



In partnership with
the Australian Institute of Architects;
the Council of Architecture and Urbanism in Brazil;
the Royal Architectural Institute of Canada;
the Architectural Society of China;
the Royal Institute of the Architects of Ireland;
the Korean Institute of Architects;
Pertubuhan Akitek Malaysia;
the New Zealand Institute of Architects;
the Royal Institute of British Architects

2024 Global Architecture Exchanges (GAE)

GAE @ UIA2024KL International Forum, Kuala Lumpur

Advocating for social justice and sustainable practices

Social justice is an underlying principle for peaceful and prosperous coexistence within and among nations. The concept of social justice advocates for equal access to wealth, opportunities, and privileges within a society. It underscores the progressive march towards a world where the barriers that people face because of gender, age, race, ethnicity, religion, culture, or disability are dismantled. Its intrinsic relationship with the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) is anchored in the shared vision of a better world, as espoused in the United Nations' 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. The SDGs are a call for action to end poverty, protect the planet, and ensure that all people enjoy peace and prosperity. These 17 interlinked goals recognise that strategies to improve health and education, reduce inequality, and spur economic growth must go hand-in-hand with tackling climate change and working to preserve our oceans and forests.

Social justice permeates each SDG, insisting that no goal can be met without meeting the needs of the most vulnerable and marginalized populations. <https://sdgresources.relx.com/social-justice-0>

In connection with the [UIA 2024 International Forum's theme DIVERSECITY](#) and the [2024 World Architecture Day's theme 'Empowering the next generation in participatory urban design'](#), this in-person session will explore the topic of '**Advocating for social justice and sustainable practices**'. Each speaker will provide examples of this topic translates in their countries, be it through government policies, initiatives developed by their national institutes, or through their own projects and designs.

Join us to hear the various approaches taken in different parts of the world to address this challenge.

This session includes speakers from Australia, Brazil, Canada, China, Ireland, South Korea, Malaysia, New Zealand, and the UK.

Sunday 17 November 2024; 14:00-16:15 Malaysia time

The session will be chaired and moderated by Muiyiwa Oki, RIBA President.

Participating Institutes and Speakers

Royal Institute of British Architects

Muyiwa Oki, RIBA President 2023-2025; Architect, Mace Group; UK

Elected to speak up for the future. With the responsibility and privilege of raising the profile of the architect globally, his ambitions are to advocate for his priorities of equity, transparency, and innovation in architecture.

He is an energetic architect with a vision for the profession's future. And believes systems thinking will play a role in creating a profession that is agile and accessible, innovative and aspirational. This can be done in collaboration with leaders in architecture and adjacent professions across the built environment.

As an Architect at [Mace Group](#), he focuses on technology and innovation, working on Modern Means of Construction projects.

During his time at Grimshaw Architects, he was the founder and Chair of the MEGA (Multi-Ethnic Group and Allies) network that drove global cultural change for colleagues.

Muyiwa is an ambassador, speaker and mentor for aspiring architects in programmes such as [Mayor of London Design Challenge](#), [Scale Rule](#), and the [Grimshaw Foundation](#), which exists to encourage greater social mobility within the industry.



Muyiwa Oki
Photo Kemka Ajoku

Australia Institute of Architects



Jane Cassidy

Jane Cassidy FRAIA SFHEA AIA Hon. GAICD, National President, Australian Institute of Architects; GHD APAC Service Line Leader Architecture & Design; Director, GHD Design Pty Ltd; Australia

Jane Cassidy is the APAC Service Line Leader for Architecture & Design at GHD and a Director of GHD Design, operating within GHD's large multidisciplinary architecture, urban design, engineering, project management, digital and advisory business. She brings a business of architecture perspective including a deep understanding of the drivers of investment across the built environment with a focus on environmentally, culturally, economically and socially sustainable architecture.

