates**, Brookline, MA. Designer and draftsman.  
 • Conversion of abandoned mill to 90-units of elderly housing, Gardner MA  
 • 25 unit condominium development, Brookline, MA  
 • Office design, Boston
- 1986 **Carlo Severati**, architect. Worked on design for environmentally sustainable vacation homes in Sardinia
- 1984-85 **Boston Architectural Team**, Chelsea, MA  
 • Design proposal for 30 story tower in North Station area, Boston  
 • Office renovation, build-outs
- 1982 **Arcosanti**, Cordes Junction, Arizona. Summer internship with Italian Architect Paolo Soleri in experimental project in sustainable urbanism  
 • Trained and worked in concrete  
 • Learned welding and assembled steel doors and windows  
 • Attended seminars with Paolo Soleri

## TEACHING

- 1993-present **Università di Roma, La Sapienza** Faculty of Engineering. Lecturer. "Ecological Urbanism" required course for all 3rd year Environmental Engineering students. Seminars on New Technologies in Architecture, Information, Communication and Transportation.
- 2008-present **California Polytechnic State University.** Rome Program Coordinator (2008-2010) and Instructor (2008-present) Courses:  
 • Rome as a Laboratory for Sustainable Design  
 • Architectural Design Studio  
 • History of Architecture in Rome  
 • Urban Design  
 • Organized student travel throughout Italy
- 2008-present **Iowa State University.** Rome Program. Instructor. courses:  
 • Urban Identity, Architecture and Film  
 • Art History: Art in Rome
- 2010-2013 **University of Minnesota Rome Program at Accent.** Coordinator for Design and Architecture. Courses:  
 • Architectural Design Studio  
 • Sustainable Cities  
 • Accompanied student travel in Barcelona, Veneto and Abruzzo.
- 2011 **University of Southern California**, Summer Course in Sustainable Cities and Engineering.
- 2007-present **University of Idaho**, Rome lectures as part of Italy Architecture and Drawing Program of Prof. Matt Brehm.
- 2010 **American University of Rome.** Adjunct Professor of Art History. Courses:  
 • Roman Art  
 • Arts of Modernity
- 2008-2009 **Northeastern University Rome Program.** Instructor. courses:  
 • Architectural Design. Planned and coordinated course.  
 • Travel. Accompanied students on trips to Campania and Tuscany
- 2005-2008 **American Institute for Roman Culture.** Professor. Courses:  
 • Rome as a Laboratory for Sustainable Design.

- Architectural Design Studio
- History of Architecture in Rome,
- Organized student travel throughout Italy

- 2004 to 2006 **John Cabot University**, Rome. Department of Art History.  
Courses taught:
- AH223 “Art and Architecture of the Roman Empire”
  - AH290 “Ancient Roman Monuments”
- 1991-present Guest critic and lecturer for various North American architecture and humanities programs in Rome, .
- University of Washington
  - University of Waterloo
  - Penn State University
  - Rensselaer Polytechnic
  - Rhode Island School of Design
  - Cornell University
  - University of Manitoba
  - Andrews College
  - Architecture Association
  - Simon Fraser University
  - Bryant University
  - University of Idaho
  - ETH, Zurich
  - Miami University, OH
  - Pratt University
  - Temple University
  - Yale University Rome Architecture Program
- 1990-91 **Harvard University Graduate School of Design**. Teaching assistant to Prof. Jorge Silvetti.
- Organized and directed three student trips to Sicily.
  - Oversaw logistics for month-long Harvard architectural measurement and drawing project in Caltagirone, Sicily.
  - Designed with Sam Trimble and organized exhibit of student work in Caltagirone.
- 1989 **Harvard University Graduate School of Design**. Teaching assistant to Prof. Peter Forbes.
- 1989-91 **Harvard University Graduate School of Design**. Translator and interpreter for visiting architects including Aldo Rossi and Mario Botta.

## AWARDS

- 2015 Still Sustainable City Blog awarded Guardian Cities’ “**Best Italian City Blog**”
- 2014 Invited participant to Rockefeller Foundation, **100 Resilient Cities** Agenda Setting Workshop (at Pelanda, Roma, 4-5 June 2014)
- 2012 Selected for participation in Grand Tour 2012 Conference at Università’ di Roma Tor Vergata.
- 2011 **Center for Compact Cities** proposal included for consideration in reconstruction plans of Castelvecchio Calvisio.
- 2010 Grant awarded for Borgo Abruzzo project by American University of Rome.
- 2009 Selected for participation in **Biennale Spazio Pubblico**, Rome.

