



Jonathan Falkingham MBE

BA(hons) BArch(hons)
RIBA FRSA

Founder &
Creative Director

Jonathan Falkingham MBE is Creative Director and Co-Founder of award winning property company Urban Splash.

Jonathan has been doing it in the North West since 1989, when after qualifying as an architect he set up his own practice, shedkm. He later founded Urban Splash in 1993, with Tom Bloxham and has since been creative lead on the majority of the companies regeneration projects.

Jonathan's passion is focused on improving the quality of the built environment and finding creative ways in which to not only repurpose historic buildings for a sustainable future but also deliver award winning new buildings that he hopes will be the heritage of the future. Making good design affordable and accessible are key themes.

Before Splash

Originally from Bradford, Jonathan studied at Liverpool University, graduating in 1988 with a First Class honours degree in Architecture. Straight from University he set up his emergent practice, which would later become shedkm, alongside teaching at both of Liverpools School's of Architecture.

After a chance meeting, Jonathan teamed up with Tom Bloxham on a project that was to become the first ever Baa Bar in Liverpool's yet to be developed Ropewalks area. Working alongside his brother Miles Falkingham and business partner Elaine Clarke, Baa Bar became a great success and when it was sold in 2007 had 7 bars and 200+ staff. The launch of Baa Bar was swiftly followed by the redevelopment of Concert Square, Liverpool, the first project for the newly minted Urban Splash.

At Urban Splash

As a Chartered Architect and Creative Director, Jonathan has taken the lead on strategic project design and marketing. His background in architecture allows him to work with the exciting young and established architects, as well as contribute creatively himself, on the full range of Urban Splash projects.

Jonathan doesn't have a favourite Urban Splash project – that would be like asking if he had a favourite child! – but projects he's been very close to and ARE particularly proud of include THE redevelopment of Fort Dunlop, Birmingham, the upside-down houses of Chimney Pot Park, Salford, and bringing new life to the iconic Park Hill estate in Sheffield.

He likes a project that requires creative problem solving and bold design solutions, and that ultimately challenges our preconceptions about the spaces we live and work in.



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Outside of Splash

As well as his role as Creative Director at Urban Splash Jonathan also holds a number of other positions;

2015 to date	Board member - British Architectural Trust (RIBA)
2008 to date	Trustee - Royal Court Theatre Liverpool
1989 to date	Founder & Non Exec Director of shedkm
2010 - 2016	Trustee - Royal Institute of British Architects
2006 - 2010	Trustee - National Museums Liverpool
1994 - 2004	Liverpool Urban Design Advisory Panel
1991 - 2007	Founder & Director of Baa Bar Ltd

Awards & Honours

In addition to many company awards, Jonathan has also picked up a number of individual awards including;

2022	Honorary degree from the University of Liverpool
2016	Elected a Fellow of the RIBA
2014	Honorary Fellowship – Liverpool John Moores University
2013	MBE, for services to architecture & regeneration
2008	Doctor of Design, Honorary Degree University of Wolverhampton
2005	Director of the Year, Institute of Directors (NW)
2005	RIBA award for architecture – oakfarm
2005	Roses Design Awards – oakfarm
2005	RIBA Manser Medal shortlist – oakfarm
2003	Entrepreneur of the Year, Finalist
2000	LADT award for Personal Contribution to Liverpool
1999	Young Entrepreneur of the Year, UK
1999	Young Entrepreneur of the Year, North Region
1998	Hot 100 Entrepreneurs, Entrepreneur Magazine
1997	42 under 42, Insider Magazine

To date Urban Splash has won over 400 awards for its work in design-led regeneration, architecture, civic design, marketing and business.