**JOHN MASSENGALE BIO Rev 120213**

**Includes answers to IWPR questionnaire at end**

**John Massengale**, AIA, is an international thought leader on the connections between urban design, architecture, placemaking, and walkability. As principal at Massengale & Co. and the author of three books, he has more than 25 years’ experience designing projects in Europe and across America and shares with his audiences innovative and proven strategies for success. His planning work spans a range of situations from suburban retrofits and designing new towns to urban infill and urban regeneration. At every scale—from arranging rooms to arranging buildings to organizing street plans—Massengale emphasizes context and the importance of making places where people want to be.

Massengale is the co-author with Victor Dover, FAICP, of *Street Design: The Secret to Great Cities and Towns* (Wiley, January 2014) with foreword by HRH The Prince of Wales. Through more than 150 examples and hundreds of photos of streets old and new, *Street Design* guides readers through what works and what doesn't, and reveals the secrets to designing beautiful streets that encourage people to get out of their cars and walk.

Massengale has been sharing his insight and research on cities and urban design for many years. He was co-author with Robert A.M. Stern and Gregory Gilmartin of *New York 1900: Metropolitan Architecture and Urbanism 1890–1915* (Rizzoli, 1983), the first architecture history book nominated for a National Book Award, and *The Anglo-American Suburb* (St. Martin’s Press, 1981). A Board member of the Congress for the New Urbanism, Massengale was previously the founding Chair of CNU New York. He also served as a Director of the Institute of Classical Architecture & Art and as a Board member of the Federated Conservationists of Westchester County.

Before founding Massengale & Co., Massengale served as the Town Architect of Seaside, Florida, which *Time* magazine called “the most astounding design achievement of its era.” As an architect, Massengale is known for creative and beautiful work in regional and Classical traditions from New York to New Mexico. An authority on the architecture and urbanism of the Eastern United States, particularly as found New York and New England, he has worked in affordable housing, speculative housing, and historic preservation, and received awards from magazines such as *Metropolitan Home* and *Progressive Architecture*, as well as from several chapters of the American Institute of Architects. He contributes opinion pieces and reviews to the *Wall Street Journal* and other publications.

He holds an A.B. from Harvard College and a Master’s degree in architecture from the University of Pennsylvania.

Travels from New York City.

**Speech Topics**

What do you consider your expertise?

o   Of course, we will be promoting walkable communities, street design, new urbanism as relate to the book. Also, sustainability, placemaking (one word), Complete Streets are not complete unless they are beautiful, places are not places unless there are people there.

-          What do you want to be ~~most known~~ for? I will list topics I’d like to speak about, but let me list some expertise I may not be invited to talk about:

* The architecture and urbanism of the northeast United States—but I do not want to be thought of as “only” a northeasterner
* The architecture and urbanism of 18th century America
* I run a very popular session at many Congresses called “Meta-Physical Planning” (conventional planners call urban designers “physical planners,” these are sessions about the spiritual / metaphysical side of urban design)
* Affordable housing
* I started a couple of online New Urban design discussion lists that include leading urbanists in Europe and America
* One of the organizers of the New Urban and Classical “Councils,” called by Andres “the best thing to happen to the CNU since the first CNU.”
* I was the Director of the Institute for Traditional Architecture, in Charleston with the support of Mayor Riley. We merged the ITA with ICAA.
* I am working on an architecture and urbanism program for the United States with the support of the Prince’s Foundation (***not*** for public release)

-          Do you have favorite topics for panel or public speaking?

* Street Design
* Completer Streets
* A Street Is A Terrible Thing To Waste
* Where Do We Go From Here? (Street Design)
* Retrofitting Main Street and City Centers
* Great Streets of the World
* Historic Parkways, Boulevards and Avenues
* Form Based Codes in New York, New England, New Jersey, and New Mexico
* New York architecture and urbanism post-Bloomberg
* Global Capitalism, Tall Towers & Starchitects
* The Most Beautiful Block in New York
* New Urbanism in the New York, New England and New Jersey

-          What are your favorite topics from Street Design?

Walkability, “Where do we go from here?” our DOT petition, great streets, great places, placemaking, some of the bigger topics like Savannah-Charleston, Nantucket Main Street, dealing with massDOT in Great Barrington, the most beautiful block in New York and grids, rural design, Completer Streets, the good and bad of New York City and NACTO

-          How many architecture projects have you worked on in your career?

50?

-          How many urban planning projects have you worked on?

30?

* What types of urban planning projects have you done?

Greenfield TND, suburban TOD, urban infill, urban regeneration, form based code, street design, post-hurricane (Katrina)

* What are your favorite types of planning projects?
  + - Profitable ones
* How many retrofitting projects for cities/neighborhoods have you done?
  + - 4

-          How many states have you worked in?

* New York, Maine, Massachusetts, Rhode Island, Connecticut, New Jersey, Maryland, Virginia, Tennessee, North Carolina, South Carolina, Georgia, Florida, Mississippi, Louisiana, New Mexico

-          Have you worked on any projects outside the U.S.? What countries/cities?

* Germany—Munich, Rosenheim
* France—Paris

- Do you specialize in projects in the Northeast?

* For IWPR understanding—yes, being able to drive to projects is great. Taking the train, even better (after decades of owning fast BMWs, I no longer own a car.) But I don’t want to put that in the text, unless it is an expert, as opposed to a specialist.

In older cities?

* Cities, Main Streets and suburban retrofits are now where the action is. It is more interesting and more crucial work than greenfield work.

-          When did you found CNU New York? 20 years ago?

* 8???
* I was also an original member of the CNU: 200 members, by invitation

-          How long have you been studying/reflecting on/working on the role of streets and beauty in creating livable (and lovable) places?

* Honestly? Since I was 11. Secondly, since I was in high school.

-          Do you have 3 favorite clips of press coverage on you (or by you)? If you have the link, please send.

My favorites are old and not always online, like “Westchester Q & A: John Montague Massengale, A Call For The Traditional Neighborhood,” *New York Times* (Sunday, October 8, 1989): W2.

Also <http://www.nytimes.com/1992/09/10/garden/four-singular-views-shops-that-sell-the-different-drums-juxtaposing-old-and-new.html>

*New York 1900* and *The Anglo-American Suburb* were both reviewed by Paul Goldberger in the *Times*.

Let’s get some new ones! I also used to write a lot of things for local newspapers. Here are two things I wrote for the *Wall Street Journal*:

"An American Renaissance Gem," *Wall Street Journal* (December 9, 2006): P13.

<http://online.wsj.com/news/articles/SB116563908765745493>

"Building for Beauty," *Wall Street Journal* (November 18, 2006): P11.

<http://massengale.typepad.com/venustas/2006/11/wsj_building_fo.html>

-          Do you have any radio or video clips of you?

* Unfortunately not