



ARCHITECTURE

AWARDS 2017

CorporateLiveWire

CorporateLiveWire

ARCHITECTURE AWARDS 2017

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BERGLUND ARCHITECTS, LLC

Stinessen
Arkitektur

GVI

GOMEZ VAZQUEZ
INTERNATIONAL

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ecture

dpa
architects

CUPKOVIC

SOLURI
ARCHITECTURE
DESIGN
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DEBBIE FLEVOTOMOU
ARCHITECTS

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Editor's Letter

Given the rise of the smart city (more on that in our architecture feature) and the increased emphasis on sustainable design concepts, it is little surprise that the focus of this year's Architecture Awards is placed on firm's that have embraced this shift with open arms. Recyclable materials, green buildings and energy efficiency are among the most prominent buzzwords in architecture right now. This presents plenty of opportunities for architecture firms to change the way they operate and present new and innovative ideas to drive the industry forward. As a result, we have seen architecture firms that place an emphasis on energy conscious, healthy and low maintenance designs come to the fore.

However, trends often come and go so while it is important to take these into consideration it is equally pertinent that we consider the consistency and excellence of the architecture firms in question. In some instances, the architecture firm has long been operating ahead of the curve, as is the case of Debbie Flevotomou Architects' longstanding specialisation in parametric design. In other instances, we have seen architecture firms that, over time, have gained a particular expertise within a certain sphere of architecture such as DPA Architects who has completed close to 150 conservation plans and heritage assessments in New Zealand.

James Drakeford
Editor in Chief



We are also genuinely excited by some of the recently completed projects from our chosen winners. Projects such as the Manshausen Island Resort – built for polar explorer Borge Ousland to provide a base for Arctic Circle explorers on hiking, fishing, skiing and diving trips – reminds us that the future is bright for the architecture industry and we cannot wait to see where it takes us in the coming years as firms continue to innovate, adapt and change their way of thinking.

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "J Drakeford". The signature is fluid and stylized, with the first letter "J" being particularly large and looping.



FIVE OF THE HOTTEST NEW TRENDS IN ARCHITECTURE



The beginning of 2017 has seen a number of dramatic sociopolitical changes with an air of uncertainty. From the aftermath of the US Presidential Election and the UK's decision to leave the European Union to sweeping changes in consumer behaviour and leaps in technological innovation, the architecture industry has not been left untouched by these developments and uncertainties.

The architecture industry is facing major shifts in consumer behaviour and an uncertain market recovering from the 2008 Recession with firms adapting to remain competitive and innovative. There is also a technological revolution within the industry as certain software and equipment become more accessible and affordable. How architects approach briefs and projects are changing greatly as the tools of their trade alter and develop. In this feature, we look at the five hottest trends which are shaping and changing architecture as we know it.





INCREASE IN SPECIALISED COLLABORATION

Only a few years ago, architects working alongside specialist experts and consultants was very rare. However, architecture is becoming a more collaborative industry. This move towards industry-wide collaboration is expected as the market and customer have changed dramatically.

The growing trend in smart architecture or smart cities, a trend we will touch on later, is a leading driving force for such collaboration. From incorporating the Internet of Things (IoT) and integrating big data into designs to creating sustainable skyscrapers, this brings together the abilities from a wide range of industries when designing and developing buildings. These changes in how our homes, buildings and infrastructure work is bringing specialists from various fields and expertise to combine their skills and experience.

The way architects design has changed as well. A subject which we will also touch on, the growth of VR and 3D modelling technology in the architecture industry is greatly changing how architects approach briefs and projects as firms take advantage of creating immersive designs and plans.

VR & IMMERSIVE ARCHITECTURE

With growth and developments in virtual reality technology, we will see VR playing a larger role in the architecture industry with architects now able to create digital models and simulations of their designs.

There are a number of benefits to using VR headsets. From a design point of view, it allows architects to physically walk through their plans and designs. As well as supporting architects in better understanding designs, VR technology and being able to bring your designs to life is becoming a vital tool supporting architectural firms from a sales perspective.

