



WORLD ARCHITECTURE DAY 2020 ▼



WORLD ARCHITECTURE DAY 2020: TOWARD A BETTER URBAN FUTURE

The UIA is pleased to announce the theme of **World Architecture Day 2020 (Monday, 5 October 2020)**: “Toward a better urban future.” Just as it is reshaping social customs and spaces all across the world, the global pandemic is revealing once again how crises affect the poorest and most vulnerable populations disproportionately. Urban planning, design, and architecture are critical to a better urban future for all.

The UIA and its member countries will mobilise on **5 October 2020** to show how urban design and architecture can make our communities strong, safe, equitable, and affordable

For the occasion, the UIA is organising a webinar composed of panel discussions on the theme.

Read the [President's declaration](#)

UIA2021RIO CONGRESS ▼



UIA PRESIDENT THOMAS VONIER INTERVIEWS UNESCO ASSISTANT DIRECTOR GENERAL FOR CULTURE ERNESTO OTTONE

To mark the one-year countdown to the UIA World Congress (18-22 July 2021, Rio de Janeiro), UIA President Thomas Vonier interviewed UNESCO Assistant Director-General for Culture, Ernesto Ottone Ramirez. During the interview, Ottone spoke of the impact of the pandemic on the culture sector, informing that 77% of World Heritage sites are closed and 13% of the world's cultural institutions are unlikely to ever reopen after the pandemic. Thomas Vonier highlighted the need for architects and urban planners to give consideration to how to adapt spaces for continued use during pandemics.

[Watch the interview](#)

UIA GOLD MEDAL & PRIZES ▼



Hoang Thuc Hao (left) & house in Jackfruit village, Son Tay town, Hanoi, Vietnam (2019)

INTERVIEW WITH HOANG THUC HAO, WINNER OF THE 2017 VASSILIS SGOUTAS PRIZE FOR IMPLEMENTED ARCHITECTURE SERVING THE IMPOVERISHED

This past summer, the UIA Secretariat spoke with 2017 Vassilis Sgoutas Prize laureate, Vietnamese architect **Hoang Thuc Hao**. Hoang's commitment to vernacular architecture in rural communities has earned him international acclaim. Hoang describes his guiding philosophy as "Happiness architecture $1+1 > 2$ ", an equation combining architecture and core vernacular values to generate a **common voice greater than the sum of its parts.**"

UIA Member Sections & elected officials may upload nominations for the 2021 UIA Gold Medal and Prizes on the [UIA Prizes Platform](#).

[See interview with Hoang Thuc Hao.](#)

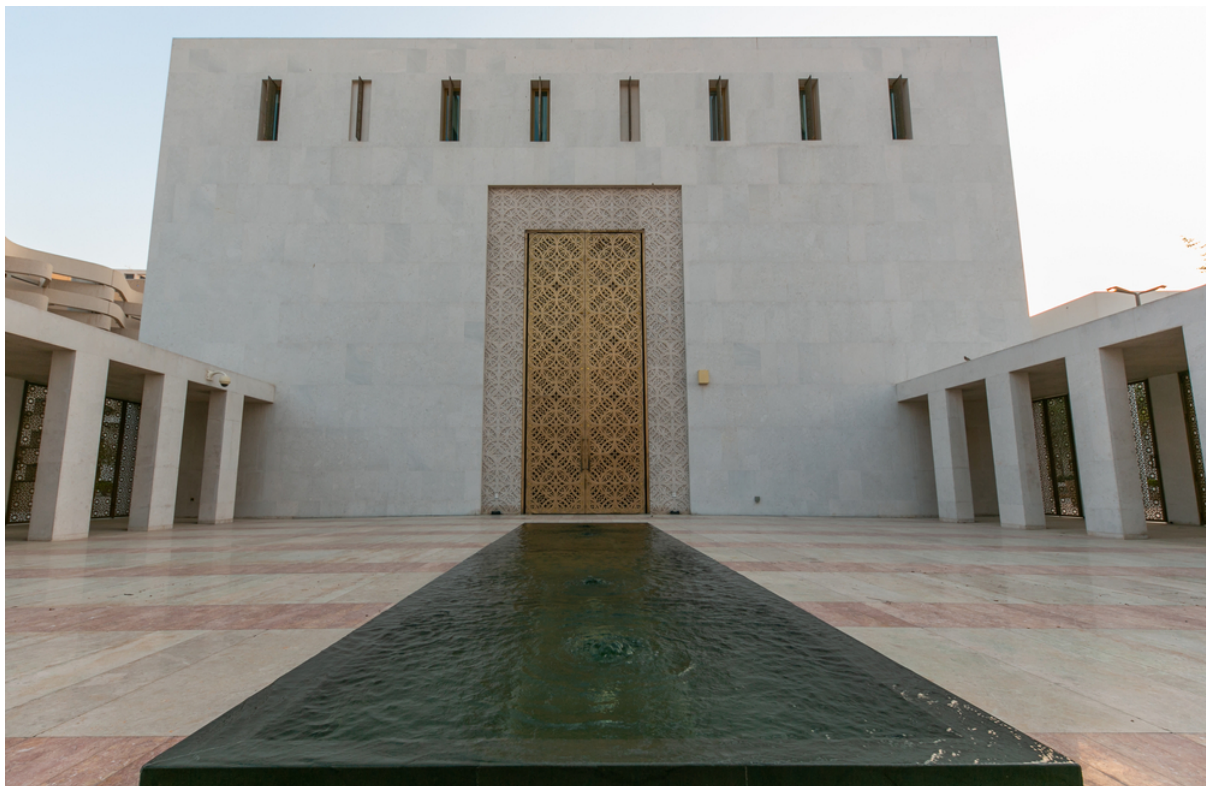
[For more information on the 2021 UIA Gold Medal and Prizes](#)

