

**CV for Stephen D. Willacy,**  
Arkitekt MAA RIBA ARB AoU  
BA(Hons) OXON, Dipl Arch PCL  
Honorary Professor University of Dundee

### **Short resume**

Stephen has lived in Aarhus, Denmark since 1984 and trained as an architect at Oxford Brooks University and Westminster University in UK. He has worked both in private practice, as a partner at internationally renowned Schmidt Hammer Lassen Architects, (SHL) and in teaching and research positions finally as associate professor at the Aarhus School of Architecture. Whilst at SHL he was partner working on projects including award-winning buildings Sir Duncan Rice Library at the University of Aberdeen and the City of Westminster College in London.

For the last 8.5 years, Stephen worked as the Chief City Architect in Aarhus City Council. The combination of considerable experience from a politically led organization, combined with insight from research and teaching, and professional praxis as partner in an internationally acclaimed architect company has given Stephen an acute understanding of the complex processes from the initiation phases of projects, the creative energies and sheer will necessary to carry a project forwards to finalizing construction processes.

The combination of these experiences and new knowledge gained from the recently completed MSc in Cities from London School of Economics and Political Science provides a solid platform for his new venture Stephen Willacy Architecture + Urbanism.

### **Education:**

1979, BA (Hons) OXON Oxford School of Architecture, (Oxford Brooks University)  
1982 Dipl Arch, PLC Polytechnic Central London (Westminster University)  
2012 1 år af 2 års deltids MBV på Arkitektskolen Aarhus  
2018-2020 MSc in Cities, London School of Economics

### **Professional organisations:**

1984- Royal Institute of British Architects (RIBA) Chartered membership  
1984- Architects Registration Board (ARB)  
1985- The Danish Association of Architects (MAA), Leader of East Jutland a  
2004-2006, member of board of representatives & membership admissions board  
2014- Academy of Urbanism  
2018- Kunstnersamfundet / The Danish Artist' Society  
2018- Honorary professor Arkitektur og Urban Design, University of Dundee, Scotland

### **Stephen Willacy Architecture + Urbanism 2021-**

See company web site [www.stephenwillacy.com](http://www.stephenwillacy.com)

The company builds upon Stephen's unique set of competencies to create value with a holistic approach, collaborating closely, in the early stages of a project, with clients, contexts, citizens and local authorities. This is where the greatest value is created, making a robust and resilient foundation for the success of a project.

Current clients and work:

- Architectural adviser for Aarhus City Council in connection with land development and sales processes
- Client consultancy for several private development companies
- Member of Executive Board

### **Chief City Architect Aarhus City Council 2012-2020**

As Chief City Architect, Stephen had the overall responsibility for architectural quality in connection with larger plans and projects and thus the overall responsibility with respect for the city to develop in a way where architectural considerations are prioritised and contribute to continued innovation in relation to urban planning, urban design, landscape design and architectural quality.

In addition the role included the following responsibilities:

- Ambassador on behalf of Aarhus City Councils visions for the city's agenda concerning sustainable urban development and viability in many different contexts and forums nationally and internationally. Example guest visiting Aarhus, Danish councils, societies and international delegations. In 2017 Stephen held over 60 talks, lectures and city walks and over 40 lectures internationally in St Petersburg, Moscow, Kaliningrad, Paris, glasgow, Dundee, aberdeen, Birmingham, London, Cannes, Ottawa, toronto and Roveni- Croatia
- Strategic advisor in connection with sales and development masterplans for Aarhus City Council land, also in partnership with private developers and consortiums
- Coach, facilitator and partner in connection with internal development processes and projects in connection with planning and construction programs as well as public meetings, planning consultations and local engagement forums / workshops.
- Member of numerous steering bodies in the municipality.
- Architectural competition juror in connection with Aarhus City Council projects and other architectural and urban planning competitions nationally and internationally.
- Architectural advisor for all Magistrates in Aarhus City Council
- Significant involvement in Aarhus as European Capital of Culture 2017 "Lets Re-Think"
- Co-author & author: several municipal documents, dialog tools, guidelines, guides and articles.
- Policy for Architecture and Urban Quality 2020

