

THE ROYAL ACADEMY OF ARTS ANNOUNCES ITSUKO HASEGAWA AS THE WINNER OF THE FIRST ROYAL ACADEMY ARCHITECTURE PRIZE AND THE SHORTLIST FOR THE RA DORFMAN AWARD

The Royal Academy of Arts today announced that **Itsuko Hasegawa** has been awarded the **2018 Royal Academy Architecture Prize**, honouring her inspiring and enduring contribution to the culture of architecture.

The first in the annual awards, supported by the Dorfman Foundation, forms part of the RA's increased commitment to architecture and was decided by a distinguished international jury, chaired by the architect and Royal Academician Louisa Hutton. Jury members included architect Richard Rogers RA, Dean of Harvard Graduate School of Design Mohsen Mostafavi, BBC broadcaster Razia Iqbal, artist Conrad Shawcross RA and critic and curator Joseph Grima.

Described by the judging panel as 'one of Japan's most important architects', Hasegawa has largely been under recognised despite her significant contribution to modern architecture, both in Japan and around the world. She began her career working with Japan's Metabolist group of architects including Kisho Kurokawa, Fumihiko Maki and Kenzo Tange, who fused ideas about architectural megastructures with those of organic biological growth. She later went on to work with Kazuo Shinohara, whose work is linked to traditional Japanese architecture. These two very different influences have led to a lifetime of work.

Hasegawa's buildings feature a lightness of touch, using simple materials and dynamic forms. She founded her practice in 1979, and after earning notoriety when she won the competition to design the Shonandai Cultural Centre in Fujisawa, Hasegawa was then commissioned to do a large number of projects across Japan including the Sumida Culture Factory, the Yamanashi Museum of Fruit, and the Fukuroi Workshop Centre.

The jury are also pleased to share the shortlist for the first **RA Dorfman Award**, which champions global talent that represents the future of architecture. The shortlist of five architects includes:

- *Arquitectura Expandida (Colombia)*
- Go Hasegawa, Founder, Go Hasegawa and Associates (*Japan*)
- Anne Holtrop, Founder, Studio Anne Holtrop (*The Netherlands and Bahrain*)
- Rahel Shawl, Founder, RAAS Architects (*Ethiopia*)
- Alireza Taghaboni, Founder, nextoffice (*Iran*)

The RA will host a week-long public celebration from 2 – 8 July 2018, which will include the selection of the winner of the Royal Academy Dorfman Award following a public presentation, as well as an address by Itsuko Hasegawa, the winner of the Royal Academy Architecture Prize. Collectively the awards demonstrate the RA's role as a global advocate for architecture, realising the RA's mission to garner a wider appreciation and understanding of architecture's vital relationship to culture and society. As part

of its transformational redevelopment in 2018, the RA will launch a new Architecture Studio in the restored Dorfman Senate Rooms in Burlington Gardens on 19 May, as well as staging Honorary Royal Academician *Renzo Piano* (15 September 2018 – 20 January 2019) as the inaugural annual architecture exhibition in the new Gabrielle Jungels Winkler Galleries.

Louisa Hutton RA, chair of the jury, said: 'What I find most interesting about the architecture of Itsuko Hasegawa is the spirit of invention. Her buildings exude an optimism that could be interpreted as utopianism. Hasegawa seems to be speculating how one can change the world through architecture in employing the skills of the discipline - by designing and making buildings - in the service of society. As a jury we were unanimous in our decision, all agreeing that Hasegawa is an architect of great talent who has been under recognised. Through this prize we hope to bring her the much-needed recognition she deserves.

During the process of deciding the shortlist for the RA Dorfman Award, the jury discussed what architecture means and what it can bring to people, how it has the power to effect change to societies and what it means for the Royal Academy to be awarding this prize. The five shortlistees represent architects from all over the world who are operating within very different cultural and economic contexts'.

Lloyd Dorfman, Trustee of the Royal Academy Development Trust, entrepreneur and philanthropist, said: 'The announcement of the winner of the first annual Royal Academy Architecture Prize is a momentous occasion for the architectural profession. The winner reflects and heightens the RA's role as a global advocate of architecture.

The Dorfman Award recognises the best in architecture, highlighting emerging talent around the world. I am delighted the shortlist includes architects from Columbia, Ethiopia, Iran, Japan and The Netherlands. This truly eclectic range of talent represents the future of architecture. I look forward to the jury's decision in July at an event which will broaden the public's understanding of architecture and hopefully inspire the profession.'

Kate Goodwin, Head of Architecture and Drue Heinz Curator, Royal Academy of Arts, said: 'These new awards celebrate imaginative architecture that lifts the human spirit and the work of Itsuko Hasegawa certainly does so. We are thrilled with the jury's selection of both the Royal Academy Architecture Prize winner and the shortlist for the RA Dorfman Award from the list of nominations gathered from Royal Academicians and architectural figures worldwide. Together they open both the public and the profession's eyes to the exceptional work of less widely recognised architects.

