

FARSHID MOUSSAVI OBE RA

BSc Arch, Dipl. Arch, MArch II Harvard, RIBA



Farshid Moussavi OBE RA is an internationally acclaimed architect and Professor in Practice of Architecture at the Harvard University Graduate School of Design. Moussavi's approach is characterised by an openness to change and a commitment to the intellectual and cultural life of architecture. Alongside leading an award-winning architectural practice, Farshid Moussavi Architecture (FMA), she lectures regularly at arts institutions and schools of architecture worldwide and is a published author. Moussavi was appointed Officer of the Order of the British Empire (OBE) in the 2018 Queen's Birthday Honours for services to architecture. She was elected a Royal Academician in 2015 and Professor of Architecture at the RA Schools in 2017.

At FMA, Moussavi's completed projects include the acclaimed Museum of Contemporary Art in Cleveland, USA; La Folie Divine, a residential complex in Montpellier; a multi-tenure residential complex in the La Défense district of Paris, and flagship stores for Victoria Beckham in London and Hong Kong and the Toys department at Harrods, London.

Notable current projects in the United States include the Ismaili Center Houston, and in France, a mixed-use block in the city of Montpellier, and a school complex in Paris-Saclay. Previously Moussavi was co-founder of the internationally renowned Foreign Office Architects (FOA) where she co-authored many award-winning international projects including the Yokohama International Cruise Terminal and the Spanish Pavilion at the Aichi International Expo, London's Ravensbourne College of Media and Communication and the Leicester John Lewis Department Store and Cineplex.

Moussavi's ideas and work are at the forefront of critical debate about architecture. In 2017 she was Architectural curator of the Royal Academy Summer Show where she proposed a highly original approach, showing the internal mechanisms and the construction process that underpins architecture. Her work is deeply rooted in critical research which she carries out through FunctionLab, the research branch of her practice. Recent subjects of research, which find their built expression in the work of FMA, include social housing and approaches to adaptive reuse. Moussavi has published, in conjunction with Harvard University, an influential series of books: *The Function of Ornament* (2006), *The Function of Form* (2009), and *The Function of Style* (2014). Her most recent book, *Architecture and Micropolitics*, which features four buildings by FMA, was published by Park Books in October 2022.

Moussavi has taught and served as an External Examiner in academic institutions worldwide. She was the chair of the Master Jury of the Aga Khan Award for Architecture in 2004, and a member of its steering committee between 2005 and 2015. She has served as a trustee of several organizations, including the Whitechapel Gallery and The Architecture Foundation in London between 2009 and 2018, and, since 2018, the Norman Foster Foundation and New Architecture Writers (NAW), which focuses on black and minority ethnic emerging writers who are under-represented in design journalism and curation. In 2022, She was appointed by The Mayor of London, as one of The Mayor of London's Design Advocates.

EDUCATION

Master in Architecture (MARCH II),
Graduate School of Design, Harvard University

Dipl. Architecture Degree,
Bartlett School of Architecture, University
College London University

Bachelor of Science (BSC) in Architecture,
Dundee University

PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS

Order of the British Empire (OBE)

Royal Academician (RA)

Royal Institute of British Architects (RIBA)

Architects Registration Board (ARB)

Honorary Fellow, UCL, London

Honorary Fellow, Ravensbourne University,
London

Honorary Diploma, The Architectural Association,
London

PROFESSIONAL PRACTICE

2011 – Founder, Farshid Moussavi
present Architecture, UK

1993 – Co-Founder, Foreign Office
2011 Architects, UK

1991 – Office for Metropolitan
1993 Architecture, The Netherlands

1987 – Renzo Piano Building Workshop, Italy
1988

TEACHING

2006 – Professor in Practice of Architecture,
present Harvard University Graduate School of
Design, USA

