Bogotá DC. Colombia

Contact> marialuisavela@gmail.com / www.linkedin.com/in/mariavela

I believe in design as an agent for social change and in the public realm as an opportunity for improving quality of life in cities of the developing world. My experience as a designer of both public and private architectural projects gives me the versatility to contribute my skills in very diverse contexts.

Born in Bogota, Colombia. Practicing architect, BArch Universidad de Los Andes, with 13 years of experience and a Masters in Urban Design from UC Berkeley. I believe that both housing and the public realm in cities are fascinating design challenges. I have worked independently in competitions with prizes for a public library, a town square and a park, in different cities of Colombia as a co-founder of the firm Ariporo Ltd. I have done academic research, teaching and have collaborated in firms for housing in Colombia and Panama. Photography, writing and graphics enthusiast. Fellow of the *Leadership for Bogota* 2015-2016 program. Formerly collaborator for Bogota's Territorial Ordering Plan –POT, in the diagnosis and proposals for the Urban Renovation component in the City Planning Department. During 2018, part of Bogota's Habitat Department, working in the slum upgrading program in urban and rural contexts. IHS / OKP fellow for a short housing course in Holland. Currently independent architect and professor in undergraduate Architecture: Housing Studio, Universidad de Los Andes since 2016.

Education

2013 - 2015 1998 - 2003	University of California Berkeley. Masters in Urban Design. Project: "The housing-landscape interface", Kennedy District, Bogotá Universidad de Los Andes. Bachelor in Architecture. Project: "Liturgy Square in the 20 de Julio Neighborhood", Bogotá
2019 2015 - 2016 Dec 2013 Jan - Jun 2011	Courses and workshops Institute of Housing and Urban Development. Erasmus University Rotterdam. Developing Social Housing Projects. 3week course Universidad de Los Andes. Leadership for Bogota fellowship program "Cartography and neighborhood recognition: Laches" 1 yr. Southern China University of Technology. Final project: "From abandoned cement factory to Creative Campus". 1 month. Pontificia Universidad Javeriana. Digital Photography course. 1 semester.

Projects	
2019	Adaptation to Climate Change: involving the private sector.
	For: Adriana Vega, MAPPA, KPMG Colombia.
	Hillside Collecive Housing in Suba
	For: Ximena Samper, PRODESA. Social Housing in Ricaurte, Cundinamarca (proposal for private competition)
	With: Alejandro Peña -ALPEC Architects.
2018	Bogota Habitat Department: Slum upgrading program in Bogota 's southern rural settlements.
2010	For: Neighborhoods Division. SDHT. Technical report
2016 – 2017	Bogota City Planning Department: Territorial Ordering Plan diagnosis and proposals for the Urban Renovation chapter
2010 2011	For: Patrimony and Urban Renovation Division. SDP. Technical report
2015 – 2016	Montechico, a Rural Development Hub for Santander
	For: Arch. Ernesto Jimenez. Urban design and development of mixed use housing project in rural Santander. Area: 24 hectares
Oct 2015-Jun2016	
	Personal Project for the <i>Leadership for Bogotá</i> fellowship program. Research, community work and cartography in a hillside slum.
Aug 2015	Estación Central / Central Station, Calle 26, Av. Caracas, Bogotá
	For: Arch. Max Ojeda & Arquitectos Restauradores. Urban design guidelines for an Urban Renewal masterplan in Downtown Bogota.
Jul 2015	National Museum of Memory in Bogotá
	Metrica Architects. Urban proposal for public competition.
Apr 2015	Urban guidelines, housing and hotel in Montería
	Metrica Architects. Urban proposal and public space design. Area: 10.5 hectares
2013	DTO Recording studio -built.
	For: DTO Sonido Directo. Interior design, acoustical parameters integration and construction supervision. Area: 30sqm
2010 - 2013	Alto del Viento, mixed use housing in Barichara, Santander -built.
	For: Ernesto Jimenez. Coordination of urban and architectural designs, project drafting and construction supervision. Área: 500sqm
2010	F1 Building in Rosales -built
	Arch Camilo Esquerra, Architectural detailing of hathrooms, kitchens and wooden doors and windows

Arch. Camilo Esguerra. Architectural detailing of bathrooms, kitchens and wooden doors and windows.