- 2003 Rome's Superintendence of Cultural Heritage granted the American Institute for Roman Culture concession to excavate and analyze archaeological site in Roman Forum.
- 2001 Bottom Line Magazine awarded Scala Reale "Best Tours in Rome" Scala Reale also selected for feature in New York Times, Conde Naste and other press.
- 1991 Fulbright Fellowship in Architecture to study in Rome. Topic: "Neorealism and Post-war Housing in Rome's Periphery" Advisors: Jorge Silvetti and Giorgio Ciucci. Documented projects by Ridolfi, Libera, de Renzi and Muratori, Fiorentino and others.
- 1990 PA Award, as component of team of Prof. Jorge Silvetti for research contribution of Caltagirone project
- 1989 Montreal Design Charette, selected to represent Harvard University in a weeklong Charette to design new Montreal courthouse.

## MEMBERSHIPS

- 2015 Member, TEVERETERNO Onlus.
- 2015 Founding Member and Director of Outreach and Communications for the **International Society for Archaeology, Art and Architecture of Rome** (isarome.org)
- 2016 Member, Associazione Salvaciclisti.
- 2012 Member of Editorial Board of E-journal FORMA CIVITATIS
- 2012 **Ordine degli Architetti di Roma**, Registered Member n. 20989
- 2012 Selected member of coordinating committee, Comitato di Quartiere Monteverde Quattro Venti
- 2011 FAI.(Fondo Ambiente Italiano) Member
- 2011 BiciRoma. Member
- 2010 Zeitgeist Movement, Roma. Member
- 2009 Legambiente. Member
- 2008-2011 AACUPI, Representative of Cal Poly State University
- 1995-2002 Touring Club Italiano, Member
- 2005-present Harvard Club of Rome, Member
- 2010-present Princeton Club of Rome, Member
- 1983-present Boston Athenaeum, Proprietor

### Additional Educational Experiences:

- 1987 Enrolled in courses at Università di Roma "La Sapienza", Facoltà di Architettura with Costantino Dardi, Manieri-Elia, Enrico Guidoni.
- 1985 Italian Language courses at Università' per Stranieri, Perugia
- 1978 Harvard Summer School. Course in Political Science
- 1977 MIT Summer Program in Appropriate Technology

## PUBLICATIONS and PRESENTATIONS

- 2016 I Ponti di Roma Exhibit of watercolor drawings, Antica Libreria Cascianelli, Rome.
- 2016 "From Rationalism to Neo-Realism" Lecture at Fulbright Commission Inaugural Meeting, La Sapienza, Rome.
- 2015 Rome Works: An Architect Explores the World's Most Resilient City. Peruzzi Press.
- 2015 EcoWeek Book #1. 50 Voices for Sustainability <http://ecoweekorg.wix.com/ecoweekbook#!book/c236> "A Place for Re-Use in Rome's Via Portuense."
- 2014 Publication of Annals of Biennale dello Spazio Pubblico
- 2013 "Urban Space and the Tiber River" at Fulbright Meeting and Orientation, Centro Studi Americani, Roma (October 2013)
- 2013 "ENERGY. Oil and Post-oil Architecture and Grids" in Journal of the Society of Architectural Historians Vol. 72, No. 4 (December 2013)
- 2012 "Re-use of Space, Spaces of Re-use" Invited speaker at Eco-Week opening events at the Casa dell'Architettura.
- 2012 Invited to present to Fulbright Commission Inaugural Meeting, Centro Studi Americani.
- 2012 Featured speaker for Transport Planning department of Espoo, Finland, Rome Study Trip.
- 2011 Consulted on script for Rick Steves' rewrite of "Rome through the Ages" documentary series.
- 2011 "Graffiti: prioritizing the battle for civic respect" and "New Architecture in Barcelona" and numerous translations in Exibart.com
- 2011 Invited speaker at "Sustainable Cultural Heritage" conference, American University of Rome and British School of Rome. Nov. 2011.
- 2011 Invited speaker at University of Minnesota, Minneapolis, for three lectures on Rome.
- 2011 Exhibit of watercolor drawings "Castelvecchio Calvisio Vista dagli Occhi del Mondo", Palazzo del Capitano, Castelvecchio Calvisio, Abruzzo. July-Oct.
- 2011 "Un Progetto per l'Abruzzo" presented at University of Pescara, 12 January.
- 2011 Invited speaker "Recupero sostenibile di un borgo medievale colpito dal sisma: Castelvecchio Calvisio" presented at San Vito Romano "Città e Paesaggio" conference 6 July 2011.
- 2011 Visiting Critic prof. Strappa. CdL SAC, University of Rome La Sapienza, 18 June 2011.
- 2011 Invited speaker at Fulbright orientation meeting, "Introduction to Contemporary Architecture in Rome" at Ministero degli Affari Esteri, 24 October 2011.
- 2010 Published book: Il Progetto Borgo Abruzzo a Castelvecchio Calvisio (Publicazioni Exorma, 2010)
- 2010 "Spaces of Re-use, Re-use of Space" presented at the Biennale Spazio Pubblico, Rome. Published in CD "Inserto di Urbanistica Informazioni" n. 239-240 del 2011, ISSN 0392-5005.

