

GIOVANNI FONTANA ANTONELLI

RÉSUMÉ – November 2022

Current position: [REDACTED]

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SHORT BIO

Giovanni Fontana Antonelli (Italy, 1967), graduated from Florence University, is a world experienced architect, urban/landscape planner and heritage expert. Owning a proven work experience as Project Manager and Team Leader in the field of international cooperation in developmental and humanitarian contexts, he gained his extensive experience from serving the United Nations, and more recently NGOs and private companies, for more than 20 years in Africa, Europe and the Arab Region, including conflict and post-conflict situations. The Safeguarding of the terraced cultural landscape of Southern Jerusalem, the Reviving Earthen Architecture in the Jordan Valley, the Restoration and reconstruction of the Old City of Mosul for UNESCO, and the Recovery of Syrian Urban Heritage for UN-Habitat are milestones in his international civil servant's career. In 2017, he founded Archi.Media Trust, an international cooperation agency promoting just, inclusive and sustainable cities and environments, cultural diversity and heritage preservation, and media development towards peacebuilding.

Visiting professor in various universities across three continents, he was keynote speakers in numerous international conferences and author of three books and more than seventy publications on cultural heritage and development studies. He designed and coordinated projects that were recipient of international awards, such as the Gubbio Prize 1996, the Sheikh Zayed Prize 2005, the Melina Mercouri Prize for Cultural Landscapes 2011. His projects were shortlisted for the Aga Khan Award for Architecture in 2013 and 2016.

EDUCATION

M.ARCH. (Hons.) FROM THE UNIVERSITY OF FLORENCE, ITALY	Oct 1986 - Apr 1994
Certificate in Urban Renewal Programmes from the University of Florence, Italy	Oct 1997 - Jun 1998
Certificate in Landscape Management from the University of York, UK	Apr - Jul 1997
Certificate in Architectural Conservation from the Soprintendenza di Pisa, Italy	Feb - Apr 1997
Certificate in Landscape Conservation from the Accademia delle Arti del Disegno, Italy	Oct 1995 - Oct 1996

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE – KEY POSITIONS

Description of duties and key achievements

CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER / PROGRAMME DIRECTOR

Archi.Media Trust, Italy

Jan 2017- to present

Co-founder and first CEO of Archi.Media Trust, establishing the non-profit organization and positioning it as a key player in international and national contexts in the sectors of cultural development and heritage protection, creative industries, archives and museums, as well as responsible community-based tourism, towards more inclusive, equal and just societies, promoting peace through media and ICT.

Select projects:

- Rescuing Ibo Island's historic architectural heritage from the impact of jihadist terrorism in northern Mozambique (ALIPH Foundation, Mozambique, 2022-ongoing)
- Restoration and reconstruction of Al-Raabiyah Mosque in Mosul (ALIPH Foundation, Iraq, 2021-ongoing)
- Documentation and preliminary emergency measures of the Askia Tomb's necropolis in Gao (African World Heritage Fund, Mali, 2021-ongoing)

- Archi.Maremma, Research project on archival multimedia documentation on Southern Tuscany's land reclamation (Regione Toscana, Italy, 2021-2022)
- The Past for the Future, promoting the Charter of the European Fundamental Rights (European Union, Poland, Hungary and Italy, 2021)
- Post-disaster recovery and rehabilitation of L'Escalier Tête de Chien heritage site in the Kalinago territory (Private donation, Commonwealth of Dominica, 2020)
- Nomination for the potential WH site "Luoghi e opere della bonifica e della canalizzazione delle acque: Maremma, Pianura lombarda e Piana del Fucino" (Various local authorities, Italy, 2018-ongoing)
- Only the River Remains to Speak, Multimedia Exhibition (Fondazione CARIPLO and Private donations, Italy and Ethiopia, 2018-19)
- Battir Landscape Conservation Planning (Regione Toscana, Palestine, 2017-18)
- United in Stone, supporting Palestinian marble and stone sector (UNIDO, Palestine, 2017).

SENIOR CONSULTANT & PROJECT MANAGER / TEAM LEADER

UN and Cooperation agencies, NGOs, Private sector

Sep 2013 - to present

Since September 2013 Giovanni Fontana Antonelli is providing bilateral and multilateral cooperation agencies, the United Nations, international NGOs and private companies with his expertise in the field of cultural development and historic preservation, urban, landscape and community planning, as well as recovery and reconstruction in post-conflict and conflict contexts. Main duties: provision of technical assistance for the overall planning, fundraising, coordination, implementation and monitoring of cultural heritage conservation and management projects in Iraq, Syria, Palestine, Jordan, UAE, KSA and Mozambique. In 2002-03 he worked as a UNESCO consultant in Azerbaijan and Mali.

