

RAJESH KOTTAMASU

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EXPERIENCE

- 2008-present **Programming and Grants Manager, Freshkills Park
New York City Department of Parks & Recreation** **New York, NY**
Developing arts, educational and online programs; fundraising for capital and programmatic projects, for the 2,200-acre Freshkills Park project on Staten Island.
- summer 2007 **Research Assistant, MIT** **Cambridge, MA**
Assisted Professor William J. Mitchell in research for forthcoming book on the impact of alternative energy sources for personal transport on urban form.
- summer 2006 **Intern, Project for Public Spaces** **New York, NY**
Produced GIS land use and zoning maps, pedestrian activity maps and traffic pattern studies; contributed to design and concept of cultural walk routes and maps; produced and edited presentation documents; performed case study research.
- spring 2006 **Research Assistant, MIT** **Cambridge, MA**
Researched application of open source programming models to social programs as groundwork for Milla Digital in Zaragoza, Spain, with Professor Michael Joroff.
- summers
2003-2005 **Media Department Head, Charles River Creative Arts** **Dover, MA**
As counselor, taught animation, video, digital and sound art to children 8-15. As Department Head, also organized curriculum, oversaw teachers, supplies and equipment.
- spring 2004 **Build Shop Intern, Redmoon Theater** **Chicago, IL**
Constructed props and scenery, did shop maintenance and developed puppet prototypes for experimental theater group.
- 2000-2001 **Features Designer, Detroit Free Press** **Detroit, MI**
Designed and created original artwork for feature fronts, TV Book, special sections of the highest-circulating newspaper in Michigan.

EDUCATION

- 2005-2007 **Massachusetts Institute of Technology** **Cambridge, MA**
Master in City Planning degree with Urban Design Certificate.

Thesis: *Placelogging: Mobile spatial annotation and its potential use to urban planners and designers*, Awarded Honorable Mention, Best M.C.P. Thesis.

Coursework in property disposition and affordable housing development strategy, alternative mapping strategies in understanding Detroit, public art and civic engagement, site planning, land use and transportation planning, urban design studios in Zaragoza, Spain and São Paulo, Brazil, real estate finance. Awarded the O. Robert Simha Prize for community art project "The Daily Museum of Amazement," 2006.
- 2004-2005 **The School of the Art Institute of Chicago** **Chicago, IL**
Post-Baccalaureate Certificate in Film, Video and New Media.
- 1998-2003 **Harvard College** **Cambridge, MA**
Bachelor of Arts in Psychology. Awarded John Harvard Scholarship (1998, 2002); Rudolf Arnheim Prize for Excellence in Interdisciplinary Visual Studies (2000)

**SOFTWARE
FLUENCY**

Quark XPress, Adobe Photoshop/Illustrator/InDesign/Premiere/After Effects, Macromedia Freehand/Director/Flash/Dreamweaver, HTML, MS Office, Final Cut Pro, DVD Studio Pro, ProTools, AutoCAD, ArcMap.

**COMPETITIONS/
WORK EXHIBITED**

- fall 2009 **International Architecture Biennale Rotterdam** **Rotterdam, The Netherlands**
Exhibition of research and graphics produced for "Open City: Designing Coexistence."
- fall 2009 **ResilientCity Design Ideas Competition** **Toronto, Canada**
1st place winner, for urban design/planning proposal "From the Ground Up." Exhibition at 2009 Canadian Green Building Conference.
- winter 2008 **New Marketplace for the Red Hook Park Vendors – A Call for Ideas** **Brooklyn, NY**
Honorable Mention for urban design proposal "Splitting the Difference." Design ideas competition held by Architecture for Humanity.
- spring 2007 **Places, 18.2 (journal: Special Issue on Media and the City)**
Research and graphics produced for conceptualization of Zaragoza Milla Digital in Zaragoza, Spain featured in article "Zaragoza's Digital Mile: Placemaking in a new public realm," by Francisca Rojas and Dennis Frenchman.
- fall 2006 **Venice Biennale** **Venice, Italy**
Exhibition of research and graphics produced for research team's conceptualization of Zaragoza Milla Digital.
- Queens International Film Festival** **Queens, NY**
16mm/video animated film *Amnion* included in student competition.
- summer 2006 **The Tank NYC** **New York, NY**
16mm/video animated film *Amnion* included in program "New York Experimental."
- spring 2006 **Zaragoza Milla Digital: Designing a New Century Public Realm (book)**
Principal Investigators: Dennis Frenchman and William J. Mitchell (MIT and the City of Zaragoza, Spain). Research, text and graphics produced for conceptualization of Zaragoza Milla Digital.
- fall 2005 **Making Things Public: Atmospheres of Democracy (book)**
by Bruno Latour and Peter Weibel (MIT Press). Documentary video *Looking* featured in article "Wall of Science."
- summer 2005 **ZKM, Karlsruhe** **Karlsruhe, Germany**
Documentary video *Looking* included in exhibit "No Mediation, No Representation."
- Noua Gallery** **Bucharest, Romania**
16mm/video animated film *Amnion* included in exhibit "Daily Care Center."
- PERSONAL** Enjoy working on organic farms, cooking, Vipassana meditation.