

RIBA Travelling Scholarship winner

2021

Press Clipping

Publication

Archdaily

Date

16/07/2021

Format

Digital

Politecnico Architecture Student Weronika Zdziarska Awarded 2021 RIBA Norman Foster Travelling Scholarship



Save this article



Written by Dima Stouhi

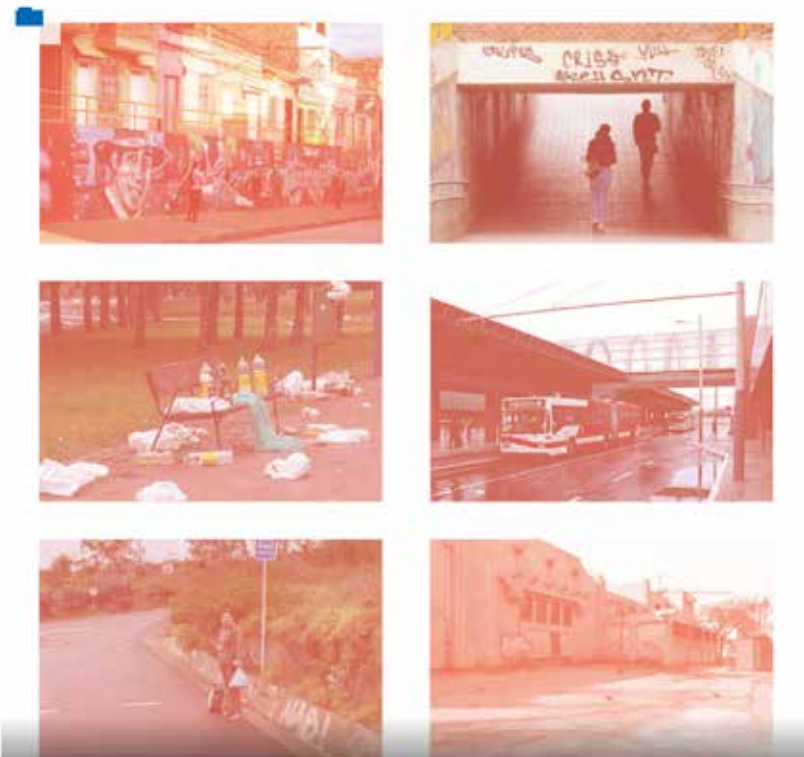
3 days ago

The [Royal Institute of British Architects](#) has awarded [Politecnico di Milano](#)'s architecture student Weronika Zdziarska the [2021 RIBA Norman Foster Travelling Scholarship](#), for her project '*Don't Stay Out Alone: addressing women's perception of safety and freedom in cities by design*'. The jury unanimously gave Zdziarska the award for her exploration of gender in the public spaces of [Latin America](#), which "demonstrated a sophistication in her early research which differentiated her work from that of her worthy fellow applicants".





Zdziarska's winning project evaluates previous interventions carried out by international, regional, and local organizations in South America to provide safety for women living and working in cities. The architect chose to work on five cities, each representing different responses to her particular field of research: [Medellin, Colombia](#); [Quito, Ecuador](#); [Santiago, Chile](#); [Montevideo, Uruguay](#), and [Curitiba, Brazil](#). Her proposal demonstrated the relationship between gender inequality and design, and outlines the best practices for building more inclusive cities.



The scholarship is awarded annually and offers £7,000 to fund the research of one architecture student with outstanding demonstration of original and critical thinking on issues related to the survival of cities and towns, and how people react to built spaces.

