

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

The role of heritage in building community cohesion; 27 October

11:00 - 11:05	Intro / Welcome	RIBA
11:05 - 11:30	Keynote Speaker	Ben Derbyshire
11:30 - 11:45	Case Study 1 – Renovation of Williams House	Prof Tian Leng / Dr Xiaoxin Zhao
11:45 - 12:00	Case Study 2 – Lianzhou Museum of Photography	Jianxiang He
12:00 - 12:15	Case Study 3 – Nevill Holt Opera	Chris Watson
12:15 – 12:30	Panel discussion	All The discussion will be moderated by Ben Derbyshire
12:30 - 13:00	Q&A	
13:00 - 13:15	Wrap-up session	
13:15	End	

Speakers

Ben Derbyshire PPRIBA, Hon AIA, FRSA, Dip Arch Cantab

Ben is Chair of HTA Design LLP, a leading multidisciplinary design practice specialising in housing and placemaking where his role also includes directing the practice's internal design review processes and leading its marketing effort.

He is a Commissioner of Historic England. He serves on the London Advisory Committee, High Streets Heritage Action Zone Board and chair of the Historic Places Panel.

Ben is President of the London Forum of Amenity and Civic Societies. Other current roles include membership of New London Architecture's New London Sounding Board and of the NHBC Council.

He was President of RIBA from 2017 – 2019 where he oversaw fundamental change in the financing and governance of the institute and the instigation of policies in relation to climate action, professional competence and codes of conduct.



Ben Derbyshire

Renovation of Williams House

Dr Xiaoxin ZHAO, School of Architecture and Urban Planning, Nanjing University, Nanjing, China

Xiaoxin Zhao is a postdoctoral research fellow affiliated with the School of Architecture and Urban Planning, Nanjing University.

He obtained his PhD degree from the University of Queensland in the field of architectural heritage management and place studies.

Xiaoxin's academic interests and recent publications include urban landscape and regeneration, rural revitalisation, and vernacular architecture.



Dr Xiaoxin ZHAO

Prof Tian LENG, School of Architecture and Urban Planning, Nanjing University, Nanjing, China

Tian Leng is an associate professor affiliated with the School of Architecture and Urban Planning, Nanjing University. He was a visiting scholar at the University of Pennsylvania in 2011.

His research interests focus on modern Chinese architectural history and culture, historic architectural heritage, and architectural conservation and renovation.



Prof Tian LENG

Lianzhou Museum of Photography

Jianxiang He, Principal & Partner; O-office Architects

Nevill Holt Opera

Chris Watson; Witherford Watson Mann Architects