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Image: High School of Art and Design and Primary School 59 at 250 E. 57th Street in New York City, 2012.

MERSIHA VELEDAR (ARCH'03)
TUESDAY, APRIL 15 | 12:00 PM
ROOM 715F | FOUNDATION BUILDING

Mersiha Veledar is a practicing architect and an educator. She has lived in New York since she was fourteen years old, where she found refuge through the United Nations after the brutal war in Mostar, Bosnia and Herzegovina.

Veledar received her Bachelor of Architecture from The Cooper Union in 2003 and her Master of Architecture II (M. Arch II) from Princeton University in 2005. Since 2005, she has been teaching fourth year "Architecture of the City" studios and the third year Analysis/Comprehensive Design studios at The Cooper Union and working as a practicing architect. Veledar is currently teaching in the Architectonics 1st year studio at The Cooper Union. Her mentor, the visionary architect Lebbeus Woods, is among the faculty who have previously taught Architectonics.

The genesis of her professional work and studio pedagogy have origins in her "Architecture can Heal" [advised by Lebbeus Woods] hypothesis from The Cooper Union she did in 2003, which received numerous awards and recognitions, during which she decided to focus on typologies of 'universal' intimate scale architectural elements such as walls, columns, doors, windows, among a few as a lexicon of 'fundamentals' common to all cultures, ethnicities and architectures.

Having witnessed the fall of civic institutions through man-made disasters, her professional work is focused on an array of public programs ranging from schools to museums, to art installations. She has built work both in New York City and overseas. Veledar will talk about these projects in context of her Cooper Union hypothesis: "Architecture can Heal".

For more information about her work, see http://www.mersihaveledar.net/.

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