



Jury Report: Open Call for Curator, OAT 2019

About the Call

On 11 September 2017, the Oslo Architecture Triennale (OAT) launched an Open Call for Curator for its 2019 edition (OAT 2019). The call stated: "As a physical manifestation of political systems, culture and social structures, architecture plays an important role in how we understand and shape our societies. In a time where democracy and current systems of power are being challenged and change is an increasingly present and accelerating force in our global and local societies, OAT 2019 wishes to raise a discussion on the role and relevance of architecture in the future."

The Jury

Nina Berre, Leader of the Board of OAT and Director of Architecture at the National Museum of Art, Architecture and Design in Oslo;
Pedro Gadanho, Director of the Museum of Art, Architecture and Technology in Lisbon;
Anne Beate Hovind, CEO, Project Director and consultant;
Marianne Skjulhaug, Head of Institute at the Oslo School of Architecture and Design; and
Kjetil Trædal Thorsen, Founder and Partner of Snøhetta.

Jury Secretary: Hanna Dencik Petersson, Director of OAT

Jury works

By the closing of the call on 18 October, OAT received 71 applications from all over the world. Five candidates were shortlisted and invited for interviews in Oslo.

The Jury met for four full days in the period of 14 to 30 November, 2017. The last two days were spent interviewing shortlisted candidates and drawing conclusions.

The Jury was responsible for the full process related to the selection criteria in the Call. Proposals were evaluated according to:

- Relevance and consistency of the curatorial theme and concept
- Communication and dissemination potential to all parts of OAT's target group
- Collaborative skills
- Interdisciplinary possibilities
- Documented relevant experience

The Jury's decision has been subject to a board decision within the Board of OAT.



Winner and shortlisted candidates

The winner of the Open Call for Curator and preferred candidates to curate the seventh edition of the Oslo Architecture Triennale in 2019, are Maria Smith, Matthew Dalziel, Cecilie Sachs Olsen, and Phineas Harper, with their proposal *Common Futures*. The Jury's decision is unanimous.

The five shortlisted teams were:

- Adrian Currie, Andre Dekker, Christiane Bürklein, Dominique Chouchani, Herbert Wright and Zuzanna Skalska
- Anna Bokov and Nina Edwards Anker
- Brendan Cormier, Fabrizio Gallanti, Francisca Insulza and Mabel O. Wilson
- James Graham, Dehlia Hannah and Nadim Samman
- Maria Smith, Matthew Dalziel, Cecilie Sachs Olsen and Phineas Harper

The Jury's comments to the winning proposal

The proposal addresses a tendency which has been on the rise in the last decade. *Degrowth* is gaining ground in social and economic contexts, and it is time for architectural practice and discourse to position itself and consider the possible consequences for the profession. With this concept, the Triennale could be a platform to establish an understanding of a potential architecture of *degrowth*: defining it, questioning it and challenging both architects, architecture commissioners and decision makers to develop new strategies for building, planning, evolving and adapting our built environments based on non-growth development. The Jury also appreciates the concept's ambition to manifest the overlying climate change discussion into the life of each practitioner and individual, challenging us in our everyday comfort zones.

The proposal can also be read as a challenge to the city of Oslo, to open itself up to the ideas and ideals of alternative ways of development and to explore its potential ramifications in what may be seen as a collective pursuit towards a more climate conscious urban and global future.

The team represents a line of practitioners in London, and a strong, creative culture of addressing contemporary subjects intersecting between architecture, engineering, social sciences and art. The Jury believes the chosen curatorial team also has the potential to question the general relevance and logic of architecture biennials and triennials in the world.