

# Candid Rogers' "CASA 218" wins awards

**Candid Rogers**, lecturer in the College of Architecture, received the **Texas Society of Architects (TSA) 2007 Design Award**. The award was for his renovated home and studio, *Casa 218*, which revitalized an 1870s-era stonework home in Lavaca, one of San Antonio's oldest neighborhoods. In 2006, this project also received a Merit Award from the **San Antonio Chapter of the AIA** and was recognized by the **Lavaca Neighborhood Association** with a **Movers and Shakers Award**. According to association president **Joan Carbabin**, while several homes in the neighborhood were being renovated, Rogers' project represented one of the most dramatic improvements to a neglected property. Below is what Rogers told CoA Newsletter about this project.

*NL: What was the generating ideas or influences you had at the time when you were designing this house?*

CR: I noticed this house for many years before I purchased it. It was the scale of the house that I appreciated. Just prior to buying this house I returned from travel to Japan, where I visited some wonderful contemporary and historic buildings, they all exhibited a beautiful sense of scale and proportions. This was evident as well in the placement of structures and the spaces in between. When I began designing the new addition I wanted to respect the scale and placement of the original house. I sited the new addition rear of the existing house to allow for an uninterrupted placement and siting of the original house. The scale and proportions of elements were translated into a new idiom in the new addition.

*NL: You have done several projects in Lavaca area including this house where you live in yourself. How did get involved with these projects in Lavaca area originally?*

CR: I had lived near the Lavaca neighborhood for sometime and had always admired the sense of community in the area. A developer approached me some 4 years ago for the design of three new residences in the neighborhood. I accepted welcoming the challenge of designing within the historic context of the district.

*NL: As an architect, what is your most satisfying element in the design?*

CR: Scale, scale, scale...(perhaps non - element). There are many elements that are very satisfying in the design as they are complementary of each other. For the original house, the removal of the plaster and exposure of the caliche limestone walls. This added the quality of the texture and the age which it was placed there. In the new addition, the metal wall cladding was patterned to reflect the stone coursing and yet contrast with the original structure and material.

*NL: What was the most challenging element in the design or most difficult moments in the construction?*

CR: The most challenging aspect was respecting the original house in its scale and proportions. The connection of the roof between the existing and new addition was resolved with two single sloping shed roofs joining in a single valley which facilitated the rainwater collection.

*NL: As an inhabitant in this house, where is your most favorite space, and why?*

CR: My most favorite space is the front room of the original house. The scale and proportion of the room are very pleasing, the materials were left exposed and raw, light enters from three elevations allowing for a constant change of light throughout the day.

