

2022 World Monuments Watch Jury Panel

Seif El Rashidi, Director, The Barakat Trust



Seif El Rashidi is an architectural historian and heritage management specialist. His work focuses on ensuring that heritage is socially, culturally, and economically meaningful to its local communities. El Rashidi is the director of The Barakat Trust, an organization that supports the preservation of the cultural heritage of the Islamic world. He was previously the project manager for Layers of London, a map-based history website developed by the Institute of Historical Research enabling users to have free access to historic maps of London and contribute stories, memories, and histories. He was also Salisbury Cathedral's Magna Carta Programme Manager, the coordinator of Durham's UNESCO World Heritage site, and a preservation planner and architectural historian for the Aga Khan Trust for Culture's Historic Cities Programme and for Ahmad Hamid Architects, both in Cairo, Egypt. He is the co-author of *The Tentmakers of Cairo: Egypt's Medieval and Modern Appliqué Craft* (with Sam Bowker) and is involved in initiatives to ensure the continued viability of that craft.

Brent Leggs, Executive Director, African American Cultural Heritage Action Fund



Brent Leggs is the founding Executive Director of the African American Cultural Heritage Action Fund, a program of the National Trust for Historic Preservation and largest preservation campaign in U.S. history on behalf of historic African American places. Through the Action Fund, he leads a broad community of leaders, preservationists, and activists in honor of the clarion that preserving African American cultural sites is fundamental to understanding the American story. Brent is a Harvard University Loeb Fellow, author of *Preserving African American Historic Places*, and the 2018 recipient of the Robert G. Stanton National Preservation Award. Leggs is also an Adjunct Associate Professor and Senior Advisor to the Center for the Preservation of Civil Rights Sites at the University of Pennsylvania's Stuart Weitzman School of Design.

Fergus T. Maclaren, ME Des, President, ICOMOS International Cultural Tourism Committee



Fergus Maclaren is a Canadian sustainable tourism and cultural heritage management professional with more than 25 years of experience in North America, Africa, and Asia, with much of his current professional focus involving World Heritage site tourism planning, development, and pandemic recovery, and the implementation of the 2030 UN Sustainable Development Goals. His background includes a broad range of tourism planning, destination management, and community development expertise. He brings his professional expertise to current roles at UNESCO, UNWTO, the Organization of World Heritage Cities, the Economic Innovation Institute for Africa, and the Heritage and Cultural Society for Africa. He also has his own private consulting firm, MAC-DUFF Tourism | Heritage | Planning.

Adam Markham, Acting Director, Climate & Energy Program at the Union of Concerned Scientists



Adam Markham is Acting Director of the Climate & Energy Program at the Union of Concerned Scientists (UCS), a science advocacy NGO based in Cambridge, Massachusetts. He oversees UCS's efforts to persuade policymakers to rapidly and effectively respond to the climate crisis. He was the lead author for the 2016 UNESCO report, [*World Heritage and Tourism in a Changing Climate*](#), and a contributing author for the 2019 ICOMOS report [*The Future of Our Pasts*](#). He serves as a member of IUCN's World Commission on Protected Areas and on the Society for American Archaeologists task force on Climate Change Strategies and Archaeological Resources. Markham is also involved with the team developing the Climate Vulnerability Index (CVI), a rapid assessment methodology for World Heritage sites.

Lynn Meskell, Professor and Curator



Lynn Meskell is Penn Integrates Knowledge (PIK) Professor at the University of Pennsylvania (UPenn), the Richard D. Green Professor of Anthropology at UPenn's School of Arts and Sciences, Professor in the Graduate Program in Historic Preservation at the Weitzman School of Design, and curator in the Middle East and Asia sections at the Penn Museum. She additionally serves as AD White Professor-at-Large at Cornell University (2019-2025); holds Honorary Professorships in Oxford, Liverpool, and Johannesburg; and is a Fellow of the Australian Academy of the Humanities. Over the last decade, Lynn has conducted an institutional ethnography of UNESCO World Heritage, tracing the politics of governance and sovereignty and the subsequent implications for multilateral diplomacy, international conservation, and heritage rights. Employing archival and ethnographic analysis, her award-winning book *A Future in Ruins: UNESCO, World Heritage, and the Dream of Peace* reveals UNESCO's early forays into a one-world archaeology and its later commitments to global heritage.

Bakonirina Rakotomamonjy, Architect and Researcher



Bakonirina Rakotomamonjy is an architect specialized in earthen architecture. She is chairperson of the International Center for Earthen Architecture (CRATERre). She is a researcher in the Heritage and Development department within the research unit Architecture, Environment and Constructive Cultures (AE & CC) at the National School of Architecture, Grenoble, France (ENSAG). Her subject of research and study include: participatory management and cross-cutting approaches; African cultural heritage and local development; earthen architecture; and higher education and training of professionals. Since 2002, she has carried out more than 80 missions of coordination, technical support, and evaluation in 29 countries on 4 continents. She has been a consultant for internationally recognized organizations such as UNESCO, ICOMOS, ICCROM, WMW, AIMF, EPA, AWHF, NORAD, Fondation Abbé Pierre, and CRATERre. In 2013, she was awarded Knight of the Order of Cultural Merit of the Republic of Côte d'Ivoire.

Shao Yong, Professor, College of Architecture and Urban Planning of Tongji University, National Research Center of Historic Cities



Shao Yong is the Professor in the College of Architecture and Urban Planning of Tongji University, National Research Center of Historic Cities. She is the vice president of ICOMOS-CIAV, expert member of ICOMOS-ISCEAH, and member of the edition committee of Heritage Architecture and Built Heritage. She completed her doctorate in 2003 from College of Architecture and Urban Planning, Tongji University, and trained with French State Architects and Urban Planners (AUE) in the Ecole de Chaillot and Ecole Nationale des Pons et Chaussées in France in 1999 and 2006. She has engaged in research, teaching, and practical work on the protection and development of World Heritage, historical cities, towns, and villages. She is the author of "The Protection and Valorization of the Architectural, Urban and Landscape Heritage," "The Rural Future," "World Heritage in China-Historical City," among others. She was awarded the Knight of Arts and Letters by the French Ministry of Culture in 2018.

2022 World Monuments Watch Leadership

Bénédicte de Montlaur, President and CEO



Bénédicte de Montlaur is President and Chief Executive Officer of World Monuments Fund (WMF), the world's foremost private organization dedicated to saving extraordinary places while empowering the communities around them. She is responsible for defining WMF's strategic vision, currently implementing that vision in more than 30 countries around the world and leading a team that spans the globe.

Her background mixes culture and the arts, politics, international diplomacy and human rights. Prior to joining WMF, Montlaur spent two decades working across three continents as a senior diplomat at the French Ministry of Foreign Affairs. Most recently, she served as Cultural Counselor of the French Embassy in the United States, leading France's largest international cultural advocacy network and its two partner foundations—Albertine and FACE—and directing a team of 90 people in 10 U.S. offices. In this role, Montlaur created and expanded numerous programs, including the French-American Dual Language Fund, the annual Festival Albertine featuring curators including Ta-Nehisi Coates and Gloria Steinem, and the podcast *The Thing About France*, which presented conversations with prominent Americans about their country's relationship with France. Previously, she served as Deputy Assistant Secretary in charge of North Africa, United Nations Security Council Negotiator on Africa and the Middle East and French Embassy First Secretary in Damascus, Syria.

Montlaur studied sociology and Arabic at the Ecole Normale Supérieure (Ulm) and public affairs at Sciences Po, Paris. She was a Marshall Memorial Fellow at the German Marshall Fund. She has served on the Boards of several cultural and educational institutions, and is currently a Trustee of the Menil Collection in Houston, Texas.

Jonathan S. Bell, PhD, Vice President of Programs



Dr. Bell came to WMF from National Geographic Society, where he oversaw a large portfolio of projects that included archaeological research and cultural heritage. Over the course of his career, he worked with the Getty Conservation Institute on World Heritage Sites in China and Egypt, evaluated cultural site management from Kazakhstan to Colombia, and oversaw strategic planning for large-scale flood infrastructure for the County of Los Angeles. Dr. Bell serves on multiple ICOMOS scientific committees as an expert member and sits on the Editorial Board of the *Journal of Architectural Conservation*. He holds a BA from Harvard University, a DEA from the Sorbonne, an MS in Historic Preservation from Columbia University and a PhD in Urban Planning from UCLA.

Yiannis Avramides, Director, World Monuments Watch and Evaluation



Yiannis Avramides joined WMF in 2009. In his current role he oversees the administration of the World Monuments Watch program, the organization's flagship program that seeks to discover, spotlight, and take action on behalf of heritage places facing challenges of direct relevance to global society. He is additionally responsible for performance monitoring and program evaluation efforts across the organization, including implementing and managing internal systems for ongoing measurement and assessment of programmatic outcomes. He has participated in conservation field projects in Cambodia, France, Greece, Haiti, and the Old City of Jerusalem, and has been a member of the team behind the development of the Arches heritage inventory and management system. Avramides received a BSE in Civil Engineering and Architecture from Princeton University in 2008 and an MS in Historic Preservation from Columbia University in 2010.