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SELECTED PROJECTS

ARTS AND CULTURE

2018	Ismaili Cultural Center, Houston, USA Area: 130,400 ft ² ; Under construction	2016	Daniel w. Fletcher Pop-Up Store, London, UK
2018	Magdalene Odundo: the Journey of Things, exhibition design, Hepworth Wakefield, UK	2016	Victoria Beckham Store, Hong Kong Area: 110 m ²
2017	The Zabłudowicz Collection Gallery, London, UK	2014	Victoria Beckham Flagship Store, London, UK. Area: 560 m ²
2012	Museum of Contemporary Art, Cleveland, USA. Area: 34,000 ft ²	2008	John Lewis Department Store and Cineplex, Leicester, UK. Area: 34,000 m ²
2006	Municipal Theatre and Auditorium, Torrevieja, Spain	2007	Meydan Retail Complex and Multiplex in Istanbul, Turkey. Area: 55,000 m ²
2005	Spanish Pavilion at EXPO 2005, Aichi, Japan. Area: 2,400 m ²	2001	Aparthotel, Blue Moon Festival, Groningen, The Netherlands
		1999	Belgo Restaurant, New York, USA Belgo Bierodrome, London, UK Belgo Restaurant, Bristol, UK

RESIDENTIAL

2023	Mixed-use development, Montpellier, France. Area: 7,400 m ² ; Design development stage
2021	Private Residence, Hove, UK. Area: 650 m ²
2017	La Folie Divine apartments, Montpellier, France. Area: 2,740 m ²
2017	Residential Complex, La Défense, Paris, France. Area: 11,500 m ²
2008	Carabanchel Social Housing, Madrid, Spain. Area: 9,600 m ²
2008	Villa in Pedralbes, Barcelona, Spain

WORKPLACE

2012	Fenchurch Street Office Tower, City of London, UK (Planning consent) Area: 26,007 m ²
2009	D38 Zona Franca Office Park, Barcelona, Spain
2005	Dulnyouk Publishers, Paju City, South Korea. Area: 3000 m ²

EDUCATION

2023	Primary School, Saclay (Paris), France Area: 4,500 m ² ; Design development stage
2010	Ravensbourne College of Design and Communication, London, UK. Area: 21,500 m ²
2008	La Rioja Technology Transfer Centre, Logroño, Spain. Area: 7,500 m ²

RETAIL AND HOSPITALITY

2023	Retail Flagship Store, Shanghai, China Design development stage
2022	Fiorucci Angels store and Archive store, London
2018	Harrods World, London UK. Area: 26,000 ft ²
2017	Harrods Toys Department, London, UK Area: 1000 m ²

SELECTED COMPETITIONS

2023	Mixed-use development, Montpellier, France (1st Prize)
2023	Primary School, Saclay (Paris), France (1st Prize)
2019	Residential complex, Cambaceres, Montpellier (1st Prize)
2017	The National Portrait Gallery, London, UK (Finalist)
2016	Science Museum Main Entrance, London, UK (Finalist)
2014	The IOC Headquarters, Lausanne, Switzerland (1st Prize)
2013	The Museum and Educational Centre of the Polytechnic Museum and Lomonosov Moscow State University (Finalist)
2013	Residential Complex, Montpellier, France (1st Prize)
2013	Noisy-Champs Metro Station, Paris, France (Finalist)
2010	Orgelpipan 6 Design Competition, Stockholm, Sweden (Finalist)
2008	Gateway Competition (New Street Station), Birmingham, UK (1st prize)
2007	Sheffield New Retail Quarter Block 5, Sheffield, UK (1st prize)
2006	Instituto de Medicina Legal, Madrid, Spain (1st prize)
2006	Residences for Artists and Researchers, Ile Seguin, Paris, France (1st prize)
2006	World Business Centre Competition, Busan, Korea (1st prize)
2006	Museum of Contemporary Art, Cleveland, Ohio (1st prize)
2005	Meydan Retail Complex and Multiplex, Istanbul, Turkey (1st prize)
2005	Ravensbourne College of Art & Design, London (1st prize)
2005	Minorities Office Complex, London (1st prize)
2004	Shires West Department Store, Cineplex & Bridges Leicester (1st prize)
2004	Spanish Pavilion for the International Expo in Aichi, Japan (1st prize)
2002	WTC Competition with United Architects (finalist)
2002	Florence High Speed Railway Station (finalist)
1995	Yokohama International Ferry Terminal, Japan (1st prize)