Hao Ko, Design Director and Principal of Gensler, discussed the growth of VR technology in an article in AEC Magazine. He said “You still have to make a translation in your mind, in terms of how tall this space is going to feel,” he says. “More often than not, I’ll go to my own projects and I’ll be like, ‘Wow! That’s a lot bigger than I expected.’ You still have those moments.”

This move from traditional architectural designing and modelling to digital solutions has been anticipated for a long time. This move into immersive VR technology is due to the affordability of VR headsets and VR software. With 2016 seeing VR devices such as the Oculus Rift, HTC Vive and similar devices going onto the market, it helped make VR technology a more financially accessible investment.





FIVE OF THE HOTTEST NEW TRENDS IN ARCHITECTURE

SMART CITIES

Smart phones, tablets, watches and other devices have changed the world. It has changed the way we communicate, view media and work. Now, smart technology has changed how we design homes and even entire cities with architects playing a pinnacle role.

The concept of a smart city goes beyond integrating your smart device into controlling your lights and room temperature. Though the exact definition of a smart city is heavily debated, it is widely considered an amalgamation of a city's public infrastructure and the reduction of its environmental footprint.

Although the idea sounds somewhat science fiction, this growing trend is expected to become more prominent in civil engineering and architecture as planners and architects look to the latest technological innovation to improve a city's design and its residents' quality of life.

Solar roads and highways being a fantastic example of such an innovation. The concept was brought to public notice by Solar Roadways Inc, the company is developing a new type of road using solar cells to draw energy from the sun to power street lighting and provide readily available fuel for electric cars.

Then there are innovators developing sustainable skyscrapers, collaborating environmental scientists and renewable energy specialists to develop projects which are both visually stunning as well as reducing its impact on the environment.

While many believe the idea of having a 'smart city' is far in the distant future, it is an opportunity for architects and engineers to collaborate in designing the cities of the future.

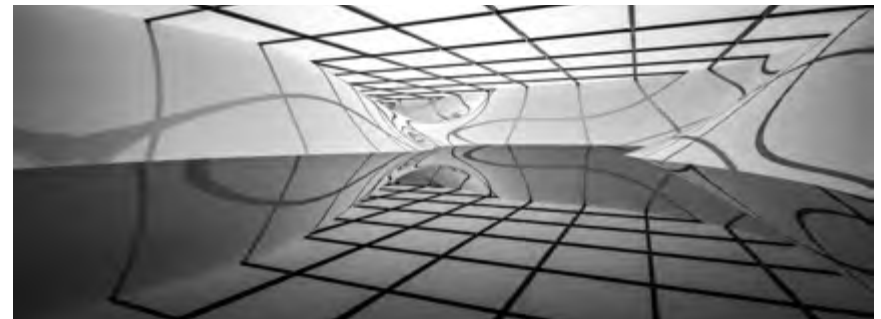
PARAMETRIC ARCHITECTURE

Parametric architecture is a style of architecture which uses algorithmic thinking and geometric programming that designs with constrained objects.

While parametric architecture has long been in existence – with one of the earliest examples dating back to the late 19th century – the advent of computer programming and design software has enabled this style of design to become more readily accessible. Now, it can be done through direct coding or use a software which allows architects to virtually manipulate designs manually.

In recent years, through the growth and accessibility of this technology, we have seen a number of amazing parametric designed buildings brought to life. Such as the Hangzhou Tennis Centre and Canton Tower in China. The late great Zaha Hadid, though many would not catalogue her work into one style, certainly worked with parametric designs with such creations as Dongdaemun Design Plaza and The Grand Macau Hotel.

With the software for parametric drawing becoming more accessible, we can expect to see more groundbreaking parametric designs and buildings in the near future.



FIVE OF THE HOTTEST NEW TRENDS IN ARCHITECTURE



THE RISE OF THE SKINNY SKYSCRAPER



In highly congested cities such as New York, Tokyo and Melbourne, there are a limited number of sites and spaces that could support a traditional skyscraper. However, innovative architects are identifying the potential of small plots of land which many thought could not support such a project.

