Last October, was the public unveiling of the the first floating house for Brad Pitt's Make It Right Foundation in New Orleans. The project was designed and developed by Morphosis Architects, under the direction of renowned architect and UCLA Professor

Thom Mayne.

The FLOAT House is a new model for flood-safe, affordable and sustainable housing that is designed to float securely with rising water levels. The architects have sent us a generous amount of information that we are sharing within this article with our readers.

Mayne led a team from Morphosis Architects and graduate students from UCLA Architecture and Urban Design in this innovative housing project to help with the rebuilding of the Lower Ninth Ward post-Hurricane Katrina. The concept emerged from a study of the flooding record, social and cultural history of the city, and the ecology of the Mississippi Delta. Morphosis and UCLA's collaboration on the research, development, design, and construction of the FLOAT House is exemplary of their shared goals to engage students in real-world design for social impact.

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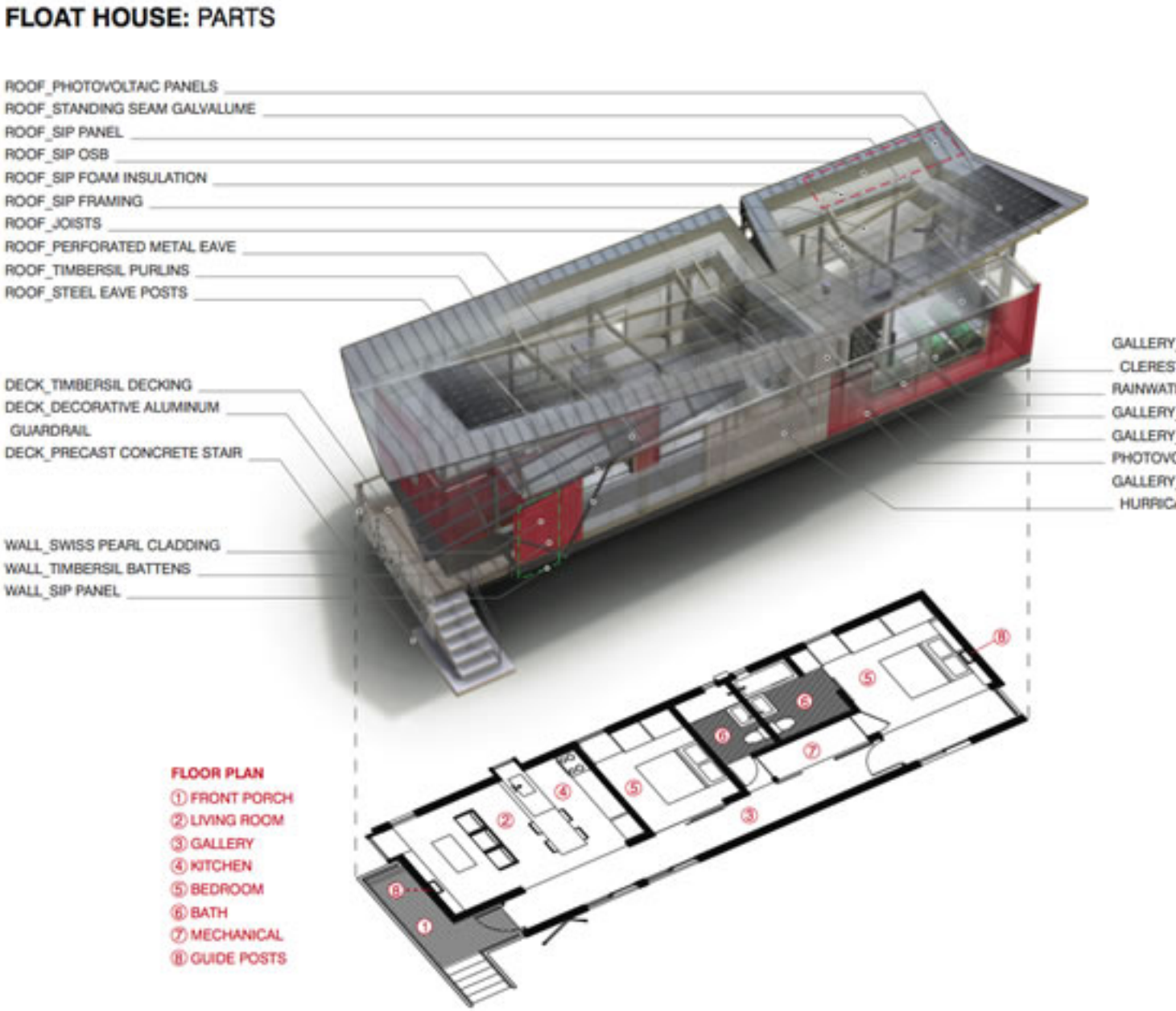
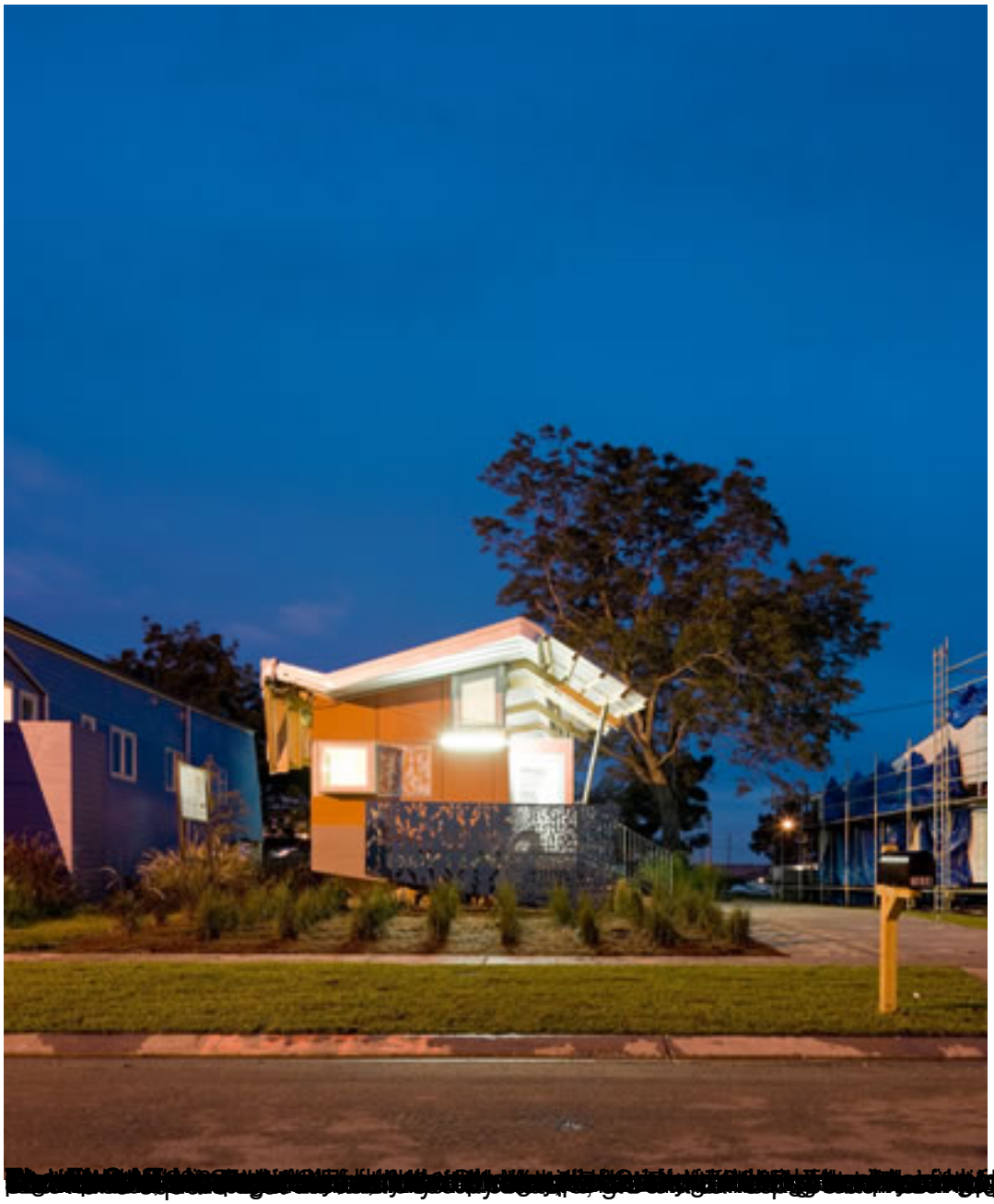

