TERRA AWARD
First international prize for earthen contemporary architectures
Exhibition and related catalogue – Free access database

EARTH ARCHITECTURE, USING A CONSTRUCTION MATERIAL WITH LOW EMBODIED ENERGY WIDELY AVAILABLE ACROSS THE GLOBE, HAS BECOME INCREASINGLY POPULAR. MORE AND MORE CONTEMPORARY PROJECTS OF HIGH TECHNICAL AND AESTHETIC QUALITY EMERGE OVER THE FIVE CONTINENTS OFFERING, AMONG OTHERS, A SOLUTION TO THE NEEDS FOR ECOLOGICAL AND AFFORDABLE HOUSING. PROMOTING A RAPID RECOGNITION OF THESE BUILDINGS BY THE PROFESSION AND GENERAL PUBLIC REQUIRES A COMMUNICATION THAT VALUES ALL THE STAKEHOLDERS.


CONTEXT

SINCE ITS CREATION IN 1979, THE CRAterre-ENSAG LABORATORY IS INTERNATIONALLY CONSIDERED AS THE REFERENCE CENTRE FOR RESEARCH AND TRAINING ON EARTHEN CONSTRUCTION.

IN JULY 2016, UNDER THE AUSPICES OF THE UNESCO CHAIR FOR EARTHEN ARCHITECTURE, IT WILL ORGANIZE THE TERRA 2016 WORLD CONGRESS, WHICH TAKES PLACE EVERY FOUR YEARS ON A DIFFERENT CONTINENT AND WILL BE HELD FOR THE SECOND TIME IN EUROPE. THIS EVENT IS EXPECTED TO DRAW IN LYON A THOUSAND OF PROFESSIONALS, TEACHERS AND RESEARCHERS.

IT IS WITHIN THIS FRAMEWORK THAT THE TERRA AWARD WAS INITIATED. IT IS THE FIRST INTERNATIONAL PRIZE FOR EARTHEN CONTEMPORARY ARCHITECTURES AND THE LOGICAL CONTINUATION OF THE NATIONAL AWARD LAUNCHED IN 2013 BY CRAterre-ENSAG, AsTerre AND ECologiK/EK MAGAZINE.

OBJECTIVE


A TRAVELLING EXHIBITION WILL FEATURE 40 BUILDINGS FROM ALL CONTINENTS, MADE WITH DIFFERENT TECHNIQUES (ADOBÉ, COB, CEB, RAMMED EARTH, PLASTERS, ETC.) FOR ALL TYPES OF PROGRAMS: HOUSING, PUBLIC FACILITIES, ACTIVITIES, EXTERIOR AND INTERIOR DESIGNS. THIS EXHIBITION WILL BE ACCOMPANIED BY LECTURES AND WORKSHOPS BY CRAterre-ENSAG AND THE AMÀCO PROJECT.

THE SEARCH FOR EXEMPLARY ACHIEVEMENTS TO NOURISH THIS PRIZE AND THE ASSOCIATED EXHIBITION WILL CREATE THE FIRST DATABASE ON EARTHEN CONTEMPORARY ARCHITECTURE. THIS VIRTUAL LIBRARY WILL BE AVAILABLE TO GENERAL PUBLIC AND PROFESSIONALS THROUGH THE WEBSITE:

WWW.TERRA-AWARD.ORG

ALL DOCUMENTS WILL BE PUBLISHED IN THREE LANGUAGES: FRENCH, SPANISH AND ENGLISH.

STAKEHOLDERS: ATELIER TERRA


THE COMMON GOAL, UNDER THE COORDINATION OF DOMINIQUE GAUZIN-MÜLLER, IS TO CREATE A NEW DYNAMIC FOR THE DISSEMINATION OF KNOWLEDGE ABOUT EARTHEN CONTEMPORARY ARCHITECTURE.
For the Atelier TERRA,
Dominique Gauzin-Müller
May 4 2015

INVOLVED PROJECTS

Achievements proposed in this list must have been implemented after January 2000.

The eight categories cover all types of programs, both new and renovated:

- Individual housing
- Collective housing
- Scholar and sporting public infrastructures
- Cultural public facilities
- Activity building
- Interior layout and design
- Exterior design, art and landscape
- Architecture and local development

SELECTION

Two juries will group great international witnesses along with representatives of institutions and all stakeholders within the earth sector:

- Phase 1, nomination of 40 buildings, which will be presented within a travelling exhibition;
- Phase 2, a jury of honour will choose from the preselected buildings one winner in each of the eight categories.

The selection criteria go from the quality of the architecture to the enhancement of skills, going through social and environmental requirements:

- Architectural quality and landscape integration
- Environmental approach and energy performance
- Creativity and innovation
- Technical performance
- Local economy and social intensity
- Enhancement of skills

CALL FOR CONTRIBUTIONS

In order for the TERRA Award to become a reality, it needs many godfathers and godmothers. Institutions, companies, professionals, students ... you can participate in several ways:

- by reporting interesting earthen contemporary projects;
- by relaying information about the call for applications, the results of the prize and the exhibition dates (media, web sites, social networks, word-of-mouth, etc.);
- by writing, for the inventory of earthen contemporary architecture, one or more files describing a project upon the model developed by the Atelier TERRA (see the attached file);
- by providing a space for the exhibition and organizing its presentation;
- by participating to the funding of the prize, exhibition, catalogue, videos and database, according to the ways and means that will be specified at a later date.

If you want to become a TERRA Award partner, the members of the Atelier TERRA will be glad to receive your messages at: atelier@terra-award.org

Thank you in advance!

CALENDAR

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Event</th>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Description</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Launch of TERRA Award</td>
<td>May 29 2015</td>
<td>During the closing ceremony of the 14th Grains d’Isère festival, organized by CRAterre-ENSAG and the Grands Ateliers in Villefontaine.</td>
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<td>Closing date for applications</td>
<td>October 26 2015</td>
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<td>Inauguration of the exhibition in Grenoble</td>
<td>May 2016</td>
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<td>Inauguration of the exhibition as a part of TERRA 2016 in Lyon</td>
<td>July 10 2016</td>
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<td>Awards ceremony to the laureate present in Lyon, as part of the closing of TERRA 2016, in order to offer to this prize a symbolic framework and a high visibility among the many professionals and visitors from around the world</td>
<td>July 14 2016</td>
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<td>Exhibition presentation at the UNSFA Congress at Biarritz</td>
<td>October 6-8 2016</td>
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<td>Exhibition presentation at the “Maisons de l’architecture”, at the “24 heures d’architecture”, at the architecture schools, at the French Instituts abroad, etc.</td>
<td>2016/2017</td>
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