Among them is 262 Fifth Avenue, under construction in the Momad neighbourhood near Madison Square Park and the Empire State Building which will stand 54 storeys tall with 41 luxury apartments. Though 80 metres shorter than the Empire State, this slender skyscraper will leave its mark on the most iconic skyline in the world.

Naturally, this poses a number of problems. In an article for All Homes, Craig Baudin discussed skinny skyscrapers. He and his team designed Australia 108, a skinny skyscraper which stands 319 metres tall and is Australia's tallest building. However, new regulations would have made obtaining planning permission extremely difficult.

He says "They are a good way to solve challenging or problematic CBD sites that could not ordinarily be developed, and it is a pity that the planning regulations in Melbourne and Sydney now make it quite difficult to build projects like these."

However, we do not see these holding architects back as they compete to build the tallest and thinnest skyscraper. The challenge of working within strict regulation and limited space is one that has brought about a number of stunning slender skyscrapers, impacting the landscape. In years to come, we can expect more.

With the software for parametric drawing becoming more accessible, we can expect to see more groundbreaking parametric designs and buildings in the near future.



HOW WE CHOOSE THE WINNERS



Sustainability

We at Corporate LiveWire believe that sustainability is the future of architecture and, as such, we have placed it at the forefront of our award criteria. As green building technologies advance at breakneck speed, architects around the world are following suit, offering progressively innovative interpretations of sustainable trends. When scrutinising an architecture and design firm over their sustainability we look toward those who are minimising non-renewable resource consumption and use of toxic materials. We also look for those who utilise recycled materials and undertake projects which enhance the natural environment.

Innovation

It is our aim to highlight architecture and design firms who are shaping the future of the industry. It takes a brave company to tear up the rule book and try something new but in recent times we have seen many architecture firms do just that in a bold quest to innovate and lead from the front. Primarily, we look to those architecture and design firms who are deriving new methods to improve and drive the industry forward. This can largely be achieved through the use of new technologies and the incorporation of sustainable building materials. We are also looking to those who can create new and exciting design concepts.

Service Excellence

Different type of architectural projects – such as residential, commercial, municipal and healthcare – will unearth different challenges. Equally, architectural projects under the same umbrella can vary significantly too, for instance, depending upon whether the project is high volume low cost or low volume high cost. An architectural firm that truly understands service excellence will appreciate that there is no such thing as a ‘one size fits all’ approach. Furthermore, said architecture firm will possess both the necessary skills to build a relationship with the client and the adaptability to tailor their service to meet clients demands. Overall, we are looking to award those architecture firms who are able to keep the process simple and hassle free for their clients.



Local Knowledge

This criterion is heavily linked with service excellence. In order for a project to get off the ground it is important for the architecture firm to have an in-depth understanding of the regulatory framework in which it operates under. Likewise, having an understanding and respect for local customs and design styles is essential. In some instances local knowledge can also be linked to sustainability. We look kindly upon those architectural firms that possess an extensive contacts book for local suppliers as well as the ability to incorporate local building materials into the design.

Cost

Cost does not necessarily mean cheaper is better as we prefer to focus on value for money. For low cost projects this can involve ensuring the design plan complies with the designated budget. For higher cost projects this can involve ensuring the best possible quality for the designated budget. In recent years we have seen innumerable architecture and construction projects significantly exceed the designated time frame and cost agreed upon during the planning stage. We will also consider what the client will receive for their outlay. Architecture fees can vary significantly but generally they are based upon a percentage of the construction cost and the level of work involved (i.e. size of project and level of drawings required to gain a permit).



Design

This criterion is a fusion of all of the above. The design itself is important to catering for sustainability or enabling innovation. It is also integral to providing service excellence – allowing a level of adaptability to adhere to client demands. A detailed design can ensure regulatory approval and help keep costs within the agreed budget. We look for architectural designs which can inspire and excite us, but above all else, the ability to consistently deliver a design that never fails to match the clients expectation is perhaps the most important criteria.