FLOAT HOUSE: PARTS
ROOF_PHOTOVOLTAIC PANELS
ROOF_STANDING SEAM GALVALUME
ROOF_SIP PANEL
ROOF_SIP OSB
ROOF_SIP FOAM INSULATION
ROOF_SIP FRAMING
ROOF_JOISTS
ROOF_PERFORATED METAL EAVE
ROOF_TIMBERSIL PURLINS
ROOF_STEEL EAVE POSTS
DECK_TIMBERSIL DECKING
DECK_DECORATIVE ALUMINUM GUARDRAIL
DECK_PRECAST CONCRETE STAIR
WALL_SWISS PEARL CLADDING
WALL_TIMBERSIL BATTENS
WALL_SIP PANEL
FLOOR PLAN
① FRONT PORCH
② LIVING ROOM
③ GALLERY
④ KITCHEN
⑤ BEDROOM
⑥ BATH
⑦ MECHANICAL
⑧ GUIDE POSTS

Of his involvement with the project, Thom Mayne says, “The immense possibilities of

the

UCLA Architecture and Urban Design chair, Hiteshi Abo, states

Project Facts:



[illegible] completed house

More...

About...

MAKE IT RIGHT
Make It Right was launched by actor Brad Pitt in December, 2007 to help residents of the Lower 9th Ward rebuild their lives and community in the wake of Hurricane Katrina. The initial goal of the Foundation is to build at least 150 affordable, green and storm-resistant homes for families who lived in the Lower 9th Ward when the hurricane hit. All of the Make It Right homes have been certified LEED platinum, the highest designation for energy efficiency and sustainability awarded by the US Green Building Council. This makes the Make It Right project the “largest, greenest neighborhood of single family homes” in America according to the USGBC. Make It Right will have 50 homes by December, 2009 and 150 homes by December, 2010.

MORPHOSIS ARCHITECTS
Morphosis is a collective practice committed to rigorous design and research that yields innovative buildings and urban environments. With projects worldwide, the firm’s work

encompasses a wide range of project types and scales including residential, institutional, cultural and civic buildings as well as large urban planning projects. Morphosis has received 25 Progressive Architecture awards, over 90 American Institute of Architects (AIA) awards and numerous other honors. In collaboration with academic institutions worldwide, the studio has conducted extensive research on contemporary urban issues and has produced a series of publications including LA Now, Volumes One through Four. Morphosis has also been the subject of over 20 monographs, including a 2003 monograph from Phaidon, and 5 volumes published by Rizzoli International that span the complete works of the firm. (More on Morphosis coming soon on Archinnovations.com)

UCLA ARCHITECTURE AND URBAN DESIGN

UCLA Architecture and Urban Design in the School of the Arts and Architecture is a leading player on the international stage of contemporary architecture. Working with world-class faculty from established Pritzker Prize winners to the upstarts of tomorrow, our students integrate the most creative approaches to design, advanced developments in technology, and rigorous approaches to architectural thought available today. Using Los Angeles, one of the world's greatest 21st century cities as model, laboratory and provocation, innovative programs give students the means and the vision to enter contemporary design culture as architects, urbanist thinkers and critics.

CLARK CONSTRUCTION

Since its founding in 1906, Clark Construction Group has developed a reputation as one of the nation’s most experienced and respected general contractors. With annual revenue in excess of $4 billion, Clark is consistently ranked among the country’s largest construction companies. Regional offices are strategically located to serve the diverse needs of public and private clients throughout the United States with the headquarters in Bethesda, MD. Community service is an integral part of Clark’s culture. Through monetary gifts, inkind donations, volunteer support, and probono work, Clark gives back to the communities in which it lives and works. Clark’s efforts with relief for Hurricane Katrina extend back to 2005, when Clark helped repair the medical clinic and library in Bayou La Batre, LA.