

SYZYGY

Maximiliano Arrocet

Founding Partner



BSc (Hons), MArch, PgDip Arch, ARB, RIBA

Qualifications

- | | |
|------|---|
| 2009 | Pg Dip. Arch (Part III) University of Westminster |
| 2003 | Masters of Architecture(MArch), University of Bath |
| 2001 | Bachelor of Architecture (BSc) , University of Bath |

Maximiliano Arrocet is a Spanish-Chilean architect and founding partner of SYZYGY, a design studio co-led with Pablo Vila, working across architecture, infrastructure and sustainable systems. His work is defined by a rigorous design ethos, deep technical knowledge, and a commitment to material innovation and environmental performance.

From 2012 to 2024, Maximiliano was Director at AL_A, an award-winning international architecture practice. He led the design and delivery of major projects including the Museum of Art, Architecture and Technology (MAAT) in Lisbon, Maggie's Centre in Southampton, and a prototype fusion energy facility for General Fusion in Canada. He also directed private and institutional commissions including houses in London and Cyprus, the Goldman Sachs Conference and Wellbeing Centre, and major hospital projects for AMC in Nicosia and Limassol.

Earlier in his career, he contributed to projects at Future Systems, Schlaich Bergermann und Partner, and Estudio Lamela, where he worked on the Real Madrid Sports Village, the refurbishment of the Santiago Bernabéu Stadium (2002), and the ECB Headquarters competition in Frankfurt.

Maximiliano studied architecture at the University of Bath, with further study at the University of Hong Kong and the University of Westminster. He has lectured at The Bartlett (UCL), University of Seville, MIT, and NYIT, focusing on construction systems, materiality, and the civic potential of architecture.

Career

- | | |
|------------|---|
| 2024 – | Founding Partner, SYZYGY, Ibiza, |
| 2012-2024 | Director, AL_A , London, UK |
| 2009- 2012 | Associate , AL_A, London, UK |
| 2007–2009 | Senior Architect, Future Systems London, UK |

- | | |
|-------------|--|
| 2006–2007 | Architect, Schlaich Bergermann und Partner , Berlin, Germany |
| 2003 - 2006 | Architect, Estudio Lamela, Madrid, Spain |

Professional associations

- Registered Architect, Architects Registration Board (UK)
- Chartered Member, Royal Institute of British Architects

Awards

- **German Design Council** Architectural “Best of Best” Iconic Award for MAAT Museum (AL_A) 2017.
- **Leading Culture Destinations Award – Best Museum Architecture of the Year** for MAAT Museum (AL_A) 2017.
- **European Steel Design Award of Merit** for MAAT Museum (AL_A) 2017
- **Finalist – World Architecture Festival** for MAAT Museum (AL_A) 2017
- **Finalist - EU Mies van der Rohe Award** for MAAT Museum (AL_A 2017)
- **Surface Design Awards – Supreme Winner & Public Building Exterior** for MAAT Museum (AL_A) 2018
- **RIBA South Awards** for Maggie's Southampton (AL_A) 2024
- **Architizer A + Award “ community Centers”** category for Maggie's Southampton 2022

Selected Experience

SY-ZY-GY

- **Private Houses** - co-developer for sustainable residential development in cross laminate timber, Ibiza, Spain 2024-Present
- **Private house**, Can Jason legalisation and refurbishment, Ibiza 2024-present
- **Private Villa, Casa S+Z**, refurbishment, Ibiza 2024-Present
- **Private Villa, Casa Tobias**, legalisation, refurbishment and extension, Santa Eulalia, Ibiza (2024 - Present)
- **Warehouse Project**, Ibiza (2024-Present)
- **AMC Canopy** , Nicosia, Cyprus (2024-present)

AL_A

- **AMC Limassol Hospital**, Cyprus 2023–2024
- **AMC Hospital West Extension**, Nicosia 2021–2023
- **AMC Hospital Masterplan**, Nicosia 2019–2021
- **Private House**, Protaras, Cyprus 2020–2022
- **Tree Hotel Project**, (planning) Cyprus 2017- 2025
- **Private House**, Richmond Avenue, London 2020–2021
- **Goldman Sachs HQ – Conference and Wellbeing Centre**, London 2016–2018
- **Maggie's Centre**, Southampton 2015–2022
- **MAAT – Museum of Art, Architecture and Technology**, Lisbon 2011–2016
- **MPavilion**, Melbourne 2015
- **Tincan pop-up restaurant**, London 2014
- **Galleries Lafayette Concept Design**, Paris 2014
- **General Fusion – Fusion Energy Demonstration Plant**, Canada Tender pack 2018–2023

