



香港建築師學會
The Hong Kong Institute of Architects

The Hong Kong Institute of Architects

Cross-Strait Architectural Design Awards 2026

Nomination Brief

Submission Deadline

30 June 2026 (Tuesday)

12:00 pm (noon)

[Hong Kong Time]

INVITATION TO PARTICIPATE

Dear Professionals,

On behalf of the Organiser, The Hong Kong Institute of Architects (“HKIA”), we welcome your participation in the HKIA Cross-Strait Architectural Design Awards 2026 (“CADA 2026”). CADA is a bi-yearly Awards organised by HKIA, with the first 5 chapters held from 2013. It is a vital platform for professional exchanges, and promotion of the excellence of architectural designs in Chinese Mainland, Macau, Hong Kong and Taiwan (“the Cross-Strait regions”).

HKIA upholds the aspiration to continuously excel and progress. In addition to the HKIA Annual Awards to be organised this year, we are especially delighted to introduce CADA 2026, which we hope to receive your great enthusiasm and support, so as to elevate the architectural design and built environment in the Cross-Strait regions, other Asian cities and even the world.

We are honoured to have invited the following 6 jury members to form the international Jury Panel for CADA 2026:

- i) Ar. Ho Tzu Yin
(Managing Director of LAUD Architects, Singapore)
- ii) Ar. Natalie Mossin
(Head of Institute at the Royal Danish Academy – Institute of Architecture and Technology)
- iii) Ar. Ishtiaque ZAHIR Titas
(Co-founder, Architect & Urban Designer of VITTI)
- iv) Ar. Billie Tsien
(Founding Partner of Studio Tsien and Tod Williams Billie Tsien Architects New York)
- v) Ar. Fani Vavili-Tsinika
(Professor Emerita at the Aristotle University of Thessaloniki)
- vi) Ar. Richard Wood
(Managing Director Asia at Snøhetta)

We are confident that CADA 2026 will showcase our passion and dedication towards the remarkable architectural development and contribution made by the professions in the Cross-Strait regions in the past few years.

Yours sincerely,



Ar. Julia LAU *CHKIA CStJ CMILT JP*
President
The Hong Kong Institute of Architects

Ar. Anika POON

Co-Chair

Organising Committee for Cross-Strait Architectural Design Awards
2026

Ar. Jacqueline Lee

Co-Chair

Organising Committee for Cross-Strait Architectural Design Awards
2026

Strategic Supporting Organisation

The Architectural Society of China

Collaborating Organisations

- i) Architects Association of Macau (AAM)
- ii) Beijing Engineering Exploration and Design Association
- iii) Guangdong Province Registered Architect Association
- iv) Guangzhou Exploration & Design Association
- v) Shanghai Exploration and Design Trade Association
- vi) Shenzhen Exploration & Design Association
- vii) Shenzhen Registered Architects Association (SRAA)

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INTRODUCTION

We have entered a vibrant new era. The architectural designs in the Cross-Strait regions are at the forefront of integration and development. Architects are not only integrating their creativity and knowledge in innovation and heritage conservation but also exploring new opportunities in the rapidly developing regions. From economic cooperation to cultural integration, as well as innovation in structure and form, people are pursuing a spiritual and social connection that transcends the Cross-Strait regions. The booming economies in the Cross-Strait regions and the Greater Bay Area have brought unprecedented challenges as well as opportunities for architectural designs, and also promoted the harmonious coexistence of technology, ecology, and humanities.

The HKIA Cross-Strait Architectural Design Awards 2026 aims to celebrate and recognize architectural design excellence that contributes to better living, economic advancement, social harmony, cultural identity and the building of a body of knowledge through innovation and creativity. It is also conceived as a vital platform to stimulate professional interaction in the Cross-Strait regions through discussion and learning from each other, which in turn facilitates the elevation of architectural designs in the Cross-Strait regions towards the international arena.