Related Article

[Iulia Cistelean, from the London School of Architecture, Wins the 2020 RIBA Norman Foster Travelling Scholarship](#)

“Zdziarska’s proposal was very well structured and presented, with her focus on exploring and learning from South American urban environments that have improved inclusion and safety and increased gender equality in design. As a judging panel we were inspired by her initial research and pertinence of the proposal, and her drive to investigate and address these issues on an international scale. Congratulations on this winning project - I look forward to seeing the findings of this important research. -- Professor Alan Jones, [RIBA](#) President”



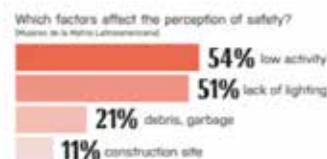
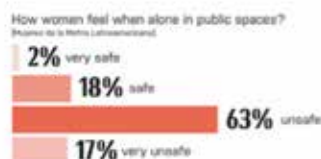
63% of women finish daily activities before dusk for safety reasons
(Transport Security Ltd)



91% of women experienced harassment in the city
(Programa de la Mujer Latinoamericana)



82% of women identify public transport as unsafe
(Development Bank of Latin America)



The 2021 jury comprised of:

- [Norman Foster](#), Lord Foster of Thames Bank (Founder and Executive Chairman, Foster + Partners; President, Norman Foster Foundation)
- Elena Ochoa, Lady Foster of Thames Bank (Publisher and curator; Vice-President, Norman Foster Foundation)
- Professor Ricky Burdett (Professor of Urban Studies, and director of LSE Cities and the Urban Age Programme; Trustee, Norman Foster Foundation)
- Sofie Pelsmakers (Assistant Professor Sustainable [Architecture](#) and Sustainable Housing Design, Tampere University; Co-founder & Director, [Architecture for Change](#) (AfC))
- Professor Alan Jones (President, RIBA).



Past recipients of the RIBA Norman Foster Travelling Scholarship include:

- Iulia Cistelean - London School of [Architecture](#), UK 'Life Between Shelters: Refugee camps of today becoming cities of tomorrow' - 2020
- Siti Nurafaf Ismail - University of Malaya, Malaysia - 'Architecture of Humility' - 2019
- Steven Hutt - University of Greenwich, UK 'East of Eden' - 2018
- Chloe Loader - University of Lincoln, UK 'Emerging Cities: Sustainable Master-Planning in the Global South' - 2017
- Abel Feleke - University of Western Australia, Australia 'Weaving the Urban Fabric: Examining the Significance of Community' - 2016

Image gallery



About this author



Dima Stouhi
Author

FOLLOW



Publication

Architect

Date

16/07/2021

Format

Digital

RIBA announces the winner of the 2021 Norman Foster Travelling Scholarship



By [Josh Niland](#)

Jul 16, '21 2:26 PM EST



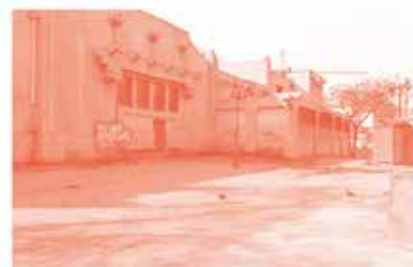
Follow



2021 RIBA Norman Foster Travelling Scholar: Weronika Zdziarska. Credit: Tomek Kaczor

A Milanese architecture student has been named as this year's [RIBA Norman Foster Travelling Scholarship](#) recipient, the institute announced this week.

Weronika Zdziarska won for a project titled 'Don't Stay Out Alone: addressing women's perception of safety and freedom in cities by design,' a study of how groups in five different South American cities have intervened amidst the recent tragic uptick in violence that has plagued women in [large urban areas across the globe](#). She is currently enrolled at the [Politecnico di Milano](#).

