Minutes of the Jury’s deliberations

AGREEMENT ON THE EVALUATION OF WORKS PRESENTED FOR THE NINTH EUROPEAN PRIZE FOR URBAN PUBLIC SPACE (2016), AN HONORARY PRIZE THAT IS JOINTLY AWARDED BY THE ARCHITECTURE FOUNDATION (AF), THE ARCHITEKTURZENTRUM WIEN (AzW), THE CENTRE DE CULTURA CONTEMPORÀNIA DE BARCELONA (CCCB), THE CITÉ DE L’ARCHITECTURE ET DU PATRIMOINE (LA CITÉ), THE DEUTSCHES ARCHITEKTURMUSEUM (DAM), THE MUZEJ ZA ARHITEKTURO IN OBLIKOVANJE (MAO) AND THE ARKKITEHTUURIMUSEO (MFA).

Barcelona, 29 April 2016

At the headquarters of the Centre of Contemporary Culture of Barcelona, the Jury is comprised of Mr. Enric Batlle, architect, representing the Centre de Cultura Contemporània de Barcelona (CCCB) as President of the Jury; Mr. Peter Cachola Schmal, director of the Deutsches Architekturmuseum (DAM); Mr. Matevž Čelik, director of the Muzej Za Arhitekturo In Oblikovanje (MAO); Mr. Hans Ibelings, director of The Architecture Observer (Amsterdam/Montreal); Ms. Juulia Kauste, director of the Arkkitehtuurimuseo (MFA); Ms. Ewa P. Porębska, editor-in-chief of the Architekturamurator magazine (Warsaw); Mr. Francis Rambert, director of the Institut Français d’Architecture (Cité de l’Architecture et du Patrimoine); Mr. Dietmar Steiner, director of the Architekturzentrum Wien (AzW); Mr. Ellis Woodman, director of The Architecture Foundation (AF) and Mr. David Bravo, architect, in his capacity as Secretary who certifies the authenticity of this document.

First, the Jury proceeded to discuss the system of organisation for analysing and selecting the works (presented within the time period established in the Prize Regulations) and agreed that all members of the Jury will make a general review of the 276 candidatures. The Jury then proceeded to review and analyse the works. As a result of the aforementioned review and after a final discussion, the Jury decided to award two Joint Winner Prizes, four Special Mentions and a Special Recognition to the following works in the European Prize for Urban Public Space 2016:
Joint Winners

The Jury of the European Prize for Urban Public Space 2016 awards a Joint Winner Prize to:

[J266] Dialogue Centre “Przełomy” at Solidarność Square
Szczecin [Poland], 2015
Authors: KWK Promes, Robert Konieczny
Developers: Muzeum Narodowe w Szczecinie

This intervention is notable for its several layers, namely a museum, memorial and square in a city, much of which was destroyed in the war. After World War II, when it was incorporated into Poland as a result of the Yalta Agreement, the German population was replaced by a Polish population and, as a result, the social fabric and the city’s identity were distorted. However, the sense of borders is still strong. Later, in the 1970s, it was a site of demonstrations where shipyard workers were killed. In this innovative project, the square —renamed Solidarity Square and located in front of the emblematic Philharmonic Hall— is integrated with the museum of modern history of the city in an undulating topography which, with one lifted side, screens out traffic, while the other side rises to provide space to accommodate the museum. Local residents can have a sense of roots here as their history is in this place. The square is used for ceremonies but is also compatible with everyday activity. This is a space with highly symbolic value, a monument in itself.

[J279] Recovery of the Irrigation System at the Thermal Orchards
Caldes de Montbui [Spain], 2015
Authors: Elena Albareda Fernández, Jordi Calbetó Aldomà, Marta Serra Permanyer
Developers: Regidoria d’Espais Públics de l’Ajuntament de Caldes de Montbui

Many elements come together in this project of conserving a traditional system of food production at the edge of the town, extending its public space and using recycled thermal spring water. In Caldes de Montbui, the irrigation system for the historic orchards had become inaccessible and polluted with sewage, a situation which led to the breakdown of the irrigation community. The original irrigation path has now been given a double use in becoming a public walkway in this low-budget, minimal intervention conserving the previous agricultural structure while also generating a new relationship with the town centre. The town and its surrounds are connected with a boardwalk over the old irrigation canals. In this rural setting, seventy local farmers, private landholders, have worked together in this overlap of commons and private. More than concerns about design, the accent is on understanding community irrigation processes and how to recover them as an integral part of this new intervention. The solutions adopted show how small-town populations can work together towards productive and environmental sustainability.
Special Mentions
The Jury of the European Prize for Urban Public Space 2016 also awards four Special Mentions to:

[J073] Improvement of Barkingside Town Centre
London [United Kingdom], 2015
Authors: DK-CM. David Knight
Developers: Redbridge Council, supported by Mayor of London

A great variety of elements, of which the biggest are a 1960s library and a leisure centre, come together in what was once an enclosed space to create a much more open relationship with the city. Thus, a suburban setting has achieved an urban substance and form by means of a greater range of uses. The High Street shop fronts have been restored by different designers with attention to the civic character of the place. This sequence of different elements by several authors connecting the public space with the green belt has a certain grandeur. The leisure centre was formerly surrounded by parked cars in a residual zone which has now been reconquered with attention to providing improved disabled access. Ornamentation gives the library a more defined presence, while the slightly theatrical loggia is a postmodern gesture in a strategy of creating a significant place from almost nothing.

[J202] New Multi-Purpose Canopy
Sint-Jans-Molenbeek [Belgium], 2015
Authors: Baukunst
Developers: Commune de Molenbeek-Saint-Jean

A polyvalent hall is located in what has now become, after the recent terrorist attacks in Paris and Brussels, a notorious neighbourhood considered as synonymous with ethnic, religious and social division, and extremism. This completely new, radical approach of rigorous, substantial architecture in a fractious society, is highly suggestive as a model for other communities. The structure gives increased density to this formerly neglected area in a typical European housing estate by means of a specific form, an enclosure without walls and a sheltering canopy (important in a rainy climate). It represents opportunity rather than exclusion in this open/closed space between public and private domains, and seeks to find a sense of balance and integration. The rather monumental structure, which is robust and cheap to maintain in this poor neighbourhood, is not use-specific, and there is a clear absence of prescription. With its strong presence, the building symbolises resistance, while the combination of its solidity and openness suggest a positive potential for giving people a voice and coming together.

[J222] "The Ring of Remembrance": International Memorial of Notre-Dame-de-Lorette
Ablain-Saint-Nazaire [France], 2014
Authors: Philippe Prost
Developers: Conseil Régional Nord Pas-de-Calais

The new structure beside the burial ground of almost 600,000 soldiers of several nationalities who died in France in the First World War is a powerful architectural statement in the form of an oval-shaped ring uniting allies and foes in a single closed figure
which also symbolises the fragility of peace in its cantilever. Lying directly on the landscape without structural support, the ring emphasises the relationship between earth and sky in a unifying gathering space. After entering from beneath, visitors may walk in the centre or around the periphery and check the list of names of the fallen which, in the spirit of the place, is in strictly alphabetical order without any hierarchy or separation of nationalities. No questions are raised as to who was responsible for the loss of life. Not an arena and much more than a monument, this is a refined, sacred space, a place for reflection where shared history meets solitary experience in which everyone is in the direct view of everyone else so that each person sees himself or herself as part of a public in a place where the architecture itself requires that certain codes of behaviour are respected. Open day and night, the ring frames a philosophical message of peace and the idea that, after time, things become common.

[J308] "Heavenly Hundred" Garden
Kiev [Ukraine], 2016
Authors: NGO "Misto-sad"
Developers: Volunteers of NGO "Misto-sad", residents of Kiev

This intervention is a significant achievement because it is an initiative of the people, an appropriation of public space in a productive spirit without any intervention by the authorities. The truly bottom-up creation of these vegetable gardens and orchards for which the citizens take responsibility in a “revolution of dignity” was achieved through donations. Apart from the local NGO, no outside architects or designers were consulted. All those involved are insiders, so this is not an example of gentrification where outsiders move in, displacing local people. Besides its educational aspects as a good example for children and young people of how to organise, the project has a possible resonance for the city in general as a memorial for the Yevromaidan (European Square) activists who were killed during Ukrainian Spring demonstrations. A grassroots movement, it could speak to the whole country as a remarkable endeavour in a society which was subjected for decades to top-down planning followed by paralysis. Now the people are taking possession of space and responsibility for it.
Special Recognition

The Jury of the European Prize for Urban Public Space 2016 also awards a Special Recognition to:

The City of Copenhagen [Denmark]

For its enlightened policy-making and seriousness in its present and future vision of the city. Reflecting this enlightenment is the fact that, among the 25 finalist works of the 2016 European Prize for Urban Public Space, several are from Copenhagen and its metropolitan area. All of them show great determination to encourage a comfortable presence of people in their urban surroundings. A commitment to the quality of life in urban public space throughout the city is expressed in innovative interventions related with such important issues as mobility or water management. The city has invested in democratic, sustainable mobility with an emphasis on public transport and bicycle traffic rather than cars, while also highlighting proper use and enjoyment of its water resources. With this Special Recognition, the Jury recognises the reconquest of the city as a role model which could be taken up worldwide.
Finalists

Finally, the Jury of the European Prize for Urban Public Space 2016 selects as Finalists the following works:

[J032] Fish Market
Vodice (Croatia), 2015
Authors: Dinko Peračić
Developers: Public utility company Leć d.o.o.