### **Partner schmidt hammer lassen architects 2005 – 2011**

- Creative leadership and management in company management group.
- Responsible partner for the international markets with development primarily in the UK and China: Opening of SHL Architects Ltd in London 2006 and representative office in Shanghai, China 2009.
- Strategic market plans, identifying new business areas, develop business strategies for selected markets and implementation plans.
- R&D with responsibility for 2 business PhD's
- Extensive experience with multicultural projects and interdisciplinary design teams with both private and public clients.
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### **Some completed projects in UK where Stephen had a leading role and responsibilities:**

- University of Aberdeen Library 2005-2012 RIBA Award, RISA Award (winner in international architect competition)
- City of Westminster College 2006-2012, London, RIBA Award (winner in international architecture competition)
- Parsons Cross New Library Learning Center, Sheffield Mixed-use Masterplan, (winner competition English Communities Framework)
- Barking Reach, East London, RIBA Regional Award (up to Planning Permission)
  
- Projects in China primarily relating to sustainable mixed-use masterplanning and sectors including culture, education, housing in Shanghai, Beijing, Chongqing, Tianjin, Harbin, Kunming, Chengdu, Wuhan, Yantai, Suzhou, Tongzhou, Dongying, Nanjing and Wuxi.

### **Teaching and Research responsibilities 1992-2011 Arkitektskolen Aarhus**

- 2001-05 Associate professor
- 1997-2001 Assistant professor
- 1996-97 Undervisningsassistent
- 1992-96 Ekstern lektor (deltid)
- 2001-02 Gæsteprofessor Arizona State University, USA
- Visiting associate professor in connection with teaching, lecturing workshops at Mackintosh School of Architecture- Glasgow, Scott Sutherland School of Architecture- University of Aberdeen, University of Dundee School of Social Sciences, Tongji University, Shanghai
- Numerous International lectures in connection with artikler i forbindelse med forskningsresultater
- Articles in connection with research findings

### **1985-1997 Kjær & Richter Architects A / S**

#### **Other activities**

- 1995- Examiner for masters og bachelor examinations in DK AAA
- Phd assessor AAA
- TED X talk Aarhus 2017 "*What makes a good city for everyone?*"
- Public speaker, debater and author of numerous articles and co-author of architectural guides and contributions to several books
- Kattegat Centeret, revitalization Stadsbiblioteket Aarhus, several housing projects in Docklands London
- 2018- 2020 Participated in and first facilitator for Samuelsen Build- and Housing Politic Network - Aarhus, with 130 members

#### **Continued Professional Development**

It is important for my commitment and continued professional development to continuously stay at the forefront of my fields of expertise. I have recently completed the prestigious MSc in Cities course at the acclaimed London School of Economics and Political Science.

The LSE MSc Cities course included (each with leadership modules):

#### **Cities in an Urban Age: challenges and opportunities:**

- An introduction to the structural dynamics that shape the way cities are governed, planned and managed in different regions across the globe. The course outlines the key environmental, social and economic drivers that determine urban change in the 21st century

- **Cities and Society: design and social cohesion:**

The connections between how cities are configured and the impact on different social, ethnic and economic groups – including migrants, youth and the elderly - are explored and investigates how the design and planning of cities can either promote social inclusion or exacerbate divisions in urban society.

- **Cities and Economy: Urban age economic development and finance**

This applied course investigates how city governments, investors and firms can drive inclusive local development in a competitive global economy. Using case studies and real-life examples, the course identifies better ways to measure the city economy and looks at how urban policy can play a key role in steering it through industrial strategies, investments in innovation and fiscal policy.

- **Cities and Environment: Urban environmental transitions:**

Recognising the critical role that cities play in successfully responding to the global ecological and climate crisis, the course identifies how the negative impacts of urban development on the environment linked to urban sprawl, motorisation and resource use – can be reversed through innovative governance, green policies and practices that transform the way we develop and inhabit cities and regions in the future.

**Established in 2021 Stephen Willacy Architecture + Urbanism ApS**

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