

## **Maisha Akil Scafe-Smith**

### **Short biography**

RESOLVE is an interdisciplinary design collective that combines architecture, engineering, technology and art to address social challenges. They have delivered numerous projects, workshops, publications, and talks in the UK and across Europe, all of which look toward realising just and equitable visions of change in our built environment.

Much of RESOLVE's work aims to provide platforms for the production of new knowledge and ideas. An integral part of this way of working means designing with and for young people and under-represented groups in society. Here, 'design' encompasses both physical and systemic intervention, exploring ways of using a project's site as a resource and working with different communities as stakeholders in the short and long-term management of projects. In this way, design carries more than aesthetic value; it is also a mechanism for political and socio-economic change.

RESOLVE's project portfolio ranges from architecture/urban design projects to community support work, from artist installations to research publications. They have worked critically with numerous art institutions including S1 Gallery (Sheffield), Het Nieuwe Instituut (Rotterdam), Haus Der Kulturen Der Welt & SAAVY Contemporary (Berlin), Kunstverein Braunschweig (Braunschweig), Wellcome Collection, V&A Museum, The Barbican Centre, Tate Modern & Mosaic Rooms (London); a variety of public sector clients such as the London boroughs of Croydon, Ealing, and Greenwich; and other fellow community-focused organisations such as SADACCA (Sheffield), Skin Deep (London), MAIA (Birmingham), and Mansions of the Future (Lincoln).

They also lead an undergraduate unit at the Architectural Association, were Research Fellows at Het Nieuwe Instituut in 2020, and are Honorary Fellows of the Royal Institute of British Architects. Members of the collective hold numerous trustee, advisory, and teaching positions, including trustees at Build Up Foundation, Theatrum Mundi, and The Mosaic Rooms, lecturer of Creative Industries at University of the Arts London, Design Expert and Advisor on the Design Economy on the Design Council, and advisor for Wysing Arts Centre.

