

Iñaki Alday

Dean, Richard Koch Chair in Architecture at Tulane University

New Orleans, LA, US

Iñaki Alday utilizes a multidisciplinary global vision and social and environmental ethics to examine the role of architecture in society

Biography

Iñaki Alday received a Master of Architecture degree from the Polytechnic University of Catalonia in 1992. Together with Margarita Jover, he founded aldayjover architecture and landscape in 1996 in Barcelona. The multidisciplinary, research-based practice focuses on innovation and is particularly renowned for its leadership in a new approach to the relation between cities and rivers, in which the natural dynamics of flooding become part of the public space, eliminating the idea of 'catastrophe'. He has taught at the Polytechnic University of Catalonia, the University of Navarra and the University of Virginia. At the University of Virginia, he was the Elwood R. Quesada Professor of Architecture from 2011 to 2018, and Chair of the Department of Architecture from 2011 to 2016. Since 2016, he has been the co-director and founder (with Pankja Vir Gupta) of the Yamuna River Project, a long-term, interdisciplinary research program whose objective is to revitalize the ecology of the Yamuna River in the Delhi area. The project involves an interdisciplinary team with expertise in architecture, land planning, civil engineering, environmental science, public-private partnerships, anthropology, political science, history and cultural studies. The team's objective is to engage the efforts of government agencies, experts and activists in an ongoing program to address the multidimensional challenges of Delhi and the relation with its river. Both in academic research and in practice, Alday promotes a new attitude towards the transformation of our environment and how architecture can contribute to the inhabitation of the most challenged areas of the planet. He utilizes a multidisciplinary global vision and social and environmental ethics to examine the role of architecture and architects.

Areas of Expertise

Architecture, River City Urban Planning, Sustainable Architecture, Eco-ethics, Architecture and the Built Environment

Event Appearances

Cities & Rivers - Integrating Nature through Hybrid Infrastructure

Global Forum for the Social, Urban, Rural and Resilience (SURR) Global Practice

Education

Polytechnic University of Catalonia

M.Arch.

Accomplishments

International DAM Architectural Book Award (2018)

The Frankfurt Book Fair and Deutsches Architekturmuseum (DAM) bestowed the International DAM Architectural Book Award to "The Yamuna River Project, New Delhi Urban Ecologies," co-authored by Iñaki Alday, naming it one of the world's 10 best architectural books of 2018.

FAD Prize for Landscape and City (2009)

The Metropolitan Water Park in Zaragoza, Spain, was awarded the Luis Buñuel FAD Award in the category of Landscape and City, "to be assessed by the jury as" paradigm" of the new attitude of man with nature, while providing a "new relationship the city with the landscape and the environment."

Fernando García Mercadal Prize (2005)

El Molino Cultural Center

European Prize for Urban Public Space (2002)

Regeneration of the River Gállego and Environs: New park and riverside walks, environmental reforms and town planning in Zuera, Spain.

Fernando Garcia Mercadal Prize (2001)

L-J House in Zuera, Spain.

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