List of organizations/countries:

- Iraq: Archi.Media Trust, Living Mesopotamia, Liwan for Culture and Development, European Centre for Development Policy Management, ISMEO, UNESCO Iraq Office;
- Syria: UN-Habitat;
- Mozambique: Archi.Media Trust;
- KSA: Hydea S.p.A., ICCROM-International Centre for the Preservation of Cultural Property;
- UAE: A.R.S. Progetti;
- Jordan: As-Salt Greater Municipality, UNESCO Amman Office;
- Palestine: Hulla & Co. Human Dynamics KG, Sharakat/Palestine Investment Fund, World Monuments Fund;
- Azerbaijan and Mali: UNESCO World Heritage Centre.

Select projects:

- Mozambique: Rescuing Ibo Island's historic architectural heritage (Archi.Media Trust)
- KSA: Diriyah Historic Asset Conservation Plan (Hydea S.p.A.)
- Iraq: Restoration and reconstruction of Al-Raabiya Mosque (Archi.Media Trust)
- Iraq: First Aid Interventions to the World Heritage Site of Hatra after Daesh Occupation (ISMEO)
- Syria: Cultural Heritage and the restoration of Urban Identity (UN-Habitat)
- KSA: Training on International Heritage Conventions and other Cultural Programmes (ICCROM)
- UAE: Ghagha Island Site Management Plan (A.R.S. Progetti)
- Iraq: Initial Planning Framework for Reconstruction for Mosul (UNESCO and UN-Habitat)
- Iraq: Revive the Spirit of Mosul (fundraising \$90M projects for UNESCO (UAE, EU and other donors)
- Jordan: As-Salt Eclectic Architecture WH nomination dossier and CMP (As-Salt Greater Municipality)
- Palestine: Rehabilitation of the Edicule of the Holy Sepulchre in Jerusalem (WMF)
- Iraq: Enhancing Capacities in Historical Buildings Conservation in Samarra (UNESCO / Sunni Endowment)
- Iraq: Stabilization and Conservation of Al-Hadba Minaret in Mosul (UNESCO / Governorate of Ninewah)
- Mali: Assessment of Djenné and Timbuktu WH sites. Project proposal for the Historic Town of Timbuktu.

UNESCO PROGRAMME SPECIALIST / ASSOCIATE EXPERT*

UNESCO Abuja Office, Nigeria	Jan 2013 - Jun 2013
UNESCO Ramallah Office, oPt/Palestine	Jun 2003 - Dec 2012
UNESCO World Heritage Centre, UNESCO HQs, France	May 2001 - May 2002
UNESCO Windhoek Office, Namibia*	Oct 1998 - Oct 2000

Responsible for strategic planning, needs assessments, preparation of project documents for submission to potential donors including negotiation of large projects and joint programmes, direct management and regular monitoring of projects and programmes and technical follow-up, damage needs assessments and state of conservations, early recovery and reconstruction plans, as well as organization of stakeholders meetings and donors initiatives, building institutional capacities for governmental and non-governmental organizations, piloting initiatives for cultural development and heritage preservation, spatial planning, housing and cultural and tourism infrastructures, e.g. museums. He served as Head of Unit, Officer-in-Charge, Deputy Head of Office.

Select projects:

- Nigeria: Women Peace and Security in Northern Nigeria (EU, \$2.2M, negotiation only)
- Nigeria: Conflict Prevention and Countering Violent Extremism in Nigeria (CTITF Initiative, \$0.8M)
- oPt: Local development through the rehabilitation of the historic built environment (SIDA, \$8.7M)
- oPt: Reviving earthen architecture in the Jordan Valley towards adequate housing (UNTFHS, \$1.1M)
- oPt: MDG-F Culture and Development Joint Programme (UNDP-Spain, \$3.0M)
- oPt: Battir Landscape Conservation and Ecomuseum (Norway, \$0.1M – Italy, \$0.7M)
- oPt: Riwaya Museum Bethlehem (Norway, \$1.4M)
- oPt: Bethlehem Area Conservation and Management Plan (Italy, \$0.5M)
- oPt: Rehabilitation and adaptive re-use of Khan al-Wakala, caravanserai in Nablus (EU, \$3.0M)
- WHC Africa Unit: Capacity building and institutional development in Namibia and Uganda (Italy, \$0.6M)
- Namibia: Safeguarding Namibian Rock Art (WHC, \$0.3M).