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CATEGORIES & AWARDS

2.1 Categories

There will be **SEVEN Professional Categories:**

Category A - Conservation and Adaptive Reuse

Category A1 - Conservation and Adaptive Reuse (City Regeneration)

Category A2 - Conservation and Adaptive Reuse (Building)

Category B – Commercial

Category B1 - Commercial (Office)

Category B2 - Commercial (Hospitality)

Category B3 - Commercial (Mixed Use)

Category C - Residential

Category D - Community and Institution

Category D1 - Civic and Cultural

Category D2 - Open public space

Category D3 - Sports & Recreational

Category D4 - Architecture for Social Innovation

Category D5 – Educational & Religious Architecture

Category D6 - Healthcare Architecture

Category E - Transport, Industrial & Infrastructure Facilities

Category F – Sustainable and Low Carbon Architecture

Category G - Overseas Projects from the Cross Strait Architects

2.2 Awards

For Categories (A) to (G):

Awards will comprise up to ONE Gold Award, TWO Silver Awards and FOUR Merit Awards for each category.

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SCHEDULE & DEADLINE

18 May 2026 (Monday) **The HKIA Cross-Strait Architectural Design Awards 2026
Invitation of Nominations**

18 May 2026 (Monday) **Start date for receipt of Nominations**

30 June 2026 (Tuesday) **Closing date for receipt of Nominations**
12:00 PM (Noon)
[Hong Kong Time]

The Jury / Assessment Process

- July - August 2026** Stage I Shortlisting
- The international Jury Panel will shortlist submissions for entering the stage II assessment.
- Sep 2026** Stage II Final Selection and Jury Recommendation
- The international Jury Panel will choose from those shortlisted projects to win the respective awards, which will be announced at the Awards Presentation Ceremony
- November 2026** Awards Presentation Ceremony
- Announcement and Presentation of the Awards

N.B.: Schedule and deadlines are subject to amendment by HKIA. Prior notice will be provided by HKIA at <https://hkia.net/en/whats-on/1/events/detail/1217> or via e-mail.

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R U L E S & REQUIREMENTS

4.1 Eligibility

- The participating project can be located in Chinese Mainland , Hong Kong, Macau, Taiwan or any international regions, but must be completed in the **past ten years**.
- The participating project shall not be in any way associated with members of the Jury Panel.
- New buildings as well as restored, rehabilitated and converted buildings are eligible for participation.
- For Categories (A) to (G), all participating buildings or projects should be completed between 30 June 2016 and 30 June 2026 (i.e. with occupation permit or completion certificate issued or equivalent; or the building has been handed over to the owner for occupation in the period).
- Projects awarded Gold Award / Silver Awards / Merit Award in previous CADAs are not eligible for CADA 2026. (Excluding projects that were previously nominated for but did not win the above awards)
- The design team for each participating project must be headed by an architect in Chinese Mainland , Hong Kong, Macau or Taiwan, . Please state in the submission that the award, if any, should be presented to the architectural practice or the head architect.

Notes:

- i) The Institute reserves the right not to make an award if the Jury Panel considers no participating project is worthy of an award.
- ii) The decision of the Jury Panel shall be final.

4.2 Nomination

- The participant should apply by completing the attached Nomination Form together with all necessary documents
- The participant shall indicate the building category of the submitted project. The entries will be grouped under different categories of building types for assessment.
- In case of doubt about the building type of a particular submission, the decision of the Organising Committee shall be final.
- The same project can participate in more than one category, but a separate nomination form and nomination fee should be submitted for each additional category.

4.3 Nomination Fee

- **\$5,000HKD** for each submission (per project and per category)
- Payment method
 - i) Cheque payable to “HKIA Services Limited”
Please indicate project name and company at the back of the cheque.

OR

- ii) Alipay or Wechat pay
Please return a screen capture image after payment.



OR

- iii) Telegraphic Transfer
 - For payment by telegraphic transfer, please state the Awards Reference Number in the Remarks column. The Awards Reference Number (E.g. CADA-0000) will be provided by CADA Secretariat upon the receipt of your submission. Please make sure to send back the payment record to the CADA Secretariat with the company/organisation name, reference number, contact person and phone number. Any transfer without the Awards Reference Number may cause failure in recognizing the payment and thus result in unsuccessful application.
 - Surcharges induced by Telegraphic Transfer should be borne by the payer.

Bank : Hong Kong & Shanghai Banking Corporation Limited
Bank Address : 1 Queen's Road Central, Hong Kong SAR
Account Name : HKIA Services Limited
Account No: (HKD) 049-757446-838
Swift Code : HSBCHKHHHKH
HKIA Address: 19/F, One Hysan Avenue, Causeway Bay, Hong Kong

Notes:

1. The Nomination Fee is non-refundable once it is submitted.
2. Submitted nomination of any ineligible building or project will not be refunded.

