

Neri Oxman announced as speaker at Design Indaba 2018



By [Juanita Pienaar](#)

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Architect, designer and inventor, Neri Oxman, has been announced as one of the speakers at this year's Design Indaba Conference 2018.



Neri Oxman © Noah Kalina.

Oxman was born and raised in Haifa, Israel and told *Surface Magazine* in a [2016 interview](#) that her childhood home was funky and full of creative energy. She was brought up in a family of architects, engineers, and intellectuals and after finishing mandatory military service in the Israeli Air Force she planned to apply to medical school. Two years later she changed her mind and applied to architecture school at the Technion-Israel Institute of Technology, where her father was a professor (and later, dean). She also joined the London Architectural Association School of Architecture, from which she graduated in 2004.



Astrid Stavro announced as speaker at Design Indaba 2018

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Achievements and accolades

Currently based in Boston, USA, Oxman is an associate professor of media arts and sciences at the MIT Media Lab, where she founded and directs The Mediated Matter Group. Her work has resulted in more than 100 scientific papers and patents and is included in permanent collections at the Museum of Modern Art (MoMA), the San Francisco Museum of Modern Art (SFMOMA), Centre Georges Pompidou, the Boston Museum of Fine Arts (MFA), Cooper Hewitt Smithsonian Design Museum, the Smithsonian Institution, the Museum of Applied Arts in Vienna (MAK), the Frac Collection and the Boston Museum of Science, amongst others including prestigious private collections.

Since 2005, Oxman and her team have won numerous awards and has grown in international scope and acclaim at venues such as the World Economic Forum, where she is part of the Expert Network, and the White House. In 2008 she was named "Revolutionary Mind" by *Seed Magazine*. In the following year she was named to *Icon's* "top most influential designers and architects to shape our future" and to *Esquire's* "Best and Brightest." In the following year, Oxman was

selected to *Fast Company's* "Most creative people" and the "10 most creative women in business." In 2014, Oxman was named one of the honourees of the Carnegie's Pride of America. In 2015, she was named to *Roads' 100 Global Minds: The Most Daring Cross-Disciplinary Thinkers in the World*, and in 2016 she was named a Cultural Leader at the World Economic Forum.



Studio Swine announced as speakers at Design Indaba 2018

30 Nov 2017



A language of creativity that carries meaning

Oxman is also a 3-D innovator. She, and members of her Mediated Matter Group, formed part of a team that developed a robotic system for 3D printing buildings and other large structures, a quick-curing printer that makes free-standing structures without any support structures. In 2012 she printed her own body-sized wearables and in 2016 she created a set of 3D-printed textured masks for the singer, Bjork. In addition to this, she also designed and produced new printing tools and processes, like the first 3D printer for optically transparent glass.

“ The [#ngvtriennial](#) event features the work of over 100 artists from 32 countries scaling across geographies and perspectives. Vespers series 1-3, masks 1-5 by [#nerioxman](#) are [#3dprinted](#) using the multi-color capabilities of the J750. Photo: Tom Ross <https://t.co/CfrW1ZVruA> pic.twitter.com/m4mueJ3gJM— Ilan Levin (@Levinllan) [December 21, 2017](#) ”

In a recent [interview](#) with *W Magazine*, Oxman said that she approaches the world as a whole by taking an integrative approach, not a world of parts, and that she likes to bring different fields and disciplines together.

“ “The same is true with my preoccupation with cultural expression. I am equally fascinated and awed by visiting an Alexander McQueen show as I am looking under a microscope. And this same level of intrigue visits me when I take on design journeys. I don't think of fashion as fashion, or biology as biology. I don't separate architecture, design or culture. What's more important is a language of creativity that carries meaning. These things are all merely lenses with which to view the world. Sometimes they overlap, sometimes they don't.” ”

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ABOUT JUANITA PIENAAR

Juanita is the editor of the marketing & media portal on the Bizcommunity website. She is also a contributing writer.

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