

Women in Architecture 'Creating Change': a 'Women in Architecture' international conference 17-19 October 2010 at venues across London

What happens when we bring the values of diversity and innovation, and of inclusion and social justice, to the challenges facing the built environment professions today? And if we set them at the heart of our work in creating the cities and communities of tomorrow?

Between 17-19th October 2010 **Women in Architecture** are hosting a programme of events in London to address these issues, in partnership with RIBA 'Architects for Change', the RIBA Trust, London Metropolitan University, the Building Centre and the 'DiverseCity-Architects' international exhibition network. *"It's about Global networks, at local level, involving community and women and leaders in architecture and the environment"*. (Angela Brady, RIBA President Elect, and 'Creating Change' Programme Director)

The programme looks back over a decade of campaigning, research and network building by 'Women in Architecture', and of innovative projects in partnership with organisations ranging from RIBA 'Architects for Change', to the Cabinet Office and the British Council.

The 'Creating Change' Agenda

In October 2010 we will be bringing the '**DiverseCity-Architects**' travelling exhibition home and unveiling a new virtual exhibition of a selection from 'DiverseCity-Architects' travels, hosted by a **new Women in Architecture website**. And, as ever, we will be asking questions and sharing ideas about the ways that good architecture, and women architects and minority architects, can make a difference and become catalysts for change.

We will be joined in this by international architects who have participated in the 'DiverseCity' world tour, and by partners from other past Women in Architecture and Architects for Change projects, with opportunities to forge new alliances with likeminded partners

An invitation

We invite you to join with us, to celebrate the values of equality, diversity, social justice and inclusion in professional lives, and in wider cultural and social debate, and to broker new partnerships that will embed these values in our response to some of the major challenges facing us today:

- creating global networks that will support localism and community participation;
- embedding sustainable design at the heart of development and regeneration;
- peak oil, climate change, and their associated demographic and social shifts;
- social justice and the impact of major changes in politics, populations and faith;
- building alliances between architects, environmentalists and community leaders;
- responding to these challenges in the present severe economic environment.

Through WIA's public programmes we are committed to nurturing multi-disciplinary and innovative approaches to architecture and design, and it is hoped this programme by Women in Architecture with 'Architects for Change' will be an inaugural launch for an annual event to celebrate diversity and dialogue in the international built environment professions.

With partners and sponsors currently signing up this is a good time to contact us to discuss the opportunities for your organization to join the programme. See overleaf for ways individuals, companies and organizations can become involved.

An inclusive and accessible programme

The programme is designed to offer opportunities for busy professionals to attend all sessions and activities, or to just dip into a few. International participants will have time to combine attendance with individual meetings and visits in London, and UK participants will be able to spend part of each day in the office. And in the current economic climate we want to maintain WIA's commitment to organising accessible events open to all, by seeking

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partners and sponsors who will help us keep the event fee to individual attendees as low as possible. We hope these will include some of those architectural practices who lead by example in committing to a diverse workforce, like those who supported the launch of the 'DiverseCity-Architects' exhibition at the RIBA.

'Creating Change' activities include:

- Architectural tour and welcome lunch for international participants on Sunday.
- Networking breakfast reception and seminar on challenges and opportunities for women in built environment professions at The Building Centre. (Monday morning)
- Student workshop on collaborative approaches to design for developing communities. (Monday afternoon)
- Networking reception, talk and 'Women in Architecture' website launch at the Women's Library, London Metropolitan University. (Monday evening)
- 'Changing the face of Architecture': members of 'DiverseCity-Architects' network show and discuss work and plan future collaboration and support. (Tuesday morning)
- 'Creating Change' public lecture and networking reception at the Royal Institute of British Architects on architecture and international development.
- 'Diversity Cafes' for meeting up and individual networking at the RIBA in Portland Place, and the Building Centre in Store Street – with bookshops and information.
- Facilitating 'Diversity Dates' – linking individuals with common professional interests in conversation and for shared visits to practices, new architecture and galleries.

A full programme and timetable of events will be issued in early September.

Current programme partners RIBA 'Architects for Change', London Metropolitan University, the RIBA Trust, the Building Centre & New London Architecture, Alan Baxter Associates.

Programme Venues: The RIBA at 66 Portland Place, London Metropolitan University Women's Library; The Gallery at Alan Baxter Associates; The Building Centre.

Ways individuals, organisations and companies can get involved

- **Sign up** to receive programme information and register to attend.
- **Volunteer** to become one of WIA's event team, helping to host and run things over the three day programme.
- **Become a 'partner for change'**. Practices and companies can become supporters by donating between £200 - £1000 (depending on practice size). Your support will be acknowledged in the event literature and on the WIA website, and you will receive free places for 1 or 2 members of your team at 'Creating Change' talks, meetings and receptions.
- **Become a 'Creating Change' programme partner**, by offering a venue and helping us to organise and fund sectors of the programme, like Round Table Meetings, visits etc.
- **Become a 'Creating Change' strategic funding partner and institutional supporter**. In the past WIA has received support from the RIBA, CABE, the British Council, UKTI and a number of larger construction industry companies.

To register your interest in becoming involved in 'Creating Change' please email: contact@women-in-architecture.com