



Open Door, a partnership between the RIBA and British Council, is designed to promote and celebrate outstanding conservation work by emerging architects in mainland China and in the UK.

This project, aimed at architects who have been qualified for ten years or less, highlights the best of recent architecture heritage projects and the environmental and cultural benefits of building conservation. It also aims to foster knowledge sharing between expert practitioners in both countries, facilitating future UK-China dialogue on architecture and design.

The Open Door masterclasses will open up space and dialogue to discuss common ground and set challenges, through presentations of case studies and in-depth talks about the Open Door finalist projects.

Programme

Technical challenges in adaptation to contemporary regulations; 26 October 2022

11:00 – 11:05	Intro / Welcome	RIBA
11:05 – 11:30	Keynote Speaker	Professor Huang Yinwu
11:30 – 11:45	Case Study 1 – Canongate Block 2	Scott Abercrombie
11:45 – 12:00	Case Study 2 – Jankes Barn	Rachel Elliott
12:00 – 12:15	Case Study 3 – Regeneration of Former Japanese Consulate in Kulangsu	Dr. Zhang Guangwei
12:15 – 12:30	Case Study 4 – Bristol Old Vic	Tom Gibson
12:30 – 13:15	Panel discussion	All
13:15 – 13:45	Q&A	
13:45 – 14:00	Wrap-up session	
14:00	End	

Speakers

Professor Huang Yinwu

Associate Professor, School of Design, Shanghai Jiao Tong University
Director, Jianchuan Shaxi Center for Rural Cooperation
Honorary Associate Professor, Faculty of Architecture, The University of Hong Kong

Mr Huang Yinwu graduated from Southeast University in Nanjing in 1996. After a few years working at Southeast University and Nanjing University, he did his postgraduate study at the Swiss Federal Institute of Technology and the University of Hong Kong. He mainly engages in architectural design, cultural heritage preservation, and sustainable rural development.

He was appointed as the Swiss representative and was in charge of the Shaxi Rehabilitation Project in 2003. Since 2015, he has established and chaired the Shaxiyuan Rural Cooperation Centre, which continues to promote domestic and foreign cooperation in heritage protection and rural construction.

Mr Huang is now Director of the Jianchuan Shaxi Center for Rural Cooperation, and Honorary Associate Professor of the Faculty of Architecture, The University of Hong Kong.

His main works include the Shaxi Rehabilitation Project, the Administration and Dormitory Buildings of the Yulinku Caves of Dunhuang Academy, the Shaxi Experience Center of the Tea and Horse Caravan Trail, and the Shaxi Bai Ethnicity Bookstore of Librairie Avant-Garde. He has published dozens of papers in major domestic professional journals and authored the book "Reading Time in Shaxi".



Prof Huang Yinwu

Cannongate Block 2

Scott Abercrombie, Associate Director; John Gilbert Architects

Scott is a conservation-accredited architect and associate director at John Gilbert Architects, based in Glasgow. Scott leads the conservation side of the office and is particularly interested in projects that deal with the intersection of conservation and sustainability. In 2021 Scott was selected by RIBA as one of the 2021 cohort of Rising Stars, particularly for his commitment to promoting conservation. And in 2022 Scott was shortlisted as Young Architect of the Year at the Scottish Design Awards.

In practice Scott's current projects include the conservation of Glasgow's Gallery of Modern Art and the oldest house in Glasgow, which dates from 1471. Other projects include the conversion of a listed church in to a climbing and bouldering centre in Kilmarnock, and the conservation and retrofit of a former mill in Perth.

Outside practice Scott is currently chair of The Alexander Thomson Society, the secretary of the Save Egyptian Halls trust and recently completed a 3-year term as convener of the Glasgow Institute of Architects Conservation Committee, of which he remains an active trustee.



Scott Abercrombie

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Jankes Barn

Rachel Elliott, Associate Director; Lynch Architects

Rachel Elliott studied at The Mackintosh School of Architecture, Glasgow. She worked at van Heyningen & Haward Architects from 2002 before joining Lynch Architects in 2010, becoming an Associate Director in 2013. Rachel has worked on a wide range of urban regeneration projects including at Corfield Court on the redevelopment of an historic mixed-use city block for St John's College, Cambridge, and for Land Securities on design stages and as client representative during construction of the Kings Gate and The Zig Zag Building developments in Westminster.

Rachel became a RIBA-accredited Conservation Architect in 2017 and has since worked exclusively on historic building projects. She was closely involved in the early design stages of the project at Jankes Barn working with Director, Patrick Lynch. She led the planning process, gaining planning and listed building consent in 2019, and acted as contract administrator on the traditional contract. She has a strong technical and practical understanding of traditional materials and detailing and is experienced in delivering sustainable thermal upgrades to historic building fabric.

In 2021, whilst working on the project at Jankes Barn, she completed a two-year, part-time masters in Building History at the University of Cambridge and had the opportunity to work alongside conservation experts and specialist historic buildings consultants, as well as leading academics in the field. Rachel is now working on the refurbishment and extension to the Grade II listed Westminster Coroner's Court, due to complete late next year



Rachel Elliott

Regeneration of Former Japanese Consulate in Kulangsu

Dr Zhang Guangwei, studio director of Cultural Heritage Conservation Center of Beijing Guowenyan (CHCC)

Dr Zhang Guangwei is a registered Heritage Preservator of ICOMOS China, and has worked with dozens of State-owned cultural relics for years. She received her PhD degree from the University of Tokyo and continued research on the adaptive reuse of cultural heritage in Tsinghua University.

As the studio director of Cultural Heritage Conservation Center of Beijing Guowenyan (CHCC) since 2015, she has been practicing on architectural heritage conservation, especially buildings built from the 19th to the early 20th century. Her works scattered across China, at the very heart of the historic cities and the countryside as well, searching for solutions on conservation and utilization of either Chinese traditional timber buildings or masonry-concrete-steel hybrid structure buildings. She and the team are awarded by several awards, and she kept on theoretical reflection by writings.



Dr Zhang Guangwei

Bristol Old Vic

Tom Gibson, Associate; Haworth Tompkins

Tom joined Haworth Tompkins in 2012 and became an Associate in 2018. He has been the project architect for a number of the studio's housing, theatre and community projects including the Bristol Old Vic (completed in 2018) and is currently leading an exciting new project for the American Repertory Theater at Harvard University (due to complete in 2025).

Tom is a key member of the Sustainability and Regenerative Design team, leading research into low carbon materials, public health, and universal access.

Tom studied at the University of Edinburgh and the Royal College of Art, where he won The Helen Hamlyn Design Award. In the past Tom has been a guest critic at the University of East London and an RIBA Student Mentor.



Tom Gibson