The thing of first importance in architecture is beauty.

Zivkovic Connolly Architects is committed to the simple and essential art of place-making. The work of the practice is responsive to site, to program and to context and always avoids imposing pre-conceived or capricious formal solutions on any design problem. Whether in building or in detail, the expression of style is selectively employed to create architecture which enhances the predominant character of street, neighborhood and landscape.

A respect for architectural history, for craftsmanship and fine materials, together with the appropriate integration of current technologies informs our work to create a contemporary architecture of significance and enduring value.

Founded in 1988, the practice has since completed building and interior design projects for a diverse residential, institutional and commercial clientele. We manage a select number of projects, thereby allowing the principals to maintain direct involvement in each design. The commitment to our client’s architectural investments is manifested in a quality of work which has been consistently recognized in professional design award programs and numerous publications, in the United States and internationally.

Measure is All.
Don Zivkovic is the founder of the firm and has been in private practice in New York City since 1985. An award-winning, internationally published architect (see Awards & Press), with a master of architectural history from Columbia University in New York and an undergraduate professional degree from the University of Western Australia, he has established a practice recognized for its pursuit of quality in design, which is ultimately based on a respect for the past that is fundamental to keeping the timeless tradition of architecture alive and meaningful today (see About the Firm).

He is licensed to practice architecture in the US and Australia and his more than 30 years of experience encompass many building and interior design works, including master planning and project management, for a diverse institutional, commercial and residential clientele in the US, Europe and Australasia. From major new building project to furniture and hardware design, the focus of his firm is on understanding clients’ overall strategies and long-term interests, to ensure a quality of product which is measured in terms of its functional performance and the added-value imparted to projects that are consistently completed at a high standard of finish and within given budget and time parameters.

The owners and end-users of his work number, among others, prominent individuals from the entertainment industry, old-world aristocracy and Wall Street, as well as such major institutions as American Express, West Point Military Academy and the United Nations (see Select Client List). The range of built work comprises, on the one hand, the conversion of a 19th-century landmark bank building at Cornhill, in the City of London, England, to accommodate new corporate headquarters and state-of-the-art trading-floor operations, in an historic context; on the other, a modern embassy in Manhattan for the Government of Botswana and numerous renovation projects at such New York City landmarks as the Rockefeller Center, MetLife Building and World Financial Center.

At the same time, his firm is known for the fine homes, including apartments, townhouses and country residences, designed for a select group of private patrons seeking contemporary comfort and convenience, together with the time-honored and well-proportioned refinement which is characteristic of the enduring architecture of the past, traditional and modern. The new classically-styled Carhart apartment house, on Manhattan’s Upper East Side, has been called one of the city’s best buildings of the last half century and a new Palladian-inspired house and landscape in the Hudson Valley is praised as of its time and place, while the rehabilitation of 30 acres of a grand, stone-manor estate in Greenwich, Connecticut, was featured in The New York Times as one of the most exclusive private properties in the world.

He is affiliated with the American and Royal Australian Institutes of Architects and the Institute of Classical Architecture. He has also served as President of the New York Chapter of the Society of American Registered Architects and on its national board, in addition to being a Director of the Architects’ Council of New York City. For many years, he chaired the jury of the long-running, national Student Design competition of the Society of American Registered Architects and, with his partner, sponsors a national Drawing Prize at the Institute of Classical Architecture, which recognizes and fosters the talent of young architects. He has also been a guest critic at schools of architecture in New York. Other pro bono service has included trusteeships on the Board of the Thomas Paine Museum and National Historical Association, as well as with the Lycee Francais de New York, where he has been a leader in the school’s successful design and construction of a new Kindergarten-12th Grade, state-of-the-art facility in Manhattan. He was awarded an historic Order of Chivalry by the French Government for his significant contributions in building for education.

Honored by his peers and the community for the excellence of both his modern and traditional designs, together with a strong background in planning and project management, Don Zivkovic brings a unique blend of aesthetic and practical skills to every project. Architectural historians and critics have admired the firm’s work (see Testimonials) but, ultimately, the cornerstone of his practice is the making of beautiful places and, as such, buildings are regarded as a community affair which contribute to making the preferred environments in which to live and work.
Brian Connolly is a graduate of the Architectural Programs at the Institute of Technology and Trinity College, in Dublin, Ireland. Following graduation, he also qualified, with honors, as a Member of the Royal Institute of the Architects of Ireland. He has over 25 years of post-graduate professional experience in the United States and Europe and is a Registered Architect, licensed to practice in the State Of New York since 1992.