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HONOURS & AWARDS

2024 Honorary Diploma awarded by The Architectural Association School of Architecture, London

2023 RIBA South East Awards – House in Hove

2022 Award of Honorary Fellow, Ravensbourne University London Jane Drew Prize for Architecture

2021 Prix International – Prix Français des Femmes Architectes 2021

2021 Honorary Fellowship granted by UCL in recognition of distinguished career in Architecture and contribution to widening participation in architectural education and practice

2020 OPAL Awards Winner in Innovation

2011 The Chicago Athenaeum Green Good Design Award, USA

2011 RIBA Award, UK

2010 The Chicago Athenaeum International Architecture Award, USA

2010 ICSC Best-of-the-Best Award for Sustainability, USA

2009 RIBA Award, UK

2009 Civic Trust Award, UK

2009 Condé Nast Traveller Innovation & Design Award, UK

2008 BD Retail Architect of the Year Award, UK

2008 RIBA European Award, UK

2008 European Business Award for Environment, UK

2008 Urban Land Institute Award for Excellence, UK

2008 ArkiPARC Award, Turkey

2007 Architectural Digest Architect of the Year Award, Spain

2006 RIBA Worldwide Award, UK

2005 Charles Jencks Award, UK

2005 RIBA Worldwide Award, UK

2004 Golden Lion Award for Topography, 9th Venice International Architecture, Italy

2004 International Elevator Design Prize, ThyssenKrupp

2004 Enric Miralles Prize for Architecture, Spain

2003 Kanagawa Prize for Architecture, Japan

1999 FX International Interior Design Awards, UK

ARCHITECTURE & DESIGN

ADVISORY GROUPS

2023 – present Chair of the Architecture Advisory Group, The Royal Academy of Arts London

2022 – present London Mayor's Design Advocate

2020–21 Jury member, Thessaloniki ConfEx Park competition, Greece

2020 Jury member, Dezeen Design Awards

2019 – present External Examiner, MPhil in Architecture & Urban Design (MAUD), University of Cambridge

2019 Jury member, The British Pavilion at the Venice Architecture Biennale 2020

2017 – present Trustee, New Architecture Writers (NAW), London, UK

2017 – present Trustee, Norman Foster Foundation, London, UK

2017 – present Member, Architecture Committee, The Royal Academy of Arts, London, UK

2016 Member, RA250 Committee, The Royal Academy of Arts, London, UK

2015–17 External Examiner, Architectural Association School of Architecture, London, UK

2012–15 External Examiner, Sir John Cass Faculty of Art, Architecture and Design, London, UK

2009–17 Board of Trustees, Whitechapel Gallery, London, UK

2009–17 Board of Trustees, The Architecture Foundation, London, UK

2008–12 External Examiner, Royal College of Art, London, UK

2011 Education Board, Strelka Institute for Architecture, Media and Design, Moscow, Russia

2008 Fellow of the Royal Society of Arts, UK

2008 Member of The British Council Advisory Group, UK

2008 Member of the Jury, 11th Architecture Biennale in Venice, Italy

2007 Design for London Advisory Group to the Mayor of London, UK

2005–15 Steering Committee, The Aga Khan Award for Architecture

2005 Member of the Jury, The RIBA President's Medal, UK

2004 Chair of Master Jury of the Aga Khan Award for Architecture

2003 International Design Committee, The London Development Agency, London, UK

2003 Member of Jury, The RIBA Gold Medal, UK

ACADEMIC EXPERIENCE

2017 Professor of Architecture, The Royal Academy of Arts, London, UK

2006 – present Professor in Practice of Architecture, Harvard University Graduate School of Design, USA

