

Newsletter

No 70 Spring 2013

AIA UK



A Chapter of
The American
Institute of Architects



Experimental Station

AIA UK 2013 Excellence in Design Awards Winners Announced

Justin Cratty, AIA

The AIA UK held its 19th Annual Excellence in Design Awards Ceremony at London's Living Room atop the GLA City Hall on the evening of 23rd April. Over 120 people came out to celebrate this year's award winners on an uncharacteristically warm spring night. The amazing view of the city at sunset, was just one of the gala marquees along with speeches by Sir Nicholas Grimshaw and Mickey Jacob, the National AIA President. Stephen Reinke, a founding member of the AIA UK Chapter, gave a moving tribute to Rick Mather, US born, London architect, who passed away on the 20 April 2013.

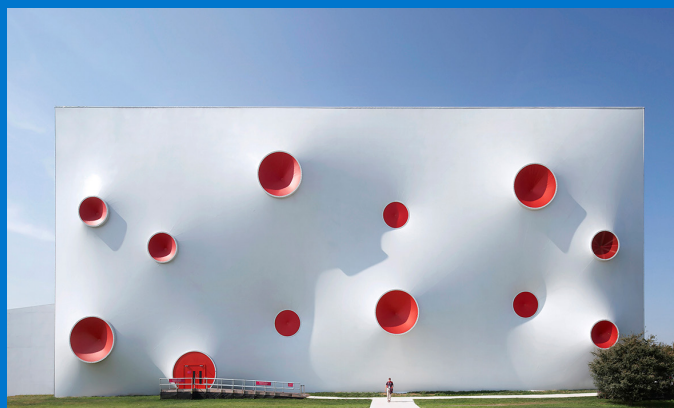
There was a wide range of entries this year from practices around the world, making this one of the toughest Design Awards to judge. The number of Olympic projects submitted are evidence of the contribution our profession made to the success of the London 2012 Olympics.

Please continue to the following page for the complete list of winners and their categories.

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Heart of Doha Masterplan



Olympic and Paralympic Shooting Arenas



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Awards Gala - GLA City Hall



photos by Chris Sharp



AIA UK Excellence in Design Awards, cont. Justin Cratty, AIA

Sir Nicholas Grimshaw spoke to the level of excellence in this year's projects as he presented the first of the seven Professional Winners and one Noel Hill Student Travel Award. As the AIA UK mission is to promote UK Architecture, the professional category was judged on built projects in the UK or UK based architects for projects anywhere in the world.

A special thanks to this year's Design Awards Programme sponsors - RISE Management Consultancy, Desso carpets and Laufen. The Design Awards Programme is only possible with the help of our sponsors.

After much deliberation and discussion, the jury selected the following winners:

BEST SCIENTIFIC BUILDING:

Hugh Broughton Architects
Halley VI Antarctic Research Station

BEST COMMUNITY BUILDING:

Stanton Williams
Hackney Marshes Centre, London

BEST TRANSPORTATION BUILDING:

John McAslan + Partners
King's Cross Station Redevelopment, London

BEST CULTURAL BUILDING:

David Chipperfield Architects
St. Louis Art Museum, St. Louis, MO, USA

BEST SMALL BUILDING:

51% Studios & the John Naylor Partnership
Experimental Station, Dungeness, UK

BEST TEMPORARY BUILDING:

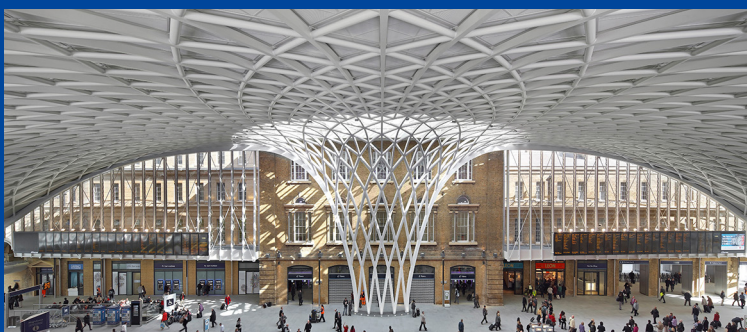
Magma Architecture
Olympic and Paralympic Shooting Arenas, London

BEST MASTERPLAN:

AECOM
Msheireb, Heart of Doha Masterplan

NOEL HILL STUDENT TRAVEL AWARD:

