

SUSTAINABLE BY DESIGN ARCHITECTURE

WANG SHU RECEIVES THE 2012 PRITZKER PRIZE FOR ARCHITECTURE

The Hyatt Foundation announced today the winner of the 2012 Pritzker Prize: 48 year-old Chinese architect Wang Shu.



Louise Cox, Wang Shu and Albert Dubler during the UIA Tokyo congress

Over the last 15 years, Wang Shu and his wife **Lu Wenyu** have been developing a responsible, humanitarian and environmentally respectful architecture in their '**Amateur Architecture Studio**' in Hangzhou, PR of China. He advocates the *slow building* method in response to the frenetic construction that is racing across China. He has salvaged materials from traditional buildings under demolition to use in a modern interpretation. "*Humanity,*" he says, "*is more important than architecture and the art of building more important than technology.*"

The president of the Pritzker Prize jury, Lord Palumbo extolled Wang Shu's work as able to transcend the debate between tradition and future, producing an architecture that is timeless, deeply rooted in its context and yet universal.



Ceramic house in Jinhua, PR of China

Since 2000, Wang Shu serves as head of the Architecture Department of the China Academy of Art in Hangzhou. In 2011 he was awarded the **French Academy of Architecture's Gold Medal**, in 2010 both he and his wife, Lu Wenyu, received the German **Schelling Architecture Prize**, and in 2007 he was awarded the **Global Award for Sustainable Architecture**.

The audience was dazzled by Wang Shu's intervention during a **roundtable on sustainable by design architecture** during the **2011 UIA World Congress** of Architects in Tokyo, last September.