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TWO WORLDS COLLIDE

PROJECT 4

H O U S E O N F O U N T A I N S T R E E T U K R A I N E This series looks at how five creative architects are combining the physical with the digital to design some of the world's most beautiful buildings

Alexan file.

Architects:	Sivak + Partners
Summary:	This studio, based in Ukraine, works with both private and corporate clients to create a wide range of buildings and currently has projects being built in over 10 countries.
Website:	www.sivak-partners.com

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Project Location Odessa, Ukraine

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House on Fountain Street

This private house in Odessa, Ukraine, is a mix of old and new, of tradition and modernity. It's a combination that creates an impressive stylish structure that is rooted securely in time and place.

"We are proud of the fact that we managed to use construction materials that are authentic for Odessa in modern forms," said Stefan Gurtovoi, lead architect at Sivak + Partners. "Especially the yellow coquina, from which the majority of historical buildings are built with."

And Just like the blend of classic and contemporary in the final construction, achieving the end result required the combined efforts of paper practicalities and electronic efficiencies.

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Stefan Gurtovoi, lead architect Q&A

What are the latest technologies that you use in the design process – and are there any clever tricks or shortcuts you've discovered?

We use different shape generators, parametric and algorithmic design, 3D printing, and the most advanced photorealistic visualization technologies.

What are some of the challenges you find from having some parts of the process as physical and others as digital?

The main problem is the translation of physical models into virtual ones. Sometimes the form that is found in the paper layout is so beautiful and successful that you want to save these features for further work in the digital environment. For this we use photogrammetric surveys and laser scanning of the model. But, of course, sometimes you have to strongly edit the result 'manually'.

Are there any ways in which you would like to be able to use new technology to make the design process easier?

We have a great need for high quality software for shooting "real" reality. [We'd also like new technology to help with] geodetic research and in understanding existing constructions in their reconstruction. And of course, there's a lack of a virtual detailed database of existing buildings and landscapes.

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Communication with clients, including reviewing designs and making required changes, is mainly done electronically, for instance. Printed copies are essential as legal documents and to provide clarity for builders.

"Despite the fact that digital technologies have greatly changed the profession of the architect, we have not abandoned the traditional design methods" said Gurtovoi.

"We actively use sketching and form search in mock-ups. The internet helps us to follow trends, to be inspired and to discover new ways of solving old problems."



DESIGN METHODS

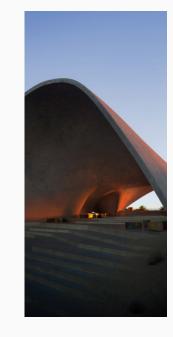
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