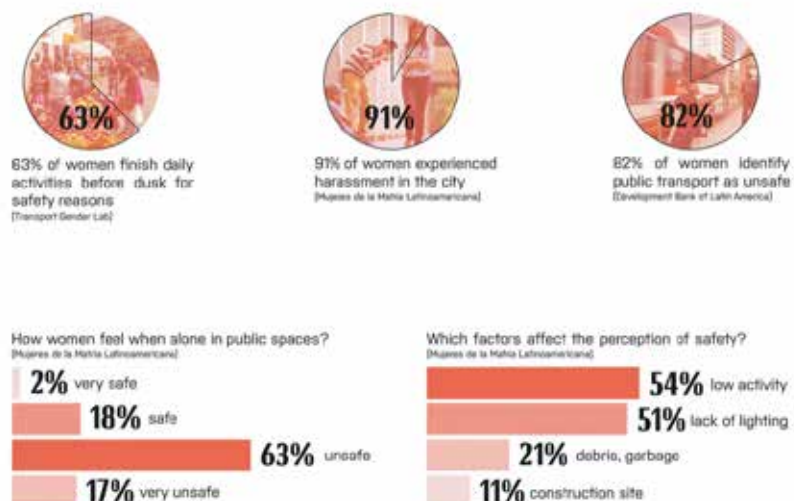


Zdziarska's project will attempt to "demonstrate the relationships between gender inequality and design," in the hopes of creating more gender equity in the design and urban planning process. A £7,000 grant award goes along with the announcement.



A collage for the project by Zdziarska. Image courtesy of RIBA.

"The Jury was unanimous in its selection of Weronika Zdziarska's submission as the winner. Her methodology was impressive, and her project was beautifully presented. Her decision to explore issues of gender in the public spaces of just Latin America demonstrated a sophistication in her early research which differentiated her work from that of her worthy fellow applicants," Norman Foster said in a statement.



A data illustration for the project by Zdziarska. Image courtesy of RIBA.

[Previous winners](#) of the scholarship have included works that focus on a diverse range of topics related to life in cities. The full announcement of this year's edition can be found [here](#).

Publication

e-architect

Date

15/07/2021

Format

Digital

Norman Foster Travelling Scholarship 2021 Winner, RIBA World Architecture Travel Prize

2021 RIBA Norman Foster Travelling Scholarship News

Royal Institute of British Architects News – open to schools of architecture globally

15 July 2021

Norman Foster Travelling Scholarship 2021 Winner

Weronika Zdziarska wins 2021 RIBA Norman Foster Travelling Scholarship

Architecture student Weronika Zdziarska:



photo : Tomek Kaczor

Thursday 15th of July 2021 – The Royal Institute of British Architects (RIBA) is pleased to announce the 2021 RIBA Norman Foster Travelling Scholarship recipient as Weronika Zdziarska, an architecture student from the Politecnico di Milano, Italy, for her project 'Don't Stay Out Alone: addressing women's perception of safety and freedom in cities by design'.



The annual scholarship offers £7,000 to fund research by one outstanding architecture student who demonstrates original thinking on issues relating to the sustainable survival of cities and towns.

Weronika Zdzarska:



photo : Tomek Kiczor

Zdzarska's project will evaluate previous interventions carried out by international, regional and local organisations in South America, to improve the safety of women in cities. Five cities have been selected for evaluation, each representing different attitudes and responses to this area of research: Medellin, Colombia; Quito, Ecuador; Santiago, Chile; Montevideo, Uruguay and Curitiba, Brazil.



The proposal seeks to demonstrate the relationships between gender inequality and design, and to outline best practices for building more inclusive cities.

The judging panel also commended 'Biofuel Producing Technology, Algae: An Alternative Energy Source' by Basant Abdurrahman from the American University in Dubai, UAE.



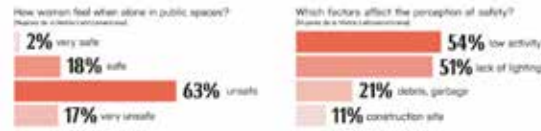
63% of women finish daily activities before dark for safety reasons
(Thompson Center Ltd)



91% of women experienced harassment in the city
(Shawon de la Sierra Luján/Architect)



82% of women identify public transport as unsafe
(Shawon de la Sierra Luján/Architect)



The 2021 judging panel comprised of:

- Norman Foster, Lord Foster of Thames Bank (Founder and Executive Chairman, Foster + Partners; President, Norman Foster Foundation)
- Elena Ochoa, Lady Foster of Thames Bank (Publisher and curator; Vice-President, Norman Foster Foundation)
- Professor Ricky Burdett (Professor of Urban Studies, and director of LSE Cities and the Urban Age Programme; Trustee, Norman Foster Foundation)
- Sofie Pelsmakers (Assistant Professor Sustainable Architecture and Sustainable Housing Design, Tampere University; Co-founder & Director, Architecture for Change (A/C))
- Professor Alan Jones (President, RIBA)

Student Weronika Zdziarska:



photo : Tomek Kuczer

Lord Foster said:

"The Jury was unanimous in its selection of Weronika Zdziarska's submission as the winner. Her methodology was impressive, and her project was beautifully presented. Her decision to explore issues of gender in the public spaces of just Latin America demonstrated a sophistication in her early research which differentiated her work from that of her worthy fellow applicants."



