

Berlin, 21 July 2010

URBAN INTERVENTION AWARD

Innovative Architectonic Projects for Urban Impulses

The Senate Department for Urban Development Berlin launches a new Europe-wide award - the Urban Intervention Award - which will be held regularly in the future.

The prize will be awarded for the first time in November 2010. The goal of the Urban Intervention Award is to contribute significantly to the improvement of life quality in urban settings and to challenge processes of urban cooperation. The award honours projects in urban spaces, which significantly contribute to the redefinition, revival and revaluation of inner city quarters. This applies to the transformation and conversion of old building structures as well as new constructions, which serve as shining examples through their vital presence in their environment. It is not about architectonic effects or a particular use of forms, but rather about architecture serving as a stimulator of urban development processes.

The award acknowledges creative urban projects of high architectonic quality. The requirement for projects is that they emerged from innovative and interdisciplinary interactions of cooperation-partners from different areas and disciplines, such as culture, architecture, initiatives, economy, etc.

The background of the Urban Intervention Award is the fact that by the middle of this century, more than 65 percent of the world's population will be living in cities. This poses a great challenge to the public hand worldwide: Politics and administrations are called upon to be initiators, stimulators and promoters of future-oriented and increasingly complex inner-city processes.

The award also establishes the themes of the 3rd International Building Exhibition Berlin, which is scheduled for 2020 and which commits itself to processual, cooperative and climate-friendly pilot-projects of urban development. Thus, this award is also a clear statement for the IBA 2020. We wish to call experts' and the public's attention to the IBA Berlin 2020 and its thematic alignment.

The director of the Senate Department for Urban Development, Regula Lüscher says: „The Urban Intervention Award honours bold and innovative people and projects, which give impetus to urban development through personal initiative, cooperation, intelligent development options, and excellent designs. Berlin plays a leading role throughout Europe when it comes to launching urban processes through unconventional creative and artistic strategies. Therefore it also makes sense to initiate this award, which was announced Europe-wide, from Berlin.”

Outstanding projects will be awarded in two categories: building projects and temporary projects, which must have been completed within the past four years, or in case of temporary projects, must have taken place within this period of time.

The jury will meet on 10 and 11 November. Including the director of the Senate Department for Urban Development, Regula Lüscher, and five outstanding international personalities from arts, science, architecture, landscape architecture and media, it is composed internationally and interdisciplinary (*Enrique Sobejano*, Madrid, architect, professor at University of the Arts Berlin, UdK; *Undine Giseke*, landscape architect, professor at Technical University Berlin, TU; *Bart Lootsma*, professor of history and theory of architecture at University of Innsbruck; *Hortensia Völkers*, executive board and artistic director of The German Federal Cultural Foundation, curator; *Hanns Zischler*, actor, dramaturge, author, essayist, director).

The awardees from both categories will be invited on an excursion. They will visit a European city, which stands for the intentions of the Urban Intervention Award through innovative strategies and which can present projects of urban development that pursue similar approaches as the awardees do. The awardees get to know local stakeholders and thereby expand the international expert network.

The award ceremony and exhibition opening is expected to take place on 25 November 2010 at former Airport Berlin Tempelhof.

The results of the award will be published. Hereby, the award's objectives and the urban strategies involved will be communicated nationally and internationally on a long-term basis.

Furthermore, "with its interdisciplinary and cooperation-oriented profile, the Urban Intervention Award closes an important gap within the manifold landscape of Berlin and German building awards", adds director Regula Lüscher.

General management: Dr. h.c. Kristin Feireiss, Berlin

Eligibility requirements

Projects may be submitted by building contractors or initiatives, as well as architects and artists as project authors. The projects must have been completed in Europe between January 2005 and August 2010 and must have emerged within an urban context. The size of the city is irrelevant in this context; rather it is important that the project's goal is a solution to a specific urban challenge under the above-mentioned criteria.

