

11.12.2020

IE ARCHITECTURE+ PRIZE for emerging talent 2010-2020

Dear Jury Members,

I would like to start by expressing my excitement and gratitude for the opportunity to showcase my passion and work as an applicant to the IE Architecture+ Prize and hopefully a future student of the master's program in Business for Architecture and Design at IE. The story you're about to read is of a 12-year journey of self-discovery and ambition both as an architect as well as a human being.

It started in 2008 in a training centre, where my mother had enrolled for a 3ds Max course and I would occasionally join her, participate and later also contribute to the training until I and everyone around me were able to discover my true passion for the world of architecture and design at the age of 13. Soon after, I enrolled to more courses at Autodesk certified centres as the youngest participant in all classes, which has given me the drive and confidence to continuously expand my knowledge.

Six years later, I was enrolled in the bachelor's degree of architecture, at the Arab Academy for Science Technology and Maritime Transport, where I learned how to become a team player as well as the value of contributing to the learning experience of others. During my academic journey, I was fortunate to have interned at Solik Real Estate Investment and GOWS Architecture Studio, where I am now employed. These opportunities taught me the importance of taking initiative, challenging myself and expanding my boundaries in the work field. I was taught to: Learn. Contribute. Implement.

Later on, I started traveling on my own, fascinated by the culture, history and architecture, I was no longer satisfied with taking pictures to commemorate these places and made it a habit to sketch the landscapes and buildings of the cities I have had the chance to step in as well as always connect and learn from everyone I have met. The exposure to new cultures and diverse backgrounds sparked my enthusiasm towards creating value for human life and focusing on human issues through design, which has been a predominant approach of all of my projects in the past years and will continue to be my driving force in the future.

I had always felt the desire to start my own business and so in the middle of a pandemic and my compulsory post-graduation 1-year military service, I was finally able to establish a small online business, shifting the way people viewed a classic beach sport, beach racket, into a regional summer trend for the year 2020. The hands-on experience taught me the value of balancing the core principles of management and analytical thinking as well as utilizing my passion for design and innovation.

Today, I am on the road of discovering my true purpose and know that I am yet to unravel my true potentials. I am also certain that, if given the chance, I will be able to actively contribute to the learning experience at IE with my eagerness to learn, tendency to deviate from traditional paths and strong leadership skills. As a strong believer in the influence and importance that the combination of design, architecture and business could have on the contemporary problems in the industry, I am confident that I offer the needed set of skills and determination to be the perfect fit for MBArch. Through the global network of professionals, incredible mentorship and the integration of innovation and technology that IE offers, I would undoubtedly be set for a better future in which I will be able to truly change and transform the world of architecture as it is.