COMPETITIONS & PRIZES ▼

INTERNATIONAL VELUX AWARD 2020: REGIONAL RESULTS

Organised around the theme, "**Light of Tomorrow**", the International VELUX Award asks students of architecture to explore how we use sunlight and daylight for energy and light in our daily lives and in the built environment specifically. The jury for the 2020 International VELUX Award, composed of **Odile Decq** (France), **Nóra Demeter** (Hungary), **Sebastián Adamo** (AR), **Juri Troy** (AT) and **Martin Pors** from VELUX A/S (Denmark) met virtually on **6, 7 and 8 July 2020**. UIA Representative Nóra Demeter was elected Chair. Over the course of 3 days, the jury evaluated 579 projects from 250 different schools of architecture in 60 countries.

[Find out more](#)



Juma Mosque in Doha, Qatar, John McAslan and Partners, 2017 winner of the Abdullatif Al Fozan Award

ABDULLATIF AL-FOZAN AWARD FOR MOSQUE ARCHITECTURE: 3RD CYCLE

Due to the ongoing COVID-19 health emergency, the executive committee of the **Abdullatif Al-Fozan Award for Mosque Architecture** has decided to postpone the ceremony for their **Third Cycle**, open only to submissions from Islamic countries, to March 2021. The ceremony was originally planned for March 2020.

[Find out more](#)

UIA WORKING BODIES ▼



THE UIA AWARD FOR INNOVATION IN ARCHITECTURAL EDUCATION: SUBMISSION DEADLINE APPROACHING

The submission deadline for the UIA Award for Innovation in Architectural Education, organised by the UIA's own Education Commission is fast approaching on **20 October**. There is still time for innovative architectural school programmes with a focus on fostering the development of sustainable environments to apply on the [UIA Prizes Platform](#).

Questions may be addressed to the [prize organisers](#).



Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Riyadh, Saudi Arabia, architect Henning Larson (1984)

THE ROAD TO RIO: SPOTLIGHT ON THE UIA INTERNATIONAL COMPETITIONS COMMISSION

This month, we're spotlighting the UIA International Competitions Commission. This Commission acts as an advisory body for architectural competitions. It is the sole entity mandated by UNESCO to oversee the application of the UNESCO-UIA regulations for International Competitions. These Regulations outline best practices for design competitions, with a particular emphasis on **transparency, fairness, equality, design quality** and **innovation**.

See more on the [ICC website](#)

Read the [UIA ICC activity report](#)

UIA MEMBER SECTIONS ▼



SINGAPORE: ARCHIFEST 2020 VIRTUAL CONFERENCE

From **28 to 30 September**, Archifest Singapore, organised annually by the **Singapore Institute of Architects (SIA)**, will take place as an innovative virtual conference entitled **Architecture Saving OUR World**. Speakers from all over the world will apply their diverse expertise to the following 3 themes: "Radical Indigenism", "Design Empowerment" & "Empathic Interventions". The Festival Director is Dr. CHONG Keng Hua, Singapore University of Technology and Design.

[For more information and to register](#)

ESTONIA: TALLINN ARCHITECTURE BIENNALE 2022

The 6th International Tallinn Architecture Biennale 2022 (TAB 2022) organized by the **Estonian Centre for Architecture** in partnership with the **Estonian Ministry of Culture** and the **Estonian Association of Architects (EAA)** will take place from September to November 2022 with the theme, "Edible. Or, the Architecture of Metabolism" Architects Lydia Kallipoliti and Areti Markopoulou in collaboration with Ivan Sergejev have been selected to curate this edition.

[For more information](#)



LUXEMBOURG: BAUHÄREPRÄIS 6TH EDITION

UIA Luxembourg Member Section, **Ordre des Architectes et des Ingenieurs-Conseils (OAI)**, is celebrating its 30th anniversary on Monday, 21 September at Luxembourg's Philharmonic. Festivities fall during the 6th edition of the OAI's **Bauhärepräis 2020**, an annual prize for realized high quality architectural, urban planning or landscape architecture projects in the public or private sectors. From 7 July through 5 October, the event includes a Pop-up Expo of the 257 submissions held at the Hôtel des Postes at 25 rue Aldringen in Luxembourg.

[Find out more](#)

NEW ZEALAND & IRELAND: 'A SENSE OF PLACE'

The Royal Institute of the Architects of Ireland (RIAI) and **Te Kāhui Whaihanga New Zealand Institute of Architects** have teamed up for a series of webinars on the theme 'A Sense of Place'. The first discussion, lasting 1.5 hours, on 17 September, will be about public housing projects which have created a sense of place for their communities. It will be a breakfast webinar in Ireland (9-10.30am) and an evening webinar in New Zealand (8-9.30pm). Several architecture practices will speak for around 15 minutes each.

[More information and to register](#)

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.



UIA - INTERNATIONAL UNION OF ARCHITECTS

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