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One year to Rio: UIA2021RIO YouTube channel and UIA President's Declaration

To mark the one-year countdown to the 27th UIA World Congress of Architects, Rio de Janeiro, 18-22 July 2021, UIA2021RIO are broadcasting a series of short reflexions from various keynote speakers and others on their YouTube channel. The line-up includes Aga Khan prize-winner Francis Kéré (Burkina Faso); architect and urban planner specialising in space and gender, Zaida Muxi Martinez (Argentina); and President of the International Council of Portuguese-speaking Architects (CIALP), Rui Leão.

In his declaration, UIA President Thomas Vonier promises that "when you come to Rio, a year from now, you will find one of the greatest architecture events you will ever experience". Watch the full declaration.

Sign up to the UIA2021RIO YouTube channel



UNESCO-UIA World Capital of Architecture: Rio de Janeiro

For the UNESCO-UIA World Capital of Architecture Programme, this year hosted by Rio de Janeiro (Brazil), the city organises a series of exhibitions, conferences, festivals and other events, all centred around the theme of the challenges and triumphs of our cities. Due to the current sanitary situation, the Prefeitura de Rio is adapting its programme to allow for the WCA to continue in an online context. To this end, the Prefeitura has launched a new column called "Foresights", which features architects and other experts providing insights into the future of architecture, design, cities, heritage and culture.

Find out more



140th session of the UIA Council

The UIA Council met online on 23 July for its 140th session. Participants discussed plans for the two upcoming UIA World Congresses, Rio de Janeiro 2021 (Brazil) and Copenhagen 2023 (Denmark); the UNESCO-UIA World Capital of Architecture; and the UIA International Forum in Madrid. The Council also discussed the role of architects during the ongoing global health crisis.





UIA Interviews Hoang Thuc Hao, 2017 winner of the UIA Vassilis Sgoutas Prize

On 1 July, the UIA published an interview with Hoang Thuc Hao, winner of the 2017 Vassilis Sqoutas Prize for Implemented Architecture Serving the Impoverished. The architect has long been recognised in his native Vietnam for his commitment to vernacular architecture in rural communities. Born in Hanoi on 2 May 1971, Hoang went on to study Civil Engineering at Vietnam's National University, where he continues to lecture on sustainable architecture, and the Polytechnic University of Turin in Italy. His innovative work in marginalised, rural communities has earned him international recognition.

Read the interview

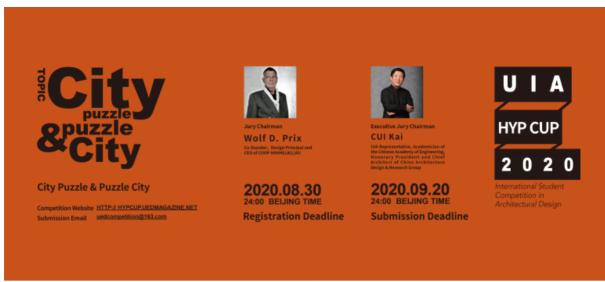


New UIA Committee for International Women in Architecture

The UIA Council has approved a new UIA Committee for "International Women in Architecture". This Committee, led by UIA Council Member Istelianna Atanassova (Bulgaria), will be made up of the four other women on the UIA Council: Natalie Mossin (Denmark), Rim Safar Sakkal (Bolivia), Pei Ing Tan (Malaysia) and Jacinta Kabarungi (Uganda). With the aim of addressing the ongoing debate on gender imbalance within the architecture sector, the group will highlight the work of women architects throughout the world, celebrate female talent and leadership, and support and promote women's involvement in national and international organisations.

Find out more

COMPETITIONS AND PRIZES ▼



UIA-HYP Cup

Architecture students around the world are invited to register before 30 August 2020 for this annual student competition, for which this year's theme is "City Puzzle and Puzzle City". Jury chair Wolf D. Prix (Austria) has invited students to reflect on the "increasingly alienating nature" of cities, in whose "density one finds 'space' but no sense of 'place'." City-dwellers, observe Prix, "constantly arrive 'anywhere', but not 'somewhere". Student participants will compete to design mixed-use buildings, integrating 30% green space, for 2,000 - 8,000 people for four squared plots, each plot measuring 200 meters by 200 meters. The jury meeting will take place on 14 October 2020.

