



# SABEEL 2020

## JUROR PROFILES

### **Nasser B. Abulhasan**

Dr. Nasser B. Abulhasan is a Principal and Founding Partner of AGi architects.

Nasser Abulhasan's area of research is in sustainable development in arid climates and the perception of light in buildings. He has extensive experience in the design and implementation of new communities, commercial office buildings and complexes, mixed-use facilities, and government buildings, and has worked on numerous high-profile master-planning projects in Europe and the Middle East.

Since he founded AGi architects with Joaquin Perez-Goicoechea in 2006, he has completed several projects in the fields of building, urban design, planning, and interior & industrial design, and has been honored internationally on several occasions. A member of the Kuwait Society of Engineers, Kuwait Initiative for Leaders of Development (Thukhur), and Injaz Kuwait, Nasser holds a Doctorate in Design and a Master's in Architecture from Harvard University (2007 and 2002 respectively) and Bachelor's in Architecture and Urban Design from Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University (2000).



## Hani Asfour

Hani Asfour is an architect, designer, and Dean of Dubai Institute of Design and Innovation.

A practicing designer with 20+ years of experience, Hani previously held teaching positions at Lebanese American University in Beirut, Rhode Island School of Design, Northeastern University, American University of Beirut and American University of Sharjah. Named one of the regions 50 most influential architects by Middle East Architect magazine, Hani was the Beirut Creative Cluster's founding President, and is an advisor to Beirut Design Week. A frequent public speaker, he presented at TedX Beirut and was the keynote speaker for data4change, whereby storytellers collaborate with human rights organisations to tell powerful stories through data. Hani is a Founding Partner of Polypod, an award-winning multidisciplinary collaborative design studio in Beirut that was awarded Best Community and Cultural Project at the 2017 MEA Awards. Asfour holds a Master of Architecture from Harvard University, and a Bachelor of Science in Art and Design from MIT.





## Manal Ataya

Manal Ataya is a museum specialist with 14 years' experience in museum development and cultural diplomacy.

As Director General of the Sharjah Museums Authority for over a decade, Manal is responsible for the overall executive management of 16 museums in the emirate of Sharjah, UAE, which span Islamic culture and history, contemporary art, heritage, maritime history, archaeology, science and children's learning. Her mandate includes strategic development of future museum projects, advising on museum and cultural policy, fostering partnerships with international institutions and leading efforts to deliver best practices in museum services.

Manal holds degrees from both Hamilton College (2001) and Harvard University (2004) and has been recognized by distinguished international leadership programs as a Clore fellow (2010) and an Aspen Institute fellow (2018). She serves on numerous advisory boards including Global Cultural Districts Network; the University of Sharjah's College of Arts, Humanities and Social Sciences; and ICCROM-Sharjah, the Arab region's field office of the UN's body for cultural heritage preservation.



## Shumon Basar

Shumon Basar is a writer, editor and curator.

He is Commissioner of the Global Art Forum in Dubai; Editor-at-Large at Tank magazine; Contributing Editor at Bidoun magazine; a member of Fondazione Prada's "Thought Council"; and a contributor to Jameel Art Centre's public program. His co-edited books include: Translated By; The World of Madelon Vriesendorp; With/Without; Cities from Zero; and Did Someone Say Participate? Shumon is co-author of The Age of Earthquakes with Douglas Coupland and Hans Ulrich Obrist, as well as its forthcoming sequel, The Extreme Self, which previews in exhibition form at the Museum of Contemporary Art, Toronto. In 2019, Shumon serves as a juror for the Paulo Cunha e Silva Art Prize in Porto.



## Marjan Faraidooni

Marjan Faraidooni is the Chief Pavilions and Exhibitions Officer for Expo 2020 Dubai.

As Chief Pavilions and Exhibitions Officer at Expo 2020 Dubai, Marjan Faraidooni oversees the development and operations of the core thematic pavilions and exhibitions that bring to life Expo 2020 Dubai's central theme of Connecting Minds, Creating the Future and its three subthemes of Mobility, Sustainability and Opportunity. Marjan also oversees the Expo School Programme, which encompasses engagement with school communities and the development of a robust operating plan that ensures safe and educationally enriching visits for students throughout the 6 month-long event. In addition, she maintains responsibility for the strategy development towards and the execution of the Expo 2020 legacy programme, which includes District 2020. Prior to joining the Expo 2020 team in 2014, Marjan was Director of Portfolio Strategy at Dubai Holding, a government-backed global investment company. Here her responsibilities included the development and implementation of strategies for companies across different industries such as healthcare and real estate. Earlier in her career, she worked in the Executive Office of His Highness Sheikh Mohammed Bin Rashid Al Maktoum, focusing on healthcare research and planning. Marjan holds a bachelor's degree in Human Physiology and a Master's of Public Health from Boston University. In 2018, she was recognised by Arabian Business as one of the 50 Most Influential Women in the Arab World.



## Asif Khan

Born in London, where his studio is currently located, Asif Khan is an architect and designer of Pakistani-Indian and Tanzanian heritage.

In 2007 he founded his practice, Asif Khan Ltd, through which he works internationally on projects ranging from Landmark public buildings, masterplans and exhibitions to explorations of technology combined with architecture and nature. Current major projects include the new Museum of London, a Centre for Contemporary Culture in Almaty, Kazakhstan, and the public realm of Dubai Expo 2020. Notable projects include the Hyundai Pavilion at the PyeongChang Winter Olympics (2018) and the UK Pavilion at Astana Expo (2017). Asif has been awarded over 30 international awards including Cannes Lion Grand Prix for Innovation, German Design Council's Architect of the Year (2018), Red Dot Design Award (2014), and received an MBE for services to Architecture (2017). Asif sits on the board of Trustees for the Design Museum, London and lectures globally on his work.



## Christopher Turner

Dr. Christopher Turner is Keeper of Design, Architecture and Digital at the Victoria and Albert Museum, London.

He was Artistic Director of the 2018 London Design Biennale, and the Director of the inaugural 2016 edition. Christopher has also been the editor of Icon magazine, and Deputy Director of the London Design Festival. He is a regular contributor to the Guardian, London Review of Books, Cabinet, Apollo and Tate Etc. on architecture, design and culture.