4.4 Submission

- The submission, together with necessary documents, must reach the CADA Secretariat **on or before 12:00pm (noon) on Tuesday, 30 June 2026 through online form [Hong Kong Time]**:-
- Online registration link: <https://cada.hkia.net/en/>
- For more details: <https://hkia.net/en/whats-on/1/events/detail/1217>
- Necessary Documents include:

(1) Payment cheque / Alipay or Wechat pay screen cap / Receipt of Telegraphic Transfer (receipt of TT could be submitted later, after getting the Awards Reference Number)

(2) Copy of Occupation Permit / Proof of Building Completion

- Completion Permit issued by the Government or Completion Certificate issued by the Architect or hand-over certification by the owner or equivalent is acceptable.

(3) Project presentation document and images:

a. A PPT document in landscape format of max. 15 pages to present the entry project. (This will also be used later for on-screen presentation to the Jury Panel and for Jury Panel's stage 1 and stage 2 assessment.) A PDF version of the same document should be provided as well.

- All texts shall be in both English and Chinese.
- NO company names, logos or other identifying information are allowed to appear on the PPT/PDF. (Disqualification may be resulted otherwise.)
- No advertisement or commercial content should appear on the presentation.
- Location plan, floor plans and sections, photos of the projects are recommended to be shown in the presentation.
- Submitted images should accurately portray the building. Over-edited or doctored photos, for example, altering the building profile, omitting elements which should be seen on the façade, altering the actual site context etc., are prohibited. Disqualification may be resulted otherwise.

b. 1 key image and maximum 7 related images (for promotional materials) of the participating project, of the following specifications:

- In ".jpg" format.
- Image resolution not less than 3000 pixels on the long side
- Submitted images should accurately portray the building. Over-edited or doctored photos, for example, altering the building profile, omitting elements which should be seen on the façade, altering the actual site context, etc., are prohibited. Disqualification may be resulted.

- c. Project introduction video (maximum 2 minutes, with Mandarin and English subtitles) (Optional)
 - d. All shortlisted entries will be required to submit ONE A0 size panel in digital format (both JPG & PDF formats) for the exhibition purpose.
 - e. For multiple entries made by the same architectural practice, separate submissions with all documents listed above should be submitted.
 - f. No printed images or presentation document will be accepted unless specifically requested by the Jury Panel later.
- The onus is on the participant to ensure that his submission is received by HKIA before the closing date and time of submission.
 - No consideration would be given to late submissions.

4.5 Format of One Single Electronic Presentation Board for short-listed submissions in Stage II of the Jury Process (digital format – .jpeg & .pdf, no hardcopy is required)

■ Specifications

- i) The size of the e-Presentation Board design submitted for each submission shall be in one single **A0 size** (portrait orientation) **[841mm (w) x 1189mm (h)] (no production is required)**
- ii) All texts shall be in both Chinese and English.
- iii) Resolution should be **300dpi** minimum
- iv) **No company names, logo or other identifying information may appear on any submission materials**

■ Contents

- i) No advertisement or commercial content shall appear on the presentation board.
- ii) The following information is recommended to appear on the board:
 - Written description of the project
 - Location Plan
 - Floor plans and sections of the project
 - Photos of the projects, including 4 images of the building showing different perspectives for all entry categories
- (iii) The extent of the photos and drawings to be included are at the discretion of the participant, but the information included should be sufficient to enable the Jury Panel to assess the design merit of the building.

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TERMS & CONDITIONS

5.1 Examination for Eligibility of Submissions

The Design Awards Organising Committee may exclude any submission from consideration by the Jury if the submission does not fully conform to the Rules & Requirements stated herein. Any such exclusion by the Organising Committee shall be final and such submissions will not be included in the Exhibition and Publication.

All submissions will be examined and the works achieved the expected standards of the Award programme will be shortlisted to enter final assessment for Awards by the Jury Panel. Other than those screen-off submissions in Stage I, all selected projects in Stage II will be invited for Exhibition and Publication.

