

ARCHITECTURE  
IS EDUCATION

GLOBAL AWARD  
FOR SUSTAINABLE  
ARCHITECTURE™

2024

## **Architecture Is Education**

The Global Award for Sustainable Architecture™ ("GA"), created by architect and researcher Jana Revedin, promotes innovative thinking and encourages the adoption of sustainable solutions in architecture. The award is guided by the motto "Dare, transmit, federate."

Since its launch in 2006, the award has annually recognized the work and approach of five international architects. Their common denominator? All are committed to sustainability, seeking a contemporary architecture that is rational and ecologically responsible, in line with today's ethical, environmental, and social concerns. The Global Award for Sustainable Architecture™ highlights the work of architects engaged in a forward-thinking approach, concerned about the footprint left by humans on their environment.

**"18 years ago, when I launched this award, I wanted to honor a stance, a political, social, technical, and artistic commitment, a lifelong learning process, and not just a project. Today, I am proud to see that our laureates are all pioneers in their field,"** explains **Jana Revedin**.

The Global Award for Sustainable Architecture™, whose symposium is held under the patronage of UNESCO, is supported this year by Saint-Gobain, global leader in light and sustainable construction.

### **The theme of the 2024 edition: ARCHITECTURE IS EDUCATION**

The five laureates of the 2024 edition were distinguished by an international panel of architects and researchers according to the theme "Architecture Is Education". The jury rewarded an innovative educational approach, capable of thinking and practicing architecture differently, while promoting among the new generations an ethical and responsible understanding of the profession.

### **The 2024 jury was composed of:**

- Prof. Dr. Jana Revedin, architect, École Spéciale d'Architecture Paris, France, Founding President of the Global Award for Sustainable Architecture™, Venice, Italy
- Marie-Hélène Contal, architect, Dean of École Spéciale d'Architecture, Paris, France
- Prof. Dr. Jacopo Galli, architect, Università Iuav di Venezia, Venice, Italy
- Prof. Dr. Spela Hudnik, architect, University of Ljubljana, Slovenia
- Prof. Dr. Deniz Incedayi, architect, Mimar Sinan Fine Arts University, Istanbul, Turkey
- Prof. Dr. Mette Ramsgaard Thomsen, architect, Royal Danish Academy, Copenhagen, Denmark (laureate of the 2023 GA)
- Prof. Xu Tiantian, architect, Tsinghua University, Beijing, China (laureate of the 2023 GA)

### **The laureates selected by the jury in 2024 are as follows:**

- **Iyas Shahin and Wesam Al Asali**, founders of the IWLAB laboratory (Syria)
- **Andrés Jaque** from the Office for Political Innovation, Dean of Columbia University School of Architecture (Spain/USA)
- **Marina Tabassum**, architect (Bangladesh)
- **Ciro Pirondi**, co-founder of L'Escola da Cidade (Brazil)
- **Klaus K. Loenhardt**, architect and landscape architect and director of the Institute of Architecture and Landscape at TU Graz (Graz/Germany)

They all have a deep commitment to architectural innovation and place great importance on education and pedagogy. Their singular contributions work towards a more sustainable future and are attentive to the needs of society's changing.



## TWO BOOKS TO DELVE DEEPER

The Global Award for Sustainable Architecture™ shares the journeys of its laureates from 2023 and 2024 in two books published by ArchiTangle (Germany), **"Architecture Is Experimentation"** and **"Architecture Is Education"**, written by Jana Revedin and Marie-Hélène Contal, architect and Dean of the École Spéciale d'Architecture in Paris.

**"Architecture Is Education"** features commentary by Jose Luis Uribe Ortiz, co-founder of the cutting-edge architecture school in Talca, located in southern Chile, on the necessity of teaching architecture today and tomorrow through locally rooted projects.

These publications go beyond presenting the achievements of the architects; they explore how architecture can be a powerful tool for sharing knowledge. Designed by the Grafikanstalt studio, with interviews with the laureates, project texts, and rich visuals, these two books celebrate sustainable innovation in an inspiring format as true works of art created with environmentally friendly materials.



