Iris Ceramica Group partners with The Bartlett School of Architecture, UCL to advance spatial and climate justice in the built environment.

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Iris Ceramica Group, a global leader in high-end ceramic materials, has entered a three-year partnership with The Bartlett School of Architecture, UCL, one of the world's foremost architecture and design schools.

Running through to 2028, the collaboration supports the school's Just Environments Incubator, launched in 2024. The Incubator funds design research projects addressing spatial and climate justice in the built environment.

The partnership will also contribute to the development of a Justice Lexicon, an online platform promoting equity-driven discourse in design education and practice.

A partnership driving innovation and justice through collaboration

Through this multi-year gift agreement, Iris Ceramica Group will help amplify the school's mission to lead architectural innovation with social and environmental responsibility at its core.

- The <u>Just Environments Incubator</u> provides seed funding for collaborative projects exploring how design can address global inequities in space, place and climate resilience.
- The <u>Justice Lexicon</u> will draw on conversations across UCL and its global network of collaborators. Its aim is to promote greater fluency and shared understanding around the language of justice for designers and practitioners shaping the built environment.

Amy Kulper, Director of The Bartlett School of Architecture, commented:

'It is exciting to collaborate with an industry partner like Iris Ceramica Group, whose priorities and values are so closely aligned with those of the school. Iris Ceramica Group's pioneering spirit aligns closely with the ethos of experimental pedagogy that has long been the hallmark of The Bartlett School of Architecture. Our mutual commitment to contributing to spatial and climate justice in the built environment constitutes the foundation of this burgeoning partnership.'

Federica Minozzi, CEO of Iris Ceramica Group – recently awarded the Knight of Labour by the President of the Italian Republic for her pioneering work in sustainability – shared her perspective on the partnership:

'This partnership with The Bartlett School of Architecture marks a meaningful step in our ongoing commitment to shaping a more equitable and sustainable built environment. At Iris Ceramica Group, we believe that innovation must serve both people and the planet. Collaborating with one of the world's leading architecture schools allows us to unite scientific research, design culture, and responsible manufacturing to promote real, lasting change.'

About the Just Environments Incubator

In 2024/25, seed funding from the Just Environments Incubator supported several innovative projects, including:

- The Interpreter, a film by Associate Professor Mohamad Hafeda, exploring displacement and borders across the Middle East and the UK.
- Practicing Care Through Architecture, a workshop and discussion led by <u>Tumpa Fellows</u> and the FAME Collective (Females of Minority Ethnic).
- Cohabitations, a new interdisciplinary book series and research platform on social and environmental justice, led by Professor <u>Peg Rawes</u>.
- A film screening and book launch by Associate Professor <u>Janine Francois</u> with British Ghanaian artist Larry Achiampong, titled *If It Don't Exist, Build It*.
- Practice Parts Unknown, a knowledge exchange series on architectural pedagogy and practice by Associate Professor <u>Felicity Atekpe</u> and Dr <u>Claire</u> <u>McAndrew</u>.
- After Extraction, experimental workshops on environmental justice in South Africa led by Associate Professor <u>Mpho Matsipa</u>.

About Iris Ceramica Group

Innovation, sustainability, and excellence in quality are the core values of Iris Ceramica Group, a leader in high-end ceramic surfaces for architecture, design and furnishings. The company pioneers sustainable, technology-driven solutions that merge ceramics with innovation.

irisceramicagroup.com

Instagram: https://www.instagram.com/irisceramicagroup/

LinkedIn: https://www.linkedin.com/company/iris-ceramica-group/

About The Bartlett School of Architecture, UCL

The Bartlett School of Architecture, UCL, is consistently ranked among the top architecture schools in the world. The school is renowned for its experimental pedagogy, interdisciplinary research and its dedication to addressing the urgent environmental and social challenges of our time through design.

ucl.ac.uk/bartlett/architecture

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