

# ANNUAL DINNER 2023



*Solastalgia*, Balearic Islands, Spain, 2021 by Pamela EA

**NOVEMBER 16  
NEW YORK CITY**

## EVENING PROGRAM

**6:00 PM  
RECEPTION**

**6:30 PM  
IN DIALOGUE**

**7:30 PM  
DINNER**

## DIRECTOR'S WELCOME

Good evening and welcome to The World Around's inaugural annual dinner. I hope this will be the first of many such occasions where we gather as a community to celebrate the best of today's architecture and recognize the extraordinary impact that great design can have on our world.

The World Around is collaborative in spirit and global in scope. We have four pillars of practice: our fast-paced and cutting-edge all-day Annual Summit in New York City created to convene and champion the now, near and next of architecture; our In Focus programs that travel to new cities presenting curated talks on specific themes; our online archive of live broadcasts, interviews and presentations; and our new Young Climate Prize mentorship program for under-25s.

In close to five years, we have covered the work of designers from over 150 world cities, each of them sharing visionary work on topics that range from the ecological crisis to social and racial justice, from landscape design and food scarcity to homelessness, from video game design and artificial intelligence to spoken word and literature. Working closely with our growing network of international partners that includes New York's Guggenheim Museum, Rotterdam's Nieuwe Instituut and our newest global cultural partner the Fondation Cartier pour l'art contemporain, I think of us as a new institution for a new world.

Our work is made possible thanks to the dedication and faith of the Board of Directors: Board Chairman Adam Flatto along with Vishaan Chakrabarti, Elizabeth Diller, Peter Dillon, and John Haskell, and the generosity and long-term commitment of the Board of Advisors and The World Around's team.

As we embark on this journey to create lasting, positive impact, this dinner is but the prologue. I invite you to stand with The World Around's community of laureates, architects, partners, and our remarkable team, to advocate for the role of interdisciplinary and intergenerational design in shaping a truly sustainable future.

**Beatrice Galilee**  
Executive Director  
The World Around

# MENU

## APPETIZER

Pão de Queijo (gluten-free Brazilian cheese bread)

Lady Gem Salad with Caramelized Pepitas (vegan)

## ENTRÉE

Sustainably Sourced Catskills Trout with  
Mushroom Mezcal Mole & Roasted Fennel

Or

Picahna Steak with Smashed Potatoes & Seasonal Vegetables

Family-style Roasted Carrots with Chimichurri (vegan)

## DESSERT

Strawberry Panna Cotta (vegan)

Coffee & Tea Service

## WINE

Red Wine: Grenache Blend  
White Wine: Sauvignon Blanc



# IN DIALOGUE: RADICAL RESTORATION

As we become more aware of the scale and interconnectedness of the global ecological and social crisis, it is also true that we are conscious of the expanded sphere of influence that architecture and its related industries have over the world. With its production of new materials, extraction of minerals and use of fossil fuels, construction is complicit in rising temperatures, extreme weather, migration and resource scarcity, but, as distant as it may seem, there is still a role for architecture as a positive force of reparation.

In this conversation, held in the exquisitely restored rooms of the Park Avenue Armory, and led by critic and writer Paul Goldberger, we invite you to reflect on the possibility of centering a reparative, restorative architecture. Wang Shu and Lu Wenyu of Amateur Architecture join us this evening to share the radical, influential and lasting impact of their work in Hangzhou, China, a city where they have dedicated their careers and lives to an architecture of strategic, political and artful transformation, brick by brick, tile by tile. We are also joined by Ascan Mergenthaler, senior partner at Herzog & de Meuron, whose restoration of the Park Avenue Armory where we convene is a testament to the transformative potential of design. The work of Herzog & de Meuron, one of the most productive and consistent global design studios, delicately breathes life into a historic landmark, reshaping its purpose into a center of cultural life in New York.

Nothing speaks to The World Around's commitment to radical restoration more than our new Young Climate Prize program. Later this evening, as a conclusion to the dinner, Pamela Elizarrarás Acitores will share her experience as part of the 2023 cohort and her fantastic work restoring language as a tool to drive the climate movement.

We are proud to be convening and considering the role of architects and designers in actively repairing the cities and sites of transformation around the world.



*Fuyang Cultural Complex in Fuyang, China by Amateur Architecture Studio  
photo by Iwan Baan*

# PAUL GOLDBERGER

Paul Goldberger is a Pulitzer Prize-winning author, architecture critic, and lecturer at the Parsons The New School for Design, where he previously served as Dean. His published books include *Up from Zero: Politics, Architecture, and the Rebuilding of New York* and *The City Observed, New York, a Guide to the Architecture of Manhattan*. He is also known for his "Sky Line" column in The New Yorker.



# ASCAN MERGENTHALER

Ascan Mergenthaler is a Senior Partner at Herzog & de Meuron in charge of projects across Europe, Asia, and the Americas. Mergenthaler has led several arts projects including the de Young Museum in San Francisco, the Parrish Art Museum on Long Island, New York, the Tate Modern Project in London, and M+ in Hong Kong. The Park Avenue Armory project in New York City highlights his profound knowledge and interest in heritage and adaptive reuse.



# AMATEUR ARCHITECTURE

Lu Wenyu and Wang Shu co-founded Amateur Architecture Studio in 2007. The duo focuses on craft-based and traditional architecture practices, and frequently works with recycled materials. Continually challenging the "professional and soulless architecture" practiced in China, their best-known projects include the Ningbo History Museum, the Ningbo Contemporary Art Museum, and the Xiangshan Campus of China Academy of Art in Hangzhou.

# PAMELA ELIZARRARÁS ACITORES

Pamela Elizarrarás Acitorés is a documentary photographer and explorer from Mexico, who has built a body of visual work and campaigns around climate action and gender equality. Starting her climate justice advocacy with awareness building and nonviolent direct action, Elizarrarás Acitores has integrated design thinking from her product design and photography education to synthesize compelling stories from the frontlines and encourage climate optimism in others. She was named the Young Climate Voice 2023 for the inaugural Young Climate Prize, organized by The World Around.



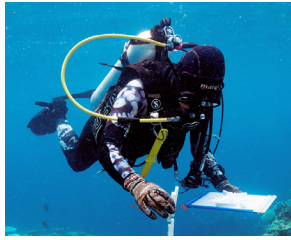
# BEATRICE GALILEE

Beatrice Galilee is a London-born, New York-based curator, critic and cultural advisor who is internationally recognized for her expertise in global contemporary architecture and design. She is the co-founder and executive director of The World Around, author of *Radical Architecture of the Future*, (Phaidon in 2021), and between 2014-2019 served as the first curator of contemporary architecture and design at The Metropolitan Museum of Art. Galilee has curated exhibitions, biennales and events all over the world, including a term as chief curator of 2013 Lisbon Architecture Triennale, and has served in editorial roles at Domus, Icon and other titles. Galilee is a visiting professor at Pratt Institute where she lectures on curating.



# 2023

## OUR YEAR IN REVIEW



This has been a very special year for The World Around.

We are honored to have counted some of the world's most significant cultural institutions among our partners, collaborators and champions this year. We shared our platform and networks with the visionary young climate leaders of the future, and created long-lasting impact with sold-out public programs. Both our in-person and online communities expanded significantly – we reached over 200,000 views on our YouTube channel – and we solidified our team and grew our board of directors.

2023 saw the culmination of years of work with our first Young Climate Prize mentorship initiative. We awarded the inaugural prize winners during our Annual Summit,

held on Earth Day at the Solomon R. Guggenheim Museum in New York City – as part of our third consecutive year of collaboration. Together with the Guggenheim, we also hosted a special 'Young Climate Prize x Late Shift' evening program across the museum's rotunda, library and cafe spaces, where the cohort's work was exhibited and the prize winners discussed their projects.

Our collaborations continued with an event with Elle Decor editor-in-chief Asad Syrkett at Lincoln Center, and a new creative partnership with iconic musicians Kronos Quartet alongside ecologist and composer Gabriella Smith, who together will release a new work based on interviews we facilitated with The World Around alumni and members of the Young Climate Prize cohort.

Over the summer, we announced that Fondation Cartier pour l'art contemporain will be our first Global Cultural Partner, and by September we were at Triennale Milano presenting In Focus: Radical Repair, a fascinating, energizing and provocative public program co-curated between Beatrice Galilee and Fondation Cartier's Director of Curatorial Affairs, Béatrice Grenier.

As we continue to build our reputation for exceptional public programming, our speakers from across the globe have taken us on journeys to learn about the technicolor city of El Alto, Bolivia; reviving rural communities in Colombia; breathing life back into a village shattered by terrorism in Nigeria; meaningfully restoring architecture in China. All of these fantastic presentations were live-

streamed to thousands, and are archived on our website and YouTube channel.

We were proud to see so many of our former speakers represented as curators and participants at the prestigious Venice Architecture Biennale, and the groundbreaking Sharjah Architecture Triennale.

Now, we're capping off this stellar year with our first-ever annual dinner, gathering friends and benefactors for an evening of great food and conversation, and above all, a celebration of many achievements representing hope and positive change across our industry.

We look ahead to The World Around's bright future thanks to your ongoing support.

# YOUNG CLIMATE PRIZE

A key pillar in The World Around's activities is the Young Climate Prize, which underlines our institution's belief in the role of design in creating tangible, actionable positive change at scale. Young Climate Prize is a new, biannual hybrid award and mentorship program for talented, visionary and action-oriented under-25s founded and organized by The World Around.

The prize aims to amplify and accelerate the impact of young people's self-started, climate-action focused projects by pairing 25 young climate leaders under 25 years old with their own mentor from the global design and architecture community.

## "ALL REVOLUTIONS START WITH IDEAS"

Young Climate Prize Design Champion David O'Reilly speaking to the cohort at the YCP Design Academy

Its inaugural year was a huge success. We had 300 applications from 59 countries, and selected 25 outstanding projects ranging from a photography essay about women in the food chain in Uganda, to a smart beehive in Colombia, and a circular economy initiative that transforms fish waste into textile in Egypt.

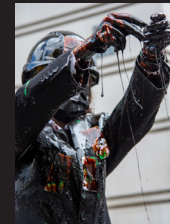
**"THE SELECTED WINNERS HAVE SUCH INSPIRING PROJECTS AND EVERYONE ONE OF US HERE IS DOING SOMETHING AMAZING TO CHANGE THE WORLD"**

Esther Olalude, 2023 cohort

At the end of a three-month mentorship process, three final winners were flown to New York City to share their work and ideas at the Guggenheim Museum during The World Around's Annual Summit.

Learn more at [youngclimateprize.com](https://youngclimateprize.com)

YOUNG  
CLIMATE  
VOICE  
WINNER 2023



PAMELA  
ELIZARRARÁS  
ACITORES  
INTERVIEW







*Mexican designer, photographer and climate activist Pamela Elizarrarás Acitores applied to the inaugural Young Climate Prize with her project Climate Words—a platform that aims to improve global climate literacy. After being selected for the cohort of 25 under-25s, and participating in a one-on-one mentorship program and a series of Design Academy sessions with global experts, she was named our Young Climate Voice 2023 as one of four prize winners, who we brought to New York City to accept their awards during The World Around Annual Summit, and to present their projects to the audience at the Solomon R Guggenheim Museum. Six months on, we spoke to Pamela about her experience as part of the cohort, the opportunities that have followed the program, and advice she'd give to the upcoming 2025 cohort.*

**BEATRICE GALILEE (BG):**  
**Hi Pamela! Can you start by telling us about your project, Climate Words, and how it contributes to helping solve the climate crisis?**

**PAMELA ELIZARRARÁS ACITORES (PEA):**

A big part of the climate crisis, in my

opinion, is that it's a communication crisis. Not many people understand the complexity of climate change, because it's very scientific and can be complicated. But sharing stories and projects related to the climate crisis enables a broader understanding, from very different perspectives, which makes it more tangible and also easier to become optimistic and do something about the issues. For Climate Words, we did some research and found that climate literacy is directly correlated to climate action, and people who are climate literate are actually three times more likely to take climate action. Climate literacy is not only reading science books, it's the ability to understand the climate crisis and the emergency we're facing. Both Climate Words and The World Around are platforms that share these stories and knowledge, and contribute to making a positive impact.

**BG: Why did you choose to apply for the Young Climate Prize?**

**PEA:** I applied because, as part of the Youth Climate movement, most of us are part of the same generation, and very few of us have actual job experience. We started out as students and have grown up into activism roles. And I really wanted someone to help us who had more experience, which being in a mentorship program offered. I was looking for collaboration with other people that were way more experienced than I am, and people I looked up to, so this opportunity excited me a lot.

**BG: How did you find the experience as part of the cohort of 25 under 25?**

**PEA:** At the beginning of the program, I was more excited about the mentorship. Because I didn't really know how involved the cohort was gonna be. But it was so exciting because as soon as I went into the the first session, I started getting messages from the other members saying hi and wanting to collaborate in various ways. From the very beginning, everyone wanted to help each other and truly be part of a community. It really surpassed any expectations.

**BG: What was your relationship like with your mentor, Mariana Pestana, and what did you learn from her?**

**PEA:** Mariana taught me so much. When we started the mentorship, we had to establish three goals for ourselves. So the first call with her involved talking about what the project needed the most, and to give it a sense of direction. Before the program started, Climate Words seemed like this big chaotic idea that we didn't really know how to steer. So she helped us to curate the way the project was structured: into words, books and stories. Then she went deeper into helping us curate the themes of the words and the topics. She taught me that you can be a curator outside of a museum exhibition, and that the curation process has the power to draw the viewer, the reader, the audience into the experience. So if it's well done, it can lead to a much longer and greater impact.

At the end of the mentorship, I asked Mariana if she could be our advisor for Climate Words, and she very kindly said yes. She's now helping us to continue curating the online dictionary. Mariana is also part of a project called Bauhaus Of The Sea, and she has invited me to be involved with that too.

**"FROM THE VERY BEGINNING, EVERYONE WANTED TO HELP EACH OTHER AND TRULY BE PART OF A COMMUNITY. IT REALLY SURPASSED ANY EXPECTATIONS."**

**Pamela Elizarrarás Acitores**

**BG: Which skills did you learn during the Design Academy?**

**PEA:** The Design Academy sessions were definitely an exciting part of my weekend, and became part of my routine. They were all so great, but the one I remember standing out was Alice Rawsthorn's session about her Design Emergency initiative. I could see so many correlations with Climate Words, and was so inspired to see the way she's collaborating with so many designers, artists, and amazing people. It made me realize that you don't need to be the one who's in the spotlight, but you can offer a platform for someone else's project and work.

**BG: How did you interact with and learn from the other cohort members?**



**PEA:** We had a group WhatsApp chat that was very helpful to be able to establish a sense of community. As the program progressed, we became a closer group of friends. On social media, many of us were engaging with one another's day-to-day activities and life updates, and planning to see each other in person. During the final part of the program, when we were working on our project submission videos for the jury, it could have become super competitive, but it was the complete opposite. There was always support from one another, and we would text to check how things were going, and if anyone needed any help. We really cheered on each other's projects, so it did turn into a real community and support system.

**BG:** How did the global diversity of the cohort contribute to your experience of the program?

**PEA:** I'm always up for collaborating with people from completely different backgrounds, because I think that oftentimes, when we're only working within our local community, we ignore other points of views and perspectives. That's another layer of the program: We were all from so many different countries, cities, and even careers. There were a lot of architects, but there was also Aziba who's a poet, Namra is a cartographer, and I'm a designer and photographer. Between us, we had so many different skills and perspectives, which became apparent through the conversations that we had with each other. We are still learning from one another and

each other's backgrounds, and sharing local knowledge between us.

**BG:** You were chosen as the 2023 prize's Young Climate Voice winner! What opportunities has this created for you and your project?

**PEA:** For the project, the most visible progress was that we were able to get a clearer understanding of what Climate Words is, what we're doing, and also creating very specific roles for our team. Now we're a group of 12 volunteers. It has opened up many opportunities, but also a community that is very exciting to be part of and to be able to connect with everyone.

**BG:** What advice would you like to pass on to those selected for next year's YCP cohort?

**PEA:** For those who are chosen, I would suggest they take the program seriously, and really take advantage of every single moment, because it goes by so fast. If you fully immerse yourself, you're able to take so much away from it—there's just so much knowledge embedded within it. The program is six months, but the relationships and connections that we built will last so much longer.

**BG:** Finally, if anyone is interested in getting involved with Climate Words or learning more about the project, how can they do so?

**PEA:** They can go to our website, [Climatewords.org](https://climaterwords.org), where they can donate, read our dictionary, and find information about our events to take part in.

## 2024

The positive impact of The World Around's platform in supporting, connecting and championing the extraordinary work of our cohort, alumni and speakers has given us renewed determination and purpose, and 2024 promises to be another year of breaking new ground for our young institution.

We are thrilled to continue our partnership with Fondation Cartier pour l'art contemporain throughout 2024, as we travel to China for the first time in the Fall for a co-curated In Focus program in Shanghai, will generate another series of engaging and thought-provoking conversations.

Before then, in February, we will journey to London to work with our long-time friends and new The World Around partners the Design Museum to co-curate a bespoke In Focus program with the museum's research team, Future Observatory.

Spring starts with the fifth edition of The World Around's Annual Summit, which returns to the Guggenheim, where we'll also be launching an open call for applications and nominations for the Young Climate Prize 2025. The winning cohort of 25 under-25s will be announced at the end of the year.

And although it seems like a long way off, our next annual dinner will cap off another busy year. After the high demand for this year's edition, get ready to buy your tickets and tables early!

## OUR YEAR AHEAD

### THE WORLD AROUND IN FOCUS: LONDON

Design Museum, London

### YOUNG CLIMATE PRIZE 2025

Global open call for applications and nominations

### THE WORLD AROUND ANNUAL SUMMIT 2024

Guggenheim Museum, NYC

### THE WORLD AROUND X FONDATION CARTIER IN FOCUS: SHANGHAI

To be announced, Shanghai

### ANNUAL DINNER

Park Avenue Armory, NYC

# ANNUAL DINNER 2023 THANK YOU

## BENEFACTOR TABLES

THE GEORGETOWN COMPANY

Fondation *Cartier*  
pour l'art contemporain



## SUPPORTER TABLES

2x4

Diller Scofidio + Renfro

Atla Capital

MAD Architects

Practice for Architecture and Urbanism | PAU

WHY

## BENEFACTORS

Aesop  
John Alschuler & Diana Diamond  
Friedman Benda  
Peter Dillon  
Marian Goodman Gallery  
Andy Rifkin, Nine Orchard  
Paratus Group  
Phaidon

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Satomi Blair, Executive Producer  
Ana Minujin, Associate Producer  
Dan Howarth, External Relations

### THE WORLD AROUND ANNUAL DINNER

### SPECIAL THANKS

Maryetta Anschutz  
Adam Flatto  
Paul Goldberger  
Béatrice Grenier  
Marilyn Hernandez  
Ascan Mergenthaler  
Wang Shu  
Lu Wenyu

### EVENT CREATIVE DESIGN

Ana Minujin

### GRAPHIC DESIGN

Creative direction, 2x4  
Graphic design, Martín Azambuja

### VIDEO

Animations, Jae Ee  
4Hawk Productions

**MUSIC**  
Barbarelle

**GIFTS**  
Aesop  
Phaidon

**CALLIGRAPHY**  
Pepita Sandwich

**FLORALS**  
Studio Jones

**CATERING**  
Comparti

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*Pamela Elizarrarás Acitores portrait* by Marie Jacquemin

## LEARN MORE

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