# THE 2024 LAUREATES

## IWLAB – SYRIA

### MULTIDISCIPLINARY LABORATORY



IWLab is a multidisciplinary research laboratory founded in 2009 by architects Iyas Shahin and Wesam Al Asali, dedicated to the exploration, education, and practice of cultural and architectural design. With offices in Syria and Spain, IWLab architects collaborate closely with students and fellow architects to develop a network of creatives with diverse and interdisciplinary skills.

Initially founded in response to the lack of vitality in architectural practice in Syria and the Arab region, IWLab has become a pioneer in architecture, heritage, and urban studies within a socio-economic context. Since 2009, the founders have recognized the importance of the city in its various forms, developing approaches to modernize traditional techniques and map informal urban areas.



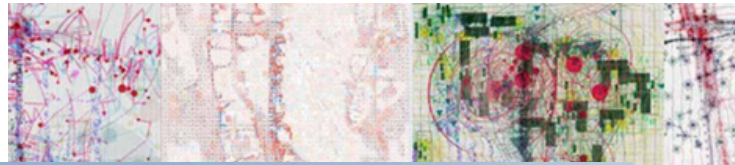
**IW Lab, Wesam Al Asali and Iyas Shahin**

“We always advocate for the import and export of knowledge rather than the import and export of materials. Education and knowledge-sharing are not products but human relationships.”





View of the traditional vaulting and earthen structures of the village Um Myal.  
©IWLAB



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Visitors experiencing the finished building. The structure is based solely on compression.  
©Wesam Al Asali

Experimental reed structure made with local artisans in Damascus.  
©IWLAB



## ANDRÉS JAQUE – SPAIN / USA

### FOUNDER OF THE OFFICE FOR POLITICAL INNOVATION



©Miguel de Guzman

Andrés Jaque founded the Office for Political Innovation (OFFPOLINN) in 2003 after meeting the French philosopher Bruno Latour. According to Latour, architects are critical actors in the fight for social justice, as access to decent housing is now the key parameter of equity. According to him, architects must question inhabited space's ecological and political factors: How can progress and democracy be advanced? How do we shape struggles for equality in the urban context?

OFFPOLINN's work addresses these questions by combining design, research, and activism and by challenging the mechanisms through which architecture plays a role in exclusion. For OFFPOLINN, collaboration is not just about sharing architectural outcomes but also actively engaging with diverse communities, creating spaces for attentive listening and collective action.

People, buildings, and local resources must come together in a joint project to which architects contribute by their ability to rearticulate, combat, and assemble.



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**Andrés Jaque**

"The main pedagogical tool is spending time together and making efforts to create spaces where we can listen attentively to each other. I became the architect I needed to be by teaching."

© José Hevia





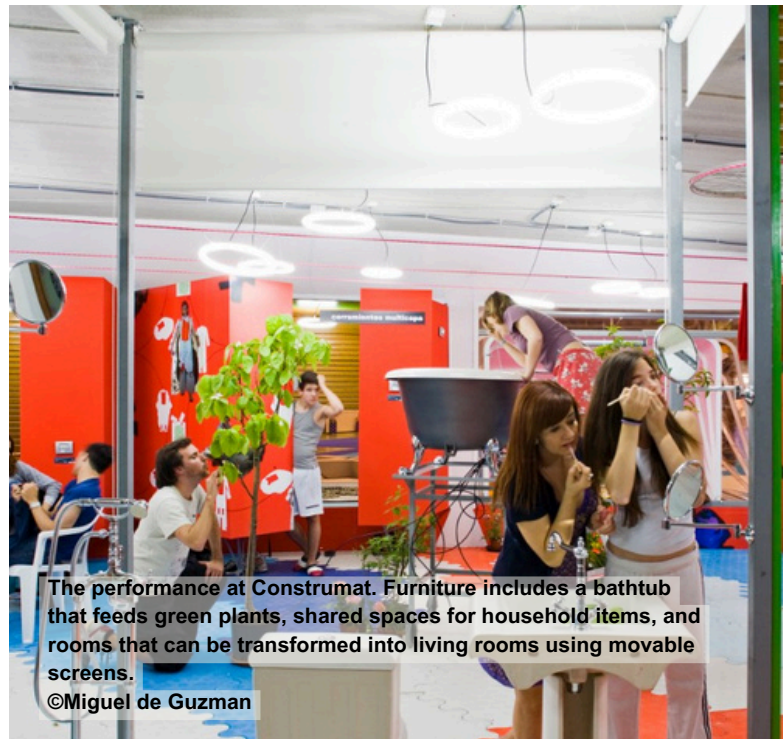
The indoor/outdoor gallery running around the ellipse is an integral part of the home's bioclimatization system. At the top, coils circulate and heat the collected water in the sun, as well as the misting devices.  
©José Hevia



