At the RIAS Convention in Aberdeen in May, the then RIAS President, Stewart Henderson, surprised Winy by presenting him with the Incorporation's Honorary Fellowship. The following citation was read out:

Winy Maas Prof. Ir. Ing. FRIBA HAIA is an architect, urban planner and landscape architect. In 1993 Winy, Jacob van Rijs and Nathalie de Vries founded MVRDV.

MVRDV are regularly cited as one of the leading architecture and design practices in the world today – with countless international awards and accolades. Operating from their principal studio in Rotterdam Winy is world renowned for projects such as the groundbreaking Hannover Expo 2000, the vision for greater Paris, Grand Paris Plus Petit, and more recently the Markthal in Rotterdam, Seoullo Skygarden and Tianjin Library.

He is professor and director of The Why Factory, a research institute for the future city which he founded in 2008 at TU Delft. He is currently Visiting Professor at GSAPP Columbia, New York and IIT Chicago and has been Visiting Professor at the University of Hong Kong, Catholic University of Louvain in Belgium, ETH Zurich, the Berlage Institute, MIT, Ohio State and Yale University.

With both MVRDV and The Why Factory he has published numerous research projects and books on the future of cities. In addition, he designs stage sets, curates exhibitions, gives lectures throughout the world and regularly takes part in international design juries.

In 2013 Winy joined the Economic Development Board of Rotterdam. In 2012 he was appointed urban supervisor for the city of Almere, where MVRDV are curating world horticultural expo Floriade 2022, and since 2003 he has been supervising the Bjørvika urban development in Oslo, Norway.

Winy has received the Order of the Dutch Lion from the Netherlands Government and has been made a Chevalier de la Legion D'honneur by the French Government for his contributions to the fields of architecture and urbanism.

Since 2016 Winy and MVRDV have been collaborating with Austin-Smith:Lord, on the ambitious and ongoing (Y)our City Centre project for Glasgow City Council developing District Regeneration Frameworks for the Broomielaw, St. Enoch, Central and Blythswood areas of the city. MVRDV and Austin-Smith:Lord were shortlisted for the Perth City Hall design competition in 2016.

Winy is a regular visitor to Scotland, with a love and appreciation of its cities, architecture and landscapes. He has made a significant international contribution to architecture, landscape architecture, urbanism, design education, research and contemporary cultural life over more than two decades, and is helping to shape the future of the centre of Scotland's largest city; Glasgow.