2005 Kenzo Tange Visiting Design Critic, Harvard University Graduate School of Design, USA

2005 Head of Institute of Architecture, Academy of Fine Arts, Vienna, Austria

2002–05 Professor of Architecture at the Academy of Fine Arts, Vienna, Austria

2002 Visiting Critic, University of California Los Angeles, USA

2001 Visiting Critic, Columbia University, USA

1999 Visiting Critic, Princeton University, USA

1998 Visiting Critic Columbia University, USA

1997 Visiting Critic, The Berlage Institute, Amsterdam, The Netherlands

1993–95 Design Professor, Hoger Architectuur Instituut Sint-Lucas, Gent, Belgium

1993–00 Unit Master, Architectural Association School of Architecture, London, UK

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PUBLICATIONS AS AUTHOR

BOOKS

- 2024 Sustainable Commons: Housing and Urban Mining, Co-edited with Hanif Kara, Harvard GSD
- 2022 Architecture and Micropolitics: Four Projects by Farshid Moussavi Architecture, 2010-2020, Park Books, Zurich, Switzerland
- 2015 "The Function of Style", published by Harvard GSD, FunctionLab and, Actar, Barcelona, Spain
- 2009 "The Function of Form", published by Harvard GSD and Actar, Barcelona, Spain
- 2002 "The Function of Ornament" with Michael Kubo, published by Harvard GSD and Actar, Barcelona, Spain

ARTICLES

- 2022 The Clamor of Ornament: Exchange, Power, and Joy from the Fifteenth Century to the Present
- 2018 Project Interrupted: Lectures by British Housing Architects, The Architecture Foundation, UK
- 2023 Domus no.1084, Architecture and temporality
- 2012 "30 St. Mary Axe", Harvard Design Magazine, Volume 35, USA
- 2012 An Archeological Approach, Instigations: Engaging Architecture, Landscape, and the City(2012) GSD075, Edited by Mohsen Mostafavi and Peter Christensen In cooperation with Harvard University Graduate school of Design
- 2011 "Architecture and activism should be as closely linked as the problems we need to solve", The Architectural Review, December issue, UK
- 2011 "Parametric software is no substitute for parametric thinking", The Architectural Review, October issue, UK
- 2011 "Architecture as Nature" in Bruno Taut, Arquitectura Alpina, Ediciones Paidós Ibérica, Spain
- 2011 "What about Symbol?" in Implicate & Explicate. Aga Khan Award for Architecture, Lars Muller Publishers, Switzerland
- 2009 "Urban Design Now" discussion, Harvard Design Magazine, Volume 25, Fall/Winter issue, USA

