
CANDIDATE FOR THE RIBA PRESIDENCY

ELSIE OWUSU OBE

- a. **Nominated by at least 60 Chartered Members of the RIBA**
- b. **Name and address of Practice:** Elsie Owusu Architects Ltd., 30 Chalfont Court, Baker Street, London
- c. **Position/title:** Principal, Elsie Owusu Architects; Chair, RIBA Architects for Change
- d. **Qualifications:** Chartered Architect, Specialist Conservation Architect, Interior Designer
- e. **Declaration of interests:** Voluntary/Pro Bono: RIBA National Council; RIBA Architects for Change; AA Council; London Mayor's Design Advocate Panel; UK Supreme Court Trust; Vice-Chair, London School of Architecture; London Mayor's Design Advocate Panel

Directorships: Elsie Owusu Architects Ltd; Asika Ltd; Essika Ltd; Archquestra Ltd; Artist Constructor Ltd; GhanaGold Ltd; JustGhana Ltd; Isika Ltd.



Election Statement:

DELIVERING CHANGE. FOR GOOD.

Architecture really matters! What we do really matters: it shapes people's lives. I love being an architect. I love the opportunity to shape our environment in which we live. There is nothing more rewarding than to see a building we have designed become real.

IGNORED AND MARGINALIZED

And yet, architects have become increasingly marginalized. We are no longer at the top table when it comes to discussing the big issues that affect us:

- How do we build more affordable homes?
- What is the appropriate response to the Grenfell fire?
- How do we safeguard the interests of EU colleagues?
- How do we seize new opportunities in the Commonwealth post-Brexit?

MY VISION FOR RIBA

It is up to RIBA to ensure our voice is heard on these and other key issues affecting our profession. We can do it, but things have got to change as the comments I have heard since I started my campaign testify: "RIBA just isn't relevant to me", "It's just so lacklustre"...

My vision is of a RIBA that delivers real benefits to its members:

- effective government lobbying;
- a vibrant programme of talks and lectures;
- a high-quality client advisory service;
- a place that puts its members first;
- a RIBA that uses its powerful brand for the good of its members.

REAL ACTION; REAL CHANGE

You've heard it before so why trust me? Because my record is one of delivery: delivering a sustainable village community in Ghana with Lord Rogers; improving the lot of students through the 'Architecture:Incubator' programme with the Mayor of London; getting nine young diverse architects - more than half of them female - elected to the Council with Baroness Lawrence.

SUPPORTERS

I am delighted to be nominated by 77 chartered architects, including: Sir David Adjaye OBE; Owen Luder CBE PPRIBA; Rod Hackney PPRIBA; Deborah Saunt RIBA; Alice Asafu-Adjaye RIBA; Yasmin Sharif RIBA; Prof David Porter RIBA. I am honoured to be endorsed by Baroness Doreen Lawrence OBE and for the kind advice and mentorship of Sir Stuart Lipton.

Please lend me your support so now I can deliver real change for architects. For good.