

IRISH JURY REPORT

Two equal awards:

"To Cast Light on Seaweed" (CR 777)

Concrete floats in this joint first entry, cast into a watery womb for human introspection and prospective thought. A hand's outline has been traced and formed into a handrail. The haptic sense is felt too on the proposal's submerged underside: a gift for a new habitat for a sea life. Mixing, making and moulding are all evident here in a well presented proposal with a unique outlook on the concept of energy. It floats!

"Energy- Energia-Activity" (BM 890)

Long-term sustainability, rejuvenation and re-use within the existing architectural context are at heart of this entry. A bold curved concrete platform is inserted across the nave of disused church, bravely suspended on a discretely placed new structural pillars, positioned at the perimeter of exterior walls. Its dynamic form subdivides the central void of the church into two new functional areas opening up possibilities for new use: an auditorium on the Ground level and skateboarding piste at the First floor level! The work considers energy in its broadest sense and suggests its values to be in kinetic, sound and social manifestation, drawing inspiration from the Greek origin of the word. This powerful concept follows on the current discourse on holistic interpretations of sustainability and multifaceted evaluation of energy use.

Third award

"The Erratic, Stopping Point" (HM 148)

While a number of entries built on the idea of water collection in the karst landscape of the Burren, we felt that this proposal was the most refined and considered in its execution. The form and positioning of the concrete shelter draws on the vernacular of agricultural huts but is give a fresh interpretation. The forms are simple and robust and take advantage of the homogeneity of concrete as a

material. The structural properties of the material are exploited to minimise the effective footprint of the building giving it the appearance of an object floating over the landscape. The collection and filtration of the water drives the external form and acts as an ordering device for the sheltered spaces. The project is beautifully presented and is a rigorous and elegant development of a strong initial concept.

Honorary Mentions:

“Warm up seat for you” (BM 351)

A successful essay in the benefits of solar power and concrete’s ability to absorb and re-radiate heat, with an elegant design which respects the context and land form.

“Water, water everywhere” (KN 209)

An interesting exploration of how precast concrete can address both sanitation and water supply issues in these parts of the world where water and infrastructure shortages exist.

“Poul nabroue portal tomb” (DM 123)

An elegant intervention in the landscape to enhance the setting of an ancient monument by hiding the car parking and making use of the form to collect rainwater for use by visitors.

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