

architecture  
**A LASTING  
IMPACT**

**5 - 6 August 2023**

Cinnamon Grand Hotel  
Colombo | Sri Lanka



INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE

PRINCIPAL KEYNOTE SPEAKER

**Thomas Vonier** FAIA, RIBA | USA

KEYNOTE SPEAKERS

**Elizabeth Chu Richter** FAIA | USA • **David Richter** FAIA | USA • **Brinda Somaya** INDIA

**Nicolas Medrano** USA • **Channa Daswatte** SRI LANKA

SPEAKERS

**Ben Derbyshire** RIBA | UK • **Prof. Eva Jiricna** OBE | UK | CZECHIA • **Yahya Jan** UAE • **Cristina Finucci** ITALY

**Duangrit Bunnag** THAILAND • **Nadia Tromp** SOUTH AFRICA • **Mohomadreza Ghodousi** IRAN

**Palinda Kannangara** SRI LANKA • **Damith Prematilaka** SRI LANKA

**Kosala Weerasekera** SRI LANKA • **Malisha Kodituwakku** SRI LANKA



Ambasciata d'Italia  
Colombo



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The Royal Institute of British Architects Members : Sri Lanka

9 June 2023

*Dear AIA International Members,*

**RIBA MEMBERS SRILANKA INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE**  
**IN COLLABORATION WITH AMERICAN INSTITUTE OF ARCHITECTS (AIA) INTERNATIONAL**  
**AND THE ITALIAN EMBASSY OF SRI LANKA**

*" Architecture: A Lasting Impact "*

**5<sup>th</sup> – 6<sup>th</sup> August 2023, Oak Room, Cinnamon Grand Hotel, Colombo, Sri Lanka.**

The Royal Institute of British Architects (RIBA) Chapter in Sri Lanka is organizing an International Conference on Architecture in collaboration with the American Institute of Architects (AIA) and the Italian Embassy of Sri Lanka on the theme : "*Architecture : A Lasting Impact*" on Saturday the 5<sup>th</sup> and Sunday the 6<sup>th</sup> August 2023, at the Oak Room, Cinnamon Grand Hotel, Colombo.

This Conference which would be the first of its caliber in Sri Lanka, featuring 12 nos. of International Starchitects from around the world, to uplift the morale of Sri Lankan Architects & the Image of Sri Lanka in the eyes of the World, thus boosting the Economy of the Country.

The Audience would consist of approx. 400 Architects & other interested parties from Sri Lanka, Architects from the South & South East Asian Region, including that of Architects from RIBA International and AIA International and the Architects of the 21 ARCASIA Countries.

It may be pertinent to mention that the AIA consists of approx. 100,000 Architects & RIBA consists of approx. 40,000 Architects. While Sri Lanka has approx. 2000 Architects.

The Chief Guest at the Conference would be His Excellency Ranil Wickremasinghe, the President of Sri Lanka & his wife Professor Maithree Wickremasinghe, who has already accepted our Invitation.

In addition, the Former President H. E. Chandrika Bandaranayake Kumaratunga, the Deputy British High Commissioner Ms. Lisa Whanstall who will be standing in for H.E. The British High Commissioner, the American Ambassador H. E. Julie Chung, & H.E. the Italian Ambassador have accepted our Invitations as Guests of Honor.

## REGISTRATION

TICKETS.LK

Delegate Registration Link : USD 325 ( Early Bird ) , USD 475 ( After 10th July )

REGISTRATIONS HERE

Registrations can be done by clicking the above or by visiting ( <https://www.riba.lk/conference23/> )

## SRI LANKAN AIRLINES

Sri Lankan Airlines have come as the " Official Airline Partner " to the Conference and have availed our Speakers, Special Guests & Delegates a Discount of 10% on Business Class and 15% on Economy Class

## HOTELS

Hotel	SNG	DBL	TPL
Cinnamon Grand	117	129	156
Cinnamon Lakeside	78	95	127
Cinnamon Red	72	85	113

Cinnamon Grand is the Host Hotel, and the rates for Cinnamon Lakeside and Cinnamon Red are inclusive of the Morning Shuttle and the Night Shuttle to and from Cinnamon Grand.

