

## AIA/UK Design Awards 2007

"What does it take to win an AIA/UK Design Award?" asked the marketing director of an award-winning London-based practice. The annual awards, now in their 13th year, honour "Excellence in Design," and that is something that even architects find difficult to pin down. Yet if one quality unites the many projects honoured over the years, it would be magic—somehow, these building capture the imagination, haunt the mind's eye long after the award ceremony is over and expand one's idea of what architecture can be. Perhaps the following examples from the past five years, still vivid in the memories of 2006 Design Awards organiser Chris Gaylord and 2007 organiser Claire Weldin, illustrate some elements of this magic:

- Richard Rogers Partnership's Barajas Airport went on to win the Stirling Prize last year, but we saw it first at the 2006 AIA/UK Design Awards. The diagram is crisply and impeccably executed, but in Rogers' hands it becomes something more: the graceful forms of the structure are animated with the flourishing touch of a paintbrush, wheeling through the colour spectrum. The structural rhythm is given a tune, and it lifts the spirits.
- Eric Parry's Finsbury Square, a 2003 Design Awards winner, is a sober and restrained essay in loadbearing stone. The conflation of a modern, minimalist aesthetic with a traditional tectonic is somehow inescapably right: the simplicity of the stone and the complexity of its arrangement, shifting out of alignment between floors, perfectly complement each other.
- When Simon Condor's Black Rubber House won a Design Award in 2004, it was one of the smallest projects in scale and one of the most haunting in its humility: the simple palette of black rubber and plywood has the disarming tactility of a dinghy, appropriately for its Dungeness location
- Grimshaw Architects' extension to the Zurich Airport, winner of a 2005 Design Award, is an essay in calm and precise management of space. The passenger experience is smooth and orderly, the architecture ushers you from one generous room to the next, culminating in the serene and beautifully detailed departure concourse. An example par excellence of first-quality public space without ostentation.
- The John Perry Children's Centre by Deborah Saunt David Hills Architects (DSDHA), a Design Award winner in 2006, is a triumph of local architecture, a child-centred building that does everything an important civic building needs to do: works beautifully for the area around it, uplifts the spirit, and provides safe, functional spaces for children and teachers alike. A brave design by a young practice.

Award-winning projects are so memorable in part because of the unique format of the AIA/UK Design Awards Presentation Gala: each winner presents his or her project in a brief slideshow. This gives the audience an insight not only into the designers' intentions but also into the processes of developing the brief with the client and delivering the work on site. The dedication, passion and sheer hard work that emerges from the presentations is as vivid to viewers as the buildings' striking images.

## *The AIA/UK Awards Presentation Thursday 5th April 2007 Royal Society of Arts (RSA) at 6:30 pm, all are welcome*

Contact the Chapter at the email address noted below if you would like to have an invitation posted to a friend or associate.

The Board and Chapter of the AIA/UK would like to thank the 2007 Design Awards jury:

Bob Allies  
Allies and Morrison Architects

Mary Bowman  
Gustafson Porter

Cécile Brisac  
Brisac Gonzalez Architects

Chris Carroll  
ARUP Advanced Geometry Unit

Peter Murray  
Wordsearch

David Partridge  
Argent

Deborah Saunt  
DSDHA

Graham Stirk  
Richard Rogers Partnership





## Upcoming Events

CONTACT: CHAPTEREXECUTIVE@AIAUK.ORG

### WALKING TOUR

Monumental London & Sir Aston Webb  
Sunday 11th March, 2007 10:30am

Portland House/Cardinal Place (corner Bressenden Place and Victoria Street) nearest tube Victoria Station.

Walking Tour by the AIA/UK historian of choice: Ben O'looney of Morris+Looney Architects, day-long, will include a stop for lunch and evening drink: may include visit to exhibition of Victoria Redevelopment

In the last decades of the nineteenth century there was a revolution in ideas about sculpture in Britain. A new, more emotive and realistic spirit was pursued, greatly lifting the art. Partly inspired by French sculptors teaching and working in London, this movement has come to be known as the 'New Sculpture'. This tour looks at the sculpture and architecture of Victoria, Whitehall and St. James, which was largely rebuilt in this period. Where possible, this fin-de-siecle work will be set in the context of earlier British sculpture of which a few notable examples can be found in this part of town. We will encounter two fine, American sculptures, introducing a patriotic spirit to this day tour.