Guachaca Beach, Tayrona
With Ariporo Ltd. Ecotourism proposal in Magdalena, Colombia. Schematic proposal. Area: 2 hectares

House in Santa Ana – built.
With Ariporo Ltd. Carlos Granada and Ana Hakim. Architectural design and development. Area: 700sqm

Trump Ocean Club Panamá – built.
For: Arias Serna Saravia S.A. Junior architect in mixed use building s common areas. Area: 262,000sqm

2007 **Luis Carlos Galán Square**, Cota, Cundinamarca (1st prize) Ariporo Ltd. With David Delgado, Felipe Bermúdez, Mauricio Pinilla. Public competition. Public Space Design. Area: 5,600sqm. Bogotá 's Spanish Cultural Center Ariporo Ltd. With David Delgado, Angela Rueda, Alejandro Peña. Private competition. Architectural design. Area: 3,800sqm Extension for Bogota's Downtown Cemetery Ariporo Ltd. With Ángela Rueda. Public competition. Urban and architectural design. 2006 - 2007 Mario Laserna Building: audiovisual pieces on the building's construction process / The architecture of Ernesto Jimenez book Universidad de Los Andes. Architecture Department. Architecture, Cities and Education Research Group. For: Rafael Villazón. Research assistant. Illustrations on structural predimensioning and façade types. Teaching in Technical Workshop 1. Mono Nuñez Music Park in Ginebra, Valle (3rd prize) 2006 Ariporo Ltd. Felipe Bermúdez, Angela Rueda, Alejandro Peña. Public Competition. Urban and architectural design. Area: 5,000sqm Paz de Ariporo Library, Casanare (1st prize) -built 2005 - 2007 Ariporo Ltd.: David Delgado, Ángela Rueda, Gabriel Campuzano. Design, development, construction supervision. Area: 1,500 sqm Maré, bamboo cane housing in Anapoima 2005 For: Simón Velez. Drafting of general and detailed plans for bamboo cane housing. Area: 1,000sqm per house Virrey Building Chicó Neighborhood, Bogotá -built 2003 - 2005

Jimenez & Cortés Boshell Ltd. General and detailed plans drafting, additional to client management. Area: 41,000sqm

Macadamia Houses, suburban housing in La Calera-Sopó, northeast of Bogota.

Private competition for Pedro Gómez & Co. For: Jiménez & Cortés Boshell Ltd. Drafting and competition drawings.

Conferences, publications, exhibitions

	Conferences given
2016	Conversation with Jan Rothuizen about walking Bogotá. Bogotá Book Fair (Feria Internacional del Libro de Bogotá) FilBo.
2016	Urban itineraries and innovative cartographies . Conversation regarding the book "Bogota's Facades"
2010	Genderless architecture and incursions in practice. Event with colombian female architects. U. Javeriana, Bogotá
2008	Interior and exterior space as one. Universidad Autónoma del Caribe. Barranquilla
	Publications (academic and other)
2014	Bogota's Bucolic Exodus. Academic article on urban-rural migration. Berkeley Planning Journal / The Urban Fringe. Berkeley, CA.
	Link: https://berkeleyplanningjournal.com/urbanfringe/2014/01/bogotas-bucolic-exodus-aspirations-of-a-rural-life-or-suburban-sprawl
2011	Genderless architecture and incursions in practice. Memorias 06, Pontifica Universidad Javeriana, Colombia
2010	Public spaces with a local identity. Diferentes Latitudes online magazine, México
2009	Material identity of place. Interview on A57 online magazine, Colombia
	Projects that have been part of collective exhibitions
2010	200 years of Architecture in Latin America . Paz de Ariporo Public Library. FPAA. Medellín.
2007	Spanish Cultural Center, Luis Carlos Galán Square, Mono Núñez Music Park and Three libraries in Casanare.
2003	Undergraduate Students Architecture Thesis Annual. Colombian Architects ´Society.

Skills, software, languages

Skills Urban and housing design, digital photography, hand drawings, basic infographics and booklet design.

Research and teaching in urban and housing issues.

Software Design: Adobe Creative Suite: Photoshop, InDesign, Illustrator, Microsoft Office, Adobe LightRoom.

Architecture: GraphiSoft ARCHICAD, Autodesk Autocad, ArcMap GIS, Google Sketchup

Spanish and English (Toefl 105/120, IELTS 7.5/9.0) Languages

References

Rafael Villazón Architecture, Cities, Education Research Group, Universidad d Los Andes Harrison Fraker Masters Final Project advisor UC Berkeley Adriana Vega Director MAPPA a.vega@studiomappa.com