**We have advised our International Speakers, International Special Guests & International Delegates to fly into Sri Lanka on Thursday 3rd & fly out of Sri Lanka on Friday 11th August to avail themselves of the Pre & Post Conference Tours we have organized.**

Now that everything has been firmed up, our bevy of undermentioned International Speakers who have accepted our invitation are as follows:

## INTERNATIONAL SPEAKERS

### 1. Thomas Vonier : Principal Keynote Speaker

FAIA, RIBA,  *President AIA 2018 + President USA 2018 – 2021 Creator of AIA International*

### 2. Ben Derbyshire

*RIBA President 2017-2019*

### 3. Elizabeth Chu Richter & David Richter : Texas USA ( President AIA 2015 ) *( Keynote Speaker )*

### 4. Brinda Somaya : India ( Gold Medalist IIA ) *( Keynote Speaker )*

### 5. Yahya Jan : UAE

### 6. Christina Finucci : Italy

### 7. Eva Jiricna : Czechoslovakia / UK *( First to Design the Glass Staircase in the world )*

### 8. Nadia Tromp : South Africa

### 9. Duangrit Bunang : Thailand

### 10. Nicolas Medrano : USA *( Keynote Speaker )*

### 11. Mohamadreza Ghodousi : Iran

### 12. Channa Daswatte : Sri Lanka *( Keynote Speaker )*

## SRI LANKAN SPEAKERS

### 13. Palinda Kannangara : Sri Lanka

### 14. Damith Prematilaka : Sri Lanka

### 15. Kosala Weerasekera : Sri Lanka

### 16. Malisha Kodituwakku : Sri Lanka

## SPECIAL GUESTS

1. Thomas & Francoise Vonier : USA   
( *President AIA 2018 + President UIA 2018 – 2021 Creator of AIA International* )
2. Benjamin & Jane Derbyshire : UK   
( *Past President RIBA ; 2017 – 2019* )
3. Scott Gold : USA   
( *President AIA International ; 2022 -2023* )
4. Lester & Heather Korzilius : USA 

## TOURS

To re-iterate the Pre & Post Conference Tours with "*links to videos*" alongside Costs which would give you an insight to what we have in store for our International Speakers.

**Post Conference Tour 2 and 3 cannot be taken together.**

### 1. Pre-Conference City Tour : Friday 4th August **COST : US \$ 105 ( Lunch Included )**

We begin the "*City Tour*" visiting the 100-year-old Hindu Temple built out of solid granite in 1905 during the British Rule situated in Pettah, once the hub for trade.

Then proceed to Colombo Fort : once the "*financial district*" of Sri Lanka examining the British Colonial Architecture.

Arrive at the Dutch Hospital, today turned into an up-market shopping mall & restaurants which is believed to have existed since 1681 during the Dutch Rule.

Examine the British Colonial Parliament building of 1921, which is now the President's office & Galleface Green and the British Colonial Galle Face Hotel of 1864 , another marvel of the British Colonial period.

Proceed to Lotus Tower of 350m in height for a breath-taking 360 view of the City with a stop at Gangaramaya Buddhist Temple.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=T4kVyizR664>

Pass the Beira Lake & the Seema Malakaya built by Geoffrey Bawa in 1976.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=UeII6o2BIUc>

Pass Moshe Safdi's icon the "*Altair building*" & arrive at Gallery Café to Lunch once Geoffrey Bawa's office.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=nEzHQ-x9GbQ>

Post Lunch proceed to Geoffrey Bawa's Colombo home & office for a tour.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=8ymHY2U0t3c>

Drive towards the Parliament building to observe how Geoffrey Bawa has built Parliament on the Diyawanna Lake & proceed to the last stop which is the RIBA International Award-Winning Studio Dwelling by Ar. Palinda Kannangara.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=hmnYsY-MCcl>

Back at Cinnamon Grand Hotel to shower & rest before proceeding to dinner at the Conference Chair Nela De Zoysa's home at 7.30pm.

## 2. Tour No : 1 : Post Conference Day Tour : Monday 7th August

**COST : US \$ 160 ( Lunch & Dinner Included )**

This Tour takes you down the Southern Coast to visit the Kalutara Bodhi Temple (only shell structure dome in Sri Lanka) :

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Oi7BI-iUDJ4>

Proceed to Lunuganga ( The breath-taking House & Garden of Maestro Geoffrey Bawa )

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=B0MGUlyFYy4>

Lunch at Geoffrey Bawa's Spectacular Bentota Beach Hotel. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=SIX0ycZ6vC8>

Proceed to Geoffrey Bawa's Breathtaking Heritage Ahungalla <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=22HVXXZ-NLs>

Galle Fort to experience Dutch Colonial Architecture.

Dinner at Geoffrey Bawa's Magical Light House Hotel. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=1reKI9GCZpU>

Head back to Cinnamon Grand Hotel.