Jane is also the National President of the Australian Institute of Architects and is an enthusiastic advocate for promoting and implementing sustainable strategies on the path to net zero and beyond. She believes that as architects, we need to transcend demonstration projects and promote quality sustainable urban and architectural environments for all in our community.

Council of Architecture and Urbanism in Brazil

Patricia Sarquis Herden, President CAU-Br; Brazil

Architect and urban planner, educated at the Federal University of Santa Catarina (UFSC). She holds an MBA in BIM (Building Information Modeling) platforms and a specialization in Interior Architecture. She served as the president of CAU/SC (the Santa Catarina Council of Architecture and Urbanism) during the 2021-2023 term.

Additionally, Patricia is a faculty member in postgraduate courses and is certified by Graphisoft International. She is also part of the Board of Directors of BIM Fórum Brasil and has been an entrepreneur in the information technology sector for over 30 years.

Her work as a consultant in the architecture, engineering, and construction industries focuses on BIM management and implementation to optimize project processes. Patricia's expertise covers all phases of project development, including legal approvals, coordination, and execution of civil and interior design projects.



Patricia Sarquis Herden

Leila Marques, Architect and Urban Planner at CEFET/RJ; Federal Councilor of CAU/BR; Brazil

Architect and Urban Planner from the Fluminense Federal University, 1985. Teaching degree in Civil Construction from the Bethencourt da Silva College, 1987. Postgraduate degree in Public Management from the “Faculdades Integradas de Jacarepaguá”, FIJ. Master's and PhD in Sustainable Local Development from the Augusto Mota University, UNISUAM.

Federal Public Servant since 1984, position of Architect and Urban Planner at CEFET/RJ. She has two Motions of Commendation granted by the Board of Directors of CEFET/RJ for extraordinary, unpaid volunteer work. She has also worked as a freelancer on more than 40 restaurant projects in Rio de Janeiro. Former CEO of the CEFET/RJ Employee Association from 2004 to 2012. Twice State Councilor of CAU/RJ from 2018 to 2023.

Current Federal Councilor of CAU/BR. She was a Councilor of the Niemeyer Institute of Urban, Scientific and Cultural Policies.

She organized and participated in 7 seminars on Architecture, Urbanism and Tourism at the Federal University UNIRIO. She was a speaker at 3 editions of Rio Innovation Week. She is a member of the Climate Reality Leadership Corps. Author and Organizer of the Book “Coronavirus and Cities in Brazil: Reflections During the Pandemic”, Outras Letras, 2020. She has published several articles in books, magazines and newspapers. Organizer of the book: “Vaccinated Cities: urban and environmental essays for a post-pandemic Brazil”, Rio Books, 2021.



Leila Marques

Royal Architectural Institute of Canada

Jason Robbins; Lead Architect AECOM; Canada

Jason Robbins is a Lead Architect at AECOM Canada where he specialises in National Defence and Public Safety projects. He is interested in the stories a building's details tell us - about the architect who designed them, and its place in the community. He believes architecture is an active presence in our daily lives.

Jason has spent the entirety of his career advocating for good design and architecture in our built environment. He is a founding board member of Storefront Manitoba, a non-profit organisation that advances public awareness and the appreciation of architecture, design and the built environment in Manitoba, and has volunteered on the RAIC board since 2017.

As President, Jason supported the RAIC's vision of a strong architectural community that is valued and empowered to create change. In addition, he supported RAIC members in their pursuit of design excellence.

Jason has a background in theatre and film. He studied marketing & communications before going to architecture school. He is a Fellow of the RAIC and recipient of the King Charles III Coronation Medal for his commitment to the architectural community.



Jason Robbins

The Architectural Society of China

Prof. Zhang Jie; Professor of School of Architecture, Tsinghua University; China



Prof. Zhang Jie

ZHANG Jie is a professor and architect in the field of heritage conservation and urban renewal. He has been lecturing at School of Architecture, Tsinghua University in China since 1992 and has been the dean of the School of Architecture and Urban Planning at Beijing University of Civil Engineering and Architecture since 2020. He is a Chartered Member of RIBA, an Honorary Membership of International Council on Monuments and Sites (ICOMOS) and a chairholder of the UNESCO on Heritage Conservation Planning and Sustainable Social Development.

