



jenny hall

interdisciplinary
workshop

The architect, artist and carpenter Jenny Hall will facilitate the workshop, inviting participants to share their lived experience and disparate and collective worlds together. Jenny is the director of multi-disciplinary studio Craftedspace Ltd. in Wales in the UK. She is exhibiting at the World Stage Design Awards in the Space & Object Professional category.

Rather than positioning a thesis at the centre of the workshop, Jenny would like to place the participants at the centre. How can this workshop foster relationships that can explore shared visions for a theatre space, event or performance?

Participants are invited to reflect on which parts of their creative memory banks they want to deep dive into for ideas and opportunities to explore together. What are the stories that they hold in their bodies? What are their hopes and concerns? Which unrealised projects still burn brightly? What have they seen or been moved by in Sharjah that beckons consideration?

Jenny, working with OISTAT Chair of the Architecture Commission Maaïke Westinga, will offer questions for deep enquiry and deep listening. Allowing practitioners from costume, sound, light, architecture and performance to cross pollinate and find points of connection. Co-creating their own design briefs and ultimately rendering their shared ideas as essays, drawings, models or movement sketches.

Placing story at the heart of purpose has shaped Jenny's creative practice. When she was 13 years old she visited Maya Lin's Vietnam Veterans Memorial in the USA. The profoundly moving experience compounded her nascent desire to become an architect.

'I begin by imagining an artwork verbally. I try not to find a form too soon. Instead, I try to think about it as an idea without a shape...Sometimes the idea takes initial shape as an essay. Or it can start as a sketch with text...But most of the time my artworks begin as models.'

Artist and architect Maya Lin





We welcome you to visit the current exhibition on the **Theatre Architecture Competition (TAC)**

<https://www.sharjahwsd2025.com/theatre-architecture-competition>

This year the 12th Theatre Architecture Competition (TAC) was co-organised by Sharjah Performing Arts Academy and the OISTAT Architecture Commission, with support from Sharjah Art Foundation (SAF) and Sharjah Architecture Triennale.

We chose the site of Bait Obaid Al Shamsi. Built around 1845 for merchant Obaid Bin Hamad Al Shamsi, the former private house is a large two-story building with a central courtyard.

Renovated in the late 1990s, the building is now managed by the Sharjah Art Foundation and hosts a series of artists' studios and events.

The competition challenge was to devise a flexible structure to transform the central courtyard into a new 100-seat temporary performance space, but which also deals with the site's specific climate.

Proposals were encouraged to respect the heritage of the venue and the region and to offer a maximum construction and dismantling time of no more than three days.

17 projects were chosen for exhibition because of their specific qualities. The exhibition can be visited at the site of Bait Obaid Al Shamsi in the old city of Sharjah.