[J052] Lookout and Protection Building of the Genovés Park
Cádiz (Spain), 2015
Authors: José Luis Bezos Alonso
Developers: Instituto de Fomento, Empleo y Formación del Excmo. Ayuntamiento de Cádiz

[J057] Nørreport Station
Copenhagen (Denmark), 2015
Authors: Gottlieb Paludan Architects. COBE Architects
Developers: The City of Copenhagen and Danish State Railways (DSB)

[J075] Refurbishment of Tåsinge Square
Copenhagen (Denmark), 2014
Authors: Københavns Kommune
Developers: GHB Landscape Architects

[J082] Cycleways Network between Santa Pola and Alacant
Santa Pola (Spain), 2015
Authors: Ras arquitectos (Prócoro Del Real y Antoni Baile)
Developers: Ayuntamiento de Santa Pola

[J084] "Escaravox"
Madrid (Spain), 2014
Authors: Andrés Jaque (Office for Political Innovation). Ruggero Agnolutto (Project leader)
Developers: MATADERO MADRID

[J103] "Arquipélago" Contemporary Arts Centre
Ribeira Grande (Portugal), 2014
Authors: Menos é Mais Arquitectos Associados. Francisco Vieira de Campos, Cristina Guedes, João Mendes Ribeiro
Developers: Regional Directorate of Culture (DRaC) of the Regional Government of the Azores

[J119] Wooden Benches for the Main Square
Bürchen (Switzerland), 2015
Authors: Fernando Menis
Developers: Bürchen City Council

[J120] Embellishment of Sant Miquel Square
Olot (Spain), 2015
Authors: unparell'darquitectes: Eduard Callís Freixas, Guillem Moliner Milhau
Developers: Ajuntament d'Olot
[J136] "Test Site"
Rotterdam (Netherlands), 2015
Authors: ZUS [Zones Urbaines Sensibles]
Developers: International Architecture Biennale Rotterdam and the City of Rotterdam.

[J153] Forest Clearing
Uster (Switzerland), 2014
Authors: Studio Vulkan Landschaftsarchitektur. Robin Winogrond, Lukas Schweingruber
Developers: Stadt Uster

[J176] Harbour Public Bath
Fåborg-Midtfyn (Denmark), 2014
Authors: Urban Agency, JDS, Creo, Søltoft Møller
Developers: Faaborg-Midtfyn municipality, Realdania, Lokale og Anlægsfonden

[J193] "Cykelslangen"
Copenhagen (Denmark), 2014
Authors: DISSING+WEITLING architecture a|s
Developers: Københavns Kommune

[J210] New Coastal Defence Dyke
Katwijk (Netherlands), 2015
Authors: OKRA landscape architects
Developers: Gemeente Katwijk

[J235] "Mierigi"
Riga (Latvia), 2014
Authors: Fine Young Urbanists — Evelina Ozola, Toms
Developers: self-initiated / Miera Street Republic

[J249] New Lift to the Old City Centre
Gironella (Spain), 2015
Authors: Carles Enrich
Developers: Servei de Patrimonio Arquitectònic Local (Diputació de Barcelona) i Ajuntament de Gironella

[J257] Renovation of "Promenada"
Velenje (Slovenia), 2014
Authors: ENOTA Dean Lah
Developers: VELENJE MUNICIPALITY

[J281] "R-Urban": Network of Urban Commons
Colombes (France), 2014
Authors: atelier d'architecture autogérée
Developers: Réseau R-Urban

[J310] Temporary Bridge over the Charleroi Canal
Brussels (Belgium), 2014
Authors: Gijs Van Vaerenbergh architecten
Developers: Platform Kanal / Architecture Workroom Brussels
Agreement

In agreement with all the above, the Jury members and the Secretary sign these minutes of the Jury’s deliberations:

Signed: Enric Batlle

Signed: Peter Cachola Schmal

Signed: Matevž Čelik

Signed: Hans Ibelings

Signed: Juulia Kauste

Signed: Ewa P. Porębska

Signed: Francis Rambert

Signed: Dietmar Steiner

Signed: Ellis Woodman

Signed: David Bravo, secretary