

COLLABORATIVE COMMITTED DRIVEN DIVERSE TECH-SAVVY CURIOUS GLOBAL PASSIONATE



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## Rising stars, bright futures

Lighting (Illumination in Architecture) aims to inspire and explain by drawing on the present, the past and, of course, the future of lighting design. Once again we are looking forward and taking an informed guess at who will lead the profession in years to come, by identifying 40 rising stars under 40 years old. Of course, it is a sample from the pool of talent that the industry draws on, which is growing continually as appreciation of lighting design deepens around the world. Every continent, bar Antarctica, is represented on this year's list, and although formal lighting education is very much in evidence, the men and women on it have entered lighting design from many directions and disciplines. Art, academia and automotive design are just a few. What they have in common is a desire to share their knowledge, as activists – in their regional chapter of the Illuminating Engineering Society of North America or the International Association of Lighting Designers, for example – presenting at conferences, taking part in light festivals and, above all, mentoring and supporting colleagues. The most effective propaganda for lighting design is their work, their creativity and the benefits that they deliver by designing with light and for people. Once considered narrow and arcane, lighting design has joined the mainstream and itself demands a broad mix of skills, from conceptualising to collaboration, computer simulation to commissioning. It is significant, though, that so many of the 40 Under 40 have begun by studying architecture before being led by curiosity, opportunity or artistic intent into designing with and through light – that fundamental source of energy and experience. Neils Bohr (among many) is credited with saying, 'it is difficult to make predictions, especially about the future,' but we are confident that this year's 40 Under 40 will cast a long shadow – albeit only where they intend to.



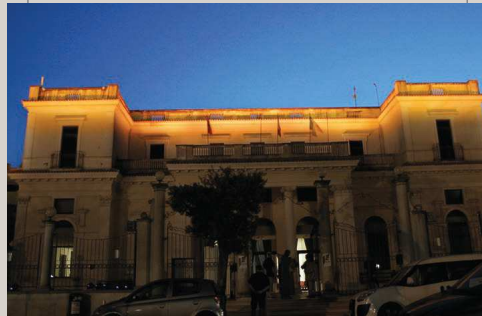
**Rachel Gibney**  
Available Light

Rachel Gibney joined Available Light (Boston, New York and Raleigh) as an intern but quickly rose to designer and is now senior associate. After studying theatre design and production at the University of Arizona, 'I worked around the country at various theatres and festivals, but I wanted more,' she says. 'When I discovered architectural lighting design it presented a different design challenge involving a blend of art and science that I jumped at the opportunity to pursue.' She returned to her alma mater in 2016 to speak on theatrical lighting in permanent spaces, having already garnered awards of merit from the IESNA and the IALD. Her goals include mentoring and – eventually – setting up her own practice.



**Romano Baratta**  
Romano Baratta  
Lighting Studio

With titles such as Medieval Sensation Colours, and Luminous Climate and Anthro-psychology Light, lighting



designer/artist Romano Baratta's works reflect both his academic and technical rigour. Among the highest rated is his Light#20 False Sunset, a 2015 installation that recreated the changing colours and intensity of a sinking sun, first in daylight then at night, where it could never have been seen in the first place. It was commissioned by the city of Giulianova, in the Abruzzo region of Italy, for the facade of its Karsaal cultural centre. Flanked by the Appennines, Giulianova never sees the sun drop below the horizon. A colleague described him as 'a kind of alchemist of the future'.

Photo: Romano Baratta Lighting Studio



**Shu Jiang**  
Auerbach Glasow  
Lighting Design

Shu Jiang is senior lighting designer at Auerbach Glasow Lighting Design, San Francisco, which she joined from Erco and Office for Visual Interaction, New York, before that. At OVI she worked on concept designs for the Citadel Capital Office Building, Cairo; Kuwait University College of Arts and College of Education, and Stanford Hospital, Stanford, California, among others. She has a bachelor's in architectural engineering from Tianjin University, China, and a lighting master's from Hochschule Wismar, Germany. Her current projects include the San Francisco Transbay Transit Center and the \$1.3bn University of California Merced Campus Expansion. She was a guest thesis juror for Parsons School of Design, New York, in 2015 and 2016.



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