



LECTURE

Responsible Design for Our Global Community

WITH

RICARDO GOMES

Ricardo Gomes is an advocate for culturally relevant and socially responsible design. He runs the Design Center for Global Needs, a nonprofit international research and development center that promotes design solutions to such issues as health care, the aging, community development and sustainability. A former Fulbright Scholar in Kenya, his experience has included design for developing countries and sustainable design. Gomes is a professor and chair of the Department of Design and Industry at San Francisco State University. He received an MFA in Industrial Design for Low-Income Economies from the University of California, Los Angeles.

This presentation will reveal the emerging presence and role of responsible design practice within our emerging global society. We will assess our values and ethics as designers to better understand what, why and for whom we are designing. We will acknowledge a diverse range of topics confronting designers working in various disciplines: visual communication, industrial and architectural design. Within this context, we will analyze what it means to be "socially responsible" designers. We will also review the concerns for the appropriate development of design and information technology in both the domestic (local), national and international (global) marketplaces. The focus will be not only to reinforce a global design consciousness, but more important, a design awareness that addresses the basic needs of the vast majority of the world's population.

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