Publication

Stir World

Date

19/07/2021

Format

Digital



STIR > SEE > NEWS

2021 RIBA Norman Foster Travelling Scholarship awarded to Weronika Zdziarska

Zdziarska, a student of Politecnico di Milano, is the latest recipient of the grant from RIBA and the Norman Foster Foundation for her research on women's safety in urban cities.

by Jerry Elengical | Published on : Jul 19, 2021

Weronika Zdziarska, a student from Milan's **Politecnico di Milano** has been announced as the winner of the 2021 RIBA Norman Foster Travelling Scholarship. Awarded annually by the **Royal Institute of British Architects**, the prestigious grant is conferred upon students of architecture who demonstrate outstanding potential and conceptual thinking in relation to problems concerning the **sustainable preservation** of urban areas, and it offers £7,000 for the winner to either travel and explore cities and towns relevant to their work or conduct research within their home country. Zdziarska's proposal, titled 'Don't Stay Out Alone: addressing women's perception of safety and freedom in cities by design,' explores the connections between **gender inequality** and design while seeking to devise methods to make cities safer and more inclusive.



63% of women finish daily activities before dusk for safety reasons
(Transport Gender Lab)



91% of women experienced harassment in the city
(Mujeres de la Manizalinoamericana)

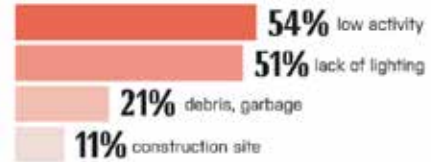


82% of women identify public transport as unsafe
(Development Bank of Latin America)

How women feel when alone in public spaces?
(Mujeres de la América Latina)



Which factors affect the perception of safety?
(Mujeres de la América Latina)



Zdziarska's research explores links between gender inequality and design, aiming to make cities safer and more inclusive for women

Image: Weronika Zdziarska

As the 14th student honoured under the programme, Zdziarska's project will investigate past measures undertaken by organisations in **South America** at local, regional, and international levels to promote women's safety in cities and subsequently work towards greater **gender equality** in design. Currently, five cities have been nominated for evaluation, namely: Medellín in **Colombia**, Quito in **Ecuador**, **Santiago** in Chile, **Montevideo** in **Uruguay** and Curitiba, **Brazil**. Each of them offers a unique set of variables, attitudes, and perspectives for this particular domain of inquiry.



The project will evaluate measures taken in five South American cities to promote women's safety

Image: Weronika Zdziarska

Sir Norman Foster, founder of British architecture firm **Foster + Partners**, explains the purpose of the grant in an official release, recalling how he won a prize as a student that allowed him to travel through **Europe** one summer to study buildings and cities that he had only learnt about from the pages of books. "It was a revelation – liberating and exhilarating in so many ways," he fondly reminisces. "Today, it is the privilege of the **Norman Foster Foundation** to support the RIBA Norman Foster Travelling Scholarship, which I hope will have a lasting legacy – offering the chance for discovery and inspiration for generations to come," he adds.

In a press statement, Professor Alan Jones, President of RIBA, recalls the evaluation process, and comments on the exceptional structure and presentation of Zdziarska's project compared to her peers. "As a judging panel," he says, "we were inspired by her initial research and the pertinence of the proposal, and her drive to investigate and address these issues on an international scale."



