CHRISTOPHER MARTIN

BSc (Hons), Dip TP, MSc (UD), UDG, AoU, FRSA

CO-FOUNDER + MANAGING DIRECTOR
HEAD OF URBAN DESIGN

urban movement

Christopher is an influential urban strategist, designer and advisor, and a respected commentator on cities, mobility and public life. He works with governments, political leaders, developers, communities and cities to turn ambitious ideas into deliverable change, helping define missions, navigate competing priorities, build confidence and consensus, and create practical routes from ambition to implementation.

As Co-Founder and Managing Director of Urban Movement and Head of Urban Design + Strategy, Christopher has spent more than twenty years working where urban strategy, movement, public life, politics and delivery overlap. He has led complex urban transformation projects at every scale, using streets, public realm and transport investment to unlock wider outcomes for growth, health, social equity, climate resilience and quality of life. His approach combines strategic thinking with deep delivery experience, integrating urban and landscape design, transport and engineering while working across the governance, partnerships and decision-making that make ambitious change possible. His work explores the creative tension between strategy, design, delivery and ambassadorship, maintaining ambition, building collaboration and pushing where necessary to secure better outcomes.

Christopher is Vice-Chair of the Board of Trustees of Living Streets and chairs its Technical Walking Design Expert Group; a Fellow of the Royal Society of Arts; Trustee of the Commonwealth Association of Architects; and former Vice Chair of the Urban Design Group. He advises governments and global consultancies, lectures regularly at the Bartlett School of Planning, UCL, and is a recognised keynote speaker and media commentator on cities, regeneration and mobility. Combining project leadership, strategic advisory, governance and research, Christopher brings an unusually broad perspective on what it takes to turn urban ambition into lasting change.

CAREER

2011
Managing Director
Urban Movement

2010
Urban Design + Planning
Urban Initiatives

2007
Urban Design + Planning
Llewelyn Davies Yeang

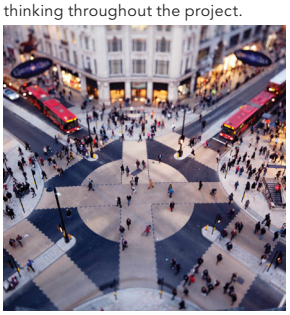
2005
Urban Design + Planning
Rolfe Judd

HACKNEY CENTRAL GREEN CORRIDOR

Christopher has led design work in Hackney Central to develop a Green Corridor along Amhurst Road, Hackney's £19m LUF funded regeneration project. Amhurst Road is a busy vehicle route running through Hackney Central, and is a key point of severance for people moving about the town centre by foot, bike, or public transport. Christopher has played a pivotal role in the project, helping establish the vision for the project, build ambitious consensus, and leading designs from RIBA 0-3. The scheme, when built, will unlock 10 tennis courts worth of space from cars for people.

OXFORD STREET LONDON

Christopher is leading UM's work on the transformation of Oxford Street, providing strategic leadership on movement, public realm and pedestrian experience for one of the most significant city centre projects currently underway in the world. Working with the OSDC alongside Hawkins\Brown, he has helped shape the movement strategy and design principles for the future pedestrianised street. He has worked closely with the client team, designers, transport authorities and wider stakeholders to align ambitions, challenge assumptions and embed movement-led design thinking throughout the project.



MARYLEBONE HIGH STREET

Commissioned by Westminster City Council and Cross River Partnership, Christopher led Urban Movement's work to develop a reimagined Marylebone High Street; one which improved the environment for walking and cycling; created a better place to spend time and relax; increased the greenery of the street through increased planting and trees; increased the amount of public space; and delivered an overarching strategy to improve the air quality along the High Street. Christopher developed the overall strategy and RIBA 2 Concept Design, which delivered in 2019.

FITZROVIA PUBLIC REALM MASTERPLAN

Christopher led this project that explored ways in which more public open space could be delivered in Fitzrovia, for both Camden Council (East) and FitzWest Neighbourhood Forum with WCC (West). Through this work he established a strategy to deliver a greener, healthier, city - rebalancing movement and place throughout the district to unlock opportunities to claim back space from streets to create new public open space. The strategy was incorporated as policy by way of an Area Action Plan, identifying and unlocking the delivery of the first new park in central London in 25 years.

Urban Movement
Exmouth House, 3-11 Pine Street,
London, EC1R 0JH

@ChrisCities
c.martin@urbanmovement.co.uk
www.urbanmovement.co.uk