SELECTED PERIODICALS

- 2024 Profile on Farshid Moussavi, Summer, Metropolis Magazine
- 2023 About Architecture, An Essential Guide in 55 Buildings, Hugh Pearman, Yale University Press (featuring: Yokohama Ferry Terminal)
- 2020 Spring/Summer AnOther Magazine, Farshid Moussavi on Deleuze and Guattari
- 2019 Spring Issue, Art Quarterly Face to Face; Zarina Bhimji and Farshid Moussavi
- 2018 No.10, PLOT magazine, Profile on La Folie Divine
- 2017 No. 279, Architecture Today, Instructive Art
- 2017 No. 36 Harpers Bazaar Interiors, A celebration of Form
- 2017 22 October, The Observer, Rowan Moore reviews completed housing projects in France
- 2017 No.135 Royal Academy Magazine, Profile on La Folie Divine
- 2015 – 13 Regular columnist for Architectural Review Magazine, UK
- 2012 "School buildings produce culture", The Architectural Review, UK
- 2012 "Agenda bender: the case for the abolition of female role models", The Architectural Review, UK
- 2010 "Interview with Farshid Moussavi", L'Architecture d'Aujourd'hui, June/July, France
- 2010 "Interview with Farshid Moussavi", Conditions Magazine, April 22, Norway
- 2009 "Ricamato di Aria", Abitare, Issue 492, Italy
- 2007 Casa Brutus, August 15
- 2007 International Herald Tribune, July 23
- 2007 Icon, #050
- 2007 AD, # 13 April
- 2007 A+U, March 7
- 2006 New York Times, November 8
- 2006 New York Times, October 27
- 2006 MARK Another Magazine, issue 3
- 2006 Elle USA, August
- 2006 Financial Times, 10 October
- 2005 The Times, 29 September
- 2005 Elle Spain, December, no231
- 2005 Evening Standard, 30 December
- 2005 Architectural review, April., v.217, n.1298
- 2005 Building Design, 18 February
- 2004 Architektur + Wettbewerbe December
- 2004 Marie Claire, December
- 2004 The Guardian, 8 November
- 2004 Vogue UK, November
- 2004 ON Diseño, n.255
- 2004 La Vanguardia, Spain, 8 September
- 2003 Elle Decoration, December
- 2003 Riba Journal. December
- 2003 Independent, UK, 25 November
- 2003 Observer, 06 May
- 2002 The Daily Telegraph, 19 December
- 2002 Axis, No 99, Japan
- 2002 Domus 851, Italy
- 2001 De Architect, October, The Netherlands
- 2001 UmBau, 18, Vienna, Austria
- 2001 Casabella, December
- 2001 Shinkenchiku. Tokyo, Japan
- 2000 Baumeister, 6/00. München, Germany
- 1999 "Foreign Office Architects: plate-formes nouvelles". Architecture d'aujourd'hui, September., no.324, p.75-[88].
- 1999 DiseñoInterior No. 87, Madrid, Spain.
- 1999 Blueprint, No. 157. London, UK
- 1998 Bauwelt, September .25, v.89, n.36
- 1998 "Scroop", Cambridge Architecture Journal No.10.
- 1997 New Territories - New Landscape. MACBA 7/97. Barcelona, Spain
- 1997 De Architect. The Netherlands.
- 1996 World Architecture, No. 48
- 1996 AT, 1/96. Tokyo, Japan
- 1995 El Croquis, n.76
- 1995 Bauwelt. 17/3/95. Berlin, Germany
- 1995 Monolithic Architecture. Prestel-Verlag. Munich, Germany
- 1995 "Foreign Office Architects". AA files Summer, n.29, p.7-21
- 1995 Archis, Apr. n.4
- 1995 Space Design, No. 9504
- 1995 Shinkenchiku, No. 3; Tokyo, Japan
- 1995 Architects Journal. February, London, UK

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MONOGRAPHS ON FMA / FOA

MONOGRAPH ARTICLES

2023	Women at Work 1900 to Now, Edited by Flavia Frigeri, Published by The National Portrait Gallery London
2023	100 Women: Architects in Practice, Published by RIBA Publishing
2021	Women in Architecture, Past, Present and Future, Germany
2020	Domus no.1042, Interview by David Chipperfield, Italy
2019	Madame Architect, Interview, Julia Gamolina
2018	Fold Magazine, Interview by Editors
2017	ICON no 169, Interview by Peter Smisk
2017	Riposte no 8, Interview by Nathalie Rigg
2016	Winter issue, Royal Academy Magazine, Profile by Fiona Maddocks
2016	Something Curated, Whitechapel Gallery, London
2012	L'Architecture d'Aujourd'hui No 388, France
2004	Concours Centre Pompidou, Centre Pompidou, France
2001	Habitats, tectonics, landscapes: contemporary Spanish architecture, Ministerio de Comercio Exterior, Spain
2001	Urban environments by Elisabetta G. Mapelli. Chichester, UK
2001	London apartments by Aurora Vuito. New York, USA
2000	Breathing cities: the architecture of movement, edited by Nick Barley. Basel; Berlin; Boston
2000	Young Spanish architects = Junge spanische Architekten by David Cohn, Basel; Berlin; Boston
2000	Young British architects by Jeremy Melvin, Basel ; Boston
2000	Monolithic architecture, Prestel, Germany