Corner view of the community space, open to the countryside due to large arched cutouts in the facade. The structure is made of thin concrete walls, calculated with minimal material by the engineer Lago González. This multipurpose space is used for gymnastics classes as well as general assemblies of the school community.  
©José Hevia



A manifesto text of the Rolling House for the Rolling Society with scenarios for the construction of Rolling Houses Towers in urban areas. This document, like the previous one, belongs to Andrés Jaque's theoretical concept as well as to his political activism.  
©Andrés Jaque



The performance at Construmat. Furniture includes a bathtub that feeds green plants, shared spaces for household items, and rooms that can be transformed into living rooms using movable screens.  
©Miguel de Guzman



## MARINA TABASSUM – BANGLADESH

### FOUNDER OF MARINA TABASSUM ARCHITECTS (MTA)



Marina Tabassum leads a triple life as an architect, educator, and community empowerment project leader, uniquely blurring the boundaries between learning, action, and teaching. These projects bring together experts, students, and residents to find models to improve the living conditions for all. It is no coincidence that Marina Tabassum has created a specific tool, the Foundation for Architecture and Community Equity (FACE), to carry out these projects. Today's most committed architects in the development of equitable mass housing have also understood that this issue requires an alternative economic model to the usual activity of architecture.

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#### Marina Tabassum

"I bring students from all over the world to Bangladesh. The focus is on fostering a deep understanding of the local context, they need to comprehend it with all of their senses. This is because design, in my view, extends beyond problem-solving; it involves creating a language absorbed through firsthand experience."





To ground the Khudi Bari, the lightweight base point made of steel and bamboo is buried in the ground. All joints are lightweight and easy to dismantle.  
©Asif Salman



The entrance to the Hamidur Rahman Community Center has a wide arched opening and stairs that offer a meeting place.  
©Asif Salman



The first Khudi Bari prototype was built by the architects Arman Abedin and Kazi Akif of MTA in a small forest clearing at Faydabat, Dhaka, in October 2020.  
©F.M. Faruque Abdullah et H.Forza Rabby Apurba de City Syntax



The village's community discussing proposals with the Harvard student groups.  
©Rahim, MTA



