



Women in architecture in a gallery space designed by Zaha Hadid, (Image: Sumita Singha)



Women in architecture course, Politecnico Di Milano (Image: Arianna Scaioli)



Women in architecture event, London, (Image: Sumita Singha)



Sumita Singha, Women in architecture: Critical Concepts in Architecture, Routledge, 2018 (Image: Sumita Singha)

RESEARCH AND COURSE: WOMEN IN ARCHITECTURE

Sumita Singha OBE RIBA, is the author of *Women In Architecture: Critical Concepts in Architecture*, published by Routledge in 2018. Sumita is the past Chair of Women In Architecture in the UK and has been spearheading feminist and intersectional issues in education and practice through speaking and writing. The four volume publication includes key articles, documents and reports from women in architecture. The comprehensive introduction, written by Sumita Singha, "The 'Vanished', the 'Immodest' and the 'Other Other': The Virtues of Women in Architecture" places the curated materials in their historical and intellectual context. The publication, *Women in Architecture* has been called 'an essential work of reference'. The volumes explore four themes - History and Identity; Extraordinary Practice; Wider Influence, and Employment and Education. The collection offers a holistic and non Euro-centric view of women in architecture, with good practice and inspiration from all parts of the world.

Sumita now leads a course about women in architecture established in 2021 at the Politecnico Di Milano, Italy, which is open to all students. She is supported by Arianna Scaioli, PhD candidate in Architectural, Urban and Interior Design at Politecnico di Milano, with a thesis encompassing gender studies. The course focuses on practical difficulties that women architects and students face and how those can be minimised, removed or mitigated. The course includes the historic context of women architects, education for a gender free world and the lack of diversity in architecture. It examines the work by women architects and designers such as political activism, eco-feminism, urban freedoms, and advocacy for human rights. Enabling the progress of women architects and facilitating their role in the design of inclusive and safe cities and buildings for all, is a crucial part of the agenda on gender equality as set by the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals.

“The course, Women In Architecture, follows the publication, Women In Architecture: Critical Concepts in Architecture, thus transforming theory into action. The progress of women architects and their role in the design of cities and buildings, is part of the UN’s Sustainable Development Goals.”
 - Sumita Singha, Architect