The Urban Intervention Award 2010 honours outstanding realized projects, which are examples of excellent architecture combined with new innovative utilization and / or conversion concepts, and which emerged from co-operation of partners from different areas and disciplines.

Projects must have been realized during the past five years.
The prize is planned to be awarded every two years.

With respect to the above-named criteria, the Urban Intervention Award is divided into two categories:

- a realized building project
- a realized temporary project

Project presentation

Participants must submit their projects on two A2-sized pages. The presentation must include plans and images of the realized project as well as descriptive texts, charts and graphics. The display of format is not specified. Regarding the image selection, it is important to present the project with respect to its function as part of a vital urban space. Videos may also be enclosed.

Information must be provided regarding:

- the urbanistic and spatial approach
- the sociocultural and social context
- the design aspects
- the utilization concept
- the collaboration with the co-operation partners

Furthermore, the project's impetus on the development of its urban environment must be explained.

Documents must be submitted by E-Mail by 14 September 2010 (date of postmark) to the Senate Department for Urban Development Berlin.

To be submitted:

In paper copy:

- the complete project presentation on two A2-sized pages

On DVD or CD:

- project presentation (A2-sized pages) as PDF-file in 300 dpi resolution
- text and images as separate files, text in Word-format, images in common formats in 300 dpi resolution, size 2.00m x 3.00 m, colour mode CMYK
- videos, if necessary

The data also serve for the publications related to the Urban Intervention Award – exhibitions, catalogue, and public relations. Please note that the senders must own the copyrights of the submitted image files and must be willing to make the data available to the Senate Department for Urban Development Berlin for the award's publication.

Please submit to the following address:

Senatsverwaltung für Stadtentwicklung Berlin (Senate Department for Urban Development Berlin)

Werkstatt

Baukultur Kommunikation Oberste Denkmalschutzbehörde

Susanne Walter

Urban Intervention Award

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For further enquiries, please contact:

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General management

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Proceedings

After a preliminary review of the submitted works, ten projects of each category – meaning a total of 20 works – will be shortlisted. These 20 projects will be presented to an international and interdisciplinary jury for final assessment and decision-making. It is intended for the jury to choose five projects and ultimately, one awardee out of each category.

The jury session will take place on 10 and 11 November 2010.

Jury composition

The jury is composed internationally and interdisciplinary and includes the director of the Senate Department for Urban Development and four outstanding personalities from arts, science, architecture, landscape architecture and media:

- Regula Lüscher, director of the Senate Department for Urban Development, Berlin
- Prof. Enrique Sobejano, Madrid, University of the Arts Berlin, department of architecture, experimental design and basics of designing
- Prof. Undine Giseke, Technical University Berlin, department of landscape architecture and open space planning, Berlin
- Prof. Bart Lootsma, professor at Leopold-Franzens-University Innsbruck, Austria, chair for the theory of architecture
- Hortensia Völkers, executive board and artistic director of The German Federal Cultural Foundation, curator
- Hanns Zischler, actor, dramaturge, author, essayist, director

Prize

The awardees from both categories will be invited on an excursion. They will visit a European city that stands for the intentions of the Urban Intervention Award through innovative strategies and which presents projects of urban development that pursue similar approaches as the awardees do. During the three-day tour the awardees get to know local stakeholders and thereby expand the international expert network.

The awardees and nominees will each receive a certificate.

Dates

Course of events

- submission of all documents until 14 September 2010
- jury session on 10 and 11 November 2010
- award ceremony on 25 November 2010
- exhibition from 25 November to 10 January 2011

Award ceremony

The award ceremony takes place on 25 November 2010 at former Airport Berlin Tempelhof in the converted customs depot, which is being converted into an exhibition- and event hall for the Senate Department for Urban Development.

Exhibition and publication

The exhibition of the Urban Intervention Award 2010 will include works from the shortlisted submissions and will be opened by the award ceremony. The exhibition runs until 10 January 2011.

Furthermore, a publication to the award will be released to communicate the goals and the associated urban strategies nationally and internationally for the longer term. The publication will be available in German and English.