

## NOV 13, 2014: DESIGN MATTERS LECTURE SERIES: DTAH'S BRYCE

## MIRANDA

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Bryce Miranda of DTAH was the guest speaker for the November 12, 2014 edition of the Design Matters lecture series. Mr. Miranda was visiting from Toronto and is a landscape architect with experience developing urban environments such as waterfronts, streetscapes, parks, brownfields and neighbourhoods. He joined DTAH in 2003 and became a partner in 2012. An award winner in the City of Toronto Architecture and Urban Design Awards, Bryce was also selected Canadian New Voice for Immersive Space in Digifest, and has received the Reach for Excellence Award by the Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing. Bryce has participated in design studio reviews at the University of Toronto, and was an executive councillor with the Ontario Association of Landscape Architects.[1]

Mr. Miranda focused his discussion on major works his firm is best known for such as the Evergreen Brickworks, the surrounding Don Valley trail network and Queen's Quay, Toronto's major waterfront street. DTAH is focused on creating "landscape urbanism", green infrastructure that enables nature to function within a dense urban context. So far, DTAH's response to conditions and challenges of the Evergreen Brickworks have been well received in the architectural community. The Brickworks is a large historic property with a complicated site due to consistent flooding, yet it is a hidden gem in the Don Valley east of Toronto's downtown which houses a museum, farmers market, restaurants and flood mitigation strategies that have worked wonderfully so far. DTAH has worked hard to fulfill Evergreens motto; "Imagine Your City with Nature".



Evergreen Brickworks



Queens Quay Plan



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 TRANSPORTATION NENSHI  
 ACCESSIBLE 2013 CALGARY  
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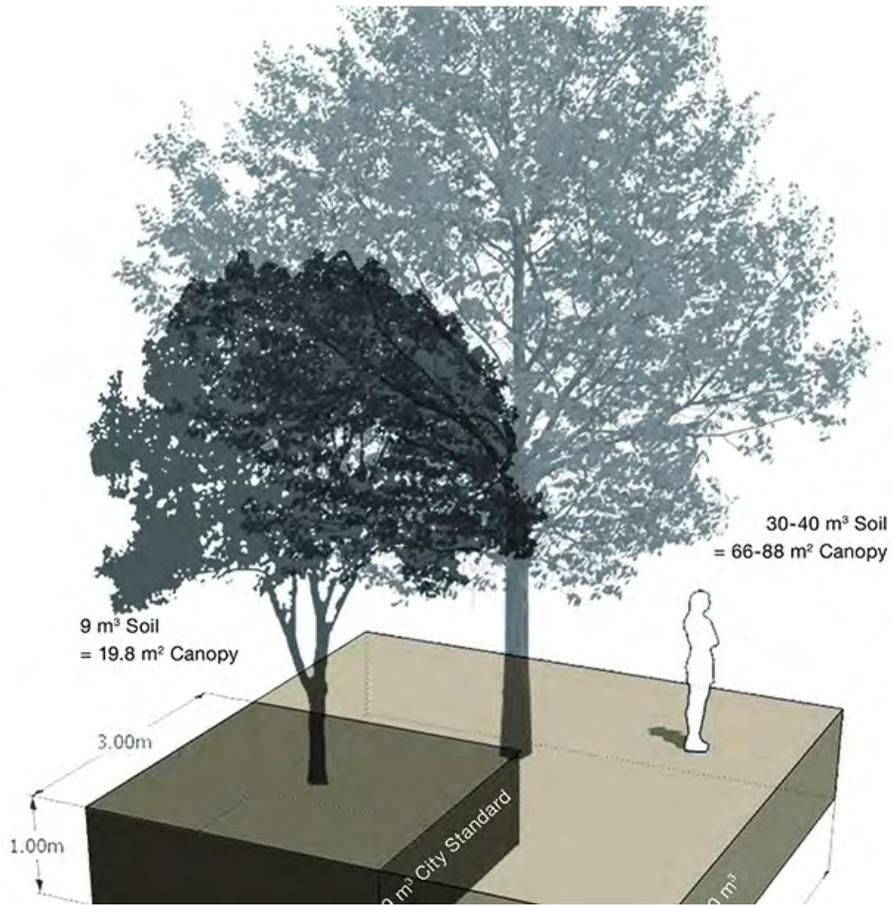


Don Valley Plan

Mr. Miranda is truly focused on providing greener, more walkable cities for the people who live in downtown cores; he is promoting a “greener way of living, a way without cars”. Bryce expressed concern for the small dying trees that dot the Toronto cityscape and has produced new guidelines meant to improve conditions and life expectancy of trees in the city of Toronto. DTAH is providing urban landscapes that emphasize nature in the city, their projects feature more mature plant species with better integration into a sometimes brutal and unforgiving streetscape.



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New Tree Planting Guidelines

Overall the lecture provided some interesting case studies which address increasingly important concerns regarding the amount of greenery that surrounds us in cities. DTAH promotes green roofs, green streets and more parks that are fully integrated into the urban landscape. These ideas are becoming increasingly important in the sprawling concrete jungles that are North American cities and will only help create more liveable, walkable urban areas in the future.

[1] DTAH Website. <http://dtah.com/people/bryce-miranda/>

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