



KAREN WONG
BArch (Hons), DipArch
Studio Director

EDUCATION

- / University College London
Diploma in Architecture
- / University of Nottingham, Nottingham
Bachelor in Architecture (Hons)
- / University of Westminster, London
Post Graduate Professional Architecture

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Karen joined Bates Smart in 2012.

Prior to joining Bates Smart:

- / Foster + Partners, Hong Kong
- / David Morely Architects, London
- / Aukett Fitzroy Robinson, London
- / Sheppard Robson Partnership, London

PROFESSIONAL ASSOCIATIONS

- / Registered Architect, ARB, UK

SYNOPSIS

Originally from Hong Kong, Karen is a British trained with experience in the United Kingdom, Hong Kong, China, Vietnam and Australia. Karen brings an international perspective to Bates Smart and possesses the cultural understanding and communication skills to fluidly navigate a diverse and evolving market.

Karen joined Bates Smart in 2012 and was promoted to Associate Director in 2014 and Studio Director in 2020. She has extensive experience in all stages of a project and all aspects of the design process. Karen always demonstrates a commitment to the highest standards and has worked on a large range of project types including masterplan, residential, sport, education, retail, hospitality and commercial.

Karen has exceptional communication and organisational skills and leads large teams on complex, mixed-use and masterplan projects. Recently Karen led the team on 85 Spring, a 43 storey residential and hospitality mixed-use tower, where she successfully navigated complex site constraints, developed the client brief, faced multiple technical challenges and managed a variety of stakeholders. The outcome is a crafted, bespoke and sculptural design with an improved ground plane that contributes to Melbourne's urban realm.

Karen's key strengths are at the front-end design stages of projects, where she enjoys working closely with clients and stakeholders to find appropriate solutions. Karen also frequently works with key clients to assist in the feasibility and purchase of potential sites, and is a key member of our business development and practice management teams.

Karen has taught design thesis at University of Melbourne and is a frequent critic to student design studios. She sits on the board of the Council for Tall Buildings and Urban Habitat Australia and is part of the Committee for Melbourne Future Focus Group Alumni.

PROJECT EXPERIENCE

RESIDENTIAL

- / 258 City Road, Melbourne
- / 85 Spring Street, Melbourne
- / 17 Spring Street, Melbourne
- / Opéra, Melbourne
- / Collins House, Melbourne
- / Capitol Grand, South Yarra
- / 555 Collins Street, Melbourne
- / Classic, East Melbourne
- / 25 Coventry Street, Melbourne
- / The Capitol, South Yarra
- / 424 St Kilda Road, Melbourne

Prior to joining Bates Smart:

- / Singbridge Horizon Lakeview Residential Masterplan, Guangzhou China
- / University Accommodation, Loughborough, UK
- / The Plimsoll, Kings Cross London, UK

HOSPITALITY

- / 472-478 Bourke Street, Melbourne
- / Chadstone Hotel, Chadstone
- / Crowns Queens Wharf, Brisbane
- / 55 Southbank Boulevard, Southbank
- / W Hotel, 20-30 Bourke Street, Melbourne
- / Belford Street Hotel, St Kilda
- / Kahn Crown Hospitality Project

COMMERCIAL

- / 435 Bourke Street, Melbourne
- / 30-40 Digital Drive, Docklands
- / Lot 5, Box Hill North Stage 1, Box Hill
- / 32 Flinders Street, Melbourne

Prior to joining Bates Smart:

- / Sport Park, Loughborough, UK
- / Velodrome, London Olympics, UK
- / Lee Valley Athletics Centre, London, UK
- / Uxbridge Business Park, London, UK
- / Experian Data Centre, Nottingham, UK
- / Experian Headquarters, Nottingham, UK
- / Tel Aviv Tennis Centre, Israel

MIXED USE

- / Queensbridge Tower (design competition), Melbourne
 - / Queens Wharf (design competition), Brisbane
 - / E-Gate Redevelopment Masterplan, Melbourne
 - / Digital Harbour Masterplan, Docklands
 - / Box Hill North Masterplan, Box Hill
- #### Prior to joining Bates Smart:
- / Suning Square, Nanjing China
 - / Vietinbank, Hanoi Vietnam
 - / West Kowloon Cultural District, Hong Kong
 - / Lusail Masterplan, Qatar

EDUCATION

Prior to joining Bates Smart:

- / Rossington School, Doncaster, UK
- / Kings Cross Primary School, London, UK
- / Fit For The Future Publication, Partnerships For Schools, UK
- / Wandsworth Borough Council Building Schools For The Future, London, UK

SPORTS

Prior to joining Bates Smart:

- / Velodrome, London Olympic Competition
- / Lee Valley athletics centre, London, UK
- / Tennis centre, Tel Aviv, Israel

AWARDS

Capitol Grand, South Yarra

- / CTBUH Award of Excellence, MEP Engineering Award, Winner, 2019

Collins House, Melbourne

- / CTBUH Award of Excellence, Construction Award, Winner, 2019