

29th July 2012

To whom it may concern,

Reference for Jack Hughes - Stage 3 Student - Mackintosh School of Architecture

Jack has asked me to provide him with a reference, further to completing Stage 3 at the Mackintosh School of Architecture. I am an architect with Collective Architecture, and a design tutor in Stage 3 at the Mac. Jack has successfully completed the third year of his studies, achieving an A5 grade for his studio work, and has been offered a place at the school to complete an honours degree and diploma, further to undertaking a year out placement in practice.

I tutored Jack in both Stage 2 and Stage 3 at the Mac. Jack is a consistently good student, with a keen investigative mind and a real passion for exploring architectural ideas through sketches and orthographic drawings. Over the course of his three years of studies, he has developed a good knowledge of cad and other computer based programs such as Photoshop, which he has been careful to use appropriately to compliment his own conventional drawing skills. Jack uses computer renders alongside conventional drawings to bring a warmth and sense of atmosphere to his work.

Jack is an extremely adept model maker, often favouring to explore his ideas through quick sketch models and maquettes at the early stages of design. Jack also produces a variety of final presentation models, which explore architectural ideas in three dimensions at a variety of scale, from overall conceptual moves, through to small scale detail. Jack's model making brings a further level of inventiveness, exploration and understanding of the spatial qualities within his work.

Jack is a good communicator, and is able to convey his ideas articulately. He provided considerable input into discussions that arose through the review system at the school. Jack made good use of the studio culture of the Mac to further his education and research, by discussing his architectural ideas and concerns through more informal discussions with other students from his peer group, independently of tutor input. He was an important and vocal member of his peer group in Stage 3, and was often the catalyst for architectural debate during reviews. Jack's considerable contribution to the year group was recognised by him winning the inaugural Lynn Scobie Memorial Prize for Outstanding Contribution to the Architecture and Spirit of the Year at the Mac.

In conclusion, I would have no hesitation in recommending Jack as a part one architectural assistant in any practice, where I am confident that he would fit in well and would confidently use the skills that he has developed at the Mackintosh School of Architecture to undertake any work that was given to him.

Should you require any further information, please do not hesitate to contact me.
Yours sincerely,

Nick Walker
For Collective Architecture