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First Docomomo Rehabilitation Award honors diversity in Modern architecture interventions



Cooke & Stewart, Aiton Court, Johannesburg, South Africa, 1936-1937. Mayat Hart Architects, restoration, 2012-2014. Central courtyard and water feature viewed from above. © Mayat Hart Architects, 2014.

Lisbon, 2 September 2021 – Docomomo International has announced the winners of the first Docomomo Rehabilitation Award (DRAW), recognizing outstanding interventions from the past 12 years in Modern architecture. On 1 September 2021, during the awards ceremony held at the 16th Docomomo International Conference in Tokyo/Lisbon, Ana Tostões, Chair of Docomomo International, revealed the 18 winning interventions and the lifetime achievement awards.

Organized in 10 categories, the awards recognize exceptional projects of rehabilitation from all over the world, which respond to the complex and dynamic conditions with which architecture must engage today. “The aim was to reveal how the safeguarding of heritage can be accomplished in different settings and with varied means. The Award has not only highlighted canonical interventions on modern masterpieces, but also the sustainable and low-cost safeguarding of everyday architecture, involving action taken in challenging situations, and engaging communities as agents of change.” stated Tostões. Thus, the Docomomo Rehabilitation Award amplifies Docomomo International’s role in the documentation and conservation of the Modern legacy, shedding light on its inherited qualities and the importance of its reuse in contemporary life, as a key tool for sustainability at a time of global change.

The jury of the inaugural edition of the Docomomo Rehabilitation Award, composed of Barry Bergdoll (USA), Horacio Torrent (Chile), Scott Robertson (Australia), Uta Pottgiesser (Germany), Yoshiyuki Yamana (Japan), and Ana Tostões (Portugal), nominated the following exemplary interventions in the categories:

Enhanced Masterpieces

Outstanding in-depth interventions in renovating Modern Movement masterpieces, while retaining the principles and character of these landmarks.

Neue Nationalgalerie, Berlin, Germany
David Chipperfield Architects Berlin, 2016-2021
[Ludwig Mies van der Rohe, 1965-1968]

Yoyogi National Gymnasium, Tokyo, Japan
Tange Associates and Kume Sekkei, 2018-2020
[Kenzo Tange & Urtec, Tange Laboratory, 1963-1964]

Lasting Heritage

Exemplary practices that consider conservation and maintenance plans as key tools for defying the effects of time.

Sydney Opera House, Sydney, Australia
Alan Croker, 2017-2020
[Jørn Utzon and Hall, Todd & Littlemore, 1965-1968]

Yale Center for British Art, New Haven, USA
Peter Inskip, Stephen Gee and Knight Architecture, 2012 / 2008-2016
[Louis I. Kahn, 1971-1977]

Engaged Societies

Innovative research applied to everyday architecture, such as housing complexes, involving institutional and community engagement.

Cité du Lignon, Geneva, Switzerland
Franz Graf and Giulia Marino, TSAM, 2008-2012
[Addor & Julliard with Louis Payot, 1963-1971]

Serpentine House, Helsinki, Finland
Kati Salonen & Mona Schalin Architects, 2016-2020
[Yrjö Lindegren, 1950-1951]

Metamorphosed functions

Exemplary work that safeguards the distinctive identities of modern buildings, while allowing them to be adapted, in use and form, to contemporary needs.

Municipal Orphanage Amsterdam, Amsterdam, Netherlands
WDJArchitecten, 2015-2017
[Aldo Van Eyck, 1955-1960]

Yamanashi Press and Broadcasting Center, Kofu, Japan
Tange Associates, 2015-2016
[Kenzo Tange & Urtec, 1964-1966]

Educating Practices

Pioneering studies and low budget interventions that have contributed to raising awareness of the need to preserve the modernist legacy in challenging locations and conditions.

Aiton Court, Johannesburg, South Africa
Mayat Hart Architects, 2012-2014
[Bernard Cooke, W.R and Angus Stewart, 1936-1937]

Casa Estudio para Artistas, Buenos Aires, Argentina
Dirección General de Regeneración Urbana, Buenos Aires, 2017-2018
[Antonio Bonet, Horacio Vera Barros, and Abel López Chas, 1938-1939]

Preserved Vanguard

Restorations that have reinstated the lost innovative features of the avant-garde's fragile and experimental creations, while enhancing their resilience.

Casa O'Gorman, Mexico City, Mexico
Victor Jimenez, 2012-2013
[Juan O'Gorman, 1929-1930]

Hipódromo de la Zarzuela, Madrid, Spain
Junquera Arquitectos, 2003-2015
[Carlos Arniches, Martín Domínguez, and Eduardo Torroja, 1935-1941]

Sustained Uses

Exemplary renovations introducing contemporary standards of safety, sustainability, and improved technologies, while retaining the function and identity of buildings.

Grand Auditorium of the Calouste Gulbenkian Foundation, Lisbon, Portugal
Teresa Nunes da Ponte, Arquitectura, 2013-2014
[Alberto Pessoa, Pedro Cid, and Ruy Jervis d'Athouguia, 1959-1969]

Cartiera Burgo, Mantua, Italy
Massimo Narduzzo and Crea.Re, 2015-2020
[Pier Luigi Nervi, 1961-1964]

Conservation through Activism

Interventions resulting from the action of individuals or groups that have promoted an awareness of modern heritage, while spreading its concept of social welfare.

Isokon and Isokon Gallery, London, England
Avanti Architects, 2004-2014
[Wells Coates, 1933-1934]

Trenton Bath House and Day Camp Pavilions, New Jersey, USA
Mills + Schnoering Architects, 2007-2013
[Louis I. Kahn and Anne Tyng, 1955-1957]

Open House

Practices in the restoration of remarkable modern houses that are now open to public.

Le Corbusier's Apartment-studio, Paris, France
Fondation Le Corbusier and Chatillon Architectes, 2016-2018
[Le Corbusier, 1931-1934]

Villa Tugendhat, Brno, Czech Republic
Villa Tugendhat Association, 2010-2012
[Ludwig Mies van der Rohe, 1929-1930]

Committed Personality

Exemplary lifetime achievement in promoting the legacy of the Modern Movement.

Winfried Brenne

Waldsiedlung Zehlendorf, Berlin, Germany, 1970s
[Bruno Taut, 1926-1932]

Gartenstadt Falkenberg, Berlin, Germany, 1992-2003
[Bruno Taut, 1913-1916]

Bauhaus Dessau, Dessau, Germany, 2010-2016
[Walter Gropius, 1925-1926]

Meisterhaus Muche-Schlemmer, Dessau, Germany, 1998-2001
[Walter Gropius, 1925-1926]

ADGB Bundesschule, Bernau, Germany, 2002-2007
[Hannes Meyer and Hans Wittwer, 1928-1930]

Max Liebling House, Tel Aviv, Israel, 2015-2019
[Dov Karmi, 1936]

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