Celebrating 150th AIA Anniversary: Media+Society

### MOVIE NIGHT - My Architect: A Son's Journey

20 March Tuesday at 6:30PM  
British Film Institute, Screening Room  
21 Stephen Street  
London W1T 1LN



[2003] documentary/biography about Louis Kahn - Academy-nominated travelogue of the works and many compartmented lives of this architect opened to view by his son after his untimely death in 1974.

### The "FOUNDING" Series of Lectures on Design at the Building Centre

Confirmed speakers include Ron Arad and Michael Gabellini, watch this space and [www.aiauk.org](http://www.aiauk.org) for schedule of dates

## AIA/UK Award Winners 2006



John Perry Children's Centre, Dagenham - DHDSA



City and Islington College  
Wilkinson Eyre Architects



Terminal 4 Barajas Airport, Madrid  
Richard Rogers Partnership



Donnybrook Quarter  
Peter Barber Architects



Phaeno Science Center, Wolfsburg, Germany - Zaha Hadid Architects



# Keynote Lecture 2007

## United Visions

This year marks the 150th anniversary of the founding of the AIA -The American Institute of Architects -and also the 100th year of the AIA Gold Medal Award- first awarded to Sir Aston Webb, RIBA in 1907.

On the evening of Tuesday May 15th, 2007 the Jarvis lecture hall of the RIBA at Portland Place has been booked by the annual AIA/UK Key-note Lecture with Antoine Predock as speaker - the AIA Gold Medal Award winner in 2006. Antoine Predock's lecture is entitled 'West East' and will explore underlying themes that define his work. This includes projects such as the National Palace Museum



in Taiwan, the Canadian Museum for Human Rights, the Austin City Hall in Texas, as well as a number of projects from his desert beginnings.

Following the Keynote Lecture we will continue the celebration with a one night exhibition titled "United Visions" that will display in the Florence Room the varied works of UK architects working in US, and US (ish) architects working in the UK.

We expect some 150 panels representing two schemes per board from 150 architects.

This is a celebration intended for RIBA as well as all AIA/UK, AIA/CE and all International AIA members and those interested in architecture generally. Drinks will be available as will be the opportunity to catch up with colleagues and friends will viewing some extraordinarily prescient and varied works of architecture.

The evening will conclude in the Sir Aston Webb room with a ceremony of exchange of a Presidential Citation that acknowledges and renews the long-standing co-operation that exists between the RIBA and the AIA. Jack Pringle, RIBA president and David Proffitt AIA National Secretary will represent the RIBA and AIA respectively.

The Doors open 6:15 pm, lecture to begin at 6:45 pm, lecture ends at 8:15 pm with drinks in Florence Hall, 9:00 pm presentation of presidential citations, event ends 9:30pm, event closes 10 pm.

Tickets to the lecture cost £8 and can be purchased through the RIBA Gallery on 020 7307 3699.



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FOR FURTHER INFORMATION SEE AIA/UK WEB SITE [WWW.AIAUK.ORG](http://WWW.AIAUK.ORG)  
CONTACT: CHAPTEREXECUTIVE@AIAUK.ORG





# “Design Excellence, Design-Build”- 2007 : An International Conference, London, UK



Two and a half days of education and tours in London.

## Dates:

Thursday September 27th afternoon,

Friday September 28th, all day

Saturday September 29th

## Venue:

RIBA Headquarters  
66 Portland Place  
London, W1B 1AD

Hear from leaders in the industry during six sessions about design excellence through design-build in the international marketplace. This conference will cover education of students in the US and UK on the design-build method of delivery; legal risks and hurdles on each side of the Atlantic; public-private partnerships. The program will include a President's panel with executives from AIA, RIBA and DBIA on the architect's role in design-build. Keynote speakers are currently being scheduled with International leading designers.

## Confirmed Speakers:

Mike Hussey, Managing Director of London Portfolio, Land Securities,  
Sunand Prasad, President Elect RIBA,  
RK Stewart, President AIA National

Four tours will cover London's top design-build projects.

Each evening will be capped with a reception for all attendees at specially selected locations. We also have a few surprises planned for conference attendees.

Organised jointly by: AIA International Committee, AIA/UK Chapter,  
AIA Design-Build Knowledge Community

Conference co-sponsor: Design-Build Institute of America (DBIA)

For more information, check the Design-Build Knowledge Community website in May, 2007 at [www.aia.org/db](http://www.aia.org/db)

## What do Architects do?

<http://howdesignworks.aia.org>

Created by the AIA, a new website, intended to be accessed by the general public, clients, perspective clients, etc. It's highly interactive and can provide the uniformed a clearer understanding of architects role in society and what the design process is all about.

## chapter sponsors

