



JEANNE GANG

In step with the abounding vitality of the time, structural engineer **Fazlur Rahman Khan** (1929-1982) ushered in a renaissance in skyscraper construction during the second half of the 20th century. Fazlur Khan was a pragmatic visionary: the series of progressive ideas that he brought forth for efficient high-rise construction in the 1960s and '70s were validated in his own work, notably his efficient designs for Chicago's 100-story John Hancock Center and 110-story Sears Tower -- the tallest building in the United States since its completion in 1974.



Fazlur Rahman Khan

Lehigh endowed a chair in structural engineering and architecture and has established this lecture series in Khan's honor. It is organized by **Professor Dan M. Frangopol**, the university's first holder of the Fazlur Rahman Khan Endowed Chair of Structural Engineering and Architecture, and sponsored by the Departments of Civil & Environmental Engineering, and Art, Architecture & Design.



SPONSORED BY:
THE DEPARTMENT OF CIVIL & ENVIRONMENTAL ENGINEERING
and
THE DEPARTMENT OF ART, ARCHITECTURE & DESIGN



Spring 2021 (Virtual) Khan Distinguished Lecture

The Fazlur Rahman Khan Distinguished Lecture Series honors Dr. Fazlur Rahman Khan's legacy of excellence in structural engineering and architecture

Initiated and Organized by **PROFESSOR DAN M. FRANGOPOL**

The Fazlur Rahman Khan Endowed Chair of Structural Engineering and Architecture
Department of Civil and Environmental Engineering, ATLSS Engineering Research Center,
Lehigh University

dan.frangopol@lehigh.edu, www.lehigh.edu/~dmf206

JEANNE GANG

Founding Principal, Partner, Studio Gang, Chicago, IL

"Crossing Domains"

Thursday, February 18, 2021 – 4:30 pm

Via Zoom ([click here to register](#))
<http://www.lehigh.edu/frkseries>

Jeanne Gang, FAIA, is the founding principal and partner of Studio Gang, an international architecture and urban design practice headquartered in Chicago. Known for an inquisitive, forward-looking approach to design that unfolds new technical and material possibilities and expands the active role of designers in society, she creates striking places that connect people with each other, their communities, and the environment.

Her studio's diverse, award-winning work includes major projects throughout the Americas and Europe, ranging from community-centered cultural institutions like Writers Theatre to public projects that connect citizens with ecology, such as the Nature Boardwalk at Lincoln Park Zoo, and high-rise towers that foster community, including Aqua Tower. Ongoing projects include an expansion to the American Museum of Natural History in New York City; a new United States Embassy in Brasilia; the University of Chicago's European hub for study and research in Paris; a unified campus for the California College of the Arts in San Francisco; and the new O'Hare Global Terminal in Chicago.

Intertwined with built work, Jeanne and the Studio also develop research, publications, and exhibitions that push design's ability to create public awareness and give rise to change—a practice Jeanne calls "actionable idealism." A new monograph of her Studio's work, *Studio Gang: Architecture*, was published by Phaidon this spring.

A MacArthur Fellow and a Professor in Practice at the Harvard Graduate School of Design, Jeanne has been honored with the Cooper Hewitt National Design Award in Architecture and was named one of the most influential people in the world by *TIME* magazine.

Crossing Domains. Studio Gang's unique design approach is predicated on interdisciplinary collaboration with expert partners ranging from engineers and ecologists to artists and journalists. In this lecture, Jeanne will discuss how this deep and sustained engagement across fields has resulted in the material, spatial, and aesthetic innovations that define award-winning projects like the supertall St. Regis Chicago tower, the city's third tallest building, and the Arcus Center for Social Justice Leadership, which unites traditional cordwood masonry practices with contemporary design and building technologies.

FAZLUR RAHMAN KHAN (1929 - 1982) One of the foremost structural engineers of the 20th century, Fazlur Khan epitomized both structural engineering achievement and creative collaborative effort between architect and engineer. Only when architectural design is grounded in structural realities, he believed — thus celebrating architecture's nature as a constructive art, rooted in the earth — can "the resulting aesthetics ... have a transcendental value and quality." His ideas for these sky-scraping towers offered more than economic construction and iconic architectural images; they gave people the opportunity to work and live "in the sky." Hancock Center residents thrive on the wide expanse of sky and lake before them, the stunning quiet in the heart of the city, and the intimacy with nature at such heights: the rising sun, the moon and stars, the migrating flocks of birds. Fazlur Khan was always clear about the purpose of architecture. His characteristic statement to an editor in 1971, having just been selected Construction's Man of the Year by *Engineering News-Record*, is commemorated in a plaque in Onterie Center (446 E. Ontario, Chicago): "*The technical man must not be lost in his own technology. He must be able to appreciate life; and life is art, drama, music, and most importantly, people.*"



1 PDH will be awarded to eligible attendees for each lecture

Please contact the Khan Chair office at 610-758-6123 or Email: infrk@lehigh.edu with any questions.