

10 Projects Chosen as Winners of 2017 AIA International Region Design Awards

16:30 - 6 November, 2017 by [Patrick Lynch](#)

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Ten projects have been selected as winners of 2017 [AIA](#) International Region Design Awards, honoring exemplary projects undertaken by architect members of the [American Institute of Architects' International Region](#), encompassing six of the seven chapters located outside of the United States: [AIA](#) United Kingdom, [AIA](#) Continental Europe, [AIA](#) Hong

Kong, [AIA Japan](#), [AIA Middle East](#), and [AIA Shanghai](#) (not including the recently formed [AIA Canada](#)).

Projects were selected by an international jury led by Helene Combs Dreiling, FAIA, [AIA Past President 2014](#), [AIA IR Zone 1 \(USA\)](#) and were presented [AIA International Region Conference](#) in Prague on October 7th.

Winners were chosen in five categories:

- **Architecture** – Projects may be new construction, renovation or preservation/restoration projects (no projects selected in this category this year)
- **Interior Architecture** – Projects may be new construction, renovation or preservation/restoration projects.
- **Urban Design** – Projects may be urban design projects, planning programs, civic improvements, campus plans, environmental programs, or redevelopment projects.
- **Open International** – Projects can be Architecture, Interior Architecture, Urban Design, revitalization or other types of work by [HYPERLINK "https://www.aia.org/pages/21906-international-associate-membership"](https://www.aia.org/pages/21906-international-associate-membership) International Associate [AIA](#) members.
- **Unbuilt** – Entries must be unbuilt projects that will not be built. The project design must be completed since January 1, 2012. This category is to recognize the efforts of our architect members who have completed meaningful work, but due to client change, land use change or other reasons beyond the control of the architect, the project will not be built.

Interior Architecture

Honor Award in Interior Architecture

Citi Tower OBE; Hong Kong / M Moser Associates



The project began with studies of Citi business units' composition, operational, spatial and technological needs, and an extensive discovery of Citi's strategic goals for Hong Kong. Among these were needs for flexible, sustainable workspaces; a wide variety of work settings differing in configuration, look and feel; reliable integrated Wi-Fi and AV infrastructure; increased availability of

meeting rooms and collaborative spaces; and enhanced expression of the Citi brand. Offering casual settings that range from café-like to living room-like, the community floor features a vibrant 'Marketplace' zone with food and beverage amenities, plus dedicated spaces for training and recruitment. Designed for flexibility, these spaces can be easily consolidated to accommodate 'town hall' gatherings and other events.

Jury Comments:

"Citi's new office has enabled the bank to consolidate 38 business units and over 3000 staff members into one complex. The jury members admired the way in which new company goals for flexible workplaces and differing configurations of work settings had been accommodated. These combine different elements of both community, meeting and 'break-out' activities to form nine distinct types of flexible areas, with a range of sustainable and wellness features. The jury was also very impressed by the way in which a new corporate culture and employee empowerment had been at the forefront of the design process and had been implemented with clarity and elegance."



Merit Award in Interior Architecture

HKU Dining Hall/Auditorium; Hong Kong / Index Architecture



The auditorium is a fan-shape architectural volume slightly tapering from west to the east. It is situated at the podium level of a 400-people residential dormitory at the University of Hong Kong(HKU). The design team's was tasked with developing a multi-purpose room which functions as cafeteria, lecturing theater, exhibition space, as well as catering for the HKU's traditional "high-

table" dinner annually, while not altering the existing utilities, predominantly 6 sizable air ducts and the miscellaneous chilled/hot water pipes, electric data wiring. Inspired by the disassembling of a stranded ship, the design team's goal was to conceal the functional components of the of the utilities. By imagining the space to be clad by three-dimensionally curved panels that form a "half-hull" on both side of the space. Geometrically, each panel is slightly varied so the next panel can fit the infrastructure elements behind. The architectural experience directs views to the outside residential neighborhood. The panel is designed as weaved synthetic rattan sandwiched with acoustical batting. Rattan is the perfect material to accommodate both the warped surface while providing the required acoustical performance. These panels pivot 180° to reveal the "backside" pin up surface designed for display and exhibition purposes. The choices of material for both the ceiling and the floor are of darker tone in order to accentuate the unique geometric formation of the hall.

Jury Comments:

"The project is situated at the podium level of a residential dormitory block, and the design specification was for a multi-purpose space which could function as a dining room, lecture theatre and exhibition space. The jury was impressed by the solution for overcoming the constraints associated with the retention of pre-existing major utility installations. The use of three-dimensional curved panels to provide an interesting edge to the facility, was considered to be a sound means to achieve flexible adaptation of the space. Also the use of weaved synthetic rattan provided an attractive surface, as a

backcloth for all the proposed uses of the space, while meeting the required acoustic levels."



Merit Award for Interior Architecture

Hong Kong Design Office; Hong Kong / M Moser Associates



The design development for this award-winning project was driven by study and evaluation of the company identity, needs, staff working practices, and a desire to make the office as rewarding and productive as possible. Infused with the dynamism and energy of the workforce, the space embraces nature and inspires creativity in a vibrant and unique way. Offering a unique blend of greenery and natural light, the new office space showcases a lush tree table, bringing the outside in and tranquility to the fluid, central desk space. Healthy and active workstations are designed to be comfortable, convenient and to encourage physical activity. To enhance wellness and productivity the office implements a wide range of international best practice standards including: WELL (IWBI), LEED (USGBC), HK BEAM (HKGBC) and RESET (air quality). Base building water fixtures

can achieve a total water use reduction of over 40% compared to the U.S. EPA standard. Highly efficient LED lights and optimally arranging lighting layouts have contributed to a total lighting power reduction of over 15% compared with ASHRAE. Breathing zone outdoor air ventilation rates supplied into each space are at least 30% above the minimum rates required by ASHRAE 62.1-2007 standards for 'Minimum Indoor Air Quality Performance'. Over 90% of the rated power of all new equipment installed in this project is Energy Star rated.

Jury Comments:

"The aspiration for this space is to foster a collaborative, productive and vibrant workplace environment that maximizes useable area, light and views. "I'd like to work there" shared one of the jurors, "it's so light and open with varied options for workplace" The jury considered the design and layout to incorporate key features that inspire creativity and a relaxed work atmosphere. The jury applauded the sustainability features for energy, lighting systems and water efficiency. They also appreciated the blend of greenery and natural light, and the healthy workstation installations to enhance wellness and productivity, exemplifying best practice."

