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## SARAH BONNEMAISON

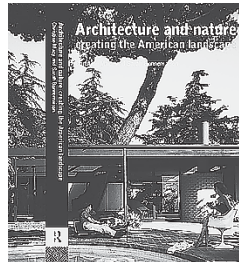
**Sarah Bonnemaïson** was born and raised in Paris and moved to Nova Scotia in 1993. She was immersed in architecture from an early age, with a grandfather who had served as head planner in the French protectorate of Morocco before opening his own architectural firm in Paris. Her uncle took over the firm located on the same street as the offices of Renzo Piano and Bernard Tschumi.

Her studies in architecture at Pratt Institute took her to New York City, where, as a student, she began to practice her craft by designing and building sets for the burgeoning experimental theatre groups of the 1980s. She then pursued post-professional studies at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, where she discovered a love of lightweight structures and wrote her master's thesis on the work of Frei Otto. After a year at FTL in New York, Sarah moved to Stuttgart to work with Bodo Rasch (with Frei Otto acting as consultant) on the design of a convertible tensile roof system for the Great Mosque of Mecca. Pursuing her interest in ephemeral architecture, she completed a Ph.D. in geography and urban studies at the University of British Columbia, where a number of faculty members were carrying out their own research on world expositions. Her dissertation focused on the transformation of Paris for the commemorative festivities of the French Revolution and explored how memory is reworked by such events.

In 1990, Sarah began her design firm Filum Ltd., in collaboration with **Christine Macy**. Together, they have lectured on festival architecture in Canada and abroad and carried out award-winning design commissions for sites and events in and around Vancouver. Currently, she is developing a new research area exploring the relationship between movement and architectural form. This 3-year SSHRC-funded project uses motion-capture technology to trace movements in three-dimensional space. This raw data is manipulated digitally to develop architectural forms and enclosures that correspond to human movements. Further phases of this work

involve the digitized manufacture of architectural elements and their use in performances and installations.

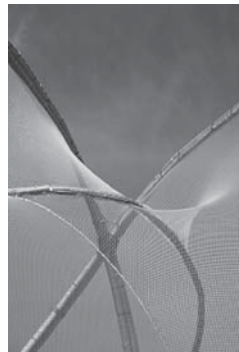
In addition to Dr. Bonnemaïson's design research, she has an emerging profile as an architectural historian and critic. She explores the relation between nature, architecture and theory in her first book, *Architecture and Nature: Creating the American Landscape* (2003), co-authored with Christine Macy, and in the forthcoming *On Growth and Form*, co-edited with the University of Waterloo's Philip Beesley. Her research and practice orientation towards ephemeral architecture informs her forthcoming *Building Questions: Installations by Architects*, co-authored with Ronit Eisenbach of the University of Maryland; and *Festival Architecture*, co-edited with Christine Macy. Sarah can be reached at (902) 422-5892 or [sarah.bonnemaïson@dal.ca](mailto:sarah.bonnemaïson@dal.ca).



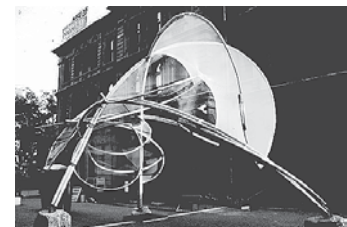
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