RIBA 🛒

Nationally Elected Councillor ALFRED MUNKENBECK

- a. Nominated by: Sunand Prasad, Piers Gough, Julyan Michael Wickham, Brian Waters, John Assael, Andrew Hanson, Luke Tozer
- b. Name and Address of Practice: Munkenbeck+Partners, 8 Scrubs Lane, London, NW10 6RB
- c. Position/title: Partner
- d. Qualifications: BA (Dartmouth), MAR (Harvard), ACA Council, RIBA since 1980.



Election Statement:

My primary interest is well designed buildings of which we produced many that have been recognised over the past 30 years. (www.mandp.uk.com) My experience includes 3 years with James Stirling and Partner, teaching at Cambridge, the AA, an RIBA planning policy group member for 4 years, ARG founder member and ACA councillor for 6 years.

Over the past decade or so, the RIBA has lost its way. When I joined in 1980, it set the pace worldwide! This was apparent from my previous experience with German, French and US practice. Gradually, the RIBA stopped supporting Architecture and its own members' interest in thrall to a governmental inspired anti professional trend. I would like to apply pressure from within Council to stem and hopefully reverse this mis-orientation.

Specific concerns include:

- 1. Withdrawal of Scale Fees for demonstrably spurious reasons.
- 2. The ARB controlling things they cannot possibly understand.
- 3. Design/Build contracts putting Contractor before Designer.
- 4. Eroding the architect's legal position in Standard Appointment.
- 5. A Plan of Work that undermines primacy and continuity in the Architect/Client relationship.

The RIBA is supposed to emphasise Architecture, by administering a system to facilitate great buildings for the long term public gain... in contrast to short sighted political agendas. It is not supposed to be a closed shop trade union. Exceptional distinguished designers should be invited to join the RIBA on merit regardless of academic credentials or ARB opprobrium.

Whilst planning policy increasingly emphasises "Design", it believes it to be a matter for public taste; circumventing the obvious professionals who live and breathe design throughout many years of education and experience in our field. Architect led design panels should be required of all planning authorities.

I would be very pleased to have your vote.

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Nationally Elected Councillor MARIA SMITH

- a. Nominated by: Sunand Prasad, Julia Barfield, Jo Bacon, Cindy Walters, Denise Bennetts, Anthony Thistelton-Smith, Jamie Fobert
- **b.** Name and Address of Practice: Interrobang Architecture and Engineering, Interrobang / Webb Yates Engineers Ltd
- c. Position/title: Director
- d. Qualifications: BA(Hons) DipArch ARB RIBA FRSA



Election Statement:

I believe that architects have a meaningful role to play in addressing social and environmental injustice and that the RIBA can and should be an articulate, esteemed voice working to dismantle and disincentivise the systems that perpetuate the exploitation of our environment and each other.

I am optimistic that the 2020s will see great shifts towards addressing climate breakdown and a renewed exploration of what constitutes the good life. If elected, I would work to ensure that architects' agency in contributing to these changes is maximised. I believe that architects, as propositional, socially oriented, technical professionals are well placed to play an important role in this transition. However, the business of architecture will change, and the RIBA must support the profession and advocate for its legitimacy in the face of these changes.

I studied at Bath, TUDelft, and London Met. I cofounded art and architecture practice Studio Weave in 2006. In 2015 I founded Interrobang, a transdisciplinary architecture and engineering practice within Webb Yates Engineers. Transdisciplinary working seeks to go one step beyond multidisciplinary as individuals work across disciplines and in September 2019, I will complete my engineering degree at the Open University. I believe that better integrating the skillsets of architecture and engineering offers a stronger position from which to address the issues of our age.

It is challenging to address systemic issues on a project-by-project basis, so I have also been a columnist for RIBAJ and cofounded debate series Turncoats. I am currently sitting on the Mayor's Design Advocacy Panel, and am co-chief curator for the Oslo Architecture Triennale 2019.

I put myself forward for RIBA Council with the hope that this institution might enable architects to work together to cultivate a custodial not extractivist relationship with the natural world, and a convivial, equal society.