Keynote speakers

Maria Luigia Assirelli

Maria Assirelli joined Floyd Slaski Architects in March 2022 and has a passion for designing healing environments. She currently leads Floyd Slaski's mental health portfolio. Previously a Partner at GA Architects, Maria specialised in creating autism-friendly spaces, a focus of her research since 2005. She has contributed to various publications, including those by the National Autistic Society. Maria is known for her positive attitude, deep understanding of team dynamics, and excellent communication skills, which are particularly valuable in stakeholder engagement and design team coordination. Committed to continuous learning and innovation, she actively participates in teaching, research, and lecturing at conferences. To keep her skills current, Maria recently completed a course on "Effective Communication and Interpersonal Skills" at CUL.

Stephanie Kyle

Stephanie is a Senior Architect and Inclusive Design Consultant at Floyd Slaski Architects, and the first winner of the AJ100 Change-maker of the Year Award for her contribution to the profession. Passionate about diversity, equity and inclusion in architecture, Stephanie channels her extensive knowledge and creativity into designing innovative and aesthetically beautiful spaces, ensuring that each project not only meets the highest architectural standards but also demonstrates that inclusivity can be both functional and visually inspiring. Stephanie offers specialist guidance to other designers, clients, and decision-makers, ensuring the seamless integration of inclusive design principles throughout every stage of architectural projects. Her expertise surpasses Part M/BS 8300, encompassing considerations for religion, gender-neutral facilities, and a specialist focus on neurodiverse inclusive design and non-visible disabilities. Stephanie's unwavering commitment to inclusivity extends to being Assistant Professor of Architectural Design at the University of Nottingham, inspiring the next generation of architects.