Architecture has been a core element of the Royal Academy of Arts since its foundation in 1768, and these awards, coupled with the reinvigorated Architecture Programme and our new spaces offer, place the RA back at the heart of a global discourse on architecture and the key role it plays in our society'.

Notes to Editors

About Itsuko Hasegawa

After graduating from the Department of Architecture at Kanto Gakuin University, Itsuko Hasegawa became a research student in the Department of Architecture at Tokyo Institute of Technology. In 1979 she established Itsuko Hasegawa Atelier. Her projects include a variety of houses and public buildings. Hasegawa earned notoriety when she won first prize in the open competition to design the Shonandai

Cultural Centre in Fujisawa. She was then commissioned to do a large number of projects across Japan including the Sumida Culture Factory, the Yamanashi Museum of Fruit, and the Fukuroi Workshop Centre. In 1986 she received the Design Prize from the Architectural Institute of Japan for her Bizan Hall project. Her residential projects also earned a Japan Cultural Design Award. In 1997 she was elected as an Honorary Fellow of the RIBA, in 2000 she received the Japan Art Academy Award, in 2001 she received the Honorary Degree Award at University College London and in 2006 she was elected as one of the Honorary Fellows of the AIA. www.ihasegawa.com/

About the shortlist for the RA Dorfman Award

Arquitectura Expandida

Arquitectura Expandida (AXP) is a design collective based in Bogota, Colombia that builds structures of public assembly for communities which cannot afford to go through official channels for design and construction. Founded by Ana Lopez Ortego, Harold Guyaux, Randy Orjuela, Marina Tejedor, and Felipe González, the collective was formed in 2010. The collective's actions and interventions seek to encourage citizens to actively take part in the transformation process of their streets, parks and neighbourhoods. These transformations aim to engage communities in the political, social, spatial and cultural management of their territories. The strategies and tactics deployed by AXP and the communities involved, come as a response to a diverse range of conflictive relationships, institutions, normative, bureaucracies, practices and scenarios. Then, urban conflicts and controversies turn into the sources and tools to articulate a critical discussion, reflection and, above all, action in the territory. AXP's endeavours are processes of creative resistance, and have ranged from tiny community cinemas and cultural spaces, to public spaces and sports facilities. In 2017, Arquitectura Expandida was shortlisted for the Curry Stone Design Prize – an award which honours socially impactful design professionals. arquitecturaexpandida.org/

Go Hasegawa

Go Hasegawa founded his firm Go Hasegawa and Associates in 2005, just three years after graduating from the Tokyo Institute of Technology. His debut project entitled *House in a Forest* involved a gabled attic space supported by struts beneath a gable roof aimed at creating a new spatial sensation. Since then he has gone on to design many houses which explore the merging of outdoor and indoor space. He has taught as a visiting professor at the Tokyo Institute of Technology, the Academy of Architecture of Mendrisio, Oslo School of Architecture and Design, the University of California, Los Angeles and the Harvard Graduate School of Design. In 2015, he received a PhD in Engineering from the Tokyo Institute of Technology. Hasegawa has exhibited at the TOTO Gallery MA in Tokyo, the 2012 Venice Biennale, the 2017 Chicago Biennale and the Canadian Centre for Architecture. His recent works are Yoshino Cedar House in collaboration with Airbnb which includes a community centre with traveller accommodation, and Chapel in Guastalla made of shin marble that gives new sense of materiality with its transparency. His new monograph has just been published from El Croquis. ghaa.co.jp/

Anne Holtrop

Studio Anne Holtrop was established in 2009 by Anne Holtrop and is based in Amsterdam and Murharraq, Bahrain. Holtrop previously trained as an engineer and subsequently worked as an assistant to the artist Krijn de Koning. Holtrop was editor of the architectural journal Oase from 2005-2013 and course director of the Studio for Immediate Spaces at the Sandbery Instituut Amsterdam from

2012-2016. He is currently Guest Professor at the Accademia di architettura in Mendrisio CH in Milan. Holtrop often talks about his work with an artist's sensibility, extracting form from existing, or apparently random, conditions. By looking freely at material gestures and found forms, the architecture can emerge as a clear set of steps and processes. The practice attempts to make architecture by removing the unnecessary until only the essentials remain, creating an architecture of reduction. The architecture created incorporates abstract and unexpected references with an exploration of the context. The work ranges from models to temporary spaces, exhibitions and buildings. His early temporary works acted as spatial investigations that have given way to more substantial projects for the small but global practice. Following the design for Bahrain's pavilion at the World EXPO2015 in Milan, the practice is now working on a number of projects in Bahrain such as the Sheikh Isa Bin Ali Al-Khalifa Museum, the restoration of the Qaysariya Suq and the adaptation and conservation of historic buildings in Muharraq. www.anneholtrop.nl/Index