Future Systems

- **Prototile pavilion** – London Design Festival 2009
- **Private House**, Rutland Gate, London (2009–2013)
- **Private house**, Richmond Avenue, London (2008 -2010)

Schlaich Bergermann und Partner

- **Yamuna Cable-Stayed Bridge**, Wazirabad, India (Tender design)

Estudio Lamela

- **Real Madrid C.F. Sports Village**, Madrid (2003–2005)
- **Santiago Bernabéu Stadium Refurbishment**, Competition Madrid (2002)
- **La Romareda Stadium**, Zaragoza (2004–2006) 1st price winner competition
- **Call Centre** for BSCH, Querétaro, Mexico (2005) 1st price winner

Selected Lectures & Presentations

- **"Material Innovation in MAAT"**
Foro de Arquitectura – Cevisama, Valencia, Spain. February 2024. Invited by Arquitectura Viva. Lecture on MAAT's ceramic façade and performance-driven design, presented alongside Néstor Montenegro and Matthias Sauerbruch.
- **"Advanced Architecture & Fusion Energy"**
SHARE X Conference, Venice, Italy
November 2023
Presentation on AL_A's design for the General Fusion prototype facility, focusing on energy, systems thinking and fabrication.
- **"Innovative Use of Aluminium in Architecture"**
Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT), Cambridge, USA, April 2023.
Explored AL_A's use of aluminium in public architecture, focusing on MAAT and the V&A courtyard.
- **"Ceramic Systems in Architecture"**
Cátedra Cerámica – UIC School of Architecture, Barcelona, Spain, September 2022.
Keynote lecture for the ceramics chair programme. Explored ceramics as a performative, structural and expressive element in architecture.
- **"Algorithms and Architecture"**
Norman Foster Foundation – Digital X Workshop, Madrid, Spain
January 2018
Co-presented with Amanda Levete. Discussed the role of digital innovation in shaping future architectural practice.
- **"Moulding Futures: Ceramics and Innovation in Architecture"**
RIBA North – ECAIab Symposium, Liverpool, UK
December 2017. Explored digital ceramic fabrication and the role of craftsmanship in public architecture, alongside Martin Bechthold and Eric Parry.
- **"A Story of Ceramics in Architecture"**
NYIT (New York Institute of Technology) –
Delivered on 5 April 2023 via Zoom, reflecting on material experimentation at AL_A

- **"Inside Story: Maximiliano Arrocet on AL_A's Sparkling New Lisbon Landmark"**
CLADmag, 20 February 2017
In-depth interview on MAAT's façade, rooftop public realm, and its relationship with the river.
- **"Urban Connections: MAAT, Lisbon"**
Wallpaper*, August 2022
Editorial feature exploring MAAT's civic impact, geometry, and material expression, with insights from Arrocet.
- **Interview on MAAT Opening Designboom**, June 2016
Video interview at the opening of MAAT, with Amanda Levete and Arrocet discussing façade, light, and public space.

Selected links

- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Y7Nsw6WtM-c>
- https://divisare.com/projects/327613-al_a-hufton-crow-fernando-guerra-fg-sg-francisco-nogueira-maat
- <https://www.cladglobal.com/CLADnews/architecture-design/CLAD-Lisbon-Portugal-Museum-of-Art-Architecture-and-Technology-AL-A-Amanda-Levete-Maximiliano-Arrocet-architecture-design/330409>
- <https://www.wallpaper.com/architecture/lisbons-maat-inaugurated-by-new-ala-building-amanda-levete>
- <https://www.designboom.com/architecture/amanda-levete-maat-museum-interview-max-arrocet-lisbon-architecture-triennale-10-06-2016/>
-

Selected Publications & Book Collaborations

- **"Beyond the Envelope: Twenty-One Pioneering Architectural Projects"**
Oscar Riera Ojeda Publishers, 2025
Contribution includes a candid interview on MAAT's envelope design, where Arrocet discusses "sculpting with shadows."
- **Divisare Pocket-Book: MAAT Museum**
Divisare, 2017
Project feature covering architectural plans and photography; Maximiliano Arrocet credited as Project Director.