IEOH MING PEI 2014 UIA GOLD MEDAL

The 2014 UIA Gold Medal was awarded to Chinese born American architect, Ieoh Ming Pei. In attributing the most prestigious of the UIA prizes to Professor Pei, the UIA thus recognizes an architect whose “life and work spans the history of modern architecture over five continents for more than sixty years. The UIA thus honours his unique style, his timeless rigor, and his spiritual connection to history, time and space.”

Ieoh Ming Pei was born in Canton, China, in 1917. He arrived in the United States in 1935 and studied architecture at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, where he received a Bachelor of Architecture in 1940. After studying under Walter Gropius at Harvard University, he earned a Master of Architecture in 1946. He acquired American citizenship in 1954 and in 1955 founded his own studio with Eason Leonard and Henry Cobb.

The John Fitzgerald Kennedy Library in Boston, the East Building of the National Gallery of Art in Washington D.C., and the Bank of China Tower in Hong Kong marked the beginning of a long career punctuated by iconic structures spread across the United States and the world’s capital cities. Dozens of the most celebrated structures bear his signature, including the extension to the Louvre in Paris, with its famous glass pyramid nestled within the mythic historic ensemble (1989), the National Museum of Art in Washington D.C., the Johnson Museum of Art in New York (1973) and the Museum of Islamic Art in Doha, Qatar (2008).

Ieoh Ming Pei has received the most prestigious accolades that can be bestowed on an architect, including Gold Medals from the American Institute of Architects (AIA) and the Royal Institute of British Architects (RIBA). On 6 August 2014, he will receive the UIA Gold Medal at the awards ceremony organized in conjunction with the UIA World Congress of Architecture in Durban, South Africa.
UIA GOLDEN CUBE AWARDS  ARCHITECTURE AND CHILDREN

Eighteen countries submitted nominations for the UIA Golden Cube awards, dedicated to raising awareness about architecture among children and young people. After a preliminary national selection process, the nominations by participating UIA Member Sections in four categories (schools, institutions, written publications, and audio-visuals) were submitted on April 9, 2014 to an international jury chaired by former UIA president Vassilis Sgoutas.

The winners are:
. The Champitas rural education centre in Chigorodó, Colombia, for 'House'
. The Sendai architecture and children's network for young victims of the 2011 earthquake in Japan
. Laurence Calafat (France) for a card game dedicated to architectural icons
. The Swedish Architecture Centre for its 'Home' project

Two special mentions were awarded to the architecture workshop for children in Sofia, Bulgaria, and the Sergei Eisenstein library in Moscow, Russia, for 'Peet Mondrian City'.

The prizes will be presented to winners at the UIA Congress in Durban, where 46 nationally selected projects will be on display. A conference on the theme 'Transmitting architecture to children' will also be held on 5 August.


UIA 2014 DURBAN CONGRESS  A SPECIAL STUDENT PROGRAM

Architecture students from around the world will benefit from a special program during the UIA Congress in Durban (August 3-7, 2014). A team from the University of KwaZulu - Natal (UKZN) and the Durban University of Technology (DUT) elaborated this programme, that addresses the congress themes in light of specific concerns related to students of architecture. Among the proposed events are exchanges and debates, a Pecha Kucha night, an 'archiball', a discussion of the UIA Charter for architectural education, a closing party in an offbeat site, and an on-line film competition in collaboration with the African Film Festival.

http://www.uia2014durban.org/register_original.htm

PATRICK CLIFFORD NZIA GOLD MEDAL

The New Zealand Institute of Architects (NZIA) has awarded its 2014 Gold Medal to Patrick Clifford, director of Architectus, a team wich includes Malcolm Bowes, Michael Thomson, and most recently, Carsten Auer. Together, they are in the forefront of their profession and have collected numerous prizes and awards. Without being doctrinaire, they rely on a rigorous method of professional practice based on typological investigations, the study of context and cultural aspects, and the selection of materials and their implementation. Architectus' architecture expresses stringency both in building performance and user-friendliness. It possesses the rare quality of highlighting the surrounding built environment.

Learn more
2013 ARCHITECTURE PRIZES JAPAN INSTITUTE OF ARCHITECTS

The Japan Institute of Architects (JIA) has announced the winners of its annual awards for architecture.

The JIA Grand Prize was awarded to FURUYA Nobuaki and YAGI Sachiko for the Freedom Learning Manor House pavilion at Jissen Gakuen junior and senior high school in Tokyo.

Four JIA Awards recognise:
KOJIMA Kazuhiro, AKAMATSU Kazuko and ARAYA Masato for their primary school in Uto
YAMASHITA Yasuhiro for an individual residence in Chiba prefecture
KAMATA Masami, MAEDA Atsuo and TAHARA Yukio for their preservation and restoration of the Tokyo Station Marunouchi Building
KAMAEI Tadao, KEII Michio, YOSHINO Shigeru, TSUCHIYA Ataru, KONISHI Atsuo and TSUCHIYA Tetsuo for the tower complex TOKYO SKYTREE® - TOKYO SKYTREE TOWN®

The JIA Young Architect Award has a twenty-five year history of recognising young talent. This year’s winners are YAITA Hisaaki and YAITA Naoko for the ‘PATIO’ house, as well as NAGATA Naoyuki for the ‘Yo’ house.