Rahel Shawl

Rahel Shawl is founder and director of one of the leading architectural practices in Ethiopia as well as a role model, advisor and mentor for emerging architects. Born and educated in Ethiopia she co-founded Abba Architects in 1992, founded Raas Architects in 2004 and co-founded Equinox Property Developers in 2012. Her list of projects on local as well as international collaborative work is extensive. Under her leadership, she and her team of 16 at Raas Architects have worked on a wide range of projects including embassies, schools, health centres, offices, commercial, industrial and residential buildings. Rahel received the Aga Khan Award for Architecture in 2007 for her work as architect of record on the Royal Netherlands Embassy in Addis Ababa. She also received the AEA best Architecture Piece Award in 2017 for her collaborative work on the Embassy of South Africa in Addis Ababa and the Abyssinia Award for Social Engagement-Ethiopia in the fields of Architecture and Engineering. Rahel was also the first architect from sub-Saharan Africa to be awarded the Loeb Fellowship at the Harvard Graduate School of Design. Rahel was appointed as Honorary Good Will Ambassador for Zer Ethiopia in 2014 – an NGO promoting Young Ethiopian Girls in Education. www.raasarch.com

Alireza Taghaboni

Iranian architect and painter Alireza Taghaboni has been a practicing architect since 2004 and founded nextoffice in 2009. Based in Tehran, nextoffice aims to provide contemporary responses to traditional Iranian architecture, taking into account climatic conditions and the economic, political and socio-cultural context of the country and peculiarities of each project's site. The practice's ranges from detached single-family houses to residential, commercial and mixed-use large-scale complexes, to urban master plans. Over the past decade, the practice has won several Memar Awards - a prestigious national award for architecture in Iran that is held annually, becoming among the top winning practices of the country. Its Sharifi-ha house, which features rotating rooms that adapt to Iran's fluctuating lifestyles, and offers a critical response to building regulations and zoning by-laws, was shortlisted at the World Architecture Festival in 2014 and has been acknowledged internationally both in professional media and those with a more public audience. Taghaboni holds a PHD in Architecture and is a frequent contributor to Iranian architecture and urbanism magazines and periodicals. He is a faculty member and a partner at Centre for Contemporary Architecture, a private institution in Tehran that offers alternative architecture education for younger generations of Iranian architects, out of the formalized pedagogical frameworks of the country. www.nextoffice.ir

About the Jury

Louisa Hutton RA (Chair)

Louisa Hutton OBE RA is co-founder of Sauerbruch Hutton. With projects all over Europe the practice gained international renown for its early and comprehensive engagement with sustainability in architecture and urbanism. Sauerbruch Hutton were awarded the Erich Schelling Prize in 1998, the Fritz Schumacher Prize for Architecture in 2003, the International Honour Award for Sustainable Architecture in 2010, the Gottfried-Semper-Award in 2013 and the German Architecture Award 2015. Alongside running her practice, Hutton taught at the Architectural Association and was a visiting professor at Harvard Graduate School of Design. She is a member of the Curatorial Board of the Schelling Architecture Foundation, and was a Commissioner at CABE as well as a member of the first Steering Committee for Germany's Bundesstiftung Baukultur. Hutton was elected as a Royal Academician in 2014.

Richard Rogers RA

Richard Rogers RA is the founder of Rogers Stirk Harbour + Partners. He has designed numerous high-profile architecture projects including the Pompidou Centre in Paris (1977), Lloyds Building (1984), the European Court of Human Rights Building in Strasbourg (1995), the Millennium Dome (1999) and Cardiff's Senedd (2005). He has been recognised with a number of awards for his work including the RIBA Royal Gold Medal (1985), the Golden Lion for Lifetime Achievement at the Venice Biennale (2006) and the Pritzker Prize (2007). His work has also won the RIBA Stirling Prize twice - first for the Barajas Airport Terminal in 2006 and then again for a Maggie's Centre in London in 2009. He was elected as a Royal Academician in 1984. Rogers was Chairman of the Tate Gallery and Deputy Chairman of the Arts Council of Great Britain, and is currently an Honorary Trustee of MOMA in New York. He recently published his memoir 'A Place for All People' which documents his life, projects and ideas for a better society.

Razia Iqbal

Razia Iqbal is a BBC news presenter. She is currently one of the main presenters of *NewsHour* – BBC World Service's flagship daily current affairs programme - and also regularly presents *The World Tonight* on Radio 4. She has also presented a number of the institution's other shows including *Front Row*, *Woman's Hour*, and *Talking Books*. She was the BBC's arts correspondent for more than a decade, covering arts and culture for both radio and television news. In 2017, Iqbal was awarded a RIBA Honorary Fellowship for her work on Dream Builders – a series interviewing leading architects including the late Zaha Hadid RA, Norman Foster RA, Richard Rogers RA and David Adjaye RA.