Rebecca Nixon
University of Sheffield



King's Cross Transportation Center



Halley VI Antarctic Research Station



Hackney Marshes Centre



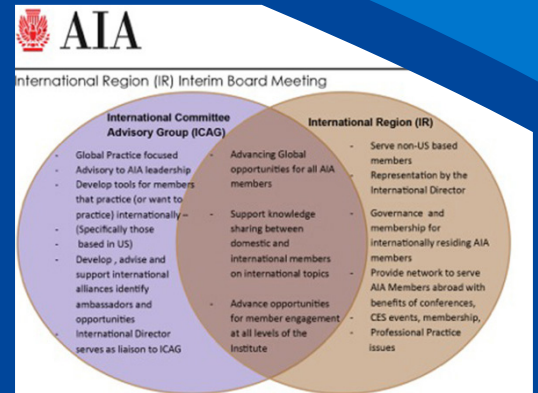
St. Louis Art Museum

2013 AIA Grassroots Convention

Robert Rhodes, AIA

As president of the UK Chapter, I had the responsibility and privilege to represent our 200+ members at this year's Grassroots Leadership Conference in Washington DC. Over three days in March, representatives from Domestic US and International components met to discuss the leadership, future and "repositioning" of the AIA at the Component, Regional and the National level.

As an International Component President, my specific agenda focused on meeting with fellow International Component leaders to discuss and guide the formation of the new International Region. At these meetings we developed a structure for the relationship of the Component to the Region and to AIA National. The Venn diagram (right) illustrates the role of the Region and its relationship to the International Committee Advisory Group, among other documents. This was one important step in the Regional formation process that continues to develop through the efforts of members of the five International Components.



Leaders of the International Region also met with senior representatives from NCARB to discuss the international delivery of the Architect Registration Exams. Although it had not yet been determined in March, I am pleased to say now (thanks in no small part to AIA UK's efforts) candidates will be able to sit the ARE in London, Abu Dhabi and Tokyo from this Fall.

As with all AIA events, there was also a large social aspect to Grassroots, which afforded the opportunity to make friends and contacts throughout the structure of the Institute. I encourage anyone who has the opportunity to attend in future.

'Dynamic Facades and Parametrics; Creating a New Vernacular'

Etain Fitzpatrick, AIA

On the November 21, 2012, the AIA UK hosted a lecture event by Peter Oborn, RIBA at the Herman Miller Showroom. As Deputy Chairman of Aedas Architects Ltd, Peter was responsible for the inception of the practice's London based Research & Development group that specializes in sustainability, advanced modeling and computational design. Peter described the process associated with the design and delivery of the practice's international competition winning project for a new headquarters building for the Abu Dhabi Investment Council, the form of which is based upon a pre-rationalised geometry derived from Islamic principles of design. The façade features a dynamic 'mashrabiya' which opens and closes in response to the sun, reducing solar gain by over 50%. The Council for Tall Buildings and Urban Habitat (CTBUH) in Chicago recently awarded the project the 2012 Innovation award. The project is an inspiring and example of an alternate to a typical glass tower in the desert. Its success is due to the commitment and close collaboration of Aedas, Arup and Yuanda to realize an elegant solution to a complex design. There were some 15 computer programs involved in designing this project.

Peter is also Vice President International of the Royal Institute of British Architects. We have been actively engaging with the RIBA to work towards reciprocity of our continuing education programs. We are pleased to announce that because his participation, dialogue and support of our Chapter, we have made Peter Oborn an Honorary Member of the AIA UK.



Noel Hill Student Travel Award - Rebecca Nixon

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Dixon Jones Quadrant 3



AIA UK Building Tours

Fatos Peja, Int'l Assoc. AIA, RIBA

This year's building tour series was opened with a visit to Quadrant 3, a remarkable central London development on the edge of the Regent Street. Developer David Shaw from the Crown Estate and Architects Sir Jeremy Dixon and Anthony Charnley of Dixon Jones led the group through the variety of office, restaurant and retail uses contained within the project. This development carefully integrates itself within the mixed context of buildings near Soho and Regent Street and emphasises the importance of creating a lively street scene and active pavements to consolidate the retail viability of the surrounding streets.

Building tours event offers an extensive and detailed explanation of the building, approach to architecture, design and the sustainability strategy. Furthermore, it's an opportunity to meet fellow architects and designers, and also gain CES/CPD credits.

Feedback and suggestions are always appreciated and welcomed. You can get in touch by contacting us at chapterexecutive@aiauk.org.



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Fiona McKay
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AIA International Region

Michael Lischer, FAIA

In order to establish the organization for the new International Region (IR), an interim board of directors has been appointed by the AIA President. The interim board will be in place only this year, with elections for board members and officers anticipated to take place early in 2014. AIA UK past president, Etain Fitzpatrick, has been appointed to the interim board. Etain is active on the IR communications committee, responsible for setting up the IR web site and creating a news letter.

The first draft of the IR by laws were circulated for comments in February. These were discussed among the AIA UK board and comments were forwarded to the interim board. A second draft is anticipated soon. The International Region is expected to be fully operational in early 2014.