Learn more about the other prizes and see the winning projects

FRANK GERHRY THE PRINCE OF ASTURIAS PRIZE FOR ARTS

The Prince of Asturias Foundation has awarded its Prize for Arts to architect Frank Gehry “in recognition of the aesthetic excellence of his creations and the economic and social impact they have had on their environment”.

Frank Gehry designed and built the Guggenheim Museum in Bilbao, Spain. This audacious construction, built on the river bank, fit into a planning and development project in the heart of this Basque country industrial city, which it has helped to regenerate despite economic crisis in the early 1990s.

The jury citation notes that ‘his buildings are characterized by a virtuoso play of complex shapes, the use of unusual materials, such as titanium, and their technological innovation, which has also had an impact on other arts’. Rafael Moneo and Sir Norman Foster have also received this award, in 2012 in 2009, respectively.

Learn more
http://www.fpa.es/en/

CHAN SEONG AUN PAM PRESIDENT

Chan Seong Aun was elected President of the Malaysian Institute of Architects (PAM) at the end of the Institute’s 47th General Assembly. He succeeds Haji Saifuddin Ahmad. The new president is preparing to install the Institute’s new centre in Kuala Lumpur. During his tenure, he hopes to stimulate the participation of architects in competitions and to promote their professional skills to the general public.

http://www.pam.org.my
ARCHITECTURE CANADA RECOGNISES EMERGING FIRMS

Architecture Canada / RAIC has awarded its second annual prize for emerging architectural firms. This year's winning firm was created by Shane Williamson, MRAIC, Betsy Williamson and Donald Chong in 2011. It is made up of seven people and integrates teaching, research and community engagement into its architectural practice.

The firm is interested in innovative uses for disused and marginal land, as evidenced by the individual house erected on a plot of 3.7 meters wide, in Toronto. The Galley House proves that such uncommon plots can offer comfort, space and light to occupants.


FRENCH ARCHITECTS OPEN THEIR DOORS

On Friday 6 and Saturday 7 June, French architecture agencies will open their doors to the public and invite both connoisseurs of architecture and the curious to discover the behind-the-scene workings and hazards of their job. They will answer the many questions visitors have about the profession of architect, architecture and building. In addition, the 14th edition of the Living Architecture days will take place on 13, 14 and 15 June 2014. More than 450 architect’s houses and apartments will be open for tours. A way to bring architecture to life through its creators, and the spaces they have created.

http://www.portesouvertes.architectes.org/

GLOBAL AWARDS FOR SUSTAINABLE ARCHITECTURE 2014 WINNERS

Each year since 2007, the Global Awards for Sustainable Architecture have recognised five architects who offer new avenues and models for architectural practice. This year's awards honour: an emblematic figure in architectural criticism and research and author of 'Pattern Language', Christopher Alexander, who has made a lasting influence on both architectural theory and the scientific sector; Tatiana Bilbao, who already counts among her successes some very well-respected works of international architectural criticism and is committed to the urban design and sustainable construction, and who participates in the specific urban debate in Mexico and Latin America through her teaching; Bern Gundermann, who was instrumental in the renovation of Hamburg, Germany, and who has focused his research on ecological management of the Pacific coastline; Martin Rajnis, who operated a radical change in his career by engaging in eco-construction of light wooden structures, thus becoming the champion of "natural architecture"; architect and landscaper Adriaan Geuze, who, proclaiming his commitment to Dutch culture and its model of artistic, social and democratic development, directs the young West 8 agency that designs narrative cityscapes, large-scale artificial urban constructions in which users recognise themselves. A brilliant group of Global Awards winners for 2014, whose genius is amply illustrated in an exhibition of 40 of their works, 'Re-enchanting the world', at the Cité de l’architecture et du patrimoine in Paris, until 6 October 2014.

http://www.citechaillot.fr/fr/expositions/expositions_temporaires/25473-reenchanter_le_monde.html
ROLAND SCHWEITZER  AN ARCHITECT’S ITINERARY

Architect, urban planner and teacher Roland Schweitzer has recently published a book that retraces 60 years of a brilliant career. According to François Chaslin, who prefaces this beautiful book: “Roland Schweitzer, far from creating solitary objects, contributes to a contemporary architecture that calls for participation by encouraging dialogue between humanity and the environment.”

Roland Schweitzer is co-director of the UIA Architectural Education Commission. He is a member of the group of experts who drafted the UNESCO/UIA Charter for architectural education.

The book is available for 82.12 euro at:

ARSIGN EDITIONS
arsign.fr

IN MEMORIAM MIGUEL PEREIRA

Brazilian architect Miguel Pereira passed away on 15 May 2014 in the state of Santa Catarina at the age of 81. Former president of the Institute of Architects of Brazil (1989-1993), he was member of the UIA Council and UIA Vice-president for the Americas, region III (1999-2002).

A graduate in architecture and urban planning from the faculty of architecture at the Federal University of Rio Grande do Su, Miguel Pereira was in private practice in Porto Alegre until 1970, until he moved to Brasilia and Sao Paulo, where he also taught architecture.

The UIA addresses its sincere condolences to his family, friends, and colleagues as well as to the Brazilian Institute of Architects.

http://www.iab.org.br/noticias/adeus-ao-arquiteto-miguel-pereira