Joseph Grima

Joseph Grima is the co-founder of experimental architecture and research studio Space Caviar which uses built work, exhibitions, publishing, writing and film to investigate and document contemporary models of habitation alongside social and political practice. He is the creative director of the Design Academy Eindhoven, and was curator of the inaugural Chicago Architecture Biennial (2015), the Biennale Interieur in Kortrijk, Belgium (2014), and the first Istanbul Design Biennial (2012).

Conrad Shawcross RA

Conrad Shawcross RA is a sculptor whose work explores subjects that lie on the borders of geometry, philosophy and physics. Recently Shawcross has developed the scale of his practice, accomplishing major projects in architectural spaces, such as St Pancras International Station, and his monumental architectural intervention *The Optic Cloak*, at the Greenwich Peninsula. Between 2009 and 2011 Shawcross was Artist in Residence at the Science Museum in London, and in 2012 he was one of three contemporary artists invited to create works inspired by Titan's masterpieces as part of a collaboration with the National Gallery and The Royal Opera House. His work has been exhibited across the world including solo exhibitions at The Palais de Tokyo, Pace Gallery in New York, the Careyes Foundation in Mexico and ARTMIA in Beijing.

Mohsen Mostafavi

Mohsen Mostafavi is Dean and the Alexander and Victoria Wiley Professor of Design at the Harvard University Graduate School of Design. An architect and educator, his work focuses on modes and processes of urbanization and on the interface between technology and aesthetics. Formerly the Gale and Ira Drukier Dean of the College of Architecture, Art and Planning at Cornell University, as well as Chairman of the Architectural Association School of Architecture in London, Mostafavi serves on the steering committee of the Aga Khan Award for Architecture, the Smith College Board of Trustees, and has served on the design committee of the London Development Agency (LDA) and the juries for the RIBA Gold Medal and the Mies van der Rohe Prize for Architecture. His books include *Ecological Urbanism* (co-edited 2010 and recently translated into Chinese, Portuguese, and Spanish), *Architecture is Life* (2013), *Nicholas Hawksmoor: The London Churches* (2015), *Portman's America & Other Speculations* (2017), and *Ethics of the Urban: The City and the Spaces of the Political* (2017).

Transforming the Royal Academy of Arts

The RA is undergoing a transformative redevelopment which will be completed in time for its 250th anniversary in 2018. Led by the internationally-acclaimed architect Sir David Chipperfield RA and supported by the National Lottery, the plans will link Burlington House on Piccadilly and Burlington Gardens for the first time, uniting the two-acre site. The redevelopment also includes the conservation of the façade of 6 Burlington Gardens, refurbished galleries for temporary exhibitions, the RA Collection and the RA Schools, new spaces for our Academic and Learning programmes and improved visitor facilities. For more information on the RA visit <https://www.royalacademy.org.uk/ra250#video>.

Architecture at the RA

Architecture has always been at the heart of the Royal Academy. From William Chambers, the RA's first Treasurer, to John Soane and Edwin Lutyens, to Zaha Hadid and Thomas Heatherwick, the Royal Academicians have comprised the leading architects of their generation. Architecture holds an important place in the RA Collection, with work gathered from Academicians since 1768 and architectural casts and books acquired for the teaching of students in the RA Schools. Architectural works have always featured in the Summer Exhibition and are now given a dedicated room, each year curated by a Royal Academician. Architecture has also been the subject of major exhibitions at the Royal Academy such as *New Architecture: Foster, Rogers, Stirling* (1986); *Living Bridges* (1996); *Richard Rogers: Inside Out* (2013) and *Sensing Spaces: Architecture Reimagined* (2014).

The Architecture Programme, which was made possible through the Drue Heinz Endowment for architecture in 1993, has grown to encompass a regular series of lectures, debates and symposia, new commissions and curated displays. The programme focuses on the intersection of architecture with the arts, aiming to deepen the public understanding of architecture and inspire the profession. In 2014 the RA launched the Architecture Patrons group to support Architecture at the RA, and for the past 3 years Turkishceramics have been the lead corporate supporters of the Architecture Programme.

There are currently 23 architect Academicians: David Adjaye, Will Alsop, Ron Arad, Gordon Benson, David Chipperfield, Peter Cook, Edward Cullinan, Trevor Dannatt, Spencer de Grey, Norman Foster, Piers Gough, Nicholas Grimshaw, Thomas Heatherwick, Louisa Hutton, Michael Hopkins, Eva Jiricna, Paul Koralek, Farshid Moussavi, Eric Parry, Ian Ritchie, Richard Rogers, Alan Stanton and Chris Wilkinson.

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