

ARCHITECT

MIDDLE EAST

NEWS, DATA, ANALYSIS AND STRATEGIC INSIGHTS FOR ARCHITECTS IN THE GCC

POWER LISTERS

Star architects who reach out into the Middle East and the very best of the region's design professionals are featured



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ALIZERA TAGHABONI
ARCHITECT NEXT OFFICE

Tehran based Alizera Taghaboni designed the Sharfi-ya House which, in part due to its revolutionary design which includes rotating rooms, was Middle East Architect's Residential Project of the Year. The company completed a notable double by also getting second place in the category with Koubzar House.



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MURAT AND MELHAN TABANLIOĞLU
PARTNERS TABANLIOĞLU ARCHITECTS

Tabanlıoğlu, a husband and wife team, has opened a Dubai office and is involved with a project along the seafront. Most active in Turkey, last year the company published a book on its many award-winning designs.



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RALF STEINHAUSER
PROJECT DIRECTOR RSP

With a staff of 1,300 across the world and 60 personnel based in Dubai RSP is a major player – reflected in the company's first place in the Middle East Architect awards large Firm of the Year category and the large number of projects it is currently engaged in across the region.



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YANHA JAN
VICE PRESIDENT NORR GROUP

Yanha Jan played a leading role in the development of Dubai's Emirates Towers and his work is a major part of the skyline in Kuwait where he designed the Trade Centre, Bahrain and Jordan.



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RAYA ANI
FOUNDER RAW NYC ARCHITECTS

Raya Ani is also a representative for the American Institute of Architects in the region. Her company won Leisure Project of the Year at this year's MEA Awards for a sustainable sports facility in Deha.

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KOURESH HAJIZADEH

FOUNDER
HA SZADCH PARTNERS

Voted Middle East Architect of the Year for 2013, Kouresh Hajizadeh has been instrumental in developing projects which emphasise the history and culture of his native country of Iran.



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ANDRE MEYERHANS
FOUNDER ANDRE C MEYERHANS DESIGN CREATIONS

As well as being involved in large scale projects such as masterplanning for a desert community, the Al Nadi Tower - which has become a new symbol of the waterfront in Abu Dhabi - and the Al Garhoud Bridge in Dubai, Andre Meyerhans is also a designer of jewellery.



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OMID ROUHANI
FOUNDER OMIDROUHANI ARCHITECTURAL DESIGN

Holder of a Masters in design for a desert environment and an academic practice in 2010. Among his current projects are two contrasting homes on the Palm Jumeirah, Dubai, one built with a horizontal theme, the other vertical.



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SAMAYA DABBAGH
FOUNDER
DABBAGH ARCHITECTS

Born in Saudi Arabia, but a resident of both the UK and France, Samaya Dabbagh runs her own practice in Dubai as well as serving as Hon Sec for the Gulf chapter of the Royal Institute of British Architects which promotes design excellence across the globe.



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FARIBORZ HATAM
FOUNDER FHSI ARCHITECTS

One of the most forward thinking members of Dubai's design and build profession, Fariborz Hatam promotes connectivity and human scale architecture in his designs.



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SANDRA WOODALL
DESIGN DIRECTOR TANGRAM

Sandra Woodall was a winner at the 2013 Middle East Architect awards for Sustainable Project and her company was highly commended in last year's Large Firm category.



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STEVE VELEGRINIS
DIRECTOR PERKINS + WILL

Currently heading up the urban design team at Perkins + Will Steve Velegrinis is looking to long term development projects in the UAE to cater for an increasingly established population. He also teaches at the American University of Sharjah.