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### WHAT IS THE BRUSSELS ARCHITECTURE PRIZE?

The Brussels Architecture Prize [BAP] is a new biennial architecture prize, an initiative of the Brussels-Capital Region organized by Urban.Brussels in collaboration with A+ Architecture in Belgium. The prize will be awarded for the first time in 2021.

#### The BAP will highlight Brussels:

- as a metropolis with great spatial qualities where both established names and young architects can gain a foothold,
- as a laboratory for contemporary architecture and urban planning where innovative projects are actively supported,
- and as a source of inspiration for urban policy reaching far beyond the region's borders.

The exhibitions *A Vision for Brussels: Imagining the Capital of Europe* (2007) and *Building for Brussels* (2012), both organised by the Region in collaboration with Architecture Workroom Brussels and BOZAR, showed visions and leading international examples to inspire the Brussels metropolis. Ten years later, thanks to a carefully considered architectural policy, Brussels itself can put forward projects, visions and practices that are a source of inspiration both nationally and internationally. Today, Brussels is a model for Europe in terms of architectural quality, urban-planning innovation, renovation and conversion, reuse and circular construction. Moreover, architecture plays a dynamic role in the Brussels economy.

A prize is the best way to pay tribute to these works and their makers! In addition, this prize is an opportunity to have a high-level debate about architecture and urban planning every two years since it feeds the new narrative according to which architecture as a discipline can provide answers to the challenges of the contemporary metropolis.

With this prize, Brussels is aiming for excellence in architectural quality. The Prize is organised in partnership with CIVA and BOZAR.

### WHO IS THE BRUSSELS ARCHITECTURE PRIZE 2021 FOR?

This biennial prize rewards recently completed projects by Belgian or foreign architects in Brussels and by Brussels offices in Flanders, Wallonia or abroad. Any architect with an office in Brussels or the designer of a project that contributes to the quality of the capital, completed between 2018 and June 2021, can enter a submission. Both young and

established architects can apply with small, innovative interventions and major, public interventions.

### **You are therefore eligible if:**

- your architectural office is based in the Brussels-Capital Region and has realized a project in Brussels, Flanders, Wallonia or abroad, completed or put into use between 2018 and June 2021,
- your architectural office is not based in the Brussels-Capital Region but has recently realized a project there, completed or put into use between 2018 and June 2021.

When entering a group project, at least one of the submitters must meet the conditions set out above. Every submitter or group of submitters may enter up to three completed projects. The submitted realizations must be presented in accordance with the provisions of these regulations. The client must give his/her consent to compete for the Brussels Architecture Prize 2021.

## **EVALUATION CRITERIA**

### **All projects must meet the following criteria:**

- completed between January 2018 and June 2021,
- with architectural and/or process quality,
- contributing to society in a positive way,
- paying specific attention to sustainable construction in the broader sense of the term. This may be a matter of reuse, renovation/conversion, passive construction, contributing to the circular economy, using renewable energy, accessibility and attention to soft mobility.
- all projects must have a building permit for a new construction, demolition and reconstruction, or reconversion with or without expansion. The project must have been fully implemented in accordance with the permit and in compliance with applicable procedures and regulations during the four years preceding the application deadline.

Projects must be submitted before the deadline of 31 May 2021 via the website [www.brusselsarchitectureprize.be](http://www.brusselsarchitectureprize.be).

### CATEGORIES

You can submit your project in one of the following four categories:

- **Small intervention**  
architectural projects < 1,000 m<sup>2</sup>: buildings or renovations located in the Brussels-Capital Region which, thanks to an intelligent plan, ingenious detailing, the responsible use of materials or a clever organization, offer the right answer to the challenges of the contemporary metropolis.
- **Major intervention**  
buildings located in the Brussels-Capital Region which, by virtue of their volume, their programme or their ambition, redesign the city, give it a new appearance or have a lasting impact on the quality and perception of the immediate environment.
- **Public space**  
projects in the public space, located in the Brussels-Capital Region, which constitute an added value for the residents and users, which promote green mobility, and thus make it a city for everyone. This concerns not only streets, squares and parks, but also semi-public spaces that open themselves up to the neighbourhood and to passers-by, and as such give something back to the neighbourhood and the city.
- **Extra muros**  
high-quality projects built outside the Brussels territory (national or international) but designed by a firm based in the Brussels-Capital Region.

Given the stratification of architectural projects, we realize that each project may be entered in several categories. However, a project may only be entered in a single category. That is why we ask architects to clearly focus their submissions on the most representative category.

The winners are designated by category. Only one winner may be selected; there can be no joint winners.

In addition to these four categories, we will also present a Lifetime Achievement Award and reward the work of an up-and-coming office with a special award.

- **Lifetime Achievement Award**  
this special award is given to a Brussels office or architect who, through years of dedication, has brought about positive changes for Brussels. This office or person

will be nominated by the scientific committee. It is therefore not possible to enter a submission for this award.

- **The Promising Architect**

a special award for a young emerging office based in the Brussels-Capital Region whose founders are no older than 40 in 2021.

### INTERNATIONAL JURY AND SCIENTIFIC COMMITTEE

The jury is selected by the scientific committee. The jury gathers at the invitation of the organizers at the appointed place and time. If there are enough jurors (at least 5 persons) to make a valid decision, the deliberations begin. The jury may be assisted by persons designated by the organizers; these persons have no voting right. A juror, their associate(s), interns or close relatives may not take part in the competition. When it gathers, the jury will establish its work method, either by immediate classification or by successive eliminations, or a combination of both. Its decisions will be taken by simple majority of the votes cast. In the event of a tie, the chair will have the casting vote.

The president of the jury is obliged to formulate and sign the result of the deliberations together with a specific comment regarding each of the works to receive a prize or nomination. The jury will draw up a report that will be made public. Jurors will be asked to give interviews (written, audio or video). These recordings may also be made public. Being a member of the jury implies the unconditional acceptance of these competition rules. If a member of the jury is prevented from attending, he/she must provide a substitute and notify the organizer of the name of the substitute in good time. An observer from among the organizers and some members of the A+ editorial board will sit in on each jury.

The quality of the jury is in direct proportion to the quality of the prize. That is why the selections are made by a professional jury in two stages: 1. selection of nominees, 2. selection of winners.

The professional international jury is composed of renowned Belgian and foreign architects and key figures from the international world of architecture with a connection to (or love for) Brussels. The jury first makes the preselection and reduces the number of entries to eight nominated projects per category, except for the Lifetime Achievement Award, where the nominees are proposed by the scientific committee. The jury then selects the winners from among the nominees.

The jury will also choose a winner from among the submissions for the **Promising Architect**.

### The scientific committee consists of the following persons:

- Kristiaan Borret (Government Architect of the Brussels-Capital Region),
- Dag Boutsen (Dean of the Faculty of Architecture and Design, KU Leuven campuses Sint-Lucas Brussels and Ghent),
- Audrey Contesse (Director of the ICA, Institut culturel d'architecture),
- Nikolaus Hirsch (Artistic Director of CIVA),
- Pablo Lhoas (Dean of the Faculty of Architecture at ULB La Cambre-Horta),
- Typhaine Moogin (Cellule Architecture – Wallonia-Brussels Federation),
- Bety Waknine and Guy Condé-Reis (Urban.Brussels)
- Lisa De Visscher and Lara Molino (A+)

A public jury will choose a favourite project from among the 32 nominees, independently of all categories. This occurs through information on the prize website and through the exhibition. (see below)

### **PUBLIC AWARD, COMMUNICATION AND FRINGE PROGRAMME**

The award ceremony for the Brussels Architecture Prize 2021 will take place in December 2021. The ceremony will be held in a unique location, in the presence of all nominees, winners, organizers, partners and sponsors.

In addition, we also wish to develop a fringe programme to highlight certain topical themes and to bring together the various players in the construction sector. This programme will unfold both during Archiweek (October 2021) and the week before the award ceremony (December 2021).

- The nominated projects will be shown in an exhibition during Archiweek in Brussels between 9 and 19 October 2021 ([archiweek.urban.brussels](http://archiweek.urban.brussels)). The exhibition is made in collaboration with Urban.Brussels and CIVA.
- There will be a Public Award. The general public can vote online for one of the nominated projects. Information about these projects can be found in the exhibition, but also in short films that will be made about each project and can be viewed on the website of the Brussels Architecture Prize ([www.brusselsarchitectureprize.be](http://www.brusselsarchitectureprize.be)).
- There will be lectures by the architects of the nominated projects, in collaboration with CIVA. This series will run from Archiweek until the award ceremony.

- The award ceremony will take place in December 2021 at a unique location. All nominated projects will be shown briefly. There will of course be a reception, at which we will also present the special issue A+293, dedicated entirely to the Brussels Architecture Prize.

The BAP website is the official competition website for registrations, the presentation of all submissions, general communications and press releases:

[www.brusselsarchitectureprize.be](http://www.brusselsarchitectureprize.be). This digital communication will further be complemented by newsletters and messages on our own social media (Instagram and Facebook) as well as through the channels of our partners.

### **SPECIAL ISSUE A+293**

The winter issue of the magazine A+ Architecture in Belgium will be entirely dedicated to the Brussels Architecture Prize 2021. A+293 will feature an overview of the nominees and winners and portraits of both the Lifetime Achievement Award and the emerging office that received a special award. There will also be room for quotes from the jury, a longer article contextualizing architecture in Brussels, and interviews.

The 144-page special issue will be published in three separate versions: Dutch, French and English. The publication will be distributed at the award ceremony, via the cabinet, Urban and the A+ distribution channels (subscriptions and individual sales through distribution in bookshops).

### **REGISTERING AND ENTERING A SUBMISSION**

Register online by uploading your project on [www.brusselsarchitectureprize.be](http://www.brusselsarchitectureprize.be) before 31 May 2021 at the latest.

Your file must enable the jury to assess the quality of the realization according to the criteria mentioned above and the more specific category-specific criteria.

Choose a category for your submission (Small intervention, Major intervention, Public space, Extra muros) and fill in the details of your project. Provide us with a maximum of 10 photos of the project and a small information pack (PDF format, A4, landscape format, max. 8 pages, max. 5 MB, in English) containing:

- A short motivation note including an explanation of your choice of category in English;

- Technical details of the project (datasheet);
- Plans: location, plan of each storey, at least two sections (cross and longitudinal), if necessary, façades;
- Photos.

The guidelines to help you register and upload your projects can be found on the website in a printable version. Once the projects have been uploaded correctly, submitters will receive an online confirmation.

The documents and photographs relating to the nominated realizations may be used by the organizer for publication or distribution within the framework of the BAP without having to submit a request or obtain permission. The authors of the submitted projects will make a prior arrangement concerning the copyright of the photos. In the event of publication, the name of the realization and the author will always be mentioned, as well as the name of the photographer (if given in time). For pictures published in A+293 that are not royalty-free, a fee will be paid to the photographer who holds the copyright, in accordance with the fees of A+ Architecture in Belgium.

By participating in the competition, the architect commits, in case of nomination, to give a short presentation of his/her project in the lecture series at CIVA as well as a guided tour to the partners in the project.

### **REWARDS FOR THE WINNERS**

The organization can count on the support of a large number of sponsors. The prize money is made available by organizations and public authorities.

The architects declared the winners in the 4 categories of the Brussels Architecture Prize 2021 will receive a monetary prize of €4,000.\* No monetary prize is provided for the Lifetime Achievement Award, the Brussels Ket, or the Public Award.

The architects of the prizewinning realizations will also receive a memento in the form of a statuette. Every architect and/or client who wishes to do so can mention the fact that a project has received an award or nomination, on condition that they add the mention 'Brussels Architecture Prize 2021 of the Brussels-Capital Region, in collaboration with A+ Architecture in Belgium'.

(\*) Subject to reservation. Depending on the funds made available by the official bodies, the organization may take the decision to reduce the value of the prizes.

### TIMETABLE

February 2021	Composition of the scientific committee
March 2021	Launch of the BAP website
June 2021	Announcement of jurors
31 May 2021	Deadline for entering submissions
June 2021	Judging: analysis and selection
June 2021	Announcement of nominees
9–19 October 2021	Exhibition Archiweek
October–November 2021	Online voting for Public Award
December 2021	Award ceremony and announcement of winners
14 December 2021	Publication date A+293

### DISPUTES

Entering the competition implies the unreserved acceptance of both these competition rules and the final decision of the jury. Any potential dispute relating to the award of the Brussels Architecture Prize 2021 or the interpretation of these regulations shall be submitted by the organizers to the opinion or arbitration of the Belgian Order of Architects.

### CANCELLATION

The organizers reserve the right to cancel the competition in whole or in part if the number of participants or the number of prizes to be awarded is considered insufficient.

### COMPETITION ADDRESS AND INFORMATION

The Brussels Architecture Prize is a biennial architecture award, an initiative of the Brussels-Capital Region organized by Urban.Brussels in collaboration with A+ Architecture in Belgium.

#### **Brussels Architecture Prize 2021**

A+ Architecture in Belgium  
Ernest Allardstraat 21/3  
B-1000 Brussels  
t. +32 2 645 79 10  
e. [info@brusselsarchitectureprize.be](mailto:info@brusselsarchitectureprize.be)  
w. [www.brusselsarchitectureprize.be](http://www.brusselsarchitectureprize.be)