## CIRO PIRONDI – BRAZIL

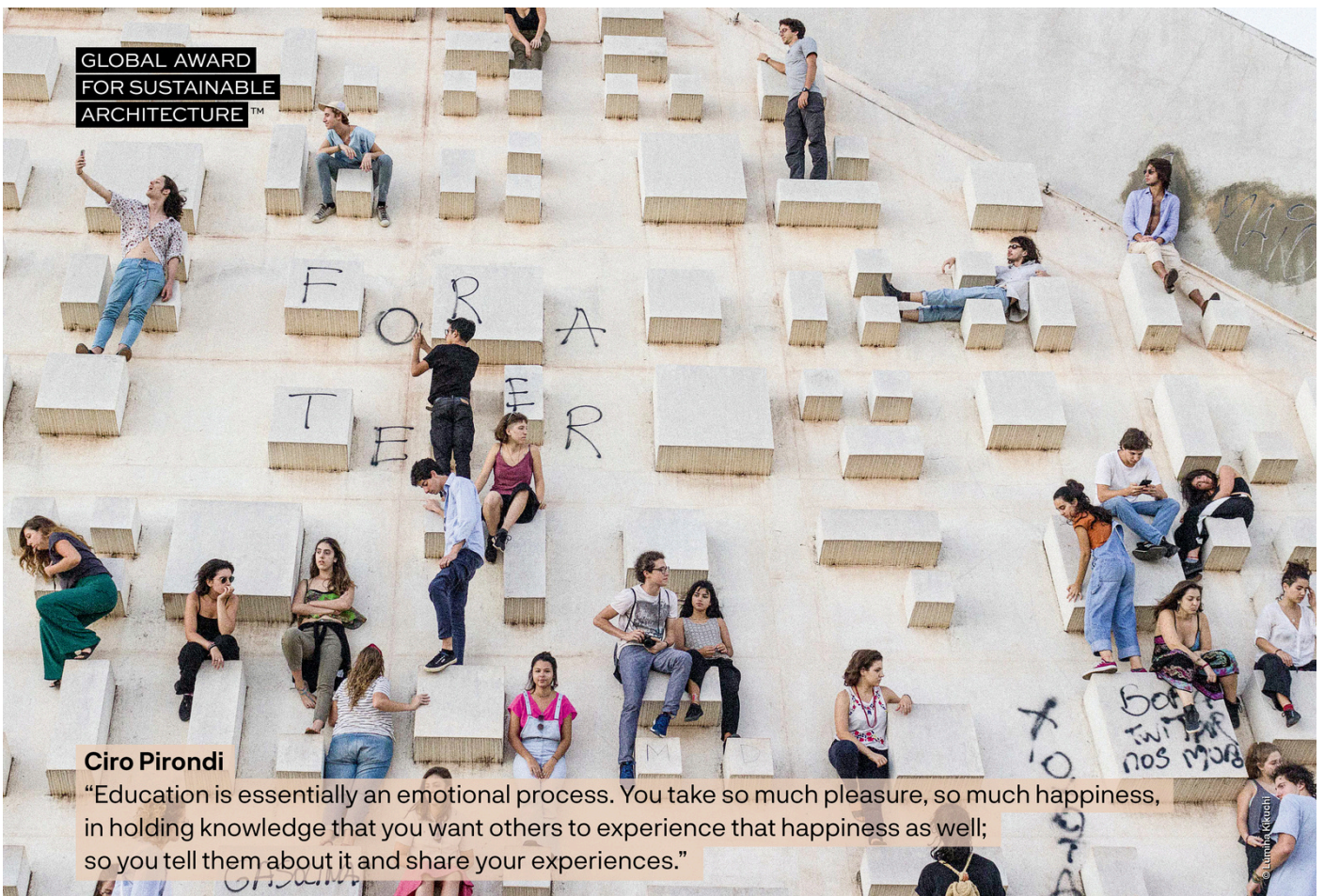
CO-FOUNDER AND FORMER DIRECTOR OF ESCOLA DA CIDADE, SÃO PAULO



©Baú Escola da Cidade

Escola da Cidade, with its educational program, embodies the educational goals of the Global Award for Sustainable Architecture through its interdisciplinary approach, influenced by the Brazilian revolutionary educator Paulo Freire.

Escola da Cidade began admitting students in 2002. It was founded by Associação Escola da Cidade - Arquitetura e Urbanismo (AEC), an association of intellectuals, architects, artists, and technicians with a non-bureaucratic operational structure and democratic and financially autonomous management, which turned away from solely training architects to focus on profitability in real estate.



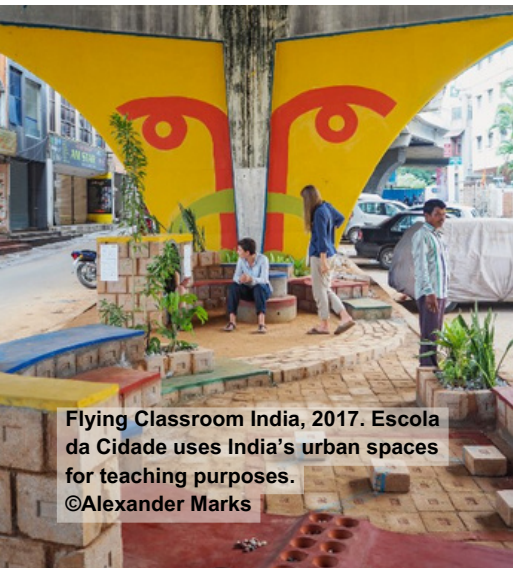
### Ciro Pironi

“Education is essentially an emotional process. You take so much pleasure, so much happiness, in holding knowledge that you want others to experience that happiness as well; so you tell them about it and share your experiences.”