Each of the five cities offers a different set of variables and characteristics to explore
Image: Weronika Zdziarska

Alongside Jones and Foster, the jury this year included Elena Ochoa Foster (Vice-President of Norman Foster Foundation), Professor Ricky Burdett (Professor of Urban Studies and Trustee of the Norman Foster Foundation), and Sofie Pelsmakers (Assistant Professor of Sustainable Architecture and Sustainable Housing Design at Tampere University). In addition to awarding Zdziarska the grant, the panel also commended the work of Basant Abdelrahman from the American University in **Dubai, UAE** for his project: 'Biofuel Producing Technology: Algae: An Alternative Energy Source.'



Zdziarska was commended for the structure and presentation of her research as well as its conceptual sophistication

Norman Foster reflects on the panel's decision to award Zdziarska with the scholarship in a press release stating, "The jury was unanimous in its selection of Weronika Zdziarska's submission. Her decision to explore gender issues in public spaces of **Latin America** demonstrated a sophistication in her early research which differentiated her work from that of her worthy fellow applicants." The jury's verdict to honour Zdziarska could be categorised as a refreshing mark of progress in the way we acknowledge the deficiencies of contemporary city planning. Furthermore, it can be said that the nature of Zdziarska's research with regards to how it will thoroughly investigate an oft-overlooked parameter in **urban design** - that of women's safety - is an important step forward in the endeavour to design the world's cities to be more inclusive and secure for their residents.

The RIBA Norman Foster Travelling Scholarship is open to students that have enrolled and completed their first year of study towards a professional qualification from a school of architecture invited by RIBA. Past winners include Iulia Cistelean from the **UK's** London School of Architecture, Joe Paxton from the **Bartlett School of Architecture in London**, Amanda Rivera from the University of Bio Bio in **Chile**, and Sahil Bipin Deshpande of the Rizvi College of Architecture in **Mumbai, India**.



Publication
World Architecture
Date
21/07/2021

Format
Digital

Weronika Zdziarska Awarded 2021 RIBA Norman Foster Travelling Scholarship

Italy Architecture News - Jul 21, 2021 - 16:43 807 Views



The [Royal Institute of British Architects](#) (RIBA) has announced [Politecnico di Milano](#)'s student Weronika Zdziarska as the winner of the 2021 RIBA Norman Foster Travelling Scholarship for her project "Don't Stay Out Alone: addressing women's perception of safety and freedom in cities by design."

Awarded annually, the scholarship offers £7,000 to fund research by one outstanding architecture student who demonstrates original thinking on issues relating to the sustainable survival of cities and towns.

Weronika Zdziarska's proposal was selected unanimously by the jury comprised of [Norman Foster](#), Elena Ochoa, Lady Foster of Thames Bank, Professor [Ricki Burdett](#), Sofie Pelsmakers, Assistant Professor Sustainable Architecture and Sustainable Housing Design, Tampere University and Professor [Alan Jones](#).

Zdziarska's proposal seeks to demonstrate the relationships between gender inequality and design, and to outline best practices for building more inclusive cities.



Image © Weronika Zdziarska

Zdziarska's project will evaluate previous interventions carried out by international, regional and local organisations in South America, to improve the safety of women in cities. Five cities have been selected for evaluation, each representing different attitudes and responses to this area of research: Medellín, Colombia; Quito, Ecuador; Santiago, Chile; Montevideo, Uruguay and Curitiba, Brazil.

"The Jury was unanimous in its selection of Weronika Zdziarska's submission as the winner. Her methodology was impressive, and her project was beautifully presented," said Norman Foster.

"Her decision to explore issues of gender in the public spaces of just Latin America demonstrated a sophistication in her early research which differentiated her work from that of her worthy fellow applicants," Foster added.



Image © Weronika Zdziarska

"Zdziarska's proposal was very well structured and presented, with her focus on exploring and learning from South American urban environments that have improved inclusion and safety and increased gender equality in design," said RIBA President Professor Alan Jones.

"As a judging panel we were inspired by her initial research and pertinence of the proposal, and her drive to investigate and address these issues on an international scale. Congratulations on this winning project - I look forward to seeing the findings of this important research," Jones added.



