

Everyone's preparing for the intelligent future.
Who's building the human one?

Mike Brown

Keynote Speaker | Strategic Advisor | Executive Leader

Mike is a founder, executive, and trusted advisor with over two decades of experience working with some of the world's most influential brands, agencies and institutions — from the Rockwell Group, Gensler, and PMC, to LVMH, Adobe, Y-3, SXSW, and more.



Connect with & book Mike Brown today!

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Let's Work Together!

Whether you're hosting a conference or looking to shape what's next, Mike Brown brings a practice-based perspective that helps people think differently and move forward with conviction.

Talk Topics

*Belonging
by Design*

*What Are We
Forgetting To See?*

*Liminal Space
in Design*

*The Integrator's
Advantage*

*Impermanence
to Permanence*

About the Speaker

Mike Brown thinks deeply about the human experience — and builds from there.

Shaped by 20 years of designing places that disappeared — from theater, fashion, and retail to experiential activations and large-scale events — Brown learned from impermanence how to design the conditions where people genuinely belong.

Brown is the founder of [Sightworks](#), a strategic consultancy helping developers, brands and cultural institutions design for belonging — through the systems, stories, and spaces that bring people together, and keep them coming back.

His practice is grounded in intellectual rigor and lived experience — and made real through **The Belonging Engine™**, his practical framework crafted to rebuild belonging for The Intelligent Age.

Mike Brown calls himself a philosopher-builder. His talks make the case for more of that — and give audiences a framework and the conviction to act on it.

Signature Talk

Everyone's preparing for the Intelligent Future. Who's building the human one? The answer is already in this room. It always has been. I'm here to make sure you leave knowing that.

Built For This

Every conversation about the future centers on what technology can do — and quietly implies what it's replacing.

But the capacity to create experiences that are genuinely felt and remembered hasn't diminished. It's uniquely human — embodied, integrative, earned through presence rather than process. It's exactly what this moment is starving for.

Developers, institutions, and brands are all asking the same question, whether or not they're saying it out loud: Does what I build actually matter to the lived human experience?

The answer is yes. We haven't lost the capacity to create great work. We've lost the nerve to claim it.

Mike Brown draws on 20 years at the intersection of strategy, place, and culture to make that case — and give audiences a framework (**The Belonging Engine™**) and the conviction to act on it.

Testimonials

"Over the past 25 years, I have interacted with hundreds of creative thinkers and none of them can match Mike's capabilities, or the business results he has achieved. He possesses the business acumen and creative thinking to know how world-class designs fit into corporate, creative and cultural strategy—as catalysts for accelerating growth, customer engagement, and brand equity."

Simon McPherson | Head of Digital Experience, Executive Events, Adobe

"Mike Brown inspired us all with his mindful presentation "The Art of the Pitch" — he is a storyteller and place-maker driven by the power of design to reignite human connection. Grounded in relevance and resonance, his work builds community, purpose and collaboration. Culture to commerce, Mike is inspired by the future — and so are we!"

April Uchitel | CEO & Founder, THE BOARD

*"You Don Draper'ed the f*ck out of that!"*

Allie Galloway | Global Manager of Events, Verizon Media

Audiences

- Urban Revitalization & Placemaking
- Development, Architecture & Design
- Innovation & Technology
- Hospitality & Entertainment
- The Experience Economy
- Civic & Institutional Impact

Formats

- Keynotes
- Podcasts & Panels
- Roundtables & Workshops
- Leadership Sessions
- Educational Lectures

Recent Media



Past Talks

The Board — The Art of the Pitch (Business Practice)
LDJ Productions — Design 101 (Agency Practice)
WSTL MFA/BFA Theater Design — Lot71 Creative Practice
Method & Concept — The Story of Space (Design Practice)
IDS Vancouver — Storytelling & Placemaking (Design Practice)