

Sparks Reed Architecture and Interiors
Temporary home: 1401 S. Denver Ave.
Tulsa, OK 74119
918-884-6007



PRESS RELEASE: Sparks Reed hires intern architect Jun Kang Robinson

TULSA (Aug. 29, 2017) — Intern architect Jun Kang Robinson has joined the staff of Sparks Reed Architecture and Interiors.

The native of China brings a strong international design perspective to the Tulsa-based architectural and interior design firm.

“We’re super excited to add Jun to our team,” said Sparks Reed Principal and co-founder David Reed. “She comes with outstanding references and a very impressive portfolio.”

Robinson, 27, received her masters degree in architecture from the University of Florida in May. She earned her bachelors from the Qingdao Technological University in China.

That education mix helped Robinson develop skills in both computer-aided design and old-fashioned hand drawing.

“In China, we’d do a lot of digital and a lot of modeling,” she said. “Since I went to the University of Florida, they do a lot of hand drawing. So it was kind of the reverse of what you’d expect, and it helped me learn both skills.”

Robinson appreciates the artistic approach hand drawing lends her work. She likes to start projects that way, then digitize those elements and finish the project electronically.

“I really appreciate that ability to do that,” she said. “This has given me a lot of experience towards becoming a good architect.”

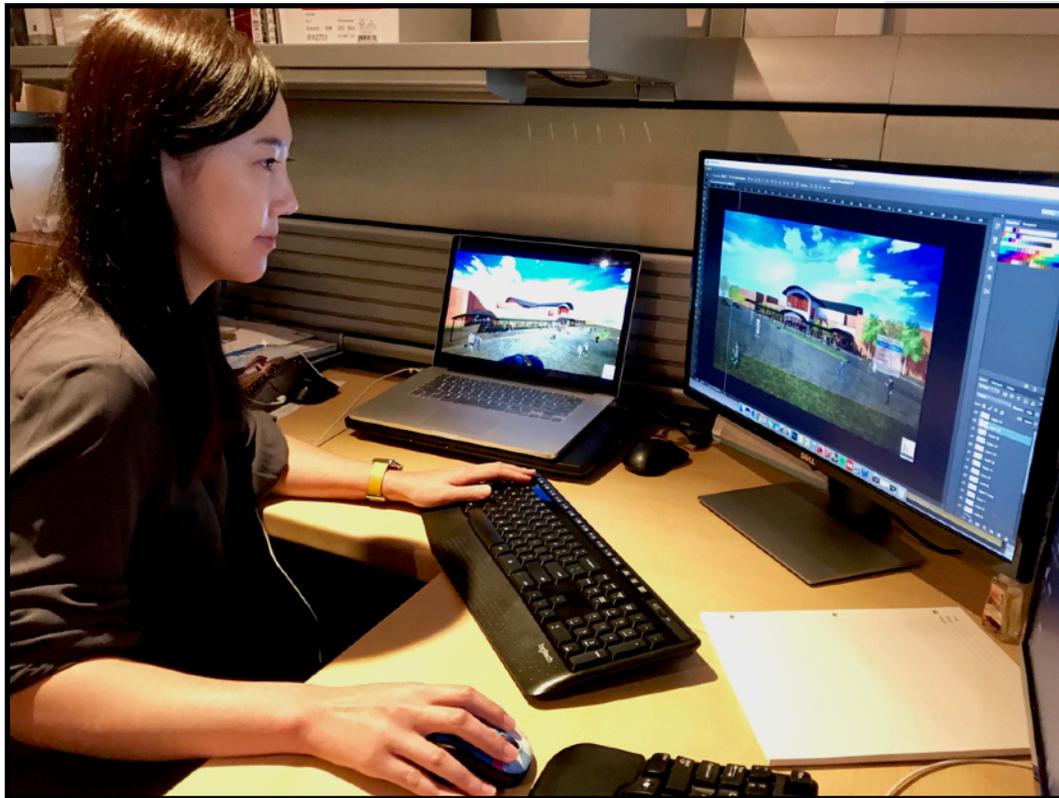
Sparks Reed’s investments in virtual reality, 3D modeling, and other advanced systems parallel Robinson’s ambitions.

“They want to increase their efforts with new systems and use it to develop more interesting projects,” said Robinson. “That attracted me. It made me want to come to this firm.”

Her husband, Matthew Howell Robinson, also encouraged her to join the Sparks Reed staff. As an Oklahoma State University graduate, the Tulsa Public Schools teacher knew of this Tulsa firm and two of its co-founders, Gary Sparks and David Reed, through their work on Boone Pickens Stadium and Gallagher-Iba Arena.



Jun Kang Robinson



Jun Kang Robinson at work in Spark Reed's temporary office.

"They're like giants in the field," said Jun Robinson. "So I knew I wanted to work here. This is very important to me. This is the opportunity my father wanted me to have."

Growing up during one of China's strongest construction periods, with an architect as a father, helped nurture Robinson's ambition. Her budding specialties include shopping malls, indoor environments, and Asian designs.

"When I grew up, I always saw my dad drawing at the drawing board at home, and then he began to use auto CAD," said Robinson. "I am glad to be able to work at a firm where I can have an opportunity to use these advanced systems myself."

"I wanted to go overseas to learn," she explained. "He supported me in this. He knows American architects are very advanced in comparison to Chinese right now, so he really encouraged me to do it that way. So this gives me a very good push in my career."

Sparks Reed Architecture and Interiors was founded in 2011 by Gary Sparks, David Reed, and Jill Selman, three professionals who have worked together on private and public architectural and interior projects valued at more than \$500 million. Known for finding creative solutions to difficult projects, Sparks Reed prides itself on utilizing cutting-edge technologies to preserve existing environments while building upon a client's rich traditions. Due to recent tornado damage to its main office, Sparks Reed is working in temporary offices at 1401 S. Denver Ave. in Tulsa. To learn more, check out sparksreed.com