Contributors

Mohammad al-Asad (Amman, 1961) is an architect and architectural historian who has taught at the University of Jordan, Princeton, MIT and the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, and held research positions at Harvard and Princeton’s Institute for Advanced Study. Founding director of the Center for the Study of the Built Environment (CSBE) in Amman, he has served the Aga Khan Award as technical reviewer and steering committee member. He is the editor of Workplaces: The Transformation of Places of Production (Industrialization and the Built Environment in the Islamic World).

Khaled Asfour (Giza, 1960) received his master’s degree and doctorate from the Massachusetts Institute of Technology and is specialized in history, theory and criticism of architecture. He has been a research fellow at Harvard and a technical reviewer for the Aga Khan Award for Architecture. Currently an associate professor at Misr International University, he has written articles for Mimar or Architectural Review, an entry in Dizionario dell’ architettura del xx secolo, and a chapter in Architecture and Identity (TU Berlin). On a professional level he is active in the consultancy business.

Farrokh Derakhshani (Tehran, 1954) is trained as an architect at the National University of Iran and continued his studies at the School of Architecture in Paris (UP1). Director of the Aga Khan Award for Architecture, his main field of specialization is the contemporary architecture of Muslim societies. Besides working as an architect in Iran, France and Switzerland, he lectures widely and has organized and participated in numerous international seminars, exhibitions, and workshops. Juror at several international competitions, he has collaborated in a wide range of architectural publications.

Nnamdi Elleh (Ahoada, 1960) is associate professor of architecture history and theory at the University of Cincinnati. He studied architecture at the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee and received his PhD in art history at Northwestern University. He is the recipient of several awards, including the Samuel Kress and Graham Architectural Foundation grants. Contributor to several national and international exhibitions, he is also the author of books like African Architecture: Evolution and Transformation, Architecture and Power in Africa and Modern and Contemporary Architecture in Africa.

Antoni Folkers (Delft, 1960) took up art and art history at John Carroll University in Cleveland and earned his master’s in architecture at Delft University. Co-founder of FBW Architecture, based in Utrecht and with offices in Kampala, Dar es Salaam and Kigali, he and his partners have also set up the foundations ArchiAfrica and African Architecture Matters, and to celebrate 25 years of research and building on the continent, in 2010 he published Modern Architecture in Africa. He is currently guest lecturer and researcher at the universities in Delft, Maputo and Pretoria.

Iain Low (Cape Town, 1954) studied architecture at the University of Cape Town and urban design at the University of Pennsylvania. He worked for the World Bank in Lesotho investigating local practice and responsible architecture, and was visiting scholar at the American Academy of Rome before returning to South Africa, where he is currently professor of architecture at the University of Cape Town. His research interest is in ‘space and transformation’ in the post-apartheid condition. He edits the Digest of South African Architecture and has written for AD and Urban Design International.

Suha Özkan (Ankara, 1945) studied architecture at the Middle East Technical University of Ankara and at the Architectural Association in London. He was Deputy Secretary General and Secretary General of the Aga Khan Award, and continues to serve on the jury of major international competitions. Recipient of the Honorary Fellow Medal of the American Institute of Architects and founding president of the World Architecture Community, in his extensive researches he has published numerous articles and monographs, and also edited Faith and the Built Environment: Architecture and Behavior in Islamic Cultures (1995).

Hasan Radoine (Fez, 1968) first studied at Rabat’s École Nationale d’Architecture. A Fulbright Scholar, he completed master’s and doctoral programs at the University of Pennsylvania. As Prince of Wales Scholar he also earned a master’s degree from the University of Wales. He has taught at UPenn, Dartmouth College, the University of Sharjah and Al Akhwayn University and worked for UNESCO, ICCROM, the World Bank, the Aga Khan Award and MCC. A contributor to several journals and books, his research interest is in architecture and urbanism in the MENA region.

Ashraf M. Salama (Cairo, 1963) is a chair professor and current head of architecture and urban planning at Qatar University, having also held tenured and visiting academic posts in Egypt, Saudi Arabia, Italy and Northern Ireland. He has authored and co-edited six books and published over 100 articles in the international architectural press. He collaborates with and serves on the editorial boards of several journals, including as chief editor of Archnet-IJAR, besides sitting on the scientific and review boards of international organizations like IAPS, IAHH and cEBs.

Rafi Segal (Tel Aviv, 1967) studied architecture and town planning at Technion-Israel Institute of Technology and received his doctorate from Princeton University. While teaching urban design, planning and architecture at Harvard’s Graduate School of Design, he leads a practice that integrates research into design. He has exhibited his work and curated exhibitions at venues like Storefront for Art and Architecture (New York) and co-edited the books Cities of Dispersal, Territories: Islands, Camps and Other States of Utopia, and A Civilian Occupation: The Politics of Israeli Architecture.