

100+

best
architecture
firms
2019

domus

100+

Domus is proud to present its first **100+ Best architecture firms**, the result of a complex operation worthy of 90 years of architecture and design exploration. Our approach follows a new paradigm of associated life, where architecture is a central if not crucial point of discussion.

But **Best architecture firms 2019** is more. It is the latest phase in the metamorphosis of *Domus*, a magazine that is evolving into an ecosystem of contemporary knowledge and competencies, an open workshop where the critical review of architecture and design is expressed in diverse and complementary learning experiences – magazine, website, social media, focus topics, themed forums and data analysis – in a word, investigation. Our intent is to make **Best architecture firms 2019** the first of a yearly outline of the state of the art of a field that has never been as important as now. The compilation aims to be a well-honed tool, indispensable to the different communities that have always formed the *Domus* mainstay: architecture and design professionals, public officials, elites and enthusiasts (not in order of importance).

When we began conceptualising the guide, we were aware of the risks of the undertaking. We did not want a consumer product undistinguishable from the many offerings of the “culture industry”. In order to construct an authoritative source of reference, we adhered to the unique formula that has been serving us as an elevated standard. We asked the last ten editors-in-chief – plus the current one – to compile a selection of architecture firms known for cultural innovation. In exchange, we promised them anonymity. The result is a rich array. Of course some names are missing, mainly the above-mentioned *Domus* editors. That’s a question of style, an omission we wish to reward by stating here that they fully belong to our **Best Architecture Firms**. Otherwise, they would not have been chosen to conceptually lead *Domus*.

Walter Mariotti, editorial director

Cibic Workshop

Principal

Aldo Cibic

Associates

Chuck Felton, Diego Lucchini

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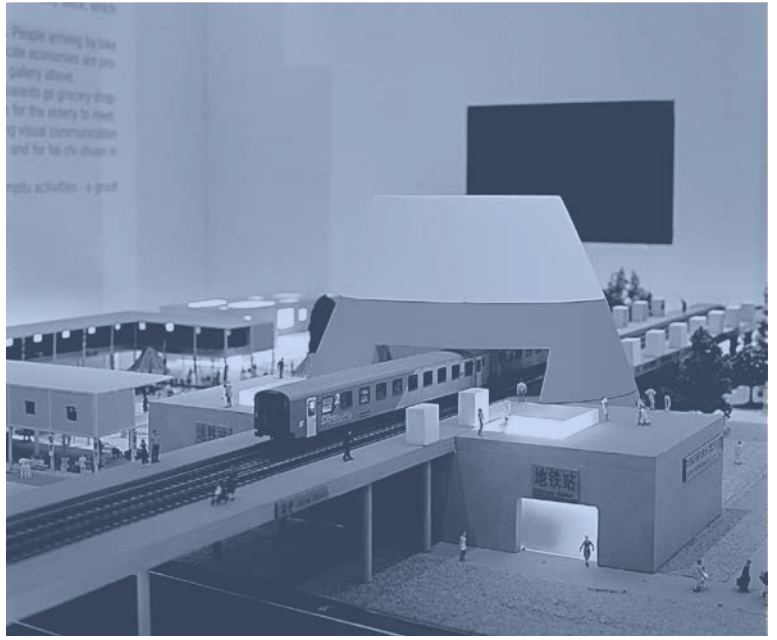
Established in

1989 (as Cibic & Partners)

Office

Milan

www.cibicworkshop.com



In Aldo Cibic (Schio, Italy, 1955), we recognise the Italian design tradition that enjoys tackling objects on diverse scales – alternative, visionary urban planning concepts like **Microrealities** (2004) and **Rethinking Happiness** (2010), both of which were presented at the **Architecture Biennale in Venice**; interiors; and objects for **De Castelli, Paola C. and Venini**.

Cibic aims to give his projects a soul, seeking vitality in the relation with materials, the way rooms promote interpersonal contact, or in architecture that communicates with the existing surroundings. Having been one of the initial partners in **Sottsass Associati** in 1980 and a founding member of the **Memphis group** in 1981, Aldo Cibic has a propensity for experimentation and a dynamic relation between space and people, often by way of contrasting colours and materials, and eclectic cultural references. The above-mentioned urban planning concepts and the boutique hotel **Savona 18 Suites** (2017) located in the **Navigli** area of Milan show how he uses the built environment as a way to tell stories and catalyse moments of sharing in collective life. To further a new awareness of public space, Cibic turned his office **Cibic & Partners** (founded in 1989) into **Cibic Workshop** in 2010, where he conducts multidisciplinary research focused on the creation of sustainable architectural designs that improve entire areas while stimulating our cultural, emotive and ecological conscience. Aldo Cibic teaches at the **Milan Polytechnic**, the **IUAV in Venice** and **Domus Academy in Milan**. He is an honorary professor at **Tongji University in Shanghai**.

Valentina Croci