5.2 Ownership of the Submissions

All submitted materials including forms, electronic files and photographs are deemed to be the property of HKIA and there are no restrictions or losses recoverable from the Institute on the publication and exhibition of any material submitted herewith. The Institute reserves the right to reproduce, print, publish, edit the material submitted in either paper or electronic format or the like, for any use.

The Organising Committee has the discretion to exclude entries from Exhibition & Publication of the Awards.

5.3 Return of Submission

All submissions will not be returned. Request for retrieval of materials from the Institute after the submission will not be entertained. Therefore, entrants are advised to produce a duplicate set of materials for their own record.

5.4 Disclaimer

Participant must warrant that the information provided in the submission is true and accurate, and agree to abide by the Terms and Conditions stated in this Nomination Brief. All participating parties and clients involved in the project should have been noticed and consented to the submission. HKIA is authorized to publish and exhibit the information without verification. Participant shall also indemnify HKIA or its members and staff for any loss or damages resulted from such publication and exhibition.

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JURY PANEL & ASSESSMENT CRITERIA

6.1 Jury Panel

The international Jury Panel appointed by HKIA consists of 6 jury members:

Ar. Ho Tzu Yin
(Managing Director of LAUD Architects, Singapore)

Ar. Natalie Mossin
(Head of Institute at the Royal Danish Academy –Institute of Architecture and Technology)

Ar. Ishtiaque ZAHIR Titas
(Co-founder, Architect & Urban Designer of VITTI)

Ar. Billie Tsien
(Founding Partner of Studio Tsien and Tod Williams Billie Tsien Architects New York)

Ar. Fani Vavili-Tsinika
(Professor Emerita at the Aristotle University of Thessaloniki)

Ar. Richard Wood
(Managing Director Asia at Snøhetta)

6.2 Assessment Criteria

- i) Outstanding architectural design that can stimulate, engage and move the receivers.
- ii) Excellently addressing the function requirement, providing interesting spatial quality and demonstrating tectonic reasonableness.
- iii) Having a clear design vision and being successfully demonstrated in the design.
- iv) Achieving a space for imagination and the pursuit of human wellness.
- v) Showing innovative ideas to bring the human being's living to a higher level.
- vi) Responsive to nature and/or urban context of development.
- vii) Sustainable, adaptive to changes, responsive to the environment, and putting concepts of sustainability and environmental friendliness into practice.
- viii) Optimal use of land resources without compromising architectural quality

- ix) Execution of the architectural details through the architect's skill to bring out the architect's original and creative design intention.
- x) Demonstrating skill, sensitivity and thoughtfulness in re-interpretation, restoration or adaptive re-use of historically meaningful & significant building or space.
- xi) Innovative ideas of spatial design arrangement.
- xii) Impressive natural lighting/ artificial lighting effect.
- xiii) Excellent choice and use of materials.
- xiv) Sustainable Architecture: Good integration of architectural and sustainable design, smart and clever use of natural resources such as ventilation, daylight, water, etc., achieving genuine energy reduction and a quality living environment by a sensible architectural design approach, optimal use of material to reflect the best intention of the architects on saving the scarce material of the Earth, and demonstrating the importance of architects' role in sustainable design.

6.3 Category Assessment Criteria (For Reference)

- A) Category A – Conservation and Adaptive Reuse
 - Demonstrate technical competence, sensitivity, and judgement required to restore, reuse, or conserve buildings of historical or cultural significance.
 - Skillfully reconcile existing elements with modern requirements, while preserving the building's original character and integrity.
 - Substantially strengthen social engagement and reinforce local cultural identity.
- B) Category B – Commercial
 - Efficient spatial planning and outstanding architectural design, meeting functional and operational objectives.
 - Creatively enhance users' experience, comfort, and aesthetic qualities within commercial spaces.
 - Demonstrate economic and environmental sustainability consistent with commercial practice.
- C) Category C – Residential
 - Meet the fundamental needs of human habitation through innovative layouts and context-responsive design.
 - Create inclusive living environments while considering community character, environmental context, and privacy.
 - Adopt energy-efficient, people-centred design solutions.
- D) Category D – Community and Institution
 - Through inclusive and welcoming design, foster stronger community connectedness and social interaction.
 - Clearly articulate the intention and value of supporting cultural, social, and civic life.
 - Prioritise public participation by delivering engaging, practical, and accessible spaces for everyday use.
- E) Category E – Transport, Industrial & Infrastructure Facilities
 - Deliver technical and visual innovation of a high standard, ensuring functionality, safety, and clear value.
 - Integrate built infrastructure with natural and urban environments, creating mutually beneficial, lasting outcomes.