EARLY CAREER

Vice-president at Archi.Media Studi e proposte per il territorio, Italy	Oct 1997 - Sep 1998
Lecturer of Theory of Urbanism at University of Florence, Italy	Oct 1996 - Sep 1998
Self-employed architect at GFA Architects, Italy	Jul 1994 - Sep 1998

PRIZES AND AWARDS

Giovanni Fontana Antonelli collaborated with world-renowned architects and artistic firms, among others Atelier Peter Zumthor, Studio Azzurro, Gilles Clément and Giancarlo De Carlo. His work is recipient of national and international awards, as well as well-placed in international architectural competitions:

2021 Best 15 runners-up of the “International Architectural Competition for the Reconstruction and Rehabilitation of the Al-Nouri Complex” in Mosul, Iraq, launched by UNESCO (with Ortalli-Verrier Architects)

2016 Aga Khan Award for Architecture (Nomination) for the Battir Landscape Conservation project

2013 & 2016 Aga Khan Award for Architecture (Nomination) for Jordan Valley Earthen Architecture project

2011 Melina Mercouri International Prize for the Safeguarding and Management of Cultural Landscapes (1st prize *ex-aequo*) for Battir Landscape Conservation project

2009 UNESCO Team Award for leading the MDG-F programme on Culture and Development in the oPt

2006 Sheikh Zayed Bin Sultan Al Nahyan Prize (1st prize *ex-aequo*) for the proclamation of the Palestinian *Hikaye* as a masterpiece of oral and intangible heritage of Humanity

1996 Gubbio Prize (Menzione speciale per Tesi di Laurea) for the MA thesis on Orbetello’s urban renewal.

KEY QUALIFICATIONS

PROFESSIONAL ASSOCIATIONS

Member of FVTURA Campus and Co-living programmes (2021-to date).

Advisory Board member of Our World Heritage initiative and Coordinator of Conflict team (2020-to date).

Nominator of the Aga Khan Award for Architecture (2018-to date).

Member of the Order of Architects, Planners and Conservators. Grosseto, Italy. No. 229 (1994-to date).

EXPERTISE AND FIELDS OF COMPETENCE

Strategic Planning, Team Building, Leadership Programmes - Transitional Environments

Project Management Cycle: Concept Design, Negotiation, Fundraising, Implementation, Procurement, M&E

Cultural Heritage Preservation: Monuments, Historic Towns and Cultural Landscapes – World Heritage

Skills Development and Capacity Building – On-the-job training - Research on Architecture and Urbanism

Advocacy & Participatory Planning Disaster Risk Reduction, PDNA, Early Recovery and Reconstruction

OTHER SKILLS

LANGUAGE PROFICIENCY

<i>Language</i>	<i>Reading</i>	<i>Speaking</i>	<i>Writing</i>
Italian	Mother tongue	Mother tongue	Mother tongue
English	Excellent	Excellent	Excellent
French	Excellent	Excellent	Good

COMPUTER PROFICIENCY

Familiar with MS and MAC environments, computer skills include but are not limited to the use of MS Office suite (Word, Excel, PowerPoint, Outlook); Computer Assisted Design software (AutoCAD), GIS software (user only), ADOBE Acrobat Professional, Photoshop, Illustrator, InDesign; Internet browsers and social media (Twitter, LinkedIn, Facebook, Instagram), UN Intranet applications.

PUBLIC SPEAKING INCLUDING POSTGRADUATE COURSES

Giovanni Fontana Antonelli has been keynote speaker in numerous international conferences and seminars in Europe and the US, Africa and the Arab region, and visiting professor in several postgraduate courses, e.g., Scuola Normale di Pisa, Scuola Superiore di Catania, Scuola Superiore Sant'Anna (Italy), and the University of Minho (Portugal), He also delivered lectures at Chatham House, UCL (UK), University of Siena, University of Florence, University of Turin, University of Ferrara, Polytechnic of Milan (Italy), Paris Sorbonne (France), University 'Agostinho Neto' of Luanda (Angola), Bethlehem University, Birzeit University and Al-Quds University (Palestine), Columbia University and CUNY (USA) and the Doha Institute (Qatar).

From 2001 to 2004 he was lecturer in the Master programme "Rehabilitation of human settlements and infrastructures for cooperation and development" - Polytechnic of Milan, Mantua, Italy.