## 3. Tour No : 2 : Post Conference Tour ( 2 nights + 3 Days ) : Monday 7th, Tuesday 8th & Wednesday 9th August (Late Evening)

**C O S T**

**Single : US \$ 920**

**Double : US \$ 1,500**

**Triple : USD \$ 2,250**

Continue tour No : 1 with an overnight stay at Geoffrey Bawa's Magical Light House Hotel.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=1reKI9GCZpU>

After breakfast, proceed to Jetwing Yala for lunch.

Evening jeep Tour to the Yala Sanctuary to observe Elephants, Leopards, Sloth Bears, Deer, Wild Buffalo, Wild Boar, Crocodiles, Foxes, Birds etc.

Dinner & Overnight stay at Jetwing Yala.

Early Morning Jeep ride to Yala Sanctuary followed by late Breakfast. [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Nb\\_pCKNoiUo](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Nb_pCKNoiUo)

After Lunch, return to Colombo to Cinnamon Grand Hotel on Wednesday the 9th.

4. Tour No : 3 : Post Conference Tour ( 2 Nights + 3 Days ) : Tuesday 8th ,  
Wednesday 9<sup>th</sup> & Thursday 10th (Late Evening)

**C O S T**

**Single : US \$ 825**

**Double : US \$ 1,420**

**Triple : US \$ 2,130**

Leave Colombo after Breakfast for Heritance Kandalama, to Lunch.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=QTiq2brsyK0>

After Lunch proceed to Minneriya to see Elephants in the Wild. Return to Heritance Kandalama for Dinner.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=zg3a86G2JD8>

9<sup>th</sup> Early Morning climb the 5th Century Sigiriya Rock Fortress one of the 7 Wonders of the World.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=uJQz2uWr2E8>

OR

Visit Diya Bubula : House & Garden of Landscape Architect Laki Senanayake.

[https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=OQID9\\_rRUQs](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=OQID9_rRUQs)

Lunch at Jetwing Vil Uyana & return to Heritance Kandalama for Overnight stay and relax.

Enjoy how Maestro Geoffrey Bawa has fused the Rock with the Forest overlooking the Kandalama tank, with a view of Sigiriya & Dambulla Rock.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=pPa3PjwMhyY>

After lunch return to Colombo to Cinnamon Grand Hotel on Thursday 10<sup>th</sup>.

I hope this information given above would convince you to be one of our International Delegates. You are welcome to contact me on the following :

**Conference Chair : Nela De Zoysa**

Mobile : +94 7777 111 25 ( WhatsApp as well )  
RIBA email : [riba.members@gmail.com](mailto:riba.members@gmail.com)  
AIA email : [nela.dezoysa@aiainternational.org](mailto:nela.dezoysa@aiainternational.org)  
Personal email : [nelarcht@gmail.com](mailto:nelarcht@gmail.com)

Warmest Regards,



**Nela De Zoysa**

Hon . FAIA ; FIA ( SL ) ; FRIBA ; FRAIA ; Intl . Assoc ; RAIC ; IIID ; PG. Dip. Acomas

**Chair – RIBA Members Sri Lanka International Conference in collaboration with AIA International 2023**

Immediate Past Chair : RIBA Members Sri Lanka  
Founder Chair ( 2015 – 2021 ) Council Member RIBA ( 2011-2014 & 2014-2017 )

AIA IR Country Representative Sri Lanka ( 2020 to date )  
AIA Strategic Council ( 2019 – 2020 )

Council Member : Sri Lanka Institute of Architects ( 2004-2007 & 2019-2021 )  
Chairman : Board of Architectural Education, SLIA ( 2019-2021 )  
Honorary Assistant Secretary : SLIA ( 2005-2007 )

ARCASIA Gold Medal ( 2000 )  
ARCASIA ACAE Secretary ( 2006-2008 )  
ARCASIA Fellowship Committee ( 2010-2012 )



**Prof. M. Lalith De Silva**

FIA ( SL ) , RIBA , M.Sc ( Arch ) , B.Sc ( BE ) Hons

Head of School of Architecture : Sri Lanka Institute of Information Technology ( SLIIT ) 2022 – to date

Dean : Faculty of Architecture : University of Moratuwa 2014 – 2019

Emeritus Professor of Architecture : Department of Building Economics 2009 – to date

President SLIA ( Sri Lanka Institute of Architects ) 2003 – 2005

Chair : Architects Registration Board ( ARB ) 2007 – 2009

Vice President : Organization of Professional Associations ( OPA ) 2007 – 2008