

## Europe's best Buildings

### The European Union Prize for Contemporary Architecture Mies van der Rohe Award 2017

**Exhibition: 23.08.2018 – 22.10.2018 | Exhibition Hall 2**

**Press conference: Wed 22.08, 11:00**

**Opening: Wed 22.08, 19:00**

**What are the best European buildings? For the first time the most prestigious European architecture prize is awarded to two housing developments.**

Every two years the exhibition 'Europe's Best Buildings' puts the focus on exceptional building projects in Europe, becoming a crowd-puller in recent years. The exhibition is based on The European Union Prize for Contemporary Architecture. Mies van der Rohe Award, with a total of 80,000 Euro prize money. Having been awarded to predominantly sensational cultural buildings in previous competitions, this time the prize goes to two pioneering projects in the field of housing. The main prizewinning project, De Flat Kleiburg by NL architects and XVW Architectuur, involves the participative renovation and upgrade of a prefab development from the 1960s. One topic that is highly relevant here in Austria, where we are confronted with many major housing developments by postwar modern architects that are ageing and urgently need social, functional and technical renovation. The Emerging Architect Special Mention goes to a social housing complex by the offices of MSA and V+ in Brussels.

Both prizewinning projects provide new reactions to the lifestyle changes of the 21st century. "The shift towards social housing, but with a concentration on converting and extending the existing substance, is a clear sign of a reorientation in architecture towards equitable building and the economic use of resources", says Angelika Fitz, Director of the Az W. On show in the exhibition are a total of 40 buildings from the sectors of housing, culture, education, industry and infrastructure. They were all selected by a high-calibre jury from 355 projects, from 36 European countries. "The exhibition uses models, videos, original drawings and 1:1 structural elements to clearly convey the high quality of the projects", explains curator Ivan Blasi of the Mies van der Rohe Foundation. In addition, at the Az W the 18 Austrian nominated projects are on display. The accompanying catalogue presents all of the nominated projects.

#### Housing Wins

In the main prizewinning project De Flat, the 400 metre long Kleiburg block estate containing 500 homes in the Amsterdam district of Bijlmermeer was given a second life. The De Flat consortium founded for the project saved the late-1960s building from demolition. While NL Architects and XVW Architectuur restored the communal spaces and made a number of essential

interventions, the business concept envisaged prospective occupants' renovating their apartments by themselves. The Emerging Architect Award goes to an apartment building with 5 social homes for low-income families with many children. With this project the team of architects MSA and V + have successfully achieved both an identity for the district as well as spatial generosity with an exemplary apartment building. Resourceful responses to the economic and structural restrictions have created homes with a great deal of freedom of movement and a superb view of the surrounding landscape.

### **Pioneering European Architecture**

Among the other finalists presented extensively in the exhibition are the projects Kannekgården by Lundgaard & Tranberg Architects, which fits uniquely into the ensemble of the medieval main square in Ribe, Denmark; the Rivesaltes Memorial Museum in France by Rudy Ricciotti, which is buried in the earth with calm and determination, the power of the architecture lending expression to the history of Concentration Camp Joffre; Ely Court, another housing development project from London, by Alison Brooks Architects, and the Katyn Museum in Warsaw by BBGK Architekci, Jerzy Kalina and Maksa, which engages impressively with the history and with the location.

The remaining shortlisted projects also represent an impressive cross-section of the development of European architecture. The examples range from cultural buildings, like the extension of the Museo de las Colecciones Reales in Madrid by Mansilla + Tuñón Arquitectos, via educational buildings, like the Inchicore Model School in Dublin by Donaghy + Dimond, infrastructure projects, like the Landmark by Monadnock with a café and visitor centre for the city of Nieuw-Bergan in the Netherlands, to commercial and office buildings, like the Timmerhuis by O.M.A. in Rotterdam.

### **The Mies van der Rohe Award**

The key aim of the Mies van der Rohe Awards is to provide recognition and show appreciation for exceptional achievements in the field of architecture within Europe. Projects are awarded prizes whose innovative character serves as orientation, even as manifestos, for the development of contemporary architecture. Prize money totalling 80,000 EUR (Winner: 60,000 EUR, Emerging Architect Award: 20,000 EUR) is awarded for exceptional achievements in conceptual, technical and structural terms. The Emerging Architect Award is intended to promote the profession itself and as encouragement for architects at the outset of their careers. From 355 nominated projects, from 36 European countries, a total of 40 projects were selected for the exhibition by an international jury – Stephen Bates, Gonçalo Byrne, Peter Cachola Schmal, Pelin Dervis, Dominique Jakob, Juulia Kauste and Malgorzata Omilanowska. The exhibition includes the 5 finalists and the two winning projects from the housing sector.

