THE JURY

All the members of the Jury are women, outstanding professionals who have distinguished themselves in architecture and more generally in the promotion of socio-economic sustainable innovation, with a broad background of knowledge and expertise in promoting a new cultural map with which the work of the nominees is ideally consistent.

Shaikha Al Maskari

HE Dr. Shaikha Al Maskari is a successful businesswoman who uses her influence to champion greater roles for women throughout the Arab countries. HE Dr. Shaikha is Chairperson of Al Maskari Holding (AMH), the holding company of the Al Maskari portfolio that controls the family’s operating subsidiaries. HE Dr. Shaikha was recognized by Forbes Middle East in their 2015 list of 100 Most Powerful Arab Business Women. She has been conferred various awards, among which: by Zayed University, GL, Women Leaders in UAE & Awards 2015 “Arab Woman Humanitarian” and “Arab’s Most Influential Woman”; by the Federation of the GCC Chambers of Commerce & Industry “Excellence In Business and Contribution In Economic Empowerment of Emirati Women” Award, 2015; by the WWLCA “Women Leadership Achievement Award 2015”. She serves on several Boards of nonprofit organizations, among which: Arab International Women’s Forum (AIWF) and Women For Sustainable Growth (W4SG). HE Dr. Shaikha also launched many humanitarian initiatives. She founded the Global Institute of Justice & Technology and the Global Paramedic & Rescue Academy. Both have trained hundreds of UAE Ministry of Interior personnel in advanced police sciences, security, and emergency medical services and have won numerous awards. In 1993, she set up her family charity, United Mercy Foundation (presently operated underneath her family foundation), which sponsors orphans and orphanages, provides food, medical and emergency relief especially in crisis zones, in the Middle East, Africa, and Asia. In 2003 she cofounded the Diyarbakir Microcredit Project in Turkey, which has since successfully launched over 70,000 entrepreneurs.

Vera Baboun

Vera Baboun, born in October 6th, 1964, mother of five children and wife of martyr Hanna Ibrahim Baboun (2007), was elected President of the Bethlehem Municipal Council in October 2012, to be the first woman to occupy the post of Mayor of Bethlehem since its inception. She holds a master degree in American Ethnic Literature, and is a candidate for a doctorate degree in the same faculty. Prior to her election, Mayor Baboun worked as a lecturer at Bethlehem University – Department of English Language and Literature for 21 years in addition to lecturing Gender and Development Master Students for 6 years, the Dean of Student Affairs at the university for many years and the General Director for the Greek Catholic School in Beit Sahour. She holds the position of Secretary-General of the Association of the Palestinian Local Authorities APLA, Vice President of Global Coordination of Local Authorities in the Mediterranean CIELM, member of the Joint Council for the Arab-South American Relations. She is Chairperson of the Board of the Guidance and Training Center for Child and Family GTC in Bethlehem and Chairperson of the Bethlehem Joint Service Council for Solid Waste Management and a member of the Presidential Supreme Committee for the churches affairs in Palestine. Mayor Baboun is an authorized researcher in the network GRACE for gender research for women’s empowerment in the Middle East through the use of information technology. One of the publications of GRACE is a book that enfolds 27 researches for women writers from Africa and the Middle East; Mayor Baboun is the Palestinian contributing with her research titled: “Schéherazades of Today: Young Palestinian women use film, radio and social networking platforms to speak up and change”. Plus the article “Edward Said: A Mentor Who Mastered Speaking Truth to Power” Mayor Baboun received different awards “Pompio Sarnelli for Peace”, the title and the insignia of the “Star of the Knights of Italy”, the Medal of high uniqueness of the City of Paris, and another certificate from His most eminent highness the prince and grand master and the sovereign of the order, in December 2015 who granted to Mayor Baboun the Cross With Crown “Pro Merito Melitensi” of the Sovereign Order of Malta.
Odile Decq