The judging panel also commended "Biofuel Producing Technology, Algae: An Alternative Energy Source" by Basant Abdelrahman from the American University in Dubai, UAE.



63% of women finish daily activities before dusk for safety reasons
(Transport Gender Lab)



91% of women experienced harassment in the city
(Mujeres de la Malla Latinoamericana)

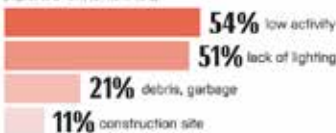


82% of women identify public transport as unsafe
(Development Bank of Latin America)

How women feel when alone in public spaces?
(Mujeres de la Malla Latinoamericana)



Which factors affect the perception of safety?
(Mujeres de la Malla Latinoamericana)



The 2021 jury comprised of:

- Norman Foster, Lord Foster of Thames Bank (Founder and Executive Chairman, Foster + Partners; President, Norman Foster Foundation)
- Elena Ochoa, Lady Foster of Thames Bank (Publisher and curator; Vice-President, Norman Foster Foundation)
- Professor Ricky Burdett (Professor of Urban Studies, and director of LSE Cities and the Urban Age Programme; Trustee, Norman Foster Foundation)
- Sofie Peismakers (Assistant Professor Sustainable Architecture and Sustainable Housing Design, Tampere University; Co-founder & Director, Architecture for Change (AFC))
- Professor Alan Jones (President, RIBA)



Weronika Zdzińska. Image © Tomek Kaczor

RIBA Norman Foster Travelling Scholarship was first established in 2006, the scholarship, supported by the [Norman Foster Foundation](#), is now in its fifteenth year and is intended to fund international research on a topic related to the survival of our towns and cities, in a location of the student's choice.

Past RIBA Norman Foster Scholars have travelled through the Americas, Europe, Africa, South East Asia, the Middle and the Far East, and Russia. This year, in response to global travel restrictions, students could alternatively submit a proposal to research a topic in their home country.

Past recipients of the RIBA Norman Foster Travelling Scholarship: [Luka Cistelecan](#) - London School of Architecture in 2020, UK, Siti Nurafaf Ismail - University of Malaya, Malaysia in 2019, Steven Hutt - University of Greenwich, UK in 2018, [Chloe Loader](#) - University of Lincoln, UK in 2017.

Top image: Weronika Zdzińska © [Tomek Kaczor](#)

» via [RIBA](#)

Specification

Online

Publication
Specification Online

Date
19/07/2021

Format
Digital

Weronika Zdziarska wins 2021 RIBA Norman Foster Travelling Scholarship

Latest News • Mon, Jul 19, 2021 8:27 AM

[Facebook](#) [Twitter](#) [Pinterest](#) [LinkedIn](#) [Email](#)

The Royal Institute of British Architects (RIBA) is pleased to announce the 2021 RIBA Norman Foster Travelling Scholarship recipient as Weronika Zdziarska, an architecture student from the Politecnico di Milano, Italy, for her project 'Don't Stay Out Alone: addressing women's perception of safety and freedom in cities by design'.

The annual scholarship offers £7,000 to fund research by one outstanding architecture student who demonstrates original thinking on issues relating to the sustainable survival of cities and towns.

Zdziarska's project will evaluate previous interventions carried out by international, regional and local organisations in South America, to improve the safety of women in cities. Five cities have been selected for evaluation, each representing different attitudes and responses to this area of research: Medellín, Colombia; Quito, Ecuador; Santiago, Chile; Montevideo, Uruguay and Curitiba, Brazil.



Photo: Tomek Kaczor

The proposal seeks to demonstrate the relationships between gender inequality and design, and to outline best practices for building more inclusive cities.

The judging panel also commended 'Biofuel Producing Technology; Algae: An Alternative Energy Source' by Basant Abdelrahman from the American University in Dubai, UAE.

