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THE HOUSE: NEW PARADIGMS

Contemporary London conditions; slim in Japan; Californian prefabs

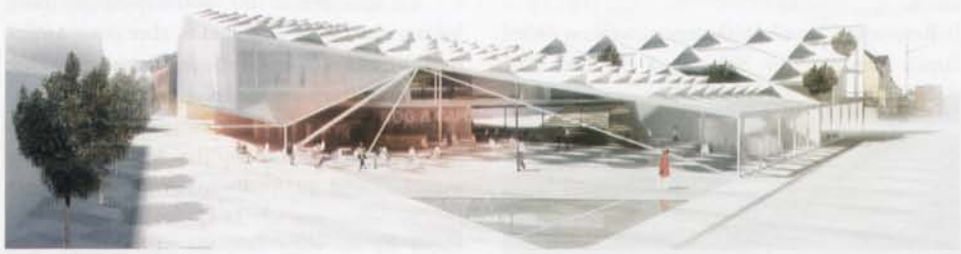
MIPIM 2006

The MIPIM Architectural Review Future Project Awards, now in their fourth year, recognise the role that design quality plays in the creation of successful developments. This is not just a matter of designing a good building, but thinking about how it works in its urban (or sometimes rural) context; it is about thinking in the round. Featured on this page are the category winners. This year's judges were Simon Allford of Allford Hall Monaghan Morris, architect; Hinrich Schumacher of Ingenhoven & Partner, architect; Peter Stewart of PSCPA, planning and architecture consultant; and Roger Zogolovitch, architect and developer. Chairman was AR editor Paul Finch. The quality of the winning and commended schemes was at least as high as in previous years, possibly a little higher. If you are attending MIPIM (14 to 17 March, in Cannes), come to the AR symposium on the afternoon of Wednesday 15 March, and hear from the winning architects on what informed their design thinking. All the entries are exhibited in the Palais during the MIPIM show.

Overall winner, and winner of the **masterplanned communities** category sponsored by Lend Lease was Nabil Gholam Architecture and Planning, for Doha Gardens, Al Khobar, Saudi Arabia. Client: Rikaz. This residential project in Al Khobar, Saudi Arabia, was designed by the Lebanese architect Nabil Gholam. It comprises 188 units on four hectares. This is, said the judges, high quality architecture, a very elegant design. One judge commented, 'You see a clarity in the presentation which makes you confident that the same clarity lies behind the design'. Another judge enthused: 'The design offers spaces between the buildings which create a sense of place and while you enjoy the generosity of space in the apartments you feel that even if planned at greater density, the basic proposition still worked and could be applied elsewhere'. Highly commended: Alsop Architects, Ian Simpson Architects, FAT, shedkm and de Metz Architects, for New Islington, Manchester, UK. Clients: Urban Splash, Manchester City Council and English Partnerships. Commended: Aedas, for West Kowloon Cultural Development, Hong Kong, China. Client: Sunny Development (Sino Land, the Wharf Holdings and Chinese Estates Holdings).

The **retail and leisure** category, sponsored by Chapman Taylor, was won by The Jerde Partnership, for the Zlote Tarasy centre, Warsaw, Poland. Client: Ing Real Estate. The judges were struck by the bravura nature of this retail-led mixed-use development comprising 225 000sqm on 3.2ha. Intended as a contribution to the restoration of Warsaw's urban identity, the scale of this development echoes the scale of nearby buildings and preserves the locality's monumental character. It has a striking grid shell roof at its core supported on steel 'trees' which is surrounded by more conventional office and retail buildings. The judges wished to note that the merits of the scheme also meant that a notion of urbanism and regeneration implies the acceptance of large-scale internalised environments. Highly commended were T+T Design for Entre Deux, Maastricht, The Netherlands. Client: AM Development. Commended was Arkitekturavaerkstedet for the Covered Market, Copenhagen. Client: City of Copenhagen.

The **residential** category, sponsored by *The Architects' Journal*, was won by 3XN for its Nordhavnen-Residences, Nordhavnen, Copenhagen. Client: SQ. This housing proposal for docklands on the edge of Copenhagen comprises 22 000sqm conceived as 'a pile of plates'. The stack of plates effect is created by changing the orientation of each of the ellipses from floor to floor. The habitable floor plans remain circular in each building and have a common centre point. The buildings are on a deck, with parking below. Highly commended was Shedkm for Chimney Pot Park, Langworthy, Salford, UK. Client: Urban Splash, Salford City Council & English Partnerships.



Architect 3XN also won the **offices** category, sponsored by Zumtobel Staff, with a bank building in Middelfart, Denmark. Client: Middelfart Savings Bank. This Danish bank has all the conventional spaces including a public ground floor with tellers – and in this case a café, bookshop and estate agent. Other functions of the bank are accessed via almost processional staircases to three terraces set back to one side of the building. A roof based on a diagonal grid shelters this topography of office floors and provides almost clear views over the nearby harbour. Commended was Manuelle Gautrand Architects, for an office building in St-Etienne, France. Client: Cogedim and JFP Participation. Commended was Mario Cucinella Architects for the Malaspina Business Park, Pioltello, Milan. Client: Pirelli Real Estate.

The **local revitalisation** category, sponsored by Kent County Council, was won by Arkitekturvaerkstedet/landskabsvaerkstedet for its New Garden Village, Fano, Denmark. Client: Fano Art Museum. This design proposes a new garden village in which the traditional roadside village is given new short streets off it as fingers so that each new house faces more or less open countryside. Varying in size from 25sqm to 350sqm with none exactly the same, the countryside elevations would have windows and timber panelling, while lime-washed plaster would face the street. Commended were FaulknerBrowns for the Wakefield Waterfront, West Yorkshire, UK. Client: CTP St James. And Helin & Co Architects for the conversion of the municipal prison in Kakola, Turku, Finland.