COMPLETE MONOGRAPHS

2007	Sharestan, Issue 17-18, Iran
2004	FOA's Ark_Evolving Container for the Proliferating Singularities, Architecture & Culture, Korea
2003	El Croquis #136, Madrid, Spain
2003	Phylogenesis: FOA's ark, Actar, Barcelona, Spain
2002	The Yokohama Project: A monograph, Actar, Barcelona, Spain
2001	FOA Recent Projects, 2G #16, Barcelona, Spain

EXHIBITIONS

2022	The Clamor of Ornament: Exchange, Power, and Joy from the Fifteenth Century to the Present, at The Drawing Center, New York	2002	TNProbe Monographic Show, Tokyo, Japan
2021	"Separation and Unity" Lot 19 Residential Block, 17th Venice Architecture Biennale	2002	"A New World Trade Centre", Max Protetch Gallery, NYC
2019	Is this Tomorrow? Exhibition, Whitechapel Gallery, London	2002	"Next" at The British Pavilion, 8th Venice Biennale of Architecture, Italy
2019	Magdalene Odundo: the Journey of Things, Exhibition, The Hepworth Wakefield	2001	"Space Invaders", Lisbon, Portugal "Great Expectations", Central Station, New York, USA
2018	From Life, Exhibition, Royal Academy, London	2001	"Un(private) houses", MACBA, Barcelona, Spain
2017	Architecture Room, Royal Academy Summer Exhibition, London	2000	Museum of Modern Art, New York, USA Kortrijk Biennial, Belgium
2012	"Architecture and Affects", 13th Venice Architecture Biennale	1999	"Cities on the Move", Hayward Gallery, UK
2011	"La Ville Fertile", Cite de l'architecture du patrimoine, Paris, France	1999	"Archilab", Orleans, France
2011	"Super Urbano – Sustainable Urban Design", Padua, Italy	1999	"FOA YIPT", Ministerio de Fomento, Spain
2010	"Why Design Now?", Cooper Hewitt National Design Triennial, USA	1998	Design Museum, London, UK
2009	Gwangju Design Biennale, Gwangju, Korea	1998	Swedish Museum of Architecture, Stockholm, Sweden
2009	"Dentelles d'architecture", MAV, Calais, France	1997	"Critical Projects", Royal Institute of British Architects, London, UK
2008	"Future, Non-Future", Architecture Association, London, UK	1997	"New Landscapes", Museum of Contemporary Arts, Barcelona, Spain burgh, USA
2008	"Skin+Bones: Parallel Practices in Fashion & Architecture", London, Tokyo, LA	1996	"Architecture on the Horizon", Royal Institute of British Architects, London, UK
2007	"Love & Money: the Best of British Design Now", British Council	1996	UIA conference at the Museum of Contemporary Arts, Barcelona, Spain
2007	International FOA Restrospective, MOCA, Cleveland, USA	1995	"Monolithic Architecture", Heinz Architectural Center, Pittsburgh, USA
2006	"Hypothetical Slide House", Carsten Holler's Unilever Series Show at the Tate Modern, London UK	1995	"FOA: Work in Progress", Architectural Association Gallery, London, UK
2006	"Future City", Barbican Art Gallery, London, UK		
2005	"Groundswell: Constructing the Contemporary Landscape", MoMA, USA		
2005	FOA Monographic Show, Harvard Graduate School of Design		
2004	FOA Monographic Show, Fargfabriken Center for Contemporary Art & Architecture, Stockholm, Sweden		
2003	"FOA's phylogenesis", Museum fur Angewandte Kunst (MAK), Vienna		
2003	Monographic Show at the Institute of Contemporary Art (ICA), London, UK		
2002	"Latent Utopias", Graz, Austria		