

Andres Lira Vigneaux is an architect, educator, and researcher whose work explores the intersection of design, construction, and emerging building technologies. He is the co-founder of **Lira Vigneaux Studio**, an architecture and research practice based in Chile focused on housing innovation, public infrastructure, and experimental construction systems.

He graduated from the School of Architecture at the Pontificia Universidad Católica de Chile and later earned a Master in Architecture II from Harvard University's Graduate School of Design. While at Harvard, he received the Student Research Support Program (SRSP) Grant from the Joint Center for Housing Studies. **His thesis, Gentle Densities and Radical Construction Systems, received the JCHS Thesis Prize** and was subsequently selected for the MIT DesignX Accelerator.

His work investigates the relationship between material cultures, emerging technologies, timber construction, and digital fabrication, with a particular interest in reconnecting design and construction through innovative building systems. He has taught architecture studios at the Pontificia Universidad Católica de Chile and Northeastern University, where he will join the faculty as a Visiting Associate Professor beginning in Fall 2026. His work has received multiple awards in public architecture and design competitions in Chile and internationally.

CORE EDUCATION

September 2023
May 2025

Harvard University (GSD)_MARCH II

Graduate School of Design, Harvard University. Cambridge, Massachusetts, USA.

JCHS Thesis Prize and Plimpton-Poorvu Design Prize

SRSP Research Grant for Housing Studies and Real Estate Research Grant

Graduation date: May 29th, 2025

March 2008
December 2014

BArch_Bachelor in Architecture

Faculty of Architecture, Design & Urban Studies. Pontifical University of Chile.

Thesis awarded an Honorable Mention in the international housing competition Hábitat Colectivo.

Graduation date: March 14th, 2014

September 2012
December 2012

Alvar Aalto University, Finland.

Academic Exchange Program_ Architecture Studies.

March 2010
December 2012

Minor in Economics

Faculty of Economics and Management Sciences. Pontifical University of Chile.

HONORS AND AWARDS

PUBLIC COMPETITIONS

January 2025

Venice Biennale_Second Prize_Public Competition for the Chilean Pavilion_“Estelar”

Venice Biennale pavilion proposal to represent our country at the “Intelligens” Biennale. Our project advocated for recognizing dark skies as part of Chile’s national heritage, aiming to protect their unique ecosystems and preserve the conditions necessary for astronomical observation.

(Venice / Chile)

July 2021

“Villa O’Higgins town hall” / First Prize_Public Competition

Town hall building in Villa O’Higgins Municipality, southernmost urban center of Aysén region.

(Aysén, Chilean Patagonia)

August 2020

“The Floating Warehouse Square” / First Prize_Public Competition

Town hall building in Puerto Ibañez, the main urban center of General Carrera Lake.

(Puerto Ibañez, Chilean Patagonia)

June 2018

“Puerto Tranquilo Waterfront” / First Prize_Public Competition

Waterfront park for Puerto Tranquilo town, along with its local and tourism infrastructure.

(Puerto Tranquilo, Chilean Patagonia)

- September 2016* **“Be part of something Big, Medium and Small” / Honorable Mention_Public Competition**
Thesis Project submitted for “Habitat Colectivo” (Collective Housing International Ideas Competition). Ideas for central and peri-central densification for five Chilean cities. (Santiago, Chile)
- September 2016* **“Around the Productive-Collective” / Honorable Mention_Public Competition**
Project submitted for “Habitat Colectivo” (Collective Housing International Ideas Competition). Ideas for central and peri-central densification for five Chilean cities. (Puerto Montt, Chile)

PERSONAL AWARDS

- May 2023* **JCHS Thesis Prize, Harvard Graduate School of Design (GSD)**
Gentle Densities and Radical Construction Systems — Research thesis proposing a scalable housing model that leverages off-site manufacturing to introduce multifamily housing within single-family neighborhoods, bridging policy innovation, construction efficiency, and architectural quality. (Cambridge, MA, USA)
- March 2023* **Plimpton-Poorvu Design Prize_Harvard Graduate School of Design (GSD)**
*ARCA Housing System*_Development and design of a scalable off-site housing system leveraging panelized construction and structural curvature to deliver high-quality infill housing with reduced costs, construction time, and environmental impact. (Cambridge, MA, USA)
- January 2023* **MIT DesignX Accelerator_Cohort 2025**
ARCA — Selected for the 2025 MIT DesignX Accelerator. Developed an innovative off-site housing system enabling gentle density through prefabricated construction and structural optimization. In collaboration with Rocío Crosetto. (Cambridge, MA, USA)
- March 2023* **GSD Merit Scholarship, Harvard GSD MARCH II**
Awarded in recognition of academic excellence, professional achievements, and outstanding potential within the Master of Architecture II program. (Cambridge, MA, USA)
- February 2023* **Dean's Scholarship Award, MSAAD Program, Columbia University**
Graduate School of Architecture Planning and Preservation at Columbia University (status: rejected because of accepting GSD admission).

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

- September 2025*
April 2026 **School of Architecture, Northeastern University, US**
Part Time Instructor, Spring 2026
- Capstone Studio_”Timber Implants”
 - Teaching a studio focused on the adaptive reuse of an abandoned building in Boston, and its integration with a new timber structure informed by emerging construction technologies.
- School of Architecture, Northeastern University, US**
Part Time Instructor, Fall 2025
- Option Studio ”Gentle Densities and Radical Construction Systems”
 - Teaching an Option Studio exploring the intersection of urban density and emerging construction technologies in contemporary housing design.
 - Developed the course syllabus, coordinated research and design exercises, and delivered lectures, desk critiques, pin-ups, and reviews.
- August 2018* **Faculty of Architecture, Design & Urban Studies. Pontifical University of Chile.**
Assistant professor, Fall 2018
- Studio III_”Atlas, Thinking through images”
 - Co-taught with Cecilia Puga
 - Conducted desk critiques, participated in reviews, and delivered lectures within the design studio.