Find out more

WORKING BODIES ▼



Urban Thinkers Campus Webinar: UIA Sustainable Development Goals Commission

As a partner of UN-Habitat, initiators of the Urban Thinkers Campus, the UIA organised a webinar on 11 July 2020, attracting 360 participants. Led by UIA SDG Commission co-director, Ishtiaque Zahir Titas, the 5 panelists explored architects' role in adapting cities for greater resilience in pandemic situations. The speakers were Natalie Mossin, Head of KADK and co-director of the UIA SDG Commission (Denmark); Yves Monnot, member of the UIA SDG Commission (France), Joel Chan, member of the UIA SDG Commission (Hong Kong); Cid Blanco, member of the UIA SDG Commission (Brazil); and Kevin Bingham, member of the UIA SDG Commission (South Africa). Download the webinar report.

Watch again



UIA Working Bodies: The Road to Rio

This month we're spotlighting the <u>UIA Architecture & Children Work Programme</u>, that helps architects and teachers educate young people about architecture and sustainable built environments. The flagship initiative of this Work Programme is the Golden Cubes Award, currently in its 4th edition. Submissions for the Award are now closed and the award ceremony will take place at the UIA Congress in Rio de Janeiro, 18-22 July 2021.

For UIA2021RIO, Architecture & Children will be leading architectural education workshops with children and an exhibition of the results of this year's Golden Cubes Awards.

Read Architecture & Children activity report

MEMBER SECTIONS ▼



New president of the Ordem dos Arquitectos Portugal

Architect Gonçalo Byrne was elected president of the Portuguese Order of Architects (OA). Born in 1941 in Alcobaça, Byrne studied at the Faculty of Fine Arts of the University of Lisbon and possesses honorary degrees from the Faculty of Architecture of the Technical University of Lisbon and from the University of Alghero in Italy. He has also taught at several international universities, such as Harvard (United States), Milan and Venice, both in Italy, and Pamplona (Spain). Director of Jornal Arquitetos from 1985 to 1987, he founded Gonçalo Byrne Arquitetos in 1992. He succeeds architect José Manuel Pedreirinho.



New president of the Federation of Institutes of Korean Architects (FIKA)

Architect Je Yu Park, Managing Director of JU Architects & Planners and President of the Korean Institute of Architects (KIA), has been inaugurated as President of the Federation of Institutes of Korean Architects (FIKA), the Korean section of the UIA. Je Yu Park has a degree in Architectural Engineering from Hanyang University and a Masters in Architecture from the University of California (Berkeley). He succeeds Chul Hee Kang.





Headquarters of the Colegio de Arquitectos de Chile, Santiago

New Member: Colegio de Arquitectos de Chile

The Colegio de Arquitectos de Chile has rejoined the UIA following approval of its membership by the Council Session held on 23 July 2020. This UIA Member Section is led by Humberto Eliash Diaz. Speaking during the Council Session, UIA President Thomas Vonier expressed great pleasure in the return of this Region III section.

Find out more



AAB Executive Committee

New Member: Architects Association of Botswana (AAB)

The UIA welcomes the Architects Association of Botswana (AAB) as a new Member Section in Region V. The President of the Architects Association of Botswana (AAB) is Ms Gorata B. Kgafela. In recent years, AAB has made significant strides in promoting architectural education in Botswana. The association strives to improve continuing professional development and to act as an advocate for Botswanan architecture.

Find out more

The International Union of Architects (UIA) is an international non-governmental organisation based in Paris. Established in 1948, it is the only organisation representing architects across the globe working to unify architects, influence public policies on construction and development, and advance architecture in service to the needs of society.



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33, avenue du Maine 75755 PARIS FR