

Name and Last Name: ArKar Hein

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Bio:

ArKar Hein is a researcher, neuroscientist, and built-environment designer passionate about how spaces shape our minds and emotions. Based in New York City, he serves as Design and Development Manager at The LAB SD, where he leads interdisciplinary teams in creating environments that foster well-being and human connection.

With a Master's in Neuroscience and Education from Columbia University and a Master's in Architecture and Healthy Urbanism, ArKar's work sits at the crossroads of neuroscience, design, and public health. His research explores how spatial cognition and trauma-informed design can support those experiencing Alzheimer's, PTSD, and emotional dysregulation, turning scientific insights into real-world applications.

Professional Information

Title, Organization, and Credentials

- **Neuroscience-Design Researcher**, Columbia University, Teachers College
- **Development and Design Manager**, The LAB SD, San Diego, CA
- **Advisory Committee Member**, Academy of Neuroscience for Architecture (ANFA), Salk Institute
- **Master's in Neuroscience and Education**, Columbia University, Teachers College
- **Master's in Architecture and Healthy Urbanism**, NewSchool of Architecture and Design
- **Bachelor's in Architecture and Bachelor of Science in Architecture**, Thanlyin Technological University, Yangon, Burma.

Expertise & Research Focus

- Intersection of neuroscience, architecture, and public health
- Spatial cognition, trauma-informed design, and therapeutic interventions
- Effects of Alzheimer's, PTSD, and environmental stressors on cognitive function
- Translating neuroscientific research into design strategies for cognitive and emotional well-being

Speaking Experience

1. **ANFA 20th Anniversary Conference**

- **Session Title:** *Vision of Richard Neutra: A Gaze Attention Study Using Electroencephalography (EEG) and Eye Tracking at Neutra's Reunion House*
 - **Date:** September 14, 2023
 - **Location:** University of California, San Diego (UCSD), San Diego, CA
 - **Role:** Lead Researcher
 - **Audience Size:** 100+
 - **Length:** Conference Session, 30 Mins
2. **ANFA 20th Anniversary Conference**
- **Session Title:** *Enhancing Spatial Memory and Cognitive Map Formation in Alzheimer's Disease*
 - **Date:** September 16, 2023
 - **Location:** University of California, San Diego (UCSD), San Diego, CA
 - **Role:** Lead Researcher
 - **Audience Size:** 100+
 - **Length:** Poster Presentation
3. **51st Annual Psychology Convention**
- **Session Title:** *Tactile Modulation of the Cognitive Map in Patients with Alzheimer's Disease: A Systematic Review of the Literature*
 - **Date:** April 6, 2023
 - **Location:** Hunter College, City College of New York
 - **Role:** Presenter
 - **Audience Size:** ~60
 - **Length:** Conference Session, 60 mins
4. **Moving Boundaries Conference, Human Sciences and Architecture Laboratory**
- **Session Title:** *Designing for Patients with Alzheimer's Disease: The Story of Place Cells and the Medial Temporal Lobe*
 - **Date:** December 23, 2023
 - **Location:** Umbria, Italy
 - **Role:** Speaker
 - **Audience Size:** 100+
 - **Length:** Conference Session, 60 Mins
5. **Virginia Tech University – Guest Lecturer**
- **Course:** *Evidence-Based Architecture Theory*
 - **Lecture Title:** *Exploring the Connection: The Body, Brain, and Space*
 - **Dates:** Fall 2023 & Spring 2024
 - **Role:** Guest Lecturer

Headshot or LinkedIn Profile: <https://www.linkedin.com/in/akhein/>

