THE CAROL SHEN GALLERY

CODED CONSTRUCTIONS: The Architectural Process of Lubrano-Ciavarra Design

APRIL 15 - MAY 9, 2008

The Carol Shen Gallery opened its first exhibit devoted specifically to architectural design on the evening of April 15. Faculty, students, alumni, and guests welcomed back Anne Marie Lubrano '87, as she and partner Lea Ciavarra presented Coded Constructions: The Architectural Process of Lubrano-Ciavarra Design.

At the exhibit's heart was a detailed presentation of one of the firm's most recent projects: a protected playground for the Harlem Day Charter School on 112th Street in Manhattan. Gallery walls displayed graphical information about the project's history, sustainability, materials, and design.

“We picked this project for the Packer exhibit because it is so fluid,” said Ms. Lubrano. “We thought that all of the students [at Packer] could relate to the space.”

Ken Rush, Packer art teacher and exhibit curator, worked with teachers from all departments to incorporate the exhibit's themes into their classes. “This is a show that teachers and students can explore,” he said. “It also deals with issues of ecology and sustainability that are so important to contemporary design.”

Lubrano-Ciavarra Design is a Brooklyn-based architecture and design studio founded by Anne Marie Lubrano '87 and Lea Ciavarra in 1999. A firm of seven architects and designers, Lubrano-Ciavarra maintains an open dialogue with its clients, contractors, and consultants. Collaboration and communication make their process as critical to the product as the product itself.

(left to right) Lea Ciavarra, Ken Rush, and Anne Marie Lubrano '87

(above) Anne Marie Lubrano '87 discusses her work with a group of teachers from a range of grade levels.

(below) An early rendering of "Recess!", a protected playground for the Harlem Day Charter School on 112th Street in Manhattan.