Chapter Dinner with AIA's President Mickey Jacob and CEO Robert Ivy

AIA Annual General Meeting

Etain Fitzpatrick, AIA

On Wednesday, 16 January the AIA UK Chapter gathered for their Annual General Meeting, hosted by Herman Miller at their showroom. Attendees were greeted with warm hospitality and to a drinks and canapés reception. The meeting began with a presentation by Joelle McLachlan of Herman Miller 'The Future of Work - How and Where We Will Work in 2030'. This talk was based on research carried out on behalf of the DTI, by The Workplace Intelligence Unit, founded by Herman Miller. Joelle presented three possible future global warming scenarios and analyzed what work could be like under each one. The talk generated a lot of ideas and the group was then asked to vote on which scenario they thought would be most likely.

As outgoing 2012 President, I gave an overview of the Chapter's events and achievements over the past year. We provided our members with an opportunity to achieve an impressive 48.5 CES learning units. I described my experiences representing the Chapter at both the AIA Grassroots and National Conventions. I gave a special thanks to all of our sponsors without whom we would not be able to provide such a rich program of events each year.

The treasurer, Justin Cratty, presented the Chapter's Financial Accounts for the year. A motion to approve these accounts was made and unanimously approved. Nominations for the 2013 Board of Officers and Directors were announced and additional nominations were requested. A motion to approve the incoming 2013 Board was made and unanimously approved. I then introduced the AIA UK 2013 President Robert Rhodes who described some of the events planned for the year ahead. Once again our membership will have an exciting program to engage with and we all look forward to the coming year.

At the end of the presentation Michael Lischer presented to me a Certificate thanking me for my contribution to the success of the AIA UK Chapter in 2012. I was proud and grateful for the opportunity to serve the chapter in 2012 and thank the membership and Board for all of their support. I look forward to continuing to serve as a Director on the Chapter Board, as well as on the International Region Interim Board.

AIA CE Conference in Lyon

Lester Korzilius; AIA, RIBA

AIA Continental Europe held their bi-annual conference in Lyon on 18-21 April. Several members from the UK chapter attended the event. Highlights included tours of Coop Himmelb(l)au's Confluence Museum, under construction, the Renzo Piano designed Cité Internationale complex, a municipal building by Christian de Portzamparc, and many others.

AIA National President Mickey Jacob, and AIA CEO Robert Ivy and their wives were in attendance, and the weekend provided many opportunities to discuss issues with them. The food lived up to Lyon's excellent gastronomic reputation including a dinner in a typical 'bouchon' where it was best not to ask which bits of the animal were being served!



Renzo Piano Cité International Complex

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UPCOMING EVENTS

AIA National Convention
June 20-22
Denver, CO

SUMMER GALA
June 26
Merchant Taylors' Hall
London

BIKE TOUR
Date September 8 TBC
Location TBC

BATH EXCURSION
September 20-22
Bath, England



Awards Gala - GLA City Hall Chris Sharp photo

AIA UK Membership

Michael Lischer, FAIA

AIA UK membership surpassed 200 members late last year for the first time in our 20 year history! Membership is currently at 208 and projected to grow in 2013 with six new members already this year!

The Chapter welcomes the following new members; Fariba Shirdel, AIA, Christopher Mortensen, Professional Affiliate, Peter Oborn, Honorary Member, Leon Smith, Professional Affiliate, Erin Ferguson, Associate AIA, and Laura Kasta, Associate AIA.

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Bath Excursion

Lester Korzilius, AIA RIBA

Mark your calendars now! The AIA will be having a weekend excursion to Bath on 20-22 September, 2013. This will be similar in format to the very popular trips done to Cambridge, Oxford, and Scotland. Planning is still at the early stages, but we already have confirmed visits to David Morley's English Institute of Sports, Alison & Peter Smithson's School of Architecture at Bath, Rab Bennett's seminal Wessex Water Works, an overview of Feilden Clegg Bradley's work, and many more are in the pipeline! The tour includes a guided walking tour of historic Bath, and on the Saturday evening we will have a gala dinner.

This event is made possible in part by the sponsorship of Grohe, who also sponsored last's year trip to Cambridge.

Further details and registration information will be posted on the AIA UK website.

Smithson's School of Architecture, Bath



AIA UK Film Nights

Alex Miller, Assoc. AIA

We started the 2013 film series with screenings in January and February at the BFI. In January, we watched "Utopia London", a documentary that explores London's recent architectural history. The film primarily explores post-war Modernists and the social implications and ambitions of their work. While the film takes a particular bias, the genuine conversations with the architects and planners originally involved, as well as interviews with the occupants gives a well-rounded impression of the work being discussed. The film maker has also expertly picked a time where the buildings can be critically assessed after decades of occupation, but while a dialogue can still be had with the practitioners to gain insight into the intentions and aspirations.

In February, we screened Jacques Tati's "Trafic". In the past, we have screened other Tati films such as "Playtime". Trafic is a comedy that insightfully criticizes the rise of the automobile and some of the daily farce of freeways and parking lots. The film is an excellent look from the outside at the habits and peculiarities of this public space where everyone is in their own private capsule, still in full view.



"Utopia London"



"Trafic"