REFERENCES

1. Lazare ELOUNDOU-ASSOMO (Cameroun), Director, UNESCO World Heritage Centre, Paris, France
Email: l.eloundou-assomo@unesco.org
2. Maja KOMINKO (Poland), Scientific Director, ALIPH Foundation, Geneva, Switzerland
Email: maja.kominko@aliph-foundation.org
3. Zaki ASLAN (Jordan), Director, ICCROM- ATHAR Regional Conservation Centre, Sharjah, UAE
Email: za@iccrom.org

SELECT PUBLICATIONS

Giovanni Fontana Antonelli is author of more than seventy scientific publications on heritage, architecture, city and landscape, and co-editor of the two-volume book “Bethlehem Area Conservation and Management Plan (Paris: 2012) and the photographic book on Palestinian landscapes “The Land That Remains” (Berlin: 2016).

The full list of publications is available upon request. Select publications are listed below:

FONTANA ANTONELLI, G., 2022 (forthcoming). The restoration and critical reconstruction of two historic mosques severely affected by armed conflict in Mosul (Iraq), in Niglio, O. (ed.) *Intercultural Dialogue, Places of Religion and Rituals*. Singapore: Springer Verlag

FONTANA ANTONELLI, G., 2021. Zerstörung der Altstadt Mossuls (2014-17), in Mühlbauer, L. & Shretah, Y. (eds.) *Architekturführer Irak Syrien*. Berlin: DOM publishers

COSSU, T., FONTANA ANTONELLI, G., 2021. Urban recovery and reconstruction strategies for the Old City of Mosul after ISIL/Da'esh occupation, in Niglio, O., Lee, E. Y. J. (eds.) *Transcultural Diplomacy and International Law in Heritage Conservation*. Singapore: Springer Verlag

FONTANA ANTONELLI, G., 2017. Palestine 2004-2014. Inhabited landscape, human rights and resilience, in Boschiero, P. (ed.) *Curare la terra. Luoghi, pratiche, esperienze/Caring for the land. Places, practices, experiences*. Treviso: Fondazione Benetton Studi e Ricerche & Antiga Edizioni

BUSONERO, F., FONTANA ANTONELLI, G. and SANCIAUD-AZANZA, A. (eds.), 2016. *The Land That Remains*. Berlin: Hatje Cantz, 171 pages - ISBN 9783 7757 41217

FONTANA ANTONELLI, G., 2014. *Il Rovescio e il Diritto - Un laboratorio di idee per la salvaguardia del paesaggio di Battir*, in “Architettura del Paesaggio 29”, *International Review of Landscape Architecture and Urban Design*. Milano: Paysage, pp. 44-49

SERRINI, G., FONTANA ANTONELLI, G. and ZAGAGLIA, C. (eds.), 2012. *Bethlehem Area Conservation and Management Plan - The Plan as an Alphabet, Volume I*. Paris: UNESCO Publishing, 252 pages - ISBN 9 789230 010591

SERRINI, G., FONTANA ANTONELLI, G., ZAGAGLIA, C. (eds.), 2012 *Bethlehem Area Conservation and Management Plan - The Atlas, Volume II*. Paris: UNESCO Publishing, 228 pages - ISBN 9 789230 010621

FONTANA ANTONELLI, G., 2012. A paradigm of international cooperation to development. The experience of the Bethlehem Area Conservation and Management Plan. In Serrini et al. (eds.) *Bethlehem Area Conservation and Management Plan - The Plan as an Alphabet, Vol I*. Paris: UNESCO Publishing, 51-61

FONTANA ANTONELLI, G., 2009. Topografia della complessità. Lo stato dell'arte su architettura, pianificazione, conservazione e paesaggio nella Palestina della Seconda Intifada, in “EdA 7 - Rehabilitation planning in the historic towns of the occupied Palestinian territory” “Esempi d'Architettura”, Anno III n. 7/2009.

FONTANA ANTONELLI, G., 2007. Preserving Cultural Landscapes in Palestine. Safeguarding historical and environmental resources towards a sustainable development. In “Conservation and Management of Landscape in Conflict Regions. Conference proceedings”. Birzeit: Birzeit University

APOLLONJ GHETTI P., BERTAGNIN, M. and FONTANA ANTONELLI, G., 2005. Timbuktu: from a World Heritage Site to a living city: conservation practices and rehabilitation programmes for the preservation of the earthen built heritage. In “International Conference of Kerpic Network. Living in Earthen Cities - Kerpic '05, Conference Proceedings”. Istanbul: ITU

FONTANA ANTONELLI, G., 1996. Orbetello, strategia per la riqualificazione del centro antico. In “Atti preparatori/I, Pre-conferenza mondiale per il City Summit di Istanbul, Habitat II. United Nations for Human Settlements and U.I.A. International Union of Architects. Naples: Consiglio Nazionale degli Architetti.

*** An illustrated portfolio, the full CV and the complete list of publications are available upon request.**



24/11/2022