Prof. ZHANG Jie's research lies in the inter-discipline of architecture and conservation and in investigating a sustainable development model for cities undergoing drastic changes, considering culture, ecology, economy, and community improvement in the context of rapid urbanization.

He has published 20 academic monographs and more than 100 academic papers. He has won the RIBA International Awards for Excellence, Gold Award in International Design Awards, Award of Distinction and Award for New Design in Heritage Contexts in UNESCO Asia-Pacific Awards for Cultural Heritage Conservation, and more than 40 national awards in China by his representative works, including Jingdezhen Ceramic Industry Museum, Conservation of Sanfang Qixiang, Jingdezhen Pengjia Alley Compound and Tsinghua University Nankou National Key Laboratory Base. He was awarded National Master of Engineering Design and Geotechnique Investigation in China in 2020. His works were displayed in the Chinese Architecture Exhibition of the 27th World Congress of Architects, the China Pavilion at Venice Biennale 2020, and China, Architecture exhibition in Lyon, France.

The Royal Institute of the Architects of Ireland

Fionnuala Rogerson; Principal of Fionnuala Rogerson Architects; Ireland

Fionnuala is a past vice-president of the Irish Architects' Institute and she is currently an advisor to both the UIA Architecture for All Work Programme and its Sustainable Development Commission.

She is principal of Fionnuala Rogerson Architects who are currently engaged as inclusive design consultants on numerous urban design and heritage projects throughout Ireland. She also teaches on the architectural professional practice diploma course in University College Dublin.



Fionnuala Rogerson

Dr Selma Harrington, MRIAI HonAIA; Founding principal of the award winning New European Bauhaus Forum Bosnia and Herzegovina; Ireland

Selma Harrington is an RIAI Registered Architect based in Dublin, Ireland.

She combines her experience and leadership in practice and academia engaging in professional advocacy through pan-European and international professional organisations. Currently a Co-director of the UIA EDUCOM and a Chair of the ACE EU Projects working group, she served in the Architects Council of Europe as President, Vice-President and Executive Board member.

Selma is a Founding principal of the award winning New European Bauhaus Forum Bosnia and Herzegovina. She is an Advisor to the EU digiNEB and NEBULA projects which advance innovative engagement of architects in cross-disciplinary networking, design and delivery of projects for built environment which enhance systemic harmony, sustainability and inclusion.



Selma Harrington

Korean Institute of Architects

Joori Chun; Founder, Creative Director 9DIRECTORS AND COMPANY; Adjunct Professor Kookmin University & Architect; South Korea

Joori Chun is the co-founding principal of 9DIRECTORS AND COMPANY, a multidisciplinary design firm founded in 2014, and 9ARCHITECTUS, an architecture-focused practice launched in 2015. Together, these firms operate as 9DA, blending architecture, urbanism, branding, exhibitions, and technology to push creative boundaries and explore new forms of engagement.

Joori's work redefines traditional architectural roles by transforming the architect into a director, fostering interdisciplinary collaboration. Under her leadership, 9DA integrates design, communication, and tailored solutions to achieve meaningful and sustainable outcomes. The firm embraces experimentation, drawing from diverse perspectives to reinterpret classical principles across multiple disciplines.

9DA's work has been recognized both nationally and internationally, earning awards such as the 2022 Korea Space Culture Award and the 2020 Korea Architectural Culture Award. The firm has also been featured several times in 100 Architects of the Year. Collaborating with architects, artists, and designers, 9DA creates distinct project identities and extends architecture's role into installation art and branding initiatives.

Joori Chun is an adjunct professor at Kookmin University and previously taught at Gachon University. She holds a Bachelor of Architecture from SCI-Arc (Southern California Institute of Architecture) and a Master's in Architecture and Urban Design from Hongik University.