The 2021 judging panel comprised of:

- Norman Foster, Lord Foster of Thames Bank (Founder and Executive Chairman, Foster + Partners; President, Norman Foster Foundation)
- Elena Ochoa, Lady Foster of Thames Bank (Publisher and curator; Vice-President, Norman Foster Foundation)
- Professor Ricky Burdett (Professor of Urban Studies, and director of LSE Cities and the Urban Age Programme; Trustee, Norman Foster Foundation)
- Sofie Pelsmakers (Assistant Professor Sustainable Architecture and Sustainable Housing Design, Tampere University; Co-founder & Director, Architecture for Change (AfC))
- Professor Alan Jones (President, RIBA)

Lord Foster said: "The Jury was unanimous in its selection of Weronika Zdziarska's submission as the winner. Her methodology was impressive, and her project was beautifully presented.

"Her decision to explore issues of gender in the public spaces of just Latin America demonstrated a sophistication in her early research which differentiated her work from that of her worthy fellow applicants."

RIBA President Professor Alan Jones said: "Zdziarska's proposal was very well structured and presented, with her focus on exploring and learning from South American urban environments that have improved inclusion and safety and increased gender equality in design.

"As a judging panel we were inspired by her initial research and pertinence of the proposal, and her drive to investigate and address these issues on an international scale. Congratulations on this winning project - I look forward to seeing the findings of this important research."

Publication
Plataforma
Arquitectura

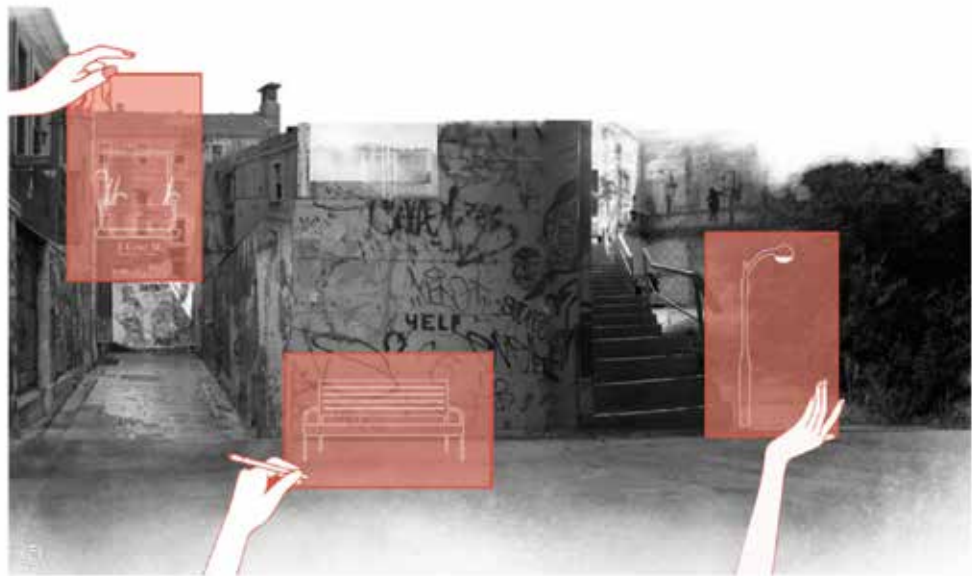
Date
20/07/2021

Format
Digital

Weronika Zdziarska recibe Beca de Viaje RIBA Norman Foster 2021 por su estudio del género en los espacios públicos de América Latina



Guarda este artículo



Escrito por Dima Stouhi | Traducido por Luciana Truffa

hace un día

El [Royal Institute of British Architects \(RIBA\)](#), ha concedido a la estudiante de arquitectura del [Politecnico di Milano](#), Weronika Zdziarska, la [beca RIBA Norman Foster Travelling 2021](#), por su proyecto '*Don't Stay Out Alone: addressing women's perception of safety and freedom in cities by design*' (*No salgas sola: abordando la percepción de seguridad y libertad de las mujeres en las ciudades mediante el diseño*). El jurado concedió por unanimidad el premio a Zdziarska por su exploración del género en los espacios públicos de [América Latina](#), que "demostró una sofisticación en su investigación inicial que diferenció su trabajo del de sus dignos compañeros de candidatura".





El proyecto ganador de Zdziarska evalúa intervenciones anteriores llevadas a cabo por organizaciones internacionales, regionales y locales en Sudamérica para proporcionar seguridad a las mujeres que viven y trabajan en las ciudades. La arquitecta eligió trabajar en cinco ciudades, cada una de las cuales representa diferentes respuestas a su campo particular de investigación: [Medellín, Colombia](#); [Quito, Ecuador](#); [Santiago, Chile](#); [Montevideo, Uruguay](#) y [Curitiba, Brasil](#). Su propuesta demostró la relación entre la desigualdad de género y el diseño, y describiendo de paso las mejores prácticas para construir ciudades más inclusivas.



La beca es otorgada anualmente y ofrece 7.000 libras esterlinas para financiar la investigación de un estudiante de arquitectura que demuestre de forma sobresaliente, un pensamiento original y crítico sobre cuestiones relacionadas con la supervivencia de ciudades y pueblos, y la forma en que las personas reaccionan ante los espacios construidos.

“ La propuesta de Zdziarska estaba muy bien estructurada y presentada, y se centraba en explorar y aprender de los entornos urbanos sudamericanos que han mejorado la inclusión y la seguridad, aumentando de esta manera la igualdad de género en el diseño. El jurado se sintió inspirado por su investigación inicial y la pertinencia de la propuesta, así como por su impulso para investigar y abordar estas cuestiones a escala internacional. Felicitaciones por este proyecto ganador; estoy deseando ver los resultados de esta importante investigación. - Profesor Alan Jones, Presidente del RIBA ”



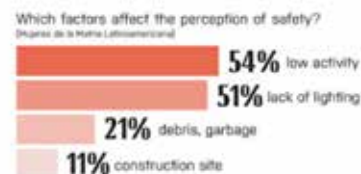
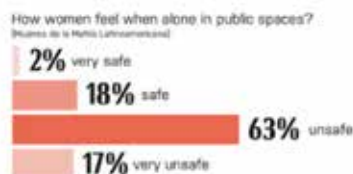
63% of women finish daily activities before dusk for safety reasons
(Transport Gender Lab)



91% of women experienced harassment in the city
(Mujeres de la América Latina)



82% of women identify public transport as unsafe
(Government Bank of Latin America)



El jurado de 2021 estuvo compuesto por:

- **Norman Foster**, Lord Foster of Thames Bank (fundador y presidente ejecutivo de Foster + Partners; presidente de la Norman Foster Foundation)
- Elena Ochoa, Lady Foster of Thames Bank (editora y curadora; vicepresidenta de la Norman Foster Foundation)
- Ricky Burdett (profesor de Estudios Urbanos y director del LSE Cities and the Urban Age Programme; Administrador, Norman Foster Foundation)
- Sofie Pelsmakers (profesora Adjunta de **Arquitectura** Sostenible y Diseño de Viviendas Sostenibles, Universidad de Tampere; cofundadora y directora de Architecture for Change (AfC))
- Profesor Alan Jones (presidente, RIBA).



Entre los anteriores beneficiarios de la beca itinerante Norman Foster del [RIBA](#) se encuentran:

- Iulia Cistelean - London School of Architecture, [Reino Unido](#), 'Life Between Shelters: Refugee camps of today becoming cities of tomorrow' (La vida entre refugios: Los campos de refugiados de hoy se convierten en las ciudades de mañana) - 2020
- Siti Nurafaf Ismail - Universidad de Malaya, Malasia - 'Architecture of Humility' (Arquitectura de la humildad) - 2019
- Steven Hutt - Universidad de Greenwich, [Reino Unido](#), 'East of Eden' (Este del Edén) - 2018
- Chloe Loader - Universidad Lincoln, [Reino Unido](#), 'Emerging Cities: Sustainable Master-Planning in the Global South' (Ciudades emergentes: Planificación general sostenible en el Sur global) - 2017
- Abel Feleke - University of Western Australia, Australia 'Weaving the Urban Fabric: Examining the Significance of Community' (Tejiendo la trama urbana: El significado de la comunidad) - 2016

Galería de Imágenes