Odile Decq set up her own office just after graduating from La Villette in 1978 while studying from Sciences Politiques in Paris where she completed a postgraduate diploma in Urban Planning in 1979. International renown came quickly; as early as 1990 she won her first major commission: the Banque Populaire de l’Ouest in Rennes recognized by numerous prizes and publications. By questioning the commission, the use, the matter, the body, the technique and the taste Odile Decq’s architecture offers a paradoxical look, both tender and severe on today’s world. She was awarded with a Golden Lion in Venice in 1996. Since then, Odile Decq has been faithful to her fighting attitude while diversifying and radicalizing her research. She completed the MACRO (Museum for Contemporary Art in Rome) in 2010, the Opera Garnier’s restaurant in Paris in 2011, the FRAC (Museum of Contemporary Art in Rennes) in 2012, the GL Events headquarters in Lyon in 2014, the Saint-Ange Residence in France and the Tangshan Fangshan National Geopark Museum in China in 2015. But more than the realization of the Studio Odile Decq, more than a style, an attitude or a process of production, Odile Decq’s work is a complete universe, including urban planning, architecture, design products and art. A versatility that is awarded with the title of “Designer of the Year Maison&Objet” and the Woman in Architecture Prize “Prix Femme Architecte” in 2013. She has just been awarded with the Jane Drew Prize in 2016. Since a long time involved in teaching, she has created and launched her own School of Architecture in 2014 in Lyon, the Confluence Institute for Innovation and Creative Strategies in Architecture.

Yvonne Farrell

Yvonne Farrell, together with Shelley McNamara, is a founder of Grafton Architects – their office, which opened in Dublin in 1977. They are Fellows of the Royal Institute of the Architects of Ireland and International Honorary Fellows of the RIBA. They achieved international fame with the design and construction of the spectacular new building for Bocconi University in Milan, completed in 2008. Their practice began with experimenting with a sophisticated take on European modernism moving toward high-profile public buildings (the Solsticio Art Center, Navan 2006; the Office of Public Works, Dublin 2008). They have received many awards for their work (Building of the Year 2008, for the new Bocconi University Building), as well as the Leone d’Argento at the Venice Architecture Biennale in 2012. Yvonne Farrell and Shelley McNamara are Professors in the Accademia di Architettura in Mendrisio and Adjunct Professors in University College Dublin. They have been Visiting Professors in Yale and the Harvard Graduate School of Design. Current work includes IMT University, Paris/Saclay; New City Library, Dublin and the recently inaugurated UTEC University Campus in Lima, Peru.

Daniela Hamauvi

Born in Cairo on November 21st, 1954, Italian nationality. Graduated in 1979 in Modern Letters from the Università degli Studi, Milan with 110 out of 110. Attended the first two-year IFG (Institute for Journalism) program, run by the Order and Region of Lombardy, beginning in 1978. Collaborated with Makno and Consuledis and with Repubblica. Joined Rizzoli in March of 1980. Collaborated with the cultural supplement of Corriere della Sera, and also with the Sunday edition of Sole 24ore. Joined Mondadori’s monthly Cento Cose in 1998, where she became director in 1995. In 1996 Repubblica asked her to develop and direct D, a women’s weekly attachment to the paper. She stayed there until February of 2002, creating Dcase and the Album di Repubblica. In 2002 Carlo Caracciolo and Carlo De Benedetti nominated her, the first woman in Italy, as director of l’Espresso, the most important Italian news magazine. In July, 2010 she left l’Espresso and became editorial director of Repubblica periodicals. In 2011, in addition to editorial direction of the periodicals, she directed Velvet, and D by Repubblica in 2012, which transformed in March of 2013. In 2014 she created the biannual inserts Dlui and Dbeauty, and created the D website. She is active on Facebook, Twitter, Linkedin and Instagram. In 1999 she won the Minerva d’oro and in 2004 the Bellisario prize. In November, 2015 she left the group to become freelance.
Louisa Hutton
Louisa Hutton OBE, RA, BA (Hons), AA Dipl., RIBA, Hon. FAIA. Louisa Hutton is an architect and founding partner of Sauerbruch Hutton. She was a visiting professor at Harvard Graduate School of Design. She previously taught at the Architectural Association in London and was external examiner at various universities in the UK. She is a member of the Curatorial Board of the Schelling Architecture Foundation, and was a Commissioner at CABE and a member of the Steering Committee for the Germany’s Federal Foundation for Baukultur. Louisa is a Honorary Fellow of the American Institute of Architects and a Royal Academician of Arts. Louisa Hutton and Matthias Sauerbruch received the Erich Schelling Prize for Architecture in 1998 and the Fritz Schumacher Prize for Architecture in 2003, the International Honor Award for Sustainable Architecture in 2010 and the Gottfried-Semper-Architekturpreis 2013. For the Immanuel Church in Cologne Sauerbruch Hutton was awarded the national German Architecture Award 2015. Sauerbruch Hutton currently has projects under construction in various European countries, among which the M9 Museum for the 20th Century in Venice-Mestre.