Professor Helena Cavalheiro coordinates a workshop with students during the 21st Biennale of Architecture and Urbanism of Chile.  
©Fernanda Teixeira



Flying Classroom India, 2017. Escola da Cidade uses India's urban spaces for teaching purposes.  
©Alexander Marks



The spaces are designed to be so open that the landscape planning is drawn inward.  
©Felipe Noto



Mezzanine view of the pavilion.  
©Ruben Otero



## KLAUS K. LOENHART – GERMANY / AUSTRIA

DIRECTOR OF THE IA&L - INSTITUTE OF ARCHITECTURE AND LANDSCAPE AT TU GRAZ



Eco-innovator Klaus K. Loenhart experiments with and teaches a new generation of bioclimatic architecture to reconceptualize the engagement between living planetary ecosystems and human activity. According to him, the architect's role is to design eco-buildings and facilitate transformative co-creation processes between ecological agents and human activities. To reduce energy consumption and increase well-being, Loenhart explores, with his LandLab at the Graz University of Technology, the co-creation of an architecture that, in the face of climate deregulation, could regenerate biodiversity and improve the health of all life through a societal ecologically based design practice.



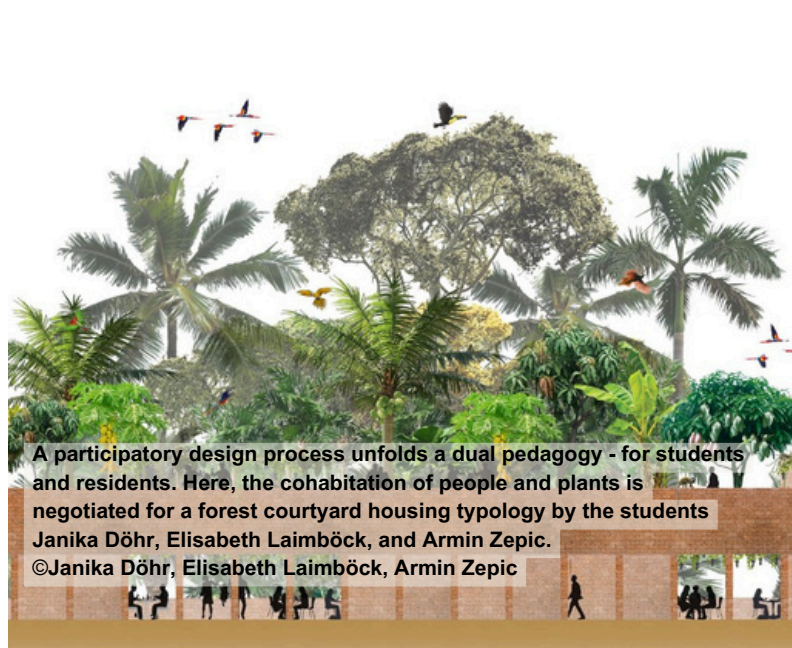




A large shelving system is used to display the natural materials from which the products are made at Grüne Erde.  
©Jan Schuenke



Interior view of the the "breathe.austria" pavilion along its discovery trails. The combination of dense vegetation and responsive microclimate control technology, with its misting system, was intended to give visitors the sensation of "forest bathing".  
©Simon Oberhofer



A participatory design process unfolds a dual pedagogy - for students and residents. Here, the cohabitation of people and plants is negotiated for a forest courtyard housing typology by the students Janika Döhr, Elisabeth Laimböck, and Armin Zepic.  
©Janika Döhr, Elisabeth Laimböck, Armin Zepic