- F) Category F – Sustainable and Low Carbon Architecture
 - Demonstrate energy efficiency and a strong sense of environmental responsibility by delivering integrated low-carbon solutions.
 - Specify green materials and sustainable technologies throughout both construction and ongoing management.
 - Prioritise healthy, adaptable environments, highlighting the wider social value of green building.

- G) Category G – Overseas Projects from Cross-Strait Architects
 - Demonstrate advantages in both concept design and delivery, addressing international architectural challenges through cultural sensitivity and a global perspective.
 - Show strong design coordination and an ability to adapt effectively to local conditions within an international context.

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N O M I N A T I O N F O R M

- Online registration link: <https://cada.hkia.net/en/>
- For more details: <https://hkia.net/en/whats-on/1/events/detail/1217>

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E N Q U I R Y & C O N T A C T S

Submission Enquiries
HKIA Secretariat
Ms. Ashley LANG / Mr. Nicky TSE / Ms. Sharon SHEK
(852) 3155 0443 / 3155 0441 / 2511 6323
cada2026@hkia.org.hk

Appendix 1: JURY PANEL MEMBER BIO



Ar. Ho Tzu Yin

Managing Director of LAUD Architects, Singapore

Ar Ho Tzu Yin is the Managing Director of LAUD Architects, a Singapore-based award-winning architectural firm with a diverse portfolio, ranging from high-rise residential to institutional projects and office towers. LAUD Architects seeks to embody the twin values of community and sustainability in all their projects.

Some of the design awards received by Ar Ho are: The President*s Design Award (the highest design award in Singapore), SIA Architectural Design Award and World Architecture Festival 2016 (Finalist). In 2017, Ar Ho made the Urban Renewal Authority of Singapore’s (URA) “List of 20 leading architects under age 45 years” in Singapore.

Ar Ho is also passionate about education of the next generation of architects, and regularly participates as external reviewer, panellist and design studio critiques for National University of Singapore (NUS) College of Design and Engineering (CDE), Singapore University of Technology and Design (SUTD) as well as Singapore Polytechnic. Tzu Yin received his architecture education in NUS and RMIT.



Ar. Natalie Mossin

Head of Institute of Architecture and Technology, Royal Danish Academy

Natalie Mossin is a Danish architect. She is Head of Institute at the Royal Danish Academy – Institute of Architecture and Technology and a member of the Board of the Danish Institute of Fire and Security Technology. She was the President of Congress for the UIA World Congress of Architects, 2023, “Sustainable Futures – Leave no one Behind”, and is a former President of the Danish Association of Architects and Vice-president of the Union Internationale des Architectes (UIA). Natalie is an experienced innovation specialist, editor and curator. She is a leading voice in setting the agenda for sustainable development in the built environment, at both a strategic and political level. She has extensive experience with capacity building, innovation initiatives as well as operational and strategic leadership. She has authored and edited articles and books including “An Architecture Guide to the UN 17 Sustainable Development Goals, volume 1 and 2”, and has been a curator of the Danish Pavilion at the Venice Architecture Biennale (2018). Her most recent book is “Innovation of Nothing – the capabilities needed to lead sustainable change in the built environment” (2023).

Appendix 1: JURY PANEL MEMBER BIO (Cont'd)



Ar. Ishtiaque ZAHIR Titas, *Hon. FAIA, Hon. KIA, Hon. FRAIA, FIAB*

Co-founder, Architect & Urban Designer of VITTI

Ishtiaque ZAHIR Titas, Hon. FAIA, Hon. KIA, Hon. FRAIA, FIAB is the Co-founder, Architect & Urban Designer of the award-winning firm VITTI, a leading architectural and Urban design practice in Bangladesh for the past 35 years. His practice has earned both national and international recognition. Designing sustainability through participatory process and designing public spaces are his key areas of interest. He believes that sustainability should be at the core of all development works and architecture should focus more on research and innovation. He is the former VP of IAB, Co-chair of PCG Professionals of World Urban Campaign WUC, UN Habitat. He served as Policy UNIT expert for Habitat III conference and advisor to the Barcelona thematic meeting on public space. He has contributed to COP, WUF and the UIA Dhaka declaration. He is the immediate past Vice president of the International Union of Architects (UIA) from Region IV (Asia and Oceania) and the adviser to the UIA SDG Commission. He is also a juror for the UIA 2030 award, 3rd cycle.



