



Barcelona, October 1 2016

Young Talent Architecture Award (YTAA) 2016 Jury Proceedings

1. Introduction

The YTAA 2016 Jury was formed by the following members:

- **Jose Luis Vallejo**, Architect, Principal at Ecosistema Urbano, **Madrid** (Chairperson)
 - **Inge Beckel**, Architect, Editor of the Swiss-Architects.com eMagazine, **Zurich**
 - **Michał Duda**, Architecture Historian, Curator at the Museum of Architecture, **Wroclaw**
 - **Juulia Kauste**, Sociologist, Director of the Museum of Finnish Architecture, **Helsinki**
 - **Triin Ojari**, Architecture Historian and Critic, Director of the Museum of Estonian Architecture, **Tallinn**
- Jury Secretary: **Anna Ramos**, Director of Fundació Mies van der Rohe, **Barcelona**
YTAA Coordinators: **Ivan Blasi**, **Anna Sala**
YTAA Assistant: **Laia Gelonch**

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YTAA 2016 received **211 projects** from over **100 registered schools** of architecture, urbanism and landscape architecture from **86 European cities**. The projects represent a variety of approaches to designing and understanding emergent urban challenges that must be met. All projects are of exceptionally high quality.

In general terms it is important to stress that this next generation of young professionals has studied abroad, across Europe and overseas, setting out their projects in a great diversity of environments worldwide. Of the total 211 projects, 32 are located outside Europe, while 26% of the remaining 179 projects are designed for countries different from those where the students have trained.

The Jury analysed all the proposals before meeting in Barcelona on September 30 and October 1 2016. During the meeting they reviewed the panels, drawings, briefs and videos submitted by participants before they drew up **a shortlist of 30 projects**. Once the finalists had been selected, the architects and universities were revealed to the jury members.

From the shortlist, the Jury considered **9 finalist** projects representing a broad view of Europe's next generation of designers' main interests. From the list of 9 finalists, **3 winners** were chosen:

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PROJECT TITLE	STUDENT NAME	SCHOOL
3 Winners		
A symbiotic relation of cooperative social housing and dispersed tourism in Habana Vieja	Iwo Borkowicz	KUL_Brussels_BE
GeoFront	Polcarpo del Canto Baquera	ETSAM_Madrid_ES
S'lowtecture: housing structure, Wroclaw - Zerniki	Tomasz Broma	FoA_Wroclaw_PL

6 Finalists		
Brewing democracy: the Assembly of Le Balai Citoyen in Ouagadougou	Lorenzo Perri	AA_London_UK
Death and life of a small French city	Alix Sportich du Réau de la Gaignonnière, Alice Villatte	eav&t_Champs-sur-Marne_FR
Genesis of a place towards the project	David Gonçalves Monteiro	FAUP_Porto_PT
Living in a cultural environment	Clàudia Carreras Oliver	ETSALS_Barcelona_ES
Living in offices. The living triangle of Bordelongue in Toulouse	Jaufret Barrot, Cinthia Isabel Carrasco Fuentes	ENSA_TOulouse_FR
Subversions Minhocao	Laura Abbruzzese	DA_Ferrara_IT

21 Shortlisted		
A city of opportunities - opening up to refugees as a trigger of urban regeneration	Francesca Esposito, Violetta Gambino	PSG_Genoa_IT
A theatre for La Fura dels Baus	Ivo Oberholzer	HSLU T&A_Horw_SW
Bagwall handbook	Andrea Chiabrera, Attilio Delucchi Baroni	PSG_Genoa_IT
Borrowed scenery: Miyato salt farm onsen	Shenpei Ha	The CAss_London_UK
Butterfly landing	Maria Cerdà	UIC_Barcelona_ES
Carp fishing in the market of Yokyo	Izakun Gonzalez	ETSAB_BARCELONA_ES
CHT-AHM	Almudena Ballarín	ETSAM_Madrid_ES
Dialogues between city and landscape	Matteo Cervini, Eleonora Loca	SCHOOL AUIC_Milan_IT Department of Architecture DA_London_UK
Greenwich archipelago village	Ioana Gherghel	DA_London_UK
'Las Delicias' Centre for the Elderly	Blanca Gómez Gálvez	eAM'_Malaga_ES
Linear landscapes	Silvia Lucchetta	IESAD_Segovia_ES
Little Hamburg hybrid housing	Michał Sapko	SUT-FA_Gliwice_PL
Radius	Julian Meisen	UdK_Berlin_DE
Revisited waters	João Veríssimo	FA-UL_Lisbon_PT
Sacred	Pia Mendaro Larramendi	ETSAM_Madrid_ES
Sand Motor in Costa Brava	Daniel Mira García	ETSAM_Madrid_ES
Storm surge zones - an architectural intervention	Alexis Damian	BFH AHB_burgdorf_CH
The Munch atelier: common ground	Vincent François	KUL_Brussels_BE
The reuse of neglected areas and the rebirth of the city	Fabrizio Furiassi	DIAP_Rome_IT
The English mall // The commercial garden	Miriam Alonso Barrio	ETSAM_Madrid_ES
Vallecas 2048	Erika Mazza, Roberto Bonutto	PSG_Genoa_IT



2. Contents

The Jury was exposed to a broad variety of projects showing the most relevant challenges of contemporary architecture and urban design in relation to today's society needs.

The 30 shortlisted projects summarise these relevant issues; diverse social realities throughout the continent and overseas, elucidating and tackling different problems. Students and schools have detected these emergencies and developed strategies that rely on public engagement, private commitment with citizenship or utopian approaches. All the different fields of interest and the variety of approaches maintain high architectural quality, emphasising the importance of diploma projects as a field for experimentation.

In terms of **social involvement**, the integration of refugees and delocalised citizens constituted an arduous point of research, the results of which reveal the difficulties involved in intervening in the life of communities by trying to generate new solutions that are inclusive from the urban point of view. Housing, education and the relationship with the public space scenario were broadly addressed by the recently graduated architects.

In terms of topics, the one most focused on was **regeneration** – urban and rural contexts that need to be revitalised – while building from scratch on the green lawn seems to be decreasing. Several projects deal with the outcomes of the construction boom years and transformation into new landscapes, or adapting the built and abandoned environment to necessary uses: resilience, master plans, infrastructural projects and industrial regeneration. There is also major concern for the relationship between tourism and local communities and for how historical structures may adapt to continuous and organic changes.

On the other hand, the number of projects addressing innovative housing proved to be insignificant, considering the great many proposals received, while climate change issues are still important, not only in terms of sustainability or ecology as hitherto understood. Projects have gone one step further, incorporating this issue more naturally and dealing with natural disasters and with the way citizens may become involved in the transformation of the built environment.

The 9 finalists are all projects that address and set out to solve a major contemporary urban issue. They primarily focus on the historical context, its conversion and transformation. Infrastructural projects deal with mobility and face new challenges in which the city is not car-focused; instead, slow mobility is addressed by designers and not exclusively by mobility experts. These projects also deal with different scales, from the territory to the construction of objects in different contexts, as well as creating hypothetical environments for more utopian projects.

The São Paulo project broaches the scale of the entire city in an infrastructural approach, while the one for Havana analyses the historical centre from the inner microcosm of its neighbourhoods. The Toulouse urban proposal deals with the revitalisation of a localised and zonified area of the city while the Villefranche de Rouergue project studies the historical centre as a complex organism. These four projects work with the built environment as a network. The project in Nanjing understands that a piece of architecture may act as a catalyst to promote public space use and social interaction, impacting the surrounding area. The public library in Pispala reflects the importance of iconic and sculptural constructions inserted into the natural landscape and connected with the crucial role of cultural facilities as social

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activators in the context of the dispersed city. The proposal for Wroclaw is based on an experimental approach that reflects on the materiality of the built environment and transforms residents into active players when it comes to shaping their own habitat. The Gibraltar and Ougadougou project thinking moves away in diverging directions involving a complex variety of aspects and leading to out-of-the-box ideas and solutions.

The 3 winners (in the following order: from strong reality to the ideal habitat and, lastly, towards a more utopian vision) are:

A symbiotic relation of cooperative social housing and dispersed tourism in Habana Vieja, by Iwo Borkowicz, KU Leuven – campus Sint-Lucas Brussels.

Short description: bottom-up strategies to foster urban revitalisation processes.

The project confronts the complexity of social and economic aspects connected to urban renovation, tourism, hybrid programmes and diversity in the existing urban fabric. The project proposes a simple and sustainable way to react to the dynamics of the demand of accommodation for tourists. Citizens lead this productive and regenerative process by identifying new opportunities in the transformation of the urban tissue, **integrating tourism** and maintaining the liveability of the **local community**.

The Jury appreciated the ‘glocal’ thinking which supports the local community in obtaining the tools to face the urban, economic and social changes that the city is undergoing.

S'lowecture. Housing structure in Wroclaw-Zerniki, by Tomasz Broma, Wrocław University of Science and Technology, Wrocław.

Short description: experimenting with the collective construction of domestic spaces in an impermanent habitat.

Housing is a key topic in Europe today and the project understands the impermanence of our habitat. It focuses on the user perspective as part of the architectural debate and maximises the use of common spaces. As an approach it lies in between individual and communal housing, in which each unit is designed individually on a two-layered, structurally static, grid, while the infills are **flexible**. The project deals with one’s own living environment through a constant user-generated process.

The Jury considered the importance of understanding architecture as an open process in an ever-changing environment and the potential to create a real time experimental FabLab connected to an innovative housing experience.

GeoFront. Strategic development plan for the frontier territories, by Policarpo del Canto Baquera, ETSAM – Universidad Politécnica de Madrid.

Short description: Out-of-the-box geopolitical environments.

The project addresses the topic of **cohabitation** and how **borders** (both political and geographical) can be transformed in order to make this cohabitation possible. The project swims between a floating landscape, architecture, infrastructure engineering and a conflict in which geopolitical and social issues are confronted. This proposal approaches the role of design as a political tool, as a spatial practice within a new emergent socio-political space.

The Jury was positively impressed by the amount of overlapping layers of complexity created and by the skilful designs and modelling to explain a newly imagined world.

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Anna Ramos (Secretary)