

## BENEDICT ZUCCHI

### PRINCIPAL – Building Design Partnership

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Benedict is a Principal and practice-wide Head of the Architecture Profession in BDP with responsibility for the overall strategic direction of a group numbering about 400 architects.

Benedict has extensive multi-sector experience, including masterplanning, design of schools, universities and hospitals. He leads the public sector team in BDP London with a particular focus over recent years on healthcare. His work has achieved public recognition through a number of prizes, including RIBA Awards for St Joseph's Hospital, Cork in 2003, Marlowe Academy in 2008 and Alder Hey Children's Hospital in 2016 and the Prime Minister's Better Public Building Award for the Royal Alexandra Children's Hospital in 2008 and Alder Children's Hospital in 2016.

In all Benedict's projects the architecture has evolved from a close reading of place and use, and an aspiration to make buildings that do not feel institutional. This is a central driver behind his approach to the new Alder Hey in Liverpool, an iconic 60,000m<sup>2</sup> building which recreates the hospital as a 'Children's Health Park' and opened in October 2015.

Benedict has developed a particular reputation for innovative design of children's hospitals, a lineage that continues with the commission for a major new National Children's Hospital in Dublin. This 165,000m<sup>2</sup> facility has a strong affinity with the landscape approach developed at Alder Hey and the aspiration to give the hospital a new identity that draws patients, families and staff together and acts as a strong but flexible backbone to the extended user engagement process.

Benedict's interest in user participation, a common thread in all his projects, stems from his university research on the Italian architect and member of Team 10, Giancarlo De Carlo, which culminated in a monograph on his theory and practice (Giancarlo De Carlo) published in 1992.

## KEY PROJECTS

### NEW CHILDREN'S HOSPITAL, DUBLIN (2014-ONGOING)

Project Director leading the design of the largest, most complex capital investment project undertaken in healthcare in Ireland to create a world-class facility providing specialist tertiary services for the country.  
*Value: circa £600m*

### ALDER HEY CHILDREN'S HOSPITAL, LIVERPOOL (2010-2015)

Lead Designer for this highly acclaimed new 60,000m<sup>2</sup> 274 bed facility. Central to the concept was ensuring that the majority of rooms (whether for children or staff) enjoy park views, and that gardens and terraces are equally accessible to all. *Value: £167m*

*Awards: RIBA Award, RICS Award, Mix Interiors Award, Civic Voice Design Award, European Healthcare Design Award, LABC Building Excellence Award (Best Public Service Building - North West), Winner of the Prime Minister's Better Public Building Award.*

### ARMADA, DEN BOSCH, HOLLAND (2000 – 2003)

Project Architect for a residential development providing a total of 250 apartments in the historic town of 's-Hertogenbosch, in The Netherlands. The iconic scheme is the centrepiece of a new regeneration mixed use masterplan. The orientation and shaping of the buildings are determined by the local micro-climatic character and are designed to maximise light to the apartments and reduce wind turbulence. *Value: £30m*

*Awards: BEX (Building Exchange) Award, MIPIM Award (Finalist), Regeneration Award, Publieksprijs (The Netherlands "Best-Loved Building" Award).*

### ROYAL ALEXANDRA CHILDREN'S HOSPITAL, BRIGHTON (2002-2007)

Project Director for this award winning 15,000m<sup>2</sup> 100 bed acute paediatric hospital. The user and children-centred approach turned assumptions about the site on their head with the introduction of an atrium at the heart of the building, which gave the hospital

much needed light, views and a social heart and contributed to its very distinctive external identity, affectionately known as the 'Children's Ark'.

*Value: £37m*

*Awards: Civic Trust Award, Prime Minister's Award for Better Public Building, Mix Interiors Award, Design and Health Academy Award, Building Better Healthcare Award*

### **MARLOWE ACADEMY, RAMSGATE (2003-2007)**

Project Director for an innovative concept of a 'school without corridors', for 1100 pupil secondary school as three curved 'faculty' wings with single-sided balcony circulation, centred on a multi-use central hall. With its distinctive timber grid shell roof the hall became the emblem of a rejuvenated school community.

*Value: £23m*

*Awards: RIBA National Award and RIBA-Sorrell Foundation Best School of the Year 2007*

### **ST JOSEPH'S CARE VILLAGE, CORK (1999-2002)**

A 'healthcare village' for the elderly on a bucolic hilltop site, the concept recasts the conventional idea

of a high-dependency unit giving the facility a renewed sense of place within a long term masterplan. Incorporating a library, chapel, restaurant and independent living flats as well as 64 inpatient rooms and extensive accessible gardens, the village has made a real step change in the experience of patients and staff alike. *Value: £20m*

*Awards: RIBA International Award*

### **UNIVERSITY OF CAMBRIDGE, FACULTY OF EDUCATION, UK**

Project Director for new 5000m<sup>2</sup> Faculty adjacent to Homerton College set in the grounds of a listed Georgian house. Completed December 2004.

*Value: £9.5m*

*David Urwin Heritage Award for Most Sustainable Building*

### **HAMPDEN GURNEY SCHOOL, LONDON, UK**

Concept design for innovative vertical primary school on constricted central London site.

Completed 2002. *Value: £18m*

*RIBA Award for Architecture 2002 (Shortlist for Stirling Prize), Civic Trust Award 2004*