<i>March 2018</i>	Faculty of Architecture, Design & Urban Studies. Pontifical University of Chile. Assistant professor, Spring 2018 • Studio III_ "Atlas, Thinking through images" • Co-taught with Cecilia Puga • Conducted desk critiques, participated in reviews, and delivered lectures within the design studio.
<i>August 2017</i>	Faculty of Architecture, Design & Urban Studies. Pontifical University of Chile. Assistant professor, Fall 2017 • Studio III_ "Atlas, Thinking through images" • Co-taught with Cecilia Puga • Conducted desk critiques, participated in reviews, and delivered lectures within the design studio.
<i>March 2017</i>	Faculty of Architecture, Design & Urban Studies. Pontifical University of Chile. Teaching Assistant, Spring 2017 • Studio III_ "Atlas, Thinking through images" • Assisted with guidance and close follow-up on student's projects. • Delivered occasional lectures and participated in shared lectures with other faculty members.
<i>August 2015</i>	Faculty of Architecture, Design & Urban Studies. Pontifical University of Chile. Teaching Assistant, Fall 2015 • Studio IV_ "Models to assembly" (Professor Sebastián Irarrázaval) • Guided students in the structural and assembly strategies of their projects. • Monitored the development of student projects and addressed design inquiries.
<i>Fall 2024</i>	Graduate School of Design_ Harvard University Teaching Assistant, Fall 2024 • Option Studio_ "Earth Dwelling" (Professor Zhang Ke) • Supported studio instruction through desk critiques, course coordination, and semester planning; assisted in organizing the studio research trip to China.

RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

<i>Spring 2023</i> <i>Fall 2024</i>	Student Research Support Program (SRSP) Research Grant, Harvard Joint Center for Housing Studies • Awarded for Housing Shortages vs. Emerging Technologies, conducted in collaboration with Professor George Legendre.
<i>Fall 2024</i>	Real Estate Research Grant, Harvard Department of Urban Planning and Design • Awarded for research on addressing the U.S. housing crisis through off-site manufacturing.
<i>Spring 2025</i>	Thesis Traveling Research Grant, Harvard Graduate School of Design and JCHS • Supported research travel to Chile to collaborate with a CLT manufacturer on the development of innovative timber housing systems integrating emerging construction technologies.

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

January 2017
Present

LIRA VIGNEAUX STUDIO.
Co-Founder & Co-Director.
www.liravigneaux.com

Lira Vigneaux Studio is an architecture and research practice focused on public infrastructure, housing innovation, and territorial planning. The studio addresses contemporary social, economic, and environmental challenges through context-driven design, interdisciplinary research, and an open, non-dogmatic approach to architecture.

BUILT

Selected Projects

House of Curved Skylights

Puertecillo, Chile. 2025
Single-family House
Built

Houses for Two Brothers

San Fernando, Chile. 2020
Multifamily Housing
Built

La Polcura Park

Chile. 2024
Masterplan and Park Infrastructure
Built

Two-Slab House

Zapallar, Chile. 2019
Single-family House
Built

Assembled Pavilion for an Abandoned Urban Lot

Santiago, Chile. 2018

House of Stone Roof

Pichilemu, Chile. 2025
Single-family House
Built

PUBLIC COMPETITIONS

Selected Projects

Puerto Tranquilo Waterfront and Infrastructure

Patagonia, Chile. 2019–Present
Public Infrastructure
[First Prize](#)

Floating Warehouse Town hall

Aysén, Patagonia, Chile. 2020–Present
Town Hall Building
[First Prize](#)

Villa O'Higgins Town Hall

Aysén, Patagonia, Chile. 2021–Present
Town Hall Building
[First Prize](#)

Venice Biennale Chilean Pavilion

Venice, Italy. 2025
[Second Prize](#)

Around the Productive-Collective

2018 Puerto Montt, Chile.
[Honorable Mention](#)

The Blue Shadow Island

Chile. 2018
Pavilion Installation

UNBUILT AND ONGOING

Selected Projects

Guanay House

Maitencillo, Chile. Ongoing
Single-Family House

Errázuriz Collective Housing

Santiago, Chile. Ongoing
Multifamily Housing

Capitanía Collective Housing

Santiago, Chile. Ongoing
Multifamily Housing

Wood Fair Pavilion

Santiago Chile. Ongoing
Pavilion Installation

Coastal Wooden Market

Maitencillo, Chile. 2025
Private Market

Manta House

Catapilco, Chile. 2023
Single-Family House

Cerro Castillo Hotel & Masterplan

Aysén, Patagonia, Chile. 2021–2022
Hotel and Territorial Masterplan

OTHER PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

2014-2016

Beals & Lyon Architects
Atelier Director | 2015–2016
Plaza de Armas Metro Station Building — Santiago, Chile

Led the design development of a civic building constructed above an active metro station in downtown Santiago. Directed the project team throughout the design process and supervised the construction of the building's signature reinforced-concrete vaults.

2014-2016

Cecilia Puga Architects
Junior Architect | 2014
Indian Embassy and Consular Residences Competition — Santiago, Chile

Contributed to the design and development of the competition proposal for the new Embassy of India and associated consular residences. Participated in a multi-stage competition process that advanced to the final round.



Contact

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