

The \$30,000 question...

Which building, of the 38 shortlisted here, is going to earn its architect the US\$30,000 Arup World Architecture Award? On Friday 22 June in Hong Kong all will be revealed. The jury, which included Dominique Boudet, John Denton, Ken Yeang, RIBA president Marco Goldschmied and wa's editor, Nicola Jackson, debated anonymous entries. Welcome to the first year of the only international award for building design, run in association with the Royal Institute of British Architects.

Central and South America



Bancrecer Tlalpan Computer Center Mexico City, Mexico Migdal Arquitectos

Office/retail

The Bancrecer Computer Center, designed to serve 1,200 bank branches and 10,000 employees, is part of a trend in Mexico City of recycling buildings for new uses. The concrete shell of the existing building was re-used, after appropriate structural reinforcement, with new construction enlarging areas as required.

A series of glass- and aluminium-panelled volumes was added to the interior and exterior. A 4m-wide, 195m-long principal connecting corridor terminates at both ends in the building's two lobbies, and is punctuated by staircases along its length. The ground floor houses the computer centre, systems production, service areas, machine room and storage areas. On the first floor are offices for the development, control and services departments.

The building is completely automated and includes a series of systems to monitor and control each area, with sub-floor cabling and automated functions to accord with international standards for installations and security.

It breaks with the 'bunker' tradition of other computer centres by maintaining a relationship with the interior areas around it, accessible to visits by employees and outsiders alike. It was designed with future flexibility in mind, and is capable of encompassing future projects and changes in personnel and internal spaces.



Belgrano housing Buenos Aires, Argentina Caram Robinsohn Architects

This housing scheme of 11 flats, across two six-storey buildings, is on a narrow, deep plot in front of the railway line, with a wide and open view. A central landscaped courtyard provides stair access and circulation, and gives each block a dual aspect.

The front building contains structurally atypical flats, and a column-free ground-floor garage. All the duplexes have ample space and light, and although they have minimal accommodation – a bedroom and a studio – individual external 'expansions', or balconies accessible via bridges expand their area.

The scheme is laid out on a grid of 3.6m, to allow the most economical system of columns and girders and reinforced concrete. A structural concrete grid divides the flats, with large metal grids on the front and back facades, and smaller ones on the courtyard facades.

The aesthetic emphasis was for low-maintenance materials; and the natural concrete open structure, wood outdoor floors and anodised aluminium metalwork complement the green of the birch trees in the courtyard and poplars of the sidewalk.

Categories



World Architecture welcomes Arup as the main sponsor of the 2001 awards. The US\$30,000 Arup World Architecture Award will be presented to the architect of the best building overall

Shortlisted projects from the eight regions were entered against category groups. Two categories were adjusted after submissions, but before the jury process: retail schemes were judged with offices (including embassies, since the majority of the floorspace accommodates offices); and sport and leisure buildings were judged together. There was an additional category for the best green building, taken from entries in the other seven categories.

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Ahmedabad Management Association: HCP Design & Project Management

The University of Hong Kong Kadoorie Biological Sciences Building, Hong Kong: Leigh & Orange

Industrial/research & development

Aplix SA factory, Nantes, France: Dominique Perrault Novo Nordisk research facility, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia: Skaarup & Jespersen

FRANKLIN ANDREWS GROUP

Offices/retail

APC building, Daikanyama, Tokyo, Japan: Paul Bancrecer Tlalpan computer centre, Mexico City,

Mexico: Midgal Arquitectos Dolce & Gabbana, Los Angeles, US: David

Chipperfield Architects Dvg headquarters, Hannover, Germany: Hasche, Jehle und Assoziierte

Finnish Embassy, Berlin, Germany: Viiva Arkkitehtuuri Oy

Gsw headquarters, Berlin, Germany: Sauerbruch

Jin Mao Tower, Shanghai, PRC: Skidmore, Owings & Merrill

Barbour Index

Public/cultural

Bopitikelo Community & Cultural Centre: Peter Rich Church in Urubo, Bolivia: JAE CHA Architect Japan Pavilion, Expo 2000, Hanover, Germany:

Shigeru Ban Architects

Massachusetts Museum of Contemporary Art, North Adams, Mass, US: Bruner/Cott & Associates Melbourne Museum, Melbourne, Australia: Denton Corker Marshall

Museum of Hiroshige Ando: Kengo Kuma & **Associates**

Museum of Tropical Queensland, Australia: Cox **Rayner Architects**

Rose Center for Earth & Space: Polshek Partnership

US Federal courthouse, Central Islip, New York, US: Richard Meier & Partners

Residential

216 Alabama, Lawrence, Kansas, US: Studio 804 Berman House, Southern Highlands, NSW, Australia:

Harry Seidler & Associates Carter/Tucker House, Victoria, Australia: Sean

Housing block, Belgrano, Buenos Aires, Argentina:

House at Coutras, France: Lacaton and Vassal House at Mt Fuji, Yamanashi, Japan: Satoshi Okada

Tree House, Cape Town, South Africa: Van der Merwe Miszewski Architects

Wohnen am Lochbach, Innsbruck, Austria: Baumschlager& Eberle

Caram Robinsohn Architects

Sport/leisure

Horse stables, Atacama, Chile: Germán del Sol NatWest Media Centre, Lord's Cricket Ground, London, UK: Future Systems

Puritama Hot Springs, Atacama, Chile: Germán del

Saitama Super Arena, Saitama, Japan: Nikken Sekkei, in association with Ellerbe Beckett and Flack+Kurtz consulting engineers

Stadium Australia, Sydney, Australia: Bligh Lobb (HOK Sport and Bligh Voller Nield) British Airways London Eye, London, UK: Marks **Barfield Architects**

Transport/infrastructure

Canary Wharf Station, Jubilee Line Extension, London, UK: Foster and Partners Putrajaya bus and taxi terminal, Putrajaya, Malaysia: Veritas Architects Stratford Regional Station, Jubilee Line Extension, London, UK: Wilkinson Eyre Architects Subway station Iidabashi, Oedo Line, Tokyo, Japan: Makoto Sei Watanabe/Architect's Office



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Church in Urubo, Bolivia: JAE CHA Architect

Saitama Super Arena, Saitama, Japan: Nikken Sekkei, in association with Ellerbe Becket and

Stadium Australia, Sydney, Australia: Bligh Lobb (HOK Sport and Bligh Voller Nield) Conde Nast building, New York: Fox & Fowle Bopitikelo Community & Cultural Centre: Peter Rich Dvg headquarters, Hanover, Germany: Hasche, Jehle und Assoziierte

The jury

Guy Battle: Battle McCarthy Consulting Engineers ominique Boudet: Editor-in-chief AMC magazine John Denton: Denton Corker Marshall Marco Goldschmied: President, Royal Institute of

British Architects

Nicola Jackson: Editor, World Architecture David Jenkins: Architectural critic and editor Roger Kallman: Skidmore, Owings & Merrill Martin Pawley: Critic and former editor of World

Architecture

Ken Yeang: TR Hamzah & Yeang