

Katy Ghahremani Biography

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Qualifications: BArch, DipArch (Dist), RIBA

Since joining Make in 2004, Katy has worked on a broad range of office, residential and mixed use schemes, including designs for several prestigious hotels and resorts in various locations around the world. Katy is also an experienced interior designer and is often called upon to help clients explore and develop their brand philosophy and identity.

Katy has worked on several hotels and mixed use schemes in locations as diverse as London, Dubrovnik, Mauritius, Honduras and the Caribbean. In the process she has collaborated with a number of operators to ensure each scheme offers a guest experience wholly appropriate to the company's brand.

At present, Katy is lead architect on The Temple House and Spa – a 140-room boutique-style hotel in Chengdu, China, due to complete in the spring. As the site is close to several historic buildings, a sensitive approach to the specific features and materials was needed, complementing the important structures and referencing the unique architectural styles and traditions of the Sichuan region.

Katy is also working on an office fit-out for a 40-storey tower in the city of Tianjin, south-west of Beijing. The design for the tower differs to the normal constraints of commercial developments and explores the concept of the Auroras (Northern Lights) and the idea of bringing the tranquil beauty of nature into a bustling urban space.

Prior to joining Make, Katy worked at Foster and Partners where she was involved on a wide range of projects, including the London International Financial Future office building and the Electronic Arts' European Headquarters building in Chertsey. She also worked as project architect for the redevelopment of Selfridges, London's iconic Oxford Street department store.

Aside from her role at Make, Katy sits on the Royal Borough of Kensington and Chelsea's Architecture Appraisal Panel – a body which aims to protect the architectural heritage of the area and advises upon the borough's major development proposals. She is also a part of the RIBA Breaking Barriers to Women in Architecture group, and in 2012 she was shortlisted for the Architect's 'Emerging Woman Architect of the Year' award.

Katy was born in Iran and moved to London with her family in 1979. She studied for her degree at the University of Edinburgh and achieved her Diploma and Part 3 at The Bartlett School of Architecture. Katy currently lives in London with her husband and 3 children.