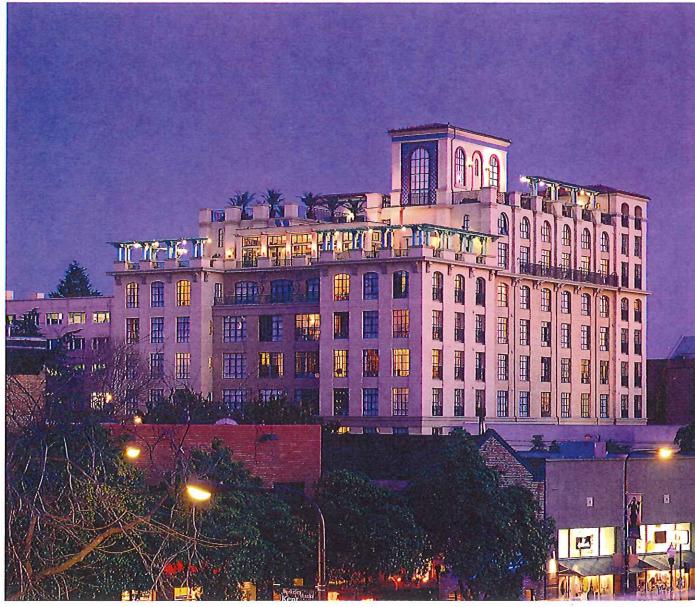


Gaia Building Berkeley, California, USA

Kirk Peterson & Associates Oakland, California, USA The Gaia Building is a mixed-use structure featuring a live-performance theater on the ground floor. The residential floors above enclose an inner courtyard favoring natural light and ventilation and creating residential comfort and well-being. Extensive multilevel rooftop terraces, inspired by those in Rome, afford views to the nearby wooded hills and through the Golden Gate Bridge to the Pacific Ocean. The basic form of the building refers to warehouse typologies and commercial structures of early-twentieth-century downtown areas in California cities. The ornate crown provides delight to both its residents and to the city and its inhabitants and provides identity and sense of place. Architectural details, such as trellises composed with steel I-beams, are simple adaptations of more formal classical elements.



The Bachenheimer Building Berkeley, California, USA

Kirk E. Peterson & Associates Architects Oakland, California, USA

The Bachenheimer Building occupies an irregular trapezoidal site, with the composition squaring the corners to create a serene and balanced form. The simple massing is enriched by an eclectic mix of ornament including moldings, recessed arches, colored tile, Gothic panels and eave brackets, and Venetian arcades of redwood. The result is a sort of Berkeley Mediterranean building that is quietly memorable yet clearly congruent with its context. The main tower is off-center on the principal elevation so as to be aligned with the axis of downtown Berkeley's main street. Informed by the beauty, logic, and durability of traditional architecture, and by a deep love for classical and vernacular buildings, the architects expand successfully on an adaptive regional classicism developed throughout the twentieth century at the same time as and in contrast to modernist design.