With the Grüne Erde project, the bioclimatic laboratory and prototyping work by Klaus K. Loenhardt and his team has been implemented into a full-scale living environment.  
©terrain Grüne Erde GmbH



## About the Global Award for Sustainable Architecture™

The Global Award for Sustainable Architecture™ was founded in 2006 by architect and researcher Jana Revedin. It promotes the principles of sustainable development and a participatory approach to architecture in both the North and South of the planet. The Global Award Symposium is placed under UNESCO's patronage. The Global Award for Sustainable Architecture™ has in 2024 85 laureates from all over the world who share the ethos of sustainable architecture. This community pursues research, experimentation, and transmission in the fields of architecture, urban renewal, and academic social responsibility. As a sign of its pioneering role, five winning architects or teams have since been awarded the prestigious Pritzker Prize: Wang Shu (GA 2007, Pritzker 2012), Alejandro Aravena (GA 2008, Pritzker 2016), Balkrishna Vithaldas Doshi (GA 2007, Pritzker 2018), Anne Lacaton & Jean-Philippe Vassal (GA 2018, Pritzker 2021) et Diébédo Francis Kéré (GA 2009, Pritzker 2022).

Saint-Gobain is the official partner of the Global Award for Sustainable Architecture™.

[www.globalawardforsustainablearchitecture.com](http://www.globalawardforsustainablearchitecture.com)

## About Jana Revedin

Born in Constance, Germany, Jana Revedin is an architect and scholar who holds a degree from the Politecnico di Milano and a doctorate in architecture and urban planning from the Luav University of Venice. Currently, she serves as a full professor at the École spéciale d'architecture de Paris, in addition to contributing her expertise as a member of the CNRS "Environnement, ville, société" research laboratory. Jana Revedin is also a UNESCO delegate to the EDUCOM Education and Research Commission of the International Union of Architects (UIA). Establishing her architectural practice in Venice in 1996, Jana Revedin has a rich academic background, having taught at Luav University in Venice and the Universities of Umea and Karlskrona in Sweden. In 2006, she founded the Global Award for Sustainable Architecture™, fostering a collective platform for worldwide scientific and professional exchange and experimentation. Central to her vision is the theory of "radicant design," advocating for the collective transformation of the contemporary city through an "open work" morphology, employing transdisciplinary participatory processes. Recognizing her contributions, Jana Revedin was appointed a French Chevalier des Arts des Lettres in 2014 and honored with the Médaille de la Prospective from the Académie d'Architecture in 2017. She became a member of the Académie d'Architecture in 2023.



©Martin Rauchenwald

Symposium  
under the patronage of



## Symposium under the patronage of UNESCO

The United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) is a specialized agency of the United Nations (UN) whose objective is to promote peace and security in the world through international cooperation in the fields of education, arts, sciences, and culture. Founded in 1945 and based in Paris, France, it has 194 member states and 12 associate members, as well as partners in non-governmental, intergovernmental, and private sectors.

UNESCO's main priorities for achieving Sustainable Development Goals and improving human conditions are as follows: mobilizing education to transform lives; reconnecting with nature; promoting science and technology for humanity's service; promoting inclusion and mutual understanding.

The symposium of the Global Award for Sustainable Architecture™ is held under the patronage of UNESCO.

[www.unesco.com](http://www.unesco.com)



## Official Partner: Saint-Gobain

As a global leader in sustainable construction, Saint-Gobain designs, manufactures and distributes materials and services for the housing and industrial markets. Developed with a constant focus on innovation, its integrated solutions for renovating public and private buildings, lightweight construction, and decarbonizing the construction and industrial sectors bring sustainability and performance. Committed to achieving net zero carbon emissions by 2050, the Group is guided by its purpose "MAKING THE WORLD A BETTER HOME." Present in 76 countries, Saint-Gobain employs 160,000 people and achieved a turnover of 47.9 billion euros in 2023. Saint-Gobain is determined to play a key role in this transition and become a reference company that is both pioneer and driver, to bring all construction stakeholders on board.