- 2010 "Informed Navigators vs. the City" in Perkins, Samantha, Know-where (tbp)
- 2010 Guest speaker on urban planning for "Casalina 23" conference, 18 June 2010.
- 2011 Talk on "Roma Caput Mundi" presented to Avicenna WorldClass, Amsterdam during Rome Program.
- 2010 Foreign Architects Rome, responsible for exhibit of Cal Poly Rome Program at Tempio di Adriano for 2010 Festa dell'Architettura.
- 2010 CNN Future Cities documentary, interviewed for Rome episodes on urban sustainability
- 1993-present Presented talks on Rome, Architecture and Sustainability to various organizations (Fulbright Association, Harvard Club of Italy, Princeton Club of Rome, World Bank, American Women's Association, Boston Athenaeum, Berkeley Continuing Education, Los Angeles Time Board, Bulgari, Inc.
- 2008-present Writer of "Still Sustainable City" blog [www.sustainablerome.net](http://www.sustainablerome.net)
- 2008 Featured in Story Corps audio interview in Library of Congress archives
- 2008-9 Organized and presented laboratories on Sustainable City Revitalization at Castelvecchio Calvisio, Abruzzo
- 2007 Translated from Italian, Carlo Cellamare, "Rome Model" Ambiguous Modernity"
- 2007 Featured on-camera expert on History Channel documentary "Cities of the Underworld"
- 2003-5 AIRC Rome Forum excavation featured in BBC, CNN, London Times, Repubblica, Corriere della Sera, and other international press.
- 2006 Wrote and produced audio podcasts on Ancient Roman Urbanism for Context Rome.
- 2005 Lecture for Fulbright Fellows in Rome on "Drawing Archaeology".
- 2006 Organized Symposium "America and Italy: Architecture of the Post-War Years and presented opening remarks on "Neo-realism and Post-war Italian Architecture"
- 1999-2003 Scala Reale website and newsletter, frequent articles on Roman architecture and culture
- 2003 Princeton Independent, Jan 2003. "A Rome with a View; a tour of Architettura"
- 2001 Princeton Alumni Weekly, Feature story on Tom Rankin's ventures in Rome
- 2001 Filmed as Rome expert in Travel Channel production "Intimate Escapes"
- 2002 Consulted on script and presented on-camera for Rick Steves' "Rome through the Ages" documentary series, aired on PBS
- 1991 Architectural and Urban Environments of Sicily Volume 2. Contributor.
- 1989 Architectural and Urban Environments of Sicily Volume 1, co-edited with Jorge Silveti.
- 1988-90 Harvard GSD Student Works, Projects selected for publication and exhibition.

## TRAVEL

- 2016 North American travel including visits to Silicon Valley corporate campuses (Google, Apple) and Los Angeles cultural and entertainment locations.



- 1990-present Resident in Rome, with frequent travel in Europe and US, including architectural study trips to Portugal, Switzerland, Paris, Amsterdam, Berlin, Barcelona, London, Chicago, Los Angeles, New York and throughout Italy. Have led student trips in Europe for various universities.
- 1986 6-month residence in Perugia and Rome, studying Italian and working in international studios.
- 1985 5-month study trip in Mediterranean, including Egypt, Greece, Cyprus, Israel, Turkey and Italy.
- 1983 3-month independent travel throughout Western Europe, including England, Scotland, Wales, Ireland, France, Netherlands, Finland, Sweden, Germany, Italy, Spain

## LANGUAGES

Fluent Italian, written and spoken. Served as interpreter while at Harvard for architects such as Mario Botta and Aldo Rossi. Translated and consulted for Italian companies such as *Autostrade*, *Alitalia*, *ESRI*, and *Aeroporti di Roma*.

French, good knowledge and ability to communicate.

## SKILLS AND INTERESTS

Expert Mac-user since 1985 and internet user since 1992. Familiar with Mac OS and most Mac programs

Have used CAD since main-frame computer days, skilled at 2D and 3D modeling with Vectorworks. Increasing experience with BIM

Adept at digital photography and manipulation (including file sharing, geotagging, publishing)

Devout blogger about Rome's urban condition and culture and environmental sustainability: [www.sustainablerome.net](http://www.sustainablerome.net)

Former disc-jockey and video-jockey, skilled at video and audio recording and editing

Avid urban biker, alpine and cross-country skier, runner, and hiker.

Extensive construction experience in US and Italy; skilled at wood, masonry and metalwork and finishing processes

Novice guitarist

Passionate sketcher and occasional painter (various exhibits and sales)