In addition to teaching, Joori serves as vice-chair of the International Committee at the Korean Institute of Architects (KIA) and actively promotes the global advancement of architecture students. She also mentors younger students, fostering architectural education at the middle and high school levels to inspire the next generation of architects.



Joori Chun

Pertubuhan Akitek Malaysia



Syahril Nizam Kamaruddin

Syahril Nizam Kamaruddin, Principal and Director at Veritas Architects, Malaysia

Syahril Nizam Kamaruddin is an Architect with over a decade of professional experience, currently serving as Principal and Director at Veritas Architects, Malaysia.

His portfolio is marked by his expertise in hospitality, high-rise sustainable developments and residential projects. His notable works include the W Hotel Kuala Lumpur, Lexis Imperial Kuala Lumpur a striking addition to the city's skyline that blends urban sophistication with sustainable elements, and Porsche Experience Centre Malaysia, where he crafted an iconic flagship showroom that reflects both the brand's prestige and architectural elegance.

Syahril Nizam's leadership in these projects underscores his ability to fuse design innovation with client's vision, delivering spaces that are not only functional but also aesthetically impactful. A strong advocate for sustainability, he has been instrumental in advancing Veritas Architects' commitment to environmentally-conscious designs.

His award-winning Women's Aid Organisation Shelter Home, recognized by the American Institute of Architects (AIA) International Award 2023, stands as a testament to his ability to merge impactful social placemaking with architectural innovation.

Beyond project delivery, Syahril Nizam actively engages with the architectural community, contributing as a co-convenor to the 100th Kuala Lumpur Architecture Festival (KLAF100) 2023 through events and engagements with the architectural fraternity of Malaysia. Known for his creative approach and professional insights, his influence extends across the industry.

An avid ultra trail runner and outdoor adventures, he incorporates the same discipline, tenacity, and endurance to both his personal and professional pursuits, continuing to inspire those around him.

New Zealand Institute of Architects

Whare Timu; Principal and a Senior Design Lead, Warren and Mahoney Architects; New Zealand

He mokopuna nā Te Huhuti, nāna i kau i tāna tau ā Te Whatuiāpiti. (I am a grandchild of Te Huhuti, she who swam to her love, Te Whatuiāpiti),

Arā, nō Kahungunu te iwi ahau (Therefore, I am a descendent of the tribe, Kahungunu).

Whare is a principal and a senior design lead at Warren and Mahoney Architects. He is the lead of the advanced indigenous design unit – Te Matakīrea, dedicated to empowering indigenous architecture in Aotearoa New Zealand, Australia, and the Pacific. His work lies in urban planning, social procurement, community cultural and economic development, and he is a thought-leader on the development of ‘better by design’ strategies that looks at integrating the needs of indigeneity, the possibilities of technology, and the requirements for success in ‘Planet First’ design.

A senior member and committee lead of Ngā Aho Inc, the Māori Design Society, and Acting Co-Director of the IPWP (Indigenous Peoples Work Programme UIA RAIC), Whare has held numerous leadership roles, including being a past Board Director of the Te Kāhui Whaihanga The New Zealand Institute of Architects, and Chair Appointment to the New Zealand Construction Industry Council.

Whare has led co-design innovation across a wide range of sectors including health, education, housing, corrections & justice, climate, creative sector, cultural heritage, language revitalisation, cultural and intellectual property, indigenous strategies and export – in Aotearoa New Zealand, Australia, Hawai’i, and Canada where he worked with First Nations, Industry and Government to develop how design can create economic movement.

By recentring indigenous process and institutions, and endorsing such commitments as the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples (UNDRIP), this signifies a new conversation and new ways of working. Whare affirms we can extend this into the ‘new kind of city’ but requires holistic integration, and recentring of indigeneity, the possibilities of technology, and the reimagining of a circular approach to enable us to create places and spaces with more meaning, depth, and understanding.



Whare Timu