

# 2023 AIA Central Valley Design Awards Jury



## **Diane Jacobs, FAIA, Holly Street Studio**

Born in NYC, raised in Puerto Rico, educated in Tucson and trained in Boston, Diane has learned the value of individual stories, and multiple points of view. Her ability to work with client groups to create program driven designs result in places that express warmth, color, light and a respect for practicality and has led to a well-rounded portfolio of both large scale public work & intimate spaces in the private realm. Her work exploits ideas allied from disciplines including urban planning, environmental graphics, landscape architecture and lighting design. She founded Holly Street Studio in 1999 with the goal of bringing large firm expertise to local clients while maintaining the high level of service that a private practice firm affords.



## **Michael Jacobs, AIA, Holly Street Studio**

A native of the SF Bay Area, Michael brings a sense of optimism, invention and possibility to each project. His interest in the root of human aesthetic sensibility fuels a rigorous process that addresses all of the issues defining a project; generating spaces that are rich in their clarity, light, and material. He leads the HSS design effort with strong management and communication skills while remaining persistent in reasoned, long term solutions. His teaching experience allows him to guide a collaborative process that leads to team ownership and lasting client relationships. He joined Holly Street Studio in 2002.



### **Melissa Farling FAIA, Multistudio**

Melissa provides leadership to the studio and within the design profession with a primary focus on the impacts of architecture on people. She believes this knowledge is essential to enabling the creation of sustaining and appropriate environments and increasing society's expectations of the built environment while elevating the profession. Clients and colleagues say she has a unique ability to hear what people are saying and to translate those needs and ideas into problem-solving design.

In an effort to create positive impact, much of Melissa's work has focused on social justice and public projects of all sizes. She has successfully applied research to design, resulting in measurable outcomes. Believing that empathy and respect are the foundations for conversation and design, she excels at bringing multi-disciplinary expertise to the studio to facilitate more informed and rigorous explorations.



### **John Kane, FAIA, Architekton**

John Kane, founding partner and design principal of Architekton, has distinguished himself among his peers as one of Arizona's leading design talents. To John, architecture is about innovation through synthesis, and the act of creating through collaboration. John's designs are respected throughout the Southwest as a paradigm for an appropriate and sustainable architecture. He is skilled at problem solving and building consensus for design direction with diverse groups. John's forte is design that reflects thoughtful response to context, client and community needs.

Architekton's never-ending passion to be creative and innovative has resulted in more than 125 local and national citations for design excellence since 1989.



### **Cavin Costello, Ranch Mine**

Cavin Costello is the son of a civil engineer who endeavored to build his own house in rural Connecticut. It is safe to say that this exposure to building systems mixed with a "go get 'em" attitude laid the foundation for Cavin's future. Cavin pursued his childhood passion at Northeastern University from which he earned a Bachelor of Science in Architecture and a Master of Architecture degree, graduating Summa Cum Laude. During his schooling he was able to study in and call Florence, Italy home, using that time to explore the country, building his appreciation for

history and how culture and context affects the built environment. His enthusiasm for adventure lead him to Phoenix, Arizona where he has become a prominent figure in the community. To date, Cavin has designed over 175 projects around the United States and the world, winning multiple national and local awards, including HGTV's "Designer of the Year" in 2019 and "The Future of Architecture" award from the American Institute of Architects in 2015. Cavin is a licensed Architect in Arizona, Colorado, Montana, Tennessee and North Carolina.