With an early background in the design of educational, religious and residential buildings, he joined the firm in 1989 as a project architect and led the design team for the US headquarters of a European bank which had recently acquired a local banking organization with 180 branch offices throughout the northeast. More recently, he has focused on the design of fine homes, townhouses and individual apartments in the tri-state area. His experience with both building and interior projects comprises new construction as well as historic restoration and rehabilitation of existing structures and spaces. He is further involved in the design and production of custom furnishings, cabinetry and related industrial design products. Within the firm, he maintains involvement in the design of a wide variety of project types including numerous institutional, commercial and residential facilities for a diverse group of clients, ranging from the New York State Power and Port Authorities and the Philosophy Day School, to the Juilliard School and School of American Ballet at the Lincoln Center for the Performing Arts, among others (see Select Client List). Corporate project experience has included law offices, a security-control center for a Fortune 500 company as well as commercial and trading facilities for financial corporations in the New York metropolitan area. And his commercial work also includes a number of store and boutique designs for specialty retailers.

He is a member of the American Institute of Architects and the Irish Business Organization of New York and has served on the construction industry’s International Building Products Advisory Board for the Irish Government. In recognition of dedicated service, he was made a Fellow of the Institute of Classical Architecture & Classical America and chairs its Publication Committee which, among other things, is focused on the preservation and reprinting of important architectural treatises as well as monographs on the work of historically important practitioners. Other pro-bono service includes most notably his role as co-founder of the not-for-profit St Brendan the Navigator Restoration & Education Foundation, which was responsible for the restoration of the important 12th-century Hiberno-Romanesque Clonfert Cathedral, in Ireland. He authored the historical report on the building which was instrumental in bringing the project to the attention of the World Monuments Fund, which featured it on its Millennium List of the World’s 100 Most Endangered Buildings.

He is committed, with his partner, to the future of the profession and the encouragement of a respect for the important place of history, craftsmanship and appropriate technique in the practice of architecture today (see About the Firm). He has contributed, accordingly, to the support and publication of the new, facsimile edition of the classic Le Vatican et la Basilique de Saint Pierre by Paul Letarouilly, as well as to the establishment, under the auspices of the Institute of Classical Architecture, of the Zivkovic Connolly Drawing Prize for young architects. He has been invited to serve as a guest juror at architectural schools in the United States and in Europe.

Recent architectural work executed by Brian Connolly has been accorded design awards by various architectural and other professional organizations. In recognition of their design excellence (see Testimonials), many of these projects have been widely published (see Awards & Press), in the United States, as well as in other professional and popular publications in Europe and Japan.
CLIENTS
The building and interior design work of the firm encompasses the provision of architectural and project management services for a diverse range of institutional, commercial and residential clients, based in the United States and abroad.

The firm is known for its new building and preservation work, as well as for the fine homes, including apartments, townhouses and country residences, owned by a select group of private companies and individuals from the entertainment industry, old-world aristocracy and Wall Street.

The quality of both the traditional and contemporary design product is recognized in the numerous international awards and publications by which the firm has been honored.

A selected client/user list is provided below, with additional information available on request.

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<th>RESIDENTIAL</th>
<th>COMMERCIAL</th>
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<td>Numerous Private Individuals &amp; Companies</td>
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<td>International Committee of the Red Cross</td>
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<td>New York State Power Authority</td>
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<td>Philosophy Day School</td>
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<td>Port Authority of New York &amp; New Jersey</td>
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<td>Republic of Trinidad &amp; Tobago</td>
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<td>The Juilliard School</td>
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<td>The School of American Ballet</td>
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<td>United Nations</td>
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<td>West Point Military Academy</td>
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AWARDS
The firm has been recognized for its building and interior design work in connection with a diverse range of institutional, commercial and residential projects. A select list of some of our awards, received from various community and industry groups, include the following.

