Steven Holl founded Steven Holl Architects in New York in 1976. SHA is a design-oriented office, with a current staff of 25. The firm has been recognized internationally with numerous awards, publications & exhibitions for quality & excellence in design. Current projects include the construction of dormitories at the Massachusetts Institute of technology. Steven Holl Architects is also expanding & renovating of the Natural History Museum of Los Angeles County.

Steven Holl was honored by the Smithsonian Institution with the 2002 Cooper Hewitt National Design Award in Architecture. His projects include structures that can be found in different parts of the globe. The firm has experience in many different types of buildings, from museums to educational facilities, as well as residential & commercial structures. Often, projects will involve the renovation & expansion of historical structures. Holl also received the Chrysler design award.

In the transformation of the Museum of Contemporary Art in Helsinki, Steve Holl kept in mind that “The origin of museum as a room of the muse, a place to think & consider deeply...”. In designing the expansion of the museum, he considered many aspects of its direction. Would the expansion re-express past elements of the museum or should it evolve in a new direction through adapting the existing structures? Holl also considered aspects such as urbanism — how the structure would contribute to the surrounding community & as well as how the environment would affect the museum itself.

Other aspects like lighting & circulation where carefully considered in the design. Holl wanted natural diffused light that would give life to the gallery. Also, a pathway through the museum that allowed the free flow of visitors was important.