October 23, 2012, Los Angeles  

The University of Southern California (USC) School of Architecture is pleased to announce that Adjunct Associate Professor Kara Bartelt has been selected by *Marie Claire* magazine for a 2012 “Women on Top” award. For the third year, *Marie Claire* is celebrating women under 40 who are reinventing their industries and demolishing boys’ clubs from the ranks of the military to Silicon Valley. Prof. Bartelt was named Top Architect.

Professor Bartelt is a design researcher and strategist who actively works as an architect, product designer, brand strategist, writer and technologist in the design and technology industries. As partner in the design agency, Lettuce Office, and in her independent practice, kara b studio, she investigates the integration of technology on the production, product and practice of architecture and the public realm. Her design for a megawatt solar array for Occidental College is currently under construction and scheduled to be completed in early 2013. Since 2010 Bartelt has helmed one of the top selling Etsy businesses online, toHOLD, where her botanical designs have been exhibited in galleries in the US and distributed to internationally. She is a monthly contributor to the online design magazine, Design Milk, and the online retail partner and brand consultant for Better Shelter since 2011.

Professor Bartelt is the second architect to be selected for this award. Architect Jinhee Park, principal, SsD architecture in New York, was selected as an honoree in 2011.

For more information on this year’s *Marie Claire* Women on Top honorees, please visit http://www.marieclaire.com/career-money/women-on-top-awards-2012

*Marie Claire* (www.marieclaire.com) is a fashion magazine published in 35 countries with a readership of more than 15 million worldwide. The magazine was founded in 1937 by French industrialist Jean Prouvost, whose goal was to present the realities of life mixed with fashion and beauty coverage. The American edition is published by Hearst Magazines, one of the nation's largest diversified communications companies.

Established in 1916, the USC School of Architecture has trained some of the finest architects in the world with a program combining exemplary instruction with the latest advances in design, research and technology, while contributing to the development and construction of the city of Los Angeles. Currently, the school offers a five-year professional undergraduate degree in architecture; master's degrees in architecture, building science, heritage conservation and landscape architecture; and a Ph.D. in architecture. Under the leadership of Qingyun Ma, the USC School of Architecture is leading the Age of the Pacific with cross-cultural and cross-disciplinary initiatives, including the USC American Academy in China.

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