American Institute of Architects' Building Design Award
Carnegie Hill Neighbors Enrichment Award
General Electric Lighting Design Award
Illumination Engineering Society Lighting Design Award
New York Society of Architects’ Building Design Award
Palladio Award
Portsmouth Advocates’ Commercial Renovation Award
Renaissance Renovation Award
Society of American Registered Architects’ Building Design Award
Society of American Registered Architects’ Interior Design Award

PRESS
The work of the firm has also been widely covered in the popular and professional press, including the following journals, books and web-sites, published in both the US and internationally.

American Estates
Architectural Lighting
Architectural Record
Architectural Review
Architecture and Urbanism
Architettura Intersezioni
Australian Design Series
Bises
Carnegie Hill Neighborhood Guide
Design Cost & Data
Facilities and Design Management
Interior Design
Interior Lighting
Interiors
Luxury Homes
Metropolis
NewYorkology.com
New York 2000
New York's Best Bookstores
New York City Architecture + Design Guide
New York Newsday
New York Sun
New York Times
Period Homes
Professional Builder
Pronto
Publisher's Weekly
Racked.com
Refrinery29.com
Remodeling
Retail Spaces
Shops & Boutiques
Stores of the Year
The New Office
TimeOut
Traditional Building
USA Bathroom Trends
USA Kitchen Trends
USA Home & Living Trends
Visual Merchandising & Store Design
Wind
World Interior Design
TESTIMONIALS
The work of Zivkovic Connolly Architects has been consistently recognized by their peers and other notable commentators on architecture and design in New York and internationally.

Their new, classically-styled apartment building in the heart of historic Carnegie Hill has been described by Francis Morrone, historian and architectural critic of The New York Sun, as “... quite simply one of the best buildings in Manhattan in the last half century ...” Featured on NewYorkology.com’s “… Must-see list of NYC’s newest important architecture …”, it is one of the first new classical buildings in the city in many years and was awarded the prestigious Palladio Prize for excellence in architectural design. Steven W. Seemes, Professor of Architecture at the University of Notre Dame, calls it “… a model for how new traditional architecture, urbanism and historic preservation should work together to bring civility and continuity to the city.”

Community groups also endorse the sensitive, contextual work of the firm. In New York City, Carnegie Hill Neighbors presented them with its Enrichment Award for Architectural Excellence in recognition of their contribution to the integrity of the neighborhood while, in regional New Hampshire, the Historic Portsmouth Advocates honored another commercial project, noting that “… this exemplary design sets the new standard for commercial storefronts in the historically sensitive business district.”

Meanwhile, in New York 2000, a survey of contemporary design of the last generation, the Dean of the Yale School of Architecture, Robert A.M. Stern and his co-authors refer to the firm’s modern, “art-inspired” commercial interiors, also “… suggesting the Panopticon-inspired arrangements Frank Lloyd Wright and Alvar Aalto had devised ...”, among other qualities. The Architectural Review of London emphasizes the “logic, invention and wit”of their work, which The New York Times, in turn, says “… speaks of cutting edge design, of performance art, of downtown sharpness.” And Pritzker Prize juror and editor of Japan’s Architecture and Urbanism, Toshio Nakamura, compares the impact of their retail design with the “… sensations of a Jackson Pollock painting.”

In their apartments, townhouses and country estates, too, the architects are equally comfortable and successful with both the modern and traditional. A design awards jury of the Society of American Registered Architects commends the “… quality of detail and the use of light … ” in their housing of a private modern art collection and an American Institute of Architects jury, comprising the curator of the Museum of Modern Art, Terence Riley, praises another contemporary project for its “… beautifully simple volume of space, well proportioned and conscientiously executed”. At the same time, in a feature piece on The Homes at the Top of the World, The New York Times places their traditional stone-manor estate in Greenwich, Connecticut, in international company; while Period Homes observes that even as “… the lavish interiors feature high-end traditionally styled components …”, a new Palladian inspired house in New York’s Hudson Valley “… is very much of its time and place ...”.

In the end, for Zivkovic Connolly Architects, the question of style is secondary; the cornerstone of architecture is ultimately the making of beautiful places. And appropriateness is the key. In architettura INTERSEZIONI, the journal of the School of Architecture of the University of Venice, Italy, Dr Teresa Stoppani recognizes this aspect of their design work at every scale of project, large and small, explaining that: “Urban grid, city block, lot, building, back-yard, tree, temple, altar are composed in a system … where the place (locus) is revealed.”