Suhasini Mani Ratnam
Suhasini Mani Ratnam, commonly known as Suhasini, is an award winning South Indian actress. Born in Chennai city of Tamil Nadu, Suhasini graduated from the Madras Film Institute, being the first girl ever to do so. A multi-talented person and an all-rounder in the film arena, Suhasini proudly dons the cap of an ace actor, director, cinematographer, TV show hostess, producer as well as writer. In 2014 she has debuted as a classical dancer with her dance drama ANTARAM and with 3 other classical dancers she performed more than 8 shows all over India and Middle East. “I will be a leader, not in politics but movements that involve society, conservation, women and arts” says the actress, who has been part of the film industry for over 34 years. She made her film debut in 1980 and since then she has won the most important state and national awards as Best Actress. Suhasini Mani Ratnam has been involved in community service for decades: Action Aid, for which she has done a film on the empowerment of women; the Ability Foundation; the Mukti NGO, which distributes artificial limbs and BANYAN that takes care of mentally retarded women. In 2010 together with her husband Mani Ratnam, a best-known Indian film director, screenwriter and producer, Suhasini formed the NAAM Foundation to empower underprivileged single women in Chennai through mentorship and holistic support. Recently she has been appointed as the Honorary Consul for Luxembourg from South India and she has partnered with Bhoomika Foundation during the flood and deluge in Chennai and reached relief materials and food packets to more than 10,000 families. Her foundation has adopted a hamlet called Suryanagar to help them rehabilitate and relocate after the floods in Chennai.

Samia Nkrumah
Samia Nkrumah, President of the Kwame Nkrumah Panafrican Center, is a Ghanaian politician and Chairwoman of the Convention People’s Party, the first female to chair a political party in Ghana. She is the daughter of Ghana’s first president, Kwame Nkrumah, and his Egyptian wife Fathia Rizk. She is one of the founders of Africa Must Unite, which aims to promote Kwame Nkrumah’s vision and political culture. In an article entitled “The new Mandela is a woman”, the prestigious Huffington Post analyzes her impact on Ghanaian and African politics. She is a member of the International Board of the “Women in Diplomacy” Committee, established in May 2013 at the Italian Ministry for Foreign Affairs and Chaired by the then Minister Emma Bonino, to further promote the role of women at international level. Samia Nkrumah is married to Michele Melega, an Italian-Danish man. Samia and Michele have a son, Kwame Thomas Melega.
Benedetta Tagliabue

Benedetta Tagliabue studied architecture at the Istituto di Architettura di Venezia (IUAV) and currently acts as director of the international architecture firm Miralles Tagliabue EMBT, founded in 1994 in collaboration with Enric Miralles, based in Barcelona and, since 2010, in Shanghai. Among her most notable projects built are the Edinburgh Parliament, Diagonal Mar Park, the Santa Caterina Market in Barcelona, Campus Universitario de Vigo, and the Spanish Pavilion at the 2010 Shanghai World Expo which was awarded the prestigious RIBA “Best International Building of 2011” award. Current studio projects include The Business School of Fudan University in Shanghai, office towers in Taiwan and Taichung, public spaces of HafenCity in Hamburg, Germany, and the metro station Clichy-Montfermeil in Paris, France (1st prize in competition). Her studio works in the fields of architecture, design of public spaces, rehabilitation, interior and industrial design. Her poetic architecture, always attentive to its context, has won international awards in the fields of public space and design. In the teaching field, she has been a Visiting Professor at Harvard University, Columbia University and Barcelona ETSAB, lecturing regularly at architecture forums and universities, and is part of jurors around the world, e.g. the Princesa de Asturias awards and recently she joined the jury of the Pritzker Prize. In 2004 she received an honorary doctorate from the Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences, Edinburgh Napier University, Scotland. She received the 2013 RIBA Jencks Award, which is given annually to an individual or practice that has recently made a major contribution internationally to both the theory and practice of architecture. She is also the director of the Enric Miralles Foundation, whose goal is to promote experimental architecture in the spirit of her late husband and partner Enric Miralles.

Martha Thorne

Martha Thorne is Executive Director of the Pritzker Architecture Prize, a position she has held since 2005. She is also Dean of IE School of Architecture and Design in Madrid, Spain. Her school is known for innovative teaching methods and connecting architecture and design education to the real world. She served as Associate Curator of the Department of Architecture at The Art Institute of Chicago from 1996 to 2005. She is the editor and author of several books and numerous articles for architectural journals and encyclopedias. Martha Thorne participates on international juries and from time to time consults on architect selection processes for major commissions, such as the Barnes Foundation, Philadelphia, USA. She received a Master of City Planning degree from the University of Pennsylvania and a Bachelor of Arts in Urban Affairs from the State University of New York at Buffalo. She undertook additional studies at London School of Economics.