Ar. Billie Tsien

Founding Partner of Studio Tsien and Tod Williams Billie Tsien Architects New York

Billie Tsien is a New York-based architect, mentor, and leading voice in the design and broader cultural community. Her approach to architecture is rooted in the spirit of collaboration with a portfolio imbued with a sense of optimism, warmth, texture, and serenity. She is a founding partner of Studio Tsien with recent commissions including Ana Mari Cauce Welcome Center at the University of Washington and the New Humanities and Social Sciences Building at the University of New Mexico. She is also a founding partner of Tod Williams Billie Tsien Architects whose notable projects include the Asia Society Hong Kong, TATA Consultancy Services, Banyan Park in Mumbai, India, and the Obama Presidential Center in Jackson Park, Chicago.

In parallel to her architecture practice, Billie teaches at Yale University and is a devoted participant in many arts organizations. She was appointed the first Woman and Asian-American Chair of the Commission of Fine Arts by President Biden in 2021. Billie previously held leadership positions at the Architectural League of New York, The Academy of Arts and Letters and the Public Art Fund.

This dedication to work and the cultural landscape at large has garnered her numerous awards including the National Medal of Arts from President Obama, the 2013 AIA Architecture Firm Award, and the 2019 Praemium Imperiale presented by the Japan Art Association. As an educator, arts advocate and practitioner, Billie is steadfast in her mission to create a better world through architecture.

Appendix 1: JURY PANEL MEMBER BIO (Cont'd)



Ar. Fani Vavili-Tsinika

Professor Emerita at the Aristotle University of Thessaloniki

*Member of the: Technical Chamber of Greece, Greek Association of Architects, Global university programs in healthcare architecture (gupha), UIA-Public Health Group (PHG), President of the Hellenic Section of UIA, UIA council, Board of the Regional Health Authority for Central Macedonia, Board of trustees for the National Library of Greece in Athens, Vice Chair of International Exhibition of Thessaloniki - HELEXPO, National Representative for "Science & Technology" for the Greek Ministry of Development at the European Community, Chairwoman of the public relations & Board for studies at AUTH, Vice chair for the AUTH University camping, Greek National organization GENTERA & PERIKTIONI (gender equality in research), Board of the Greek National Institute of Metrology (2010) et al. Bronze medal was awarded by Greek Red Cross

*Teaching architectural design relating, mainly, to housing and healthcare facilities planning & design. Founder of Tsinikas Architects (housing, multi-story residential buildings, nursery, theaters, museums, health care buildings etc). * Projects were published in magazines and had been prized.

*Published many articles in magazines and congresses and the following books:

designing for the elderly, designing for mental health, aspects of healing environments (ed), Arts in health Care Buildings (ed), 'Sustainability and Energy Efficiency Design in Hospital Buildings' (chapter) at 'Energy Efficiency in Building Design', Ed. Dabidja, A., Springer publ., Designing of public libraries, etc.



Ar. Richard Wood

Managing Director Asia at Snøhetta

Richard Wood is the Managing Director Asia at Snøhetta with a focus on developing the firm's projects and values throughout the Asia region.

Richard has lived and worked in the region since 2012, designing and leading large public and institutional buildings, and urban planning projects throughout. His selected projects at Snøhetta include Tokyo Shibuya Upper West Project, NOT A Hotel Rusutsu in Japan, Kota Kinabalu Masterplan in Malaysia, and among others.

Besides his design practice, Richard is also actively involved in architectural and design education, such as teaching at Hong Kong Polytechnic University School of Design, and keynote presentations at Shanghai Jiao Tong University, FIND Singapore 2024, Art Basel Hong Kong 2024 and among others.

Richard received his Master of Architecture at the Bartlett School of Architecture, University College London, UK. He is a member of the Royal British Institute of Architects.