[www.saint-gobain.com](http://www.saint-gobain.com)



# Other partners:



Università Iuav  
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## Università Iuav di Venezia: Institutional Partner - Scientific Committee

The Università Iuav di Venezia (Iuav) is one of the leading universities in Europe and the world in the fields of architecture, design, fashion, visual arts, urban planning, territorial planning, and theater. Founded in 1926 as one of the first architecture schools in Italy, Iuav combines a renowned tradition with a commitment to ongoing innovation, placing the design process at the heart of the entire educational experience.

[www5.iuav.it](http://www5.iuav.it)



## École Spéciale d'Architecture: Institutional Partner - Scientific Committee

Founded in 1865, the École Spéciale d'Architecture de Paris is a higher education and research association recognized as a public utility since 1870 and by the state since 1934. It has been a member of the Conférence des Grandes Écoles since 2010. As the oldest architecture school in France, it offers an international and transdisciplinary education in architecture and urban planning with master's specializations in the major areas of sustainable design: Territorialization, Reconstruction, and Experimentation.

[www.esa-paris.fr](http://www.esa-paris.fr)



## Faculty of Architecture, University of Ljubljana: Institutional Partner - Scientific Committee

The Faculty of Architecture at the University of Ljubljana is considered one of the best architecture schools in Central Europe. Its status is evidenced by numerous students and graduates achieving desirable results in Slovenia and abroad, as well as by a high-quality teaching staff effectively covering the most modern aspects of architectural creation.

[www.uni-lj.si](http://www.uni-lj.si)



## Mimar Sinan Fine Arts University: Institutional Partner - Scientific Committee

Mimar Sinan Fine Arts University was established in 1882 in Istanbul, Turkey, by its founding director, Osman Hamdi Bey, an archaeologist, painter, and art historian. It is one of the oldest and most reputable universities in Turkey in the field of architecture and fine arts education. Today, the university comprises three faculties: the Faculty of Architecture, the Faculty of Fine Arts, and the Faculty of Sciences and Letters. It also includes the Istanbul State Conservatory, vocational schools, several institutes, and research centers. Mimar Sinan Fine Arts University in Turkey plays an important role in the field of architecture, art, and culture in Turkey, with its mission of sensitivity to the values of cultural and natural heritage, focusing on interdisciplinary research, innovation, and critical thinking in education.

[www.msgsu.edu.tr](http://www.msgsu.edu.tr)



## GRAITEC - Private Partner

GRAITEC is dedicated to assisting construction and manufacturing professionals in their digital transformation journey of advanced BIM by providing Industry 4.0 software solutions and consultancy services. With a global presence spanning thirteen countries, GRAITEC is honored to hold the esteemed status of Autodesk Platinum Partner across Europe, Canada, and the United States.

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## Cité de l'Architecture et du Patrimoine - Institutional Partner

Inaugurated in 2007 at the Palais de Chaillot and heir to a long history of heritage and architecture valorization, Cité de l'Architecture et du Patrimoine's mission is to raise awareness, disseminate and teach architecture and urban planning in its contemporary and heritage dimensions. As both a museum, an observatory of architectural creation, an archive center, the largest library in Europe dedicated to contemporary architecture, and a training center for urban planners and heritage architects, Cité de l'Architecture et du Patrimoine builds its projects on the intersection of all dimensions of architecture, understood in a broad and generous sense, in both history and the present.

[www.citedelarchitecture.fr](http://www.citedelarchitecture.fr)



## ArchiTangle - Editorial Partner

ArchiTangle is an independent publishing house based in Berlin, specializing in knowledge transfer and socially relevant projects. Founded in 2019, ArchiTangle's program covers the entire spectrum of architecture and aims to preserve the exchange of architectural knowledge through publications and digital services.

[www.architangle.com](http://www.architangle.com)





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**S2H**  
COMMUNICATION

**S2H Press Contacts**

S2H Communication

Sarah Hamon - [sarah@s2hcommunication.com](mailto:sarah@s2hcommunication.com)

Natalie Tomaselli - [natalie@s2hcommunication.com](mailto:natalie@s2hcommunication.com)

[www.globalawardforsustainablearchitecture.com](http://www.globalawardforsustainablearchitecture.com)



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