An accompanying catalogue presents all of the nominated projects, and is available throughout the exhibition.

An exhibition by the [Fundació Mies van der Rohe – Barcelona](#)

**Curators:** Ivan Blasi, Anna Sala Giralt

**Exhibition design:** Jorge Vidal, Monica Vassallo, Gerardo Pérez de Amézaga

**Graphic design:** spread

**Video production:** Nihao Films

**Project coordination Az W:** Katharina Ritter

**Organised by:** Creative Europe, Fundació Mies van der Rohe

**Board of Trustees:** Ajuntament de Barcelona, Gobierno de España – Ministerio de Fomento, Generalitat de Catalunya, Col·legi d'Arquitectes de Catalunya, ETSAB, Fira Barcelona, MOMA, Stiftung Preußischer Kulturbesitz

**Sponsors:** Fundació Banc Sabadell, simon

**Contributors:** Knoll, USM, ALMA, Ciments Molins, EPSON, arch daily, world-architects.com

#### PRIZEWINNER

NL DeFlat Kleiburg, Amsterdam, NL Architects / XVW architectuur

#### EMERGING ARCHITECT AWARD

BE NAVEZ – 5 social units at northern entrance to Brussels, Schaarbeek, MSA / V+

#### FINALISTS

DK Kannikegården, Ribe, Lundgaard & Tranberg Architects

UK Ely Court, London, Alison Brooks Architects

FR The Rivesaltes Memorial Museum, Rivesaltes, Rudy Ricciotti

PL Katyn Museum, Warsaw, BBGK Architekci; Jerzy Kalina; Maksa

**SHORTLISTED PROJECTS**

The shortlist from which the finalists were selected represents an impressive cross-section of the development of European architecture.

- BE Polyvalent Infrastructure, Spa, BAUKUNST
- DE European Hansemuseum, Lübeck, Studio Andreas Heller GmbH Architects & Designers
- DE Barn, Fergitz, Thomas Kröger Architekten
- DK Kvæsthus Pier, Copenhagen, Lundgaard & Tranberg Architects
- DK Skjern River Pump Stations, Skjern, Johansen Skovsted Arkitekter
- ES House 1014, Granollers, HARQUITECTES
- ES Collective housing for elderly people and civic and health centre, Barcelona, Bonelli / Gil, peris+toral.arquitectes
- ES Museum of the Royal Collections, Madrid, Emilio Tuñón Architects, Mansilla + Tuñón Arquitectos
- FI Suvela Chapel, Espoo, OOPEAA Office for Peripheral Architecture
- FI Opinmäki School Espoo, Esa Ruskeepää
- FI Puukuokka Housing Block (house 1), Jyväskylä, OOPEAA Office for Peripheral Architecture
- FR Community Workshop, Poigny-la-Forêt, Boidot Robin architectes
- FR Ariane futsal sports complex, Nice, Cab Architectes (Calori Azimi Botineau)
- FR 59 Dwellings, Neppert Gardens Social Housing, Mulhouse, Haut-Rhin, Lacaton & Vassal architectes
- IE Inchicore Model School, Dublin, Donaghy + Dimond
- IE Merrion Cricket Pavilion, Dublin, TAKA
- IT Fondazione Prada, Milan, O.M.A.
- LT Rasu Houses, Vilnius, Paleko Arch Studija, PLAZMA Architecture Studio
- NL Timmerhuis, Rotterdam, O.M.A.
- NL Landmark Nieuw-Bergen, Nieuw-Bergen, Monadnock
- NO Weekend House at Sildegarnsholmen, Herøy, Knut Hjeltnes AS Sivilarkitekter MNAL
- NO Moholt 50I50 – Timber Towers, Trondheim, MDH Arkitekter SA, Masu planning
- NO Eldhusøya Tourist Route Project, Averøy, Ghilardi+Hellsten Arkitekter
- PT House in Oeiras, Oeiras, Pedro Domingos Arquitectos
- PT Museum of Art, Architecture and Technology, Lisbon, AL\_A
- PT EDP Headquarters, Lisbon, AIRES MATEUS
- PT Nadir Afonso Museum for Contemporary Art Chaves, Álvaro Siza 2 – Arquitecto, SA
- RO Take a(l)itude, Fagaras Mountain, Archaeus ltd.
- SE Östermalm's Temporary Market Hall, Stockholm, Tengbom
- TR Angelos Organic Olive Oil Mill, Bademli, Dikili, Izmir, Mimarlar ve Han Tümertekin
- TR Beyazıt State Library Renovation, Istanbul, Tabanlıoğlu Architects
- UK Holmes Road Studios, London, Peter Barber Architects
- UK Shepherdess Walk Housing, London, Jaccaud Zein Architects
- UK Granby Four Streets, Liverpool, ASSEMBLE

**NOMINATED AUSTRIAN PROJECTS**

- AT Tiwag KWB Leitstelle Silz, Bechter Zaffignani Architekten  
AT Volksschule Dorf Lauterach, Lauterach, Feyferlik / Fritzer  
AT Pfauengarten redevelopment, Graz, Pichler & Traupmann Architekten ZT GmbH  
AT Panzerhalle, Salzburg, LP architektur ZT GmbH; hobby a. schuster & maul;  
cs-architektur Christoph Scheithauer; strobl architekten zt gmbh  
AT Erika Horn care home, Andritz, Graz, Dietger Wissounig Architekten  
AT HERberge für Menschen auf der Flucht refugee shelter, Innsbruck, STUDIÖ LOiS  
Barbara Poberschnigg, Walch Elias  
AT Moser house, Neustift im Stubaital, Madritsch Pfurtscheller  
AT KAMP – Kampichler company building, Theresienfeld, gerner°gerner plus archi-  
tects  
AT Salzburg Highways Agency, Salzburg, Marte.Marte Architekten  
AT St. Gallenkirch housing development, St. Gallenkirch, Dorner\Matt  
AT Loft in der Scheune, Hittisau, Georg Bechter Architektur+Design  
AT Högl winery, Spitz an der Donau, Ludescher + Lutz Architekten  
AT bilding. Art and architecture school for children and young people, Innsbruck,  
studio3 – Institut für experimentelle Architektur  
AT Erste Campus Headquarters, Vienna, Henke Schreieck Architekten ZT GmbH  
AT Biomedizinische Technik adaptation, Graz University of Technology, Graz, Gangoly  
& Kristiner Architekten  
DE European Central Bank, Frankfurt am Main, COOP HIMMELB(L)AU, Wolf D. Prix &  
Partner  
DE St. Agnes (conversion of a community centre, incl. chapel, into Galerie Johann Kö-  
nigg), Berlin, Brandlhuber+ Emde, Burlon; Riegler Riewe  
FR Palais de la musique et des congrès de Strasbourg, Strasbourg, Dietrich I Unter-  
trifaller Architekten

The press release as well as rights free, high resolution press photographs are available to download from [www.azw.at/press](http://www.azw.at/press).

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## Supporting Programme

### Events

#### Prizewinning Housing from Brussels

Lecture

Wed 12.09., 19:00, Az W Podium

#### NL Architects

##### IBA Wien meets Architects #5

Lecture, followed by a question and answer session

Wed 10.10, 19:00, Az W Podium

Event held in English

### Workshop

#### We visit 'Europe's Best Buildings'

Workshop (ages 6–99)

Duration: 2 hours

€ 4.20 / € 3 with Pass

Reservation required: [anmeldung@azw.at](mailto:anmeldung@azw.at)

Sat 13.10.2018, 15:00

### Guided tours

#### Guided tours of the exhibition

Sat 08.09.2018, 15:00

Wed 19.09.2018, 17:30 — 25 Years of the Az W

Sat 06.10.2018, 19:00 — part of “Lange Nacht der Museen”

Wed 10.10.2018, 17:30

Sat 20.10.2018, 15:00

Reservation required: [anmeldung@azw.at](mailto:anmeldung@azw.at)

Tickets: € 2,40 + admission

Groups of 10 or more are requested to arrange a group guided tour.

Reservations for excursions, guided tours and workshops: [anmeldung@azw.at](mailto:anmeldung@azw.at)