

masterplanned communities - winner



Nabil Gholam Architecture and Planning

Doha Gardens, Al Khobar, Saudi Arabia
For Rikaz

Doha Gardens (which also won the best of show category, see previous pages) was startlingly fresh, reported the judges. They commented that it has its own identity and a character that you can almost smell and taste. There is integration of the external spaces at all levels. Here is architecture that is much better than we have hitherto seen on the Red Sea coast. Here is elegant and sophisticated design using local materials, not pastiche Islamic. The only qualification is the relative absence of contribution to the local public life.

There are 47 buildings on a 40 000sqm site containing 188 apartments ranging from 268sqm to 480sqm. There are six building types ranging from ground level garden flats to luxury courtyard flats and penthouse duplexes. Every flat has at least one semi-enclosed terrace (15sqm minimum) for use during the mild season. Each of the four neighbourhoods of the scheme has lush gardens with seating areas and children's play areas.

www.ngarchitecture.com



residential

tall buildings

Assael Architecture

Green Bank, Leeds, UK
For George Wimpey

Set on a 2ha canal-side site to the west of the centre of Leeds, this housing development will have 833 dwellings and around 3000sqm of commercial space. Materials reflect the gritty industrial heritage of the locality and will include engineering bricks, wire mesh and galvanised steel together with wood and copper with the basic field of white render. The layout of the scheme has fingers converging on a focus on the other side of the canal and river as they take a significant curve.
www.assael.co.uk



Assael Architecture

Tachbrook Triangle, London, UK
For Barratt and Acton Housing Association

Located on a hollow wedge-shaped block in a busy urban setting, this scheme includes 11 listed terrace houses and will include a nine-storey block, inspired by Georgian building, at the base of the wedge. In all there are to be 71 dwellings of which 21 are affordable housing, 11 are listed, and 39 are to be private apartments. In the openly modern sections of the development, cladding is glass and vertical timber panels.
www.assael.co.uk



Nabil Gholam

Foch 94, Beirut Central District, Lebanon
For Foch 94 SAL

The site for this residential building is on the outskirts of downtown Beirut with views to the sea from upper apartment balconies. It is organised as two blocks wrapped by a low-E glass box. This box is further wrapped by balconies and modulated by a second skin of louvred stone panels arranged in a hit and miss pattern. The apartments are planned on the traditional Lebanese central-hall model. Associate architects were Vincent Van Duysen Architects.
www.ngarchitecture.com; www.vincentvandyusen.com



Woods Bagot

Liverpool Central Plaza, Liverpool, UK
For Merespark/Ballymore

The site for this mixed-use scheme is 1.8ha adjacent to the central railway station. The major feature is a 38-storey residential tower, the two lower floors of which are retail. The accommodation will largely be one and two bedroom apartments with some duplexes on the upper floors. There is a 159-room nine-storey hotel including two levels of food and beverage and, approaching the sharp end of the site, two lower-level apartment buildings.
www.woodsbagot.com



Nabil Gholam and Ricardo Bofill

Platinum Tower, Beirut, Lebanon
For Platinum Tower SAL

This 150m high, 53 000sqm tower is intended as a sober solution to the difficult problem of a luxury high-rise building in a traditional and chaotic setting. There are around 350sqm of loggia-like balconies per floor, whose design was the outcome of wind tunnel tests. Four types of low-E glass along with low-E sunscreens developed for the tower and clear floor-to-ceiling heights of 3.4m mean that there is full light penetration to all spaces of each apartment.
www.ngarchitecture.com; www.bofill.com



Nabil Gholam Architecture and Planning

Doha Oasis Towers, Doha, Qatar
For private client

These four high-rise towers for Doha, Qatar have a variety of passive environmental controls including double-skin elevations – effectively a ventilated cavity. This acts as a climatic buffer zone in summer, relieving the interior from the sun's heavy heat load. In winter it allows for natural wind movement to aerate the project. Shading devices, designed according to each elevation's orientation, further reduce heat gain and minimise glare. The lower floors of each tower accommodate residents' amenities.
www.ngarchitecture.com



Architecture Project and Darija Sinovic

Commercial development and car park, Split, Croatia
For Split local council/Split Society of Architects

This proposal for a 53m high commercial building with a skewed geometry and two ancillary low-rise buildings is intended for a prominent urban site in Split, Croatia. Spaces are intended to overlap in the way that functions and activities overlap in real life. So that the layering between offices and commercial space above, car parking and service spaces underground is central to the design.
www.ap.com.mt

