



Emerge Architecture Competition
'Kumba'

JURY REPORT

JURY



Ruvimbo Moyo-Majapa



Karen Hewson



Henry Abosi



Tom Bergmann-Harris

RUVIMBO MOYO | FOUNDER/ARCHITECT

Emerge founder Ruvimbo Penina Moyo-Majapa obtained a Master of Architecture (Professional) degree from the University of Cape Town. She is interested in the relationship between sustainability and housing in contemporary Africa and has spoken on this topic at the Decorex 'Conversations on Architecture' in Cape Town.

Her thesis-based paper 'Utopia of the Developing World' was published in the Zawia 'Utopia' issue (Milan, London, Cairo) and also featured in the POVO Journal Inaugural Women's Edition. Her paper 'Nkandlagate: Only Partial Evidence of Urban African Inequality' was published in the Massachusetts Institute of Technology- Department of Architecture journal 'Thresholds 43: Scandalous'.

She has also collaborated with activists Ndifuna Ukwazi, featured in Cape Times, FastJet and recently Design Times as one of South Africa's most promising young architects.

Ruvimbo has worked for Pearce McComish Tarabuku Architects in Harare, Louis Karol Architects in Cape Town and is currently an Associate at Fabian and Make Architects in Cape Town.

KAREN HEWSON | ARCHITECT

Karen is a seasoned architect and Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design Accredited Professional. Her interest lies in using various technologies and holistic design approaches to create more sustainable and resilient communities.

Karen is originally from the USA and is still registered as an architect in the State of Ohio. She moved to Cape Town with her family 6 years ago and recently became licensed to practice in South Africa and created 7 Studio 7 Pty (Ltd). She holds a B.Arch from University of Kentucky and an MBA from The Weatherhead School of Business, Case Western University.

Henry Abosi is an award-winning architect and founder of BeFront Magazine.

He graduated cum laude with a Master's degree in Architecture from the University of Cape Town. He is interested in the complexities of place making in intricate urban settings and the dynamic human relationship to the spectrum of scales within the public realm.

As a seasoned critical writer, he is fuelled by a rich source of creative influences from cinematography to contemporary art and philosophy.

At the beginning of 2016 Henry founded BeFront Magazine, a platform for critical engagement with art, architecture, and film. He has previously been involved with Elle Decoration and has worked for Revel Fox, Peerutin and SAOTA. He was an associate director at dhk architects in Cape Town and is currently working for Adjaye Associates in London.

Tom grew up in Egypt, Germany, Spain and the Netherlands, is fully fluent in English, Spanish, French and German, and earned a degree in Nutritional Sciences.

Between graduating and settling in South Africa in 2011 he spent 10,000 days in disaster relief operations and development programmes for humanitarian organizations (Red Cross, United Nations) in 50 countries on 5 continents. He ran UNICEF Country Offices as the Representative or Deputy in Niger, Rwanda, Togo, Maldives and Uruguay and was Senior Advisor on the UN reform in New York and Panama.

Tom and his wife established and ran "LOCO Lounge Restaurant" in Cape Town (2012-2017). The father of two sons loves traveling the world and enjoys food because and despite his technical background. Tom has been a Rotarian since 2011 and his favourite mottos include "Education is not filling a bucket but lighting a fire" by Ireland's poet William Yeats.

JURY GUIDELINES

The Jury used the guideline below in judging the projects:

ORIGINALITY & RELEVANCE | 20 MARKS

The judges consider the Design Intent, concept and originality of the participant's idea, the relevance in its context along with the issues raised in the participant's Design Intent.

SPATIAL ORGANISATION & FUNCTION | 20 MARKS

The judges consider the planning and spatial layout of the building and how it responds to the concept and design intent. A comparison to the schedule of accommodation provided in the brief is also made.

'KUMBA' | 20 MARKS

The judges consider the participant's response to the 2020 theme 'Kumba' and site chosen. The participants were also given leeway to incorporate and connect with other issues that interest them to add substance to their proposals, for example, cultural, environmental (sustainability) etc.

RESOLUTION | 20 MARKS

The judges consider the form, materiality, detailing, usability, and technology used (especially for the African context), and the innovation and expression of the project.

OVERALL SUBMISSION | 20 MARKS

The judges consider the submission as a whole. This includes quality, aesthetics (presentation and building form), and response to the brief, innovation, creative solutions, ideas brought forward, and a clear stance taken.

TOTAL | 100 MARKS

GENERAL COMMENTS



Winning design by Tapiwanashe Mbire (University of Cape Town)

This year was the first year the Emerge competition accepted entrants not only from Zimbabwe, but from the SADC region. This brought with it a wonderful range of projects. Students are commended for the hard work and input to address real issues during a global pandemic. Many of the projects include very important elements that should be considered priorities not only in the context of the project but in today's world.

Opportunities for improvement lie in focusing on flexibility and changing functions within one space of the house, and not necessarily increasing areas to separate functions as seen in most projects. Most projects were reserved in exploring sustainable concepts; few had solar panel installation to help with warm water (hygiene) and electricity production, rainwater collection and food gardening for greater self-sufficiency. Very few projects incorporated traditional African styles, ways of living and building techniques to add a level of critical regionalism that may have improved their designs.

The future is bright and a brilliant attempt by the students who worked during trying times and looked at innovative ideas, concepts, and ways to change how we live. Congratulations to you all!

WINNING PROJECT



Winning Proposal by Tapiwanashe Mbire

The winning project by Tapiwanashe Mbire was well thought out. It re-introduces the barrel roof to contemporary design, considering impactful low-tech solutions. The concept is flexible and interior spaces can be moved around all while being organized around the central courtyard. The designer considered the urban context of the home and how it relates to its neighbours. To counter the tunnel effect of the proposal, the designer changed the floor levels, a subtle but effective enhancement. The design is aesthetically pleasing taking into consideration solar power panels, food gardening and rainwater collection.

SECOND PLACE



Second Place Proposal by Mthokozisi Orlence Sibanda (National University of Science and Technology)

In second place, Mthokozisi Orlence Sibanda's project works well spatially with the courtyard as a unifying element between 2 private areas. The single sloped roof is central to the design, literally and figuratively, and helps organize the spaces that lead off the central zone. More thought needs to be put into the aesthetic use of materials to continue the message of the space planning and contextualize the project. The designer has thought not only of how the individual areas are used but also how the users move easily between each space and how the individual spaces interact with each other.

THIRD PLACE



Third Place Proposal by David Peter Madziatayika (University of Malawi the Polytechnic)

In third place, David Peter Madziatayika provides us with a very practical solution. This compact house has elements of flexibility although allowing a bed in the middle of the dining and living may not be conducive to isolation of any sick occupants but if need be, the living room can be closed off. The roof is great for collecting rainwater, passive natural light entry, and ventilation but care needs to be taken in placing the solar panels for maximum efficiency. Thought has been given to the individual spaces but not necessarily how they interact or function with each other. The designer looks at the outdoor space the building form creates, thinking about how the entire site can function and how neighbours can interact thus expanding the house.

HIGHLY COMMENDED



Highly Commended Proposal by Rejoice Usai (National University of Science and Technology)

Rejoice Usai's proposal of a high-end home is aesthetically pleasing. It blends into the surrounding contours of the land while creating structural forms that use the land to create outdoor spaces, such that the outdoor spaces are not an afterthought. Attention to sustainable solutions and food security would have added an extra layer to the project. The use of the multi levels creates interesting spaces between the functions and in turn, allows for easy adaptation for multi-generations.



Highly Commended Proposal by Simbarashe Alvin Matema (National University of Science and Technology)

Simbarashe Alvin Matema creates an eye-catching modern building with a striking roof. It fits well in the landscape. Opportunity lay in interacting more with the site and surroundings, making the outside more functional. An aesthetically pleasing project that also pays attention to some sustainable solutions.

PRIZES

A total of R30 000 will be awarded as follows:

1st PRIZE:

The winning proposal will receive R15 000. This will be put towards the designer's school fees.

2nd PRIZE:

The second prize will receive R9 000. This will be put towards the designer's school fees.

3rd PRIZE:

The third prize will receive R6 000. This will be put towards the designer's school fees.

Honourable mentions will be published on the *Emerge* Competition website.
Proof must be provided for deposit into entrant's school account.

PUBLICATION/MEDIA

Winners will be published in **POVO SustainZim Journal**
Winners will be published by **BeFront Magazine**

SPONSORS/PARTNERS



We would like to thank all the sponsors and judges for your commitment to making this a successful competition.