



Oana Bogdan

Architect, director BOGDAN & VAN BROECK

Oana Bogdan studied architecture at the Ion Mincu University for architecture and urbanism, at the Catholic University of Leuven and the Henry Van de Velde Institute in Antwerp. She worked as a lecturer in architecture at the University of Leuven (2006 -2013) and founded the architecture firm BOGDAN & VAN BROECK with Leo Van Broeck in 2007. In 2016 she was interim secretary of state for culture in Romania for six months. She is a member of the board of directors of A+ Architecture in Belgium and has been a board member of the Comité Internationale pour les femmes architectes of the Union Internationale des Architectes since 2020. (Source: [Wikipedia](#), [Bruzz](#))



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Hilde Heynen, architect and professor at KU Leuven who has been investigating the social role of architecture in the 20th century, modernity, power and gender for more than three decades, puts it this way:

"The entanglement of the role of the architect with masculinity seems permanent and difficult to change. This mysticism is reinforced time and again in the communication of architecture to a general public, and to his own students and practitioners. It is a crucial aspect of the professional ethos that underscores the reputation and credibility of architecture as a discipline".

Catching up with female role models and an accompanying increased attention to gender balance and inclusiveness is therefore the order of the day.

Since Wikipedia is one of the most visited online encyclopedias in the world, registering and accessing information about women in architecture on Wikipedia can certainly contribute to a more realistic, inclusive view of Belgian architectural history and a more correct representation of women in the field of architecture.

As a female architect with both feet firmly on the ground, Wiki Women Design, initiated by the Flanders Architecture Institute, is a project that I very much like to support.