

## Italcementi and Triennale di Milano

### arcVision Prize – Women and Architecture FOURTH EDITION

AWARDS CEREMONY AT THE TRIENNALE DI MILANO ON 7 APRIL

Italcementi has always paid careful attention to Architecture, as a tool for sustainable transformation of the territory, and to Innovation, as a form of workshop encouraging dialogue among all the players in the building community. Italcementi's long-lasting partnership with Triennale di Milano aims at proposing a multidisciplinary narrative to portray architecture not just as design, but also as materials and engineering solutions, as an economic driver, as a creative medium and a realized entity, as client and end user, as social growth and cultural reflection, as urban development and as a tool for the community and the environment.

This partnership comprises inter alia the Awards Ceremony of the arcVision Prize – Women and Architecture. Launched by Italcementi in 2013, the prize aims to give recognition to women whose work brings an innovative new design, theoretical or practical approach to the economic, social and cultural issues at play in the field of architecture.

The arcVision Prize Awards Ceremony will take place at the Triennale Milano's Teatro dell'Arte on 7 April to celebrate the Triennale Milano's XXI International Exhibition, which is returning to the city for the first time in 20 years.

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The arcVision Prize is now an internationally recognized award (a Pritzker for women, if you will) which has so far considered 160 architects from around the world.

Over the last few months, a group of Advisors from all over the world identified around 40 architects. These were then evaluated by a Technical and Cultural Commission, which drew up a shortlist of 20 nominees. The shortlist was submitted to the international Jury, which met at i.lab, Italcementi's Bergamo research and innovation center, from 7 to 8 March.

The Jury, which has been specifically designed to comprise women only, features an array of outstanding professionals from the world of architecture, entrepreneurship, and – more generally – figures involved in promoting sustainable innovation in the socio-economic context: **Shaikha Al Maskari** (member of the board of the Arab International Women's Forum-AIWF), **Vera Baboun** (Mayor of Bethlehem), **Odile Decq** (owner of the Odile Decq architecture firm), **Yvonne Farrell** (co-founder of Grafton Architects), **Daniela Hamaui** (journalist), **Louisa Hutton** (co-founder of the Sauerbruch Hutton architectural practice), **Suhasini Mani Ratnam** (an Indian actress, producer and writer), **Samia Nkrumah** (President of the Kwame Nkrumah Pan-African Center), **Benedetta Tagliabue** (owner of the Miralles Tagliabue EMBT architectural firm), **Martha Thorne** (Director of the Pritzker Prize).

Every year, the arcVision Prize recognizes a female architecture whose innovative design work demonstrates commendable quality and significant attention to the central themes of construction: technology, sustainability, social and cultural implications. In selecting its nominees, the prize tends to favor architects operating in particularly difficult conditions, both in terms of the specific location and context of the work and the wider conditions affecting the area. The result is an accurate snapshot of contemporary female architecture, with past editions being won by Carla Juaçaba (Brazil, 2013), Ines Lobo (Portugal, 2014) and Angela Deuber (Switzerland, 2015).

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