mecanoo



Nuno Gonçalves Fontarra Partner/Architect

With Mecanoo since 2002

Professional qualifications MArch Faculdade de Arquitectura da Universidade do Porto (FAUP); Registered with the Bureau Architecten Register (NL)

"A site-based approach to design aims to enhance the context of its intervention, it strives to be inherently understanding, responding and relating to subtle contextual qualities - its people and its place"

Nuno actively contributes to the scope and quality of Mecanoo's portfolio of work having engaged on numerous award-winning cultural projects and competition entries. Highly creative, innovative and flexible, Nuno has propelled the conceptualisation and design development of many of Mecanoo's most innovative and sculptural projects including the Natural History Museum Abu Dhabi, United Arab Emirates; National Kaohsiung Centre for the Arts (Wei-Wu-Ying), Taiwan; Longgang Cultural Centre, China and La Llotja Theatre and Conference Centre, Spain, amongst others.

He has also led multiple competition designs including the Nobel Qur'an Oasis, Saudi Arabia; Xigu Theare, Hong Kong; Urban Waterfront Development/Mediaspace Library, Aarhus, Denmark; and an urban campus for the European Space Agency, Germany. Nuno aims to enhance the context of an intervention by relating each project firmly to the landscape. Maintaining an active role in academia, Nuno has not only taught at the Delft University of Technology and the Piet Zwart Institute in Rotterdam, but he also taught a spring semester design studio at Soongsil University in Seoul.

Selected projects



Natural History Museum Abu Dhabi, United Arab Emirates Size: 35,000 m² Year: 2022 - 2025



Macau Central Library, China Size: 15,000 m² Year: 2020 - 2025



Longgang Cultural Centre, Shenzhen, China Size: 99,000 m² Year: 2012 - 2019



National Kaohsiung Centre for the Arts. Taiwan Size: 141,000 m² Year: 2007 - 2018



Heungkuk Tower Namdaemun, Seoul, South Korea Size: 5,900 m² Year: 2014 - 2017



Palace of Justice, Cordoba, Spain Size: 48,000 m² Year: 2006 - 2017



Taekwang Country Club House Gyeonggi-do, South Korea Size: 300 m² Year: 2014 - 2015



La Llotja Theatre and Conference Centre, Lleida, Spain Size: 37,500 m² Year: 2004 - 2010