# SOLMAZ KHOSHKHOLGHI, PhD

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## EDUCATION

### Academic Qualifications:

**2010-2014** **PhD in Architecture and Urbanism, The University of Nottingham, UK**

Title: The Art of Place-making: The Case of Public Art in Urban Regeneration Projects

Supervisors: Dr. Katharina Borsi, Dr. Laura Hanks, Dr. Stephen Platt

Examiners: Dr. Johnathan Hale, Dr. Renee Tobe

Thesis Synopsis: Examines culture-led approaches to achieve urban regeneration outcomes, in particular the role of art in formation and transformation of urban places, moving beyond purely economic, market-driven urbanization strategies based on traditional planning and rigid approaches to urban design. Serves to exemplify art's formal, spatial and symbolic contribution to the city. The research's findings bring a new dimension to the place−making literature as well as to the culture-led urban regeneration and public art debate.

Keywords: The concept of place, place-making, public space, cultural industries, culture-led urban regeneration, public art

**2006-2007** **MArch in Theory and Design, The University of Nottingham, UK**

**2006** (Jan-June) **Premaster in Business Studies, David Game College, London, UK**

**2000-2005** **Bsc in Architectural Engineering, Soore University, Tehran, Iran**

### Teaching Qualifications:

**Dec 2011** **The Intensive Learning and Teaching Programme (ILTP), The University of Nottingham, UK**

## ACADEMIC APPOINTMENTS/PROFESSIONAL PRACTICES

### Teaching Experiences:

**2017-Current** **Asst. Prof. Kadir Has University, Istanbul**
**Head of Department of Interior Architecture and Environmental Design (Sep 2025-Current)**

Teaching (in English) undergraduate and postgraduate modules in weekly lectures/studio tutorials.

Undergraduate Modules:

IA251 Interior Architecture Design Systems I (Building Components)

IA254 Interior Architecture Design Systems II (Materials)

IA301-302 Interior Architecture Project III-IV

IA401-402 Interior Architecture Project V-Final

IAR355 Introduction to Research Methods

IAR443 Understanding Space

IAR344 Designing User Experience in Interior Architecture

Postgraduate Modules:

KK658 Urban Conservation and Regeneration

KK696 Interdisciplinary Research Methods and Ethics

**2015-2016** **Lecturer, Nisantasi University, Istanbul**

Teaching undergraduate modules in weekly lectures/studio tutorials.

Architectural Design Studio 1,3 and 5

Academic English

**2011- 2014** **Teaching Assistant, The University of Nottingham, Nottingham**

Assisting Associate Professor Katharina Borsi in 'Urban Design Theory/ Urban Design and Regeneration' weekly undergraduate/postgraduate lectures

Assisting Professor Jonathan Hale in 'Architectural Humanities 3: Critical Theory and Interpretation' weekly undergraduate lectures

**2011- 2012** **Part-time Lecturer, Nottingham Trent University, Nottingham**

'Architectural Representation and Communication' in weekly undergraduate lectures/studio tutorials

**2008- 2009** **Teaching Assistant, Soore university, Tehran**

Assisting ‘Urban Space Analysis’ and ‘Introduction to Fundamentals of Urban Planning’ in weekly undergraduate lectures

## Architectural practice Experiences:

**2014- 2015** **Mahbad Consulting Engineering Company, Tehran, Iran**

- Preparing and delivering design proposals and professional presentations to the client and industry professionals.
- monitoring preparation of technical drawings of less senior architects; monitoring design process from conception to construction to ensure consistency of design idea.

**2007- 2009** **Mahbad Consulting Engineering Company, Tehran, Iran**

- Attending client meetings and consult with client to determine functional and spatial requirements of project. Preparing and delivering design proposals and professional presentations to the client and industry professionals.
- Creating building designs and highly detailed drawings; monitoring preparation of technical drawings of less senior architects; monitoring design process from conception to construction to ensure consistency of design idea.
- Project managing and working closely with a team of other professionals; Engaging in team meetings to resolve project issues.
- Regular visits to proposed locations and building sites; resolving problems and issues that arise during construction.

**2003- 2005** **Mahbad Consulting Engineering Company, Tehran, Iran**

Gained experience working part-time as an architecture student:

- Perform project research, conduct research reports, and prepare information regarding design, project specifications, materials, and construction time.
- Conduct detailed scale drawings both by hand and by using specialist computer-aided design applications (AutoCAD, 3Dmax Studio and Adobe Photoshop).

**2000-2003** **PeyProje Construction Firm, Tehran, Iran**

Gained experience working part-time as an architecture student:

- Perform project research and conduct detailed scale drawings both by hand and by using specialist computer-aided design applications

## PUBLICATIONS

### Journal Papers:

Şaher, K., Özgençil, Y., **Khoshkholghi, S.** (2025). *Acoustic assessment of four music rehearsal rooms in accordance with ISO23591 standard.* Applied Acoustics, 240, 110878. https://doi.org/10.1016/j.apacoust.2025.110878 (SCI Expanded; Scopus; Q1 in Acoustics & Ultrasonics; 2025 Journal Impact Factor: 3.6)

Borsi, K., Hanks, L., & **Khoshkholghi, S.** (2013). *Continuity and Transformation: A Civic Heart for Chester-le-Street.* The International Journal of Social, Political, and Community Agendas in the Arts, 9. ISSN: 2326-9960 (Print). Available at: www.artsinsociety.com

### Conference papers:

**Khoshkholghi, S**. (2019). *Ghostly Figures of the Past in Northampton's Market Square: The case of art in the redevelopment of the Old Market Square.* AESOP Annual Congress 2019 (Association of European Schools of Planning), Venice, Italy, 9–13 July 2019.

**Khoshkholghi, S**., Tabibi Aydal, B., & Pekmezci, Y. T. (2016). *Sustainability in architectural education: Rethinking architectural pedagogy for a sustainable future*. 41st IAHS World Congress, Albufeira, Portugal, 13–16 September 2016.

Khoshkholghi, S., **Khoshkholghi, S.**, & Pekmezci, Y. T. (2016). *Transformation of derelict industrial sites: From industry to culture.* 41st IAHS World Congress, Albufeira, Portugal, 13–16 September 2016.

**Khoshkholghi, S.**, Borsi, K., & Hanks, L. (2015). *Public Art and Transforming Urban Places: The case of Sheaf Square, Sheffield's regenerated gateway.* International Conference on the Arts in Society, London, UK, 22–24 July 2015.

**Khoshkholghi, S.**, Borsi, K., & Hanks, L. (2015). *Regeneration of Public Places: Public art in placemaking.* AESOP Annual Congress (Association of European Schools of Planning), Prague, Czech Republic, 13–16 July 2015.

**Khoshkholghi, S.**, Borsi, K., & Hanks, L. (2012). *Public Art in Regeneration Projects for Public Spaces.* Seventh International Conference on the Arts in Society, Liverpool John Moores University, Liverpool, UK, 23–25 July 2012.

**Khoshkholghi, S.**, Borsi, K., Fairfax, J., & Hanks, L. (2012). *Debating Public Art: Whose Space Is It Anyway?* Seventh International Conference on the Arts in Society, Liverpool John Moores University, Liverpool, UK, 23–25 July 2012.

**Khoshkholghi, S.**, & Borsi, K. (2012). *Creative Industries in City Spaces: The Case of Art in Public Places.* The 26th AESOP Annual Congress (Association of European Schools of Planning), Middle East Technical University (METU), Ankara, Türkiye, 11–15 July 2012.

**Khoshkholghi, S.** & Cheshmehzangi, A. (2011). *Impact of Globalisation on Metropolitan Landscapes: A Study of Residential Quarters.* EURA Conference (European Urban Research Association), Copenhagen, Denmark, 23–25 June 2011.

**Khoshkholghi, S.** (2011). *Public Art: Livable Urban Public Spaces*. AESOP (Association of European Schools of Planning) PhD Workshop, Kostelec, Czech Republic, 18–22 June 2011.

### Posters:

**Khoshkholghi, S.** (2012). *Public Art: Livable Urban Public Spaces*. Finalist Poster, Engineering Postgraduate Research Event, University of Nottingham, Nottingham, UK, 16 May 2012.

**Khoshkholghi, S.** (2011). *Public Art: Livable Urban Public Spaces.* Poster Presentation, AESOP PhD Workshop, Kostelec, Czech Republic, 18–22 June 2011.

## GRANTS AND PROJECTS

**Researcher, TÜBİTAK 1001** –- Bilimsel ve Teknolojik Araştırma Projelerini Destekleme Programı (The Scientific and Technological Research Projects Funding Program). *Deneyim Odaklı Kamusal Hizmet Tasarımı: Belediyeler İçin Kentsel Deneyim Haritalaması ve Hizmet Tasarım Yöntemlerinin Geliştirilmesi (Scientific and Technological Research Projects Funding Programme. Experience-Focused Civic Service Design: Development of Urban Experience Mapping and Service Design Methods for Municipalities),* Project No. 223K525.

**Researcher, Kadir Has University Scientific Research Projects (KHÜ BAP).** *Interior Architecture and the Optimization of Acoustic Design of Rehearsal Rooms for Different Instrument Types in Music Education.* Project No. 2018-BAP-17.

## RESEARCH AREAS

Urban Regeneration, Cultural Strategies in Urban Regeneration, Creative City

Place-making, Public Space, Sense of place, Identity, Spatial Design

Art, Culture and the City, Art in Urban Regeneration, the Agency of Art in urban transformation

City as a Performance Stage, Performing Art and Urban Place, Theatre and the City

User Experience (UX) in Urban Design, The UX of Livable Cities, Art and User Experience in Urban Places

## POSTGRADUATE SUPERVISION

**Co-supervisor, Master's Thesis** of Çağrı Çiğdem Aykaç, *"Fenerbahçe Mahallesinin Mekansal Gelişimi" (Spatial Development of the Fenerbahçe Neighborhood)*, Kadir Has University (Ongoing).

## ACADEMIC LEADERSHIP AND CONTRIBUTIONS

### Conference & workshop organisation

**Co-organizer, Lecturer and Workshop Facilitator,** Conservation and Documentation Summer Workshop: *French Heritage in Zonguldak*, 3-week workshop, Kadir Has University, July 2026.

**Organising Committee Member,** Designing Place: International Urban Design Conference, University of Nottingham, April 2012.

### Postgraduate Thesis Jury Member / Examiner

**Master's Thesis Jury Member** for Burcu Hünkar, *"A Method for Reading Sound Installations Through Bernhard Leitner's Sound Spaces"* Kadir Has University, July 2026.

### Editorial activities

**Associate Editor,** the International Journal of Arts Theory and History (2013)

### Other academic leadership roles

**PGR representative:** Officially represented the department PGRs in the Learning Community Forum (LCF) organized by the faculty of Engineering, the University of Nottingham (2011-2014)

**Residential tutor:** Newark Hall, the University of Nottingham (2010-2013)

**Chair of the Post Graduate Student Staff Feedback Committee** (SSFC) (2006-2007)

## REFEREES

References available upon request