President's Awards for Research 2018

Judging Panel

The President's Awards for Research promote and celebrate the best of research in the field of architecture and the built environment and the judging panel is specifically selected to represent the broad and diverse community of architects, academics and other built environment professionals.

Chair: Dr Elizabeth Darling

Reader in Architectural History, Oxford Brookes University

Elizabeth Darling PhD is Reader in Architectural History at Oxford Brookes University. Her research focuses on 20th century British architectural history with a particular interest in inter-war modernism, social housing, and gender. She has published on the nature of authorship in the design process; the innovative practices of the inter-war voluntary housing sector; the housing consultant Elizabeth Denby; the relationship between citizenship and the reform of domestic space in inter-war Britain, and sexuality, domesticity and modernism in 1920s Cambridge. Her books include a revisionist study of British architectural modernism, Re-forming Britain: Narratives of Modernity before Reconstruction,(Routledge, 2007) and Wells Coates (C20 Society with English Heritage & RIBA Publishing, 2012). She is currently one of the project team for AA XX 100, which commemorates the centenary of women's admission to the Architectural Association, and is writing a study of the material and spatial cultures of broadcasting in inter-war England.



Judge: Ruth Morrow

Professor of Architecture, Queen's University Belfast

Ruth is Professor of Architecture and Director of Research Impact in the School of the Natural and Built Environment, Queen's University Belfast. Her research covers both social activism in post-conflict spaces and material development. In the former she works collaboratively with students of architecture, artists and community activists; funded from sources including Arts funding, and Dept of Communities. In the latter, the work comes from a 15yr long collaboration with a Textile Designer resulting in patents and commercialization within a spin-out company: Tactility Factory That collaboration continues through recent Research Council funding alongside new international, cross disciplinary projects tackling repurposing materials and elements within the context of the circular economy, funded by US, Ireland, Northern Ireland Research Council and Dept of Economy funding. Both areas of Ruth's research are underpinned by a strong ethical and feminist stance, made explicit in her writing around the work and its impact on Architectural Practice.



Judge: Xavier De Kestelier,

Head of Design Technology and Innovation, Hassell Studio

Xavier was educated in Belgium and the UK and holds an BArch and MSc in Architectural Engineering from the University of Ghent and an MSc Urban Design from The Bartlett School of Architecture. Xavier is the Head of Design Technology and Innovation at Hassell Studio where he leads design technology across all disciplines and regions. He previously co-headed the Specialist Modelling Group at Foster+Partners, where his team specialised in computational design and digital fabrication. He has initiated and overseen several funded research projects. He specialised in the field of large scale 3D printing and worked with NASA and the European Space Agency on 3D printed Moon and Mars habitats. He is also director of Smartgeometry which is a not for profit organisation that organises a yearly international conference and workshop around digital design and fabrication. Xavier has held academic positions at the University of Ghent, Syracuse University and The Bartlett School of Architecture (UCL)

Judge: Ian Wroot

Head of Architecture, Liverpool John Moores University

Ian is the Architecture and Urban Design Programmes Leader at Liverpool John Moores University. He has research interests in cognitive bias, judgment heuristics, and the validity of commonly used design quality indicators. This has previously explored the enhancement of processes and practices in the briefing, conceptual design and post occupancy evaluation stages of building design through the role of Clients Design Advisor on a number of secondary and higher education buildings. In recent years his research and practice has focused on housing procurement and in particular the exploration of offsite and self-build manufacture technologies.

He has taught in Austria, Slovenia, Malaysia and Turkey and with collaborative partners from Sweden, Germany, Holland, Hungary, Portugal, Belgium and Greece. He is currently an External Examiner at Nottingham University, a Visiting Panels Chair for the RIBA, an Independent Examiner for the Architects Registration Board and past President of the Liverpool Architectural Society and Chair of the Merseyside Branch of the RIBA.

Judge: Dr Cristina Cerulli

Senior Lecturer in Architecture, Sheffield Hallam University

Cerulli Cerulli is a Reader in Community-led Architecture and Urban Design at Sheffield Hallam University and a founding director of social enterprise architecture practice Studio Polpo.

Cristina's work is underpinned by a strong commitment to facilitate a shift towards more just and equitable practices in the city, challenging the normative culture of the architectural profession and education. Cristina's approach to research is intrinsically collaborative, trans-disciplinary and co-operative.

Much of her recent academic and practice based research is around community led housing development models, shared models of living and 'alternative' and creative forms of management and procurement. This includes work around user led housing and collective custom build as well as design and consultancy work around co-housing, community land trusts and collective models of funding such as community shares and civic crowdfunding.





Judge: Chris Stewart,

Director, Collective Architecture

Following international success in Edinburgh and Berlin, Chris Stewart Architects were formed in 1997 to pursue the themes of participation and sustainability in architecture. Chris Stewart Architects for ten years were recognised with national and international awards. In 2007 Chris transferred company ownership from himself to an employee owned trust which together with work colleagues formed Collective Architecture. Their work has been widely published and exhibited in Glasgow, Brussels, Helsinki, London, Barcelona, Budapest, Chicago and at the Venice Biennale. Chris is a RIAS Sustainability Accredited Architect and Assessor, previous Chair / current Director of the Scottish Ecological Design Association, Chair of the Deconstruction Group and Convenor of the GIA Sustainability Committee. He leads a design unit at Strathclyde University, is an external examiner at the University of Edinburgh and has lectured at a number of Schools of Architecture including Yale, Aberdeen, Lille and the Mackintosh School of Architecture where he graduated.



Judge: Mark Lumley,

Associate Director, Architype

Mark joined Architype in 2006 and became Associate Director in 2011 with specific responsibility for projects in the Hereford office. The first project Mark worked on was a cojoined special school with a mainstream primary called The Willows in Wolverhampton. With this building he developed methods of working with the different groups to deliver a building that addressed the needs of a variety of disabilities providing an inspiring and healthy environment for the school occupants. From this point Mark's role expanded to oversee the portfolio of education projects, which included the delivery of the first Passivhaus schools in the UK (Oak Meadow and Bushbury Schools in Wolverhampton) which led to the commission of Wilkinson Primary in Wolverhampton, completed in January 2014, a further progression on the Passivhaus route. More recently Mark has been directing a critical part Architype's research programme relating to on-going post occupancy evaluation of the Wolverhampton schools estate and other projects.

