

PROMOTION RECOMMENDATION  
The University of Michigan  
A. Alfred Taubman College of Architecture and Urban Planning

Adam R. Fure, assistant professor of architecture, A. Alfred Taubman College of Architecture and Urban Planning, is recommended for promotion to associate professor of architecture, with tenure, A. Alfred Taubman College of Architecture and Urban Planning.

Academic Degrees:

M.Arch.	2006	University of California, Los Angeles, California
B.S.	2003	University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, Michigan

Professional Record:

2015 – Present	Principal, T+E+A+M
2013 – Present	Assistant Professor of Architecture, A. Alfred Taubman College of Architecture and Urban Planning, University of Michigan
2010 – 2015	Principal, SIFT Studio
2009 – 2013	Lecturer in Architecture, A. Alfred Taubman College of Architecture and Urban Planning, University of Michigan
2008 – 2009	Architectural Designer, Office dA
2008	Adjunct Faculty of Architecture, Woodbury University
2006 – 2008	Architectural Designer, Greg Lynn FORM

Summary of Evaluation:

Teaching: Professor Fure is a respected and in-demand teacher at Taubman College who inspires a high quality of work from his students. He has taught at both ends of the educational spectrum – foundation-level studios for beginning undergraduate students and thesis studios for advanced graduate students, both with clear-minded pedagogical frameworks calibrated to the curriculum, abilities, and pace appropriate to the level of student. His thesis students have been awarded the national Mies Crown Hall American Prize and the Burton L. Kempner Thesis Prize. Professor Fure’s most distinct contribution to pedagogy are the proceedings of Practice Sessions, Possible Mediums, and Becoming Digital which are all participatory learning through workshops. Practice Sessions, conceived with Ellie Abrons and Andrew Holder, received a \$350,000 grant from the University of Michigan Third Century Initiative: Transforming Learning for A Third Century. Professor Fure’s voice in design studio work is also in demand at peer institutions across the country where he has been frequently invited as a jury critic.

Research: Professor Fure creates and writes about provocative material installations. Working solo as the principal of SIFT studio, and since 2015 in the widely-recognized collective T+E+A+M with Taubman College Professors Ellie Abrons, Meredith Miller, and Thom Moran, Professor Fure designs, exhibits, writes, and teaches on deep strange materiality in an age characterized by the acute saturation of digital media. In so doing, he has become one of the most original voices of the “postdigital” condition in architecture. Professor Fure thematizes the particular concerns of his research as “material reuse” where he aims to capitalize on the unique aspects of material stock, attribute value to disused materials and demonstrate their potential use; “mediated materiality” that uses advanced forms of digital modeling and fabrication to alter conventional material; and “multi-sensory design” which combines space, sound, light, and objects in order to create interactive and immersive installations. He and his collaborators have created works that resonate despite today’s

informational shallows and that disturb, or that move their audience amid disturbing times, without falling into parody or lament. Together T+E+A+M's work has been prominently exhibited, and they have achieved two architecture biennials, fourteen exhibitions, six lectures, two design awards, and twenty-two articles written about their endeavor.

Recent and Significant Publications, Exhibitions and Awards:

Fure, Adam, and Kristy Balliet, Kelly Bair, and Kyle Miller, editors. Possible Mediums. ACTAR, 2018.

T+E+A+M. "Living Picture." Best of Design Award for Temporary Installation, *The Architect's Newspaper*, 2017.

T+E+A+M. "Living Picture." Adrian Smith Prize for the Ragdale Ring, Ragdale Foundation, 2017.

T+E+A+M. "Detroit Reassembly Plant." The Architectural Imagination, curated by Cynthia Davidson and Monica Ponce de Leon, 15th International Architecture Exhibition, U.S. Pavilion, 2016. Juried group exhibition.

Fure, Adam. Architectural League Prize for Young Architects + Designers, The Architectural League of New York, 2014.

Fure, Adam. SIFT Studio (with Ashley Fure). "Veer." Architizer A+ Awards: Architecture + Sound, Architizer, 2013.

Service: Professor Fure's service record includes contributions to the Architecture Program, Taubman College, the university and profession. At the program and college level, he has repeatedly contributed on admissions and curriculum committees, and also served on the fellowship search committee and a tenure track faculty search committee. At the university level, he has been active with ArtsEngine on its curriculum and has also led a Provost's seminar on teaching. At the level of national academic organizations, he has peer-reviewed papers for the Association of Collegiate Schools of Architecture, the Association for Computer Aided Design in Architecture, and TxA Emerging Design + Technology Conference. Professor Fure's high rate of participation in studio and thesis reviews at peer institutions is also a service to the discipline.

External Reviewers:

Reviewer A: "The sheer quantity of Adam's work, disseminated through numerous workshops, lectures, and publications is impressive. It touches the discourse at every conceivable point and its impact can be measured in its durability, continuity and expansiveness...Adam Fure is firmly situated within the top of his cohort nationally..."

Reviewer B: "...I was struck by the originality of his work and its clear methodological direction...Fure's productivity, criticality, and success in the realm of teaching, research, and service distinguishes him...his standing among his peers is high, and his current as well as potential contributions to your university and to the discipline is significant and promises to grow."

Reviewer C: "I would place Adam at the forefront of a rather elite peer group that excels at not only...progressive material and technological research, but also a very high level of writing...I believe Adam's theoretical work and writing to be several echelons higher than his peers..."

Reviewer D: "The work is experimental and exploratory; it is post-digital; and it is querying fundamentals of architecture: materiality and form. Most importantly, it is original and it is coherent – which I consider to be what gives it the most value..."

Reviewer E: “The Sift Studio work earned him a significant award – the Architectural League Prize for Young Architects and Designers... It exhibited an affinity towards material exploration resulting in installations executed in plastics and rubber. These were imaginative and exhibited a level of intensity that was commendable.”

Reviewer F: “Adam’s writing, research and creative work has been solid and consistent, embracing new thinking while respecting traditional theory and practice. His design approach is unusually fluid...The physical work is well-supported by good writing, and relates closely to the research that he and his colleagues are doing.”

Reviewer G: “He has articulated a critical perspective which has been widely disseminated and shaped conversations with his peers at his home institution and the leading schools of architecture in North America. He has been recognized for his accomplishment for his design work by key galleries and received key awards for it.”

Reviewer H: “I believe that Fure’s production of architectural discourse through convenings, books, teaching and exhibitions is invaluable for the field.”

Summary of Recommendation:

Professor Fure’s scholarship has made him one of the most original voices of the “postdigital” condition in architecture. He is a well-regarded teacher whose voice in design studio work is also in demand at peer institutions across the country as a jury critic. He has also provided important service to the program, college, university and profession. It is with the support of the Taubman College Promotion and Tenure Committee and the Executive Committee that I recommend Adam R. Fure for promotion to associate professor of architecture, with tenure, A. Alfred Taubman College of Architecture and Urban Planning.



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Jonathan Massey  
Dean and Professor  
A. Alfred Taubman College of Architecture and Urban Planning

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