

BIOGRAPHY

RASHIQ FATAAR

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SHORT BIO

Rashiq Fataar is an urbanist and founder of Our Future Cities — an urbanism practice and think tank working towards a future in which cities are more sustainable and equitable, but also nurturing, exciting, vibrant, and loved. With Cape Town, South Africa, as his inspiration and base, Fataar is fascinated with systems, processes, projects, people, and ideas that create opportunities for better public spaces, housing, mobility, community development, and our environment.

RASHIQ FATAAR

LONG BIO

Rashiq Fataar is an urbanist and founder of Our Future Cities — an urbanism practice and think-tank working towards a future in which cities are more sustainable, equitable, but also nurturing, exciting, vibrant, and loved.

His passion for urbanism was initially ignited by the unrealised plan for an Olympic Park adjacent to his childhood neighbourhood of Kensington in Cape Town, South Africa — which today serves as both the base and inspiration for Our Future Cities.

Fataar is fascinated with the systems, processes, projects, people, and ideas that create opportunities in cross-cutting areas like public spaces, housing, policymaking, mobility, community development, and our environment.

In 2010, he established Future Cape Town, which swiftly emerged as the leading African platform in urban sustainability, extending its dialogue to cities such as Johannesburg, Lagos, and London. By 2016, it ranked among the top 20 global urban planning blogs and was featured in exhibitions at the Guggenheim Bilbao and the FRAC Centre in France.

Fataar's foundation in Actuarial Science equips him analytical acumen which he combines with creativity and foresight to navigate the complexities of urban development with government, businesses, cultural, and educational institutions.

In 2022, he joined the board of The Independent School for the City in Rotterdam, which tests progressive approaches to educating future urbanists. As an educator, he has worked with students from Northeastern University (Boston), the Strelka Institute (Moscow), the University of Botswana, and others.

Fataar has previously served on the Heritage Western Cape Impact Assessment Committee, the Board of Cape Town Tourism, and is one of more than one hundred invited Placemaking-X leaders.

He co-curated the Department of Design with Christine de Baan in 2014, the #cocreateDESIGN Festival in 2018 and 2019, the Constructing Future Cities residency, South Africa's Urban Festival in 2020 and 2021, and the RISE Africa Action Festival in 2021 and 2022.

Fataar's contributions to urbanism have been globally recognised through lectures, exhibitions, and in media such as Icon Magazine, The Guardian, BBC Future, and Monocle Magazine.

ABOUT OUR FUTURE CITIES

Our Future Cities is an urbanism practice, consultancy, and think tank led by urbanist Rashiq Fataar.

We are working towards a future in which cities are more sustainable and equitable but are also nurturing, exciting, vibrant, and loved - with Cape Town, South Africa as its base and inspiration.

Our interdisciplinary team is fascinated with the systems, processes, projects, people, and ideas that create opportunities to make better cities of tomorrow in a number of cross-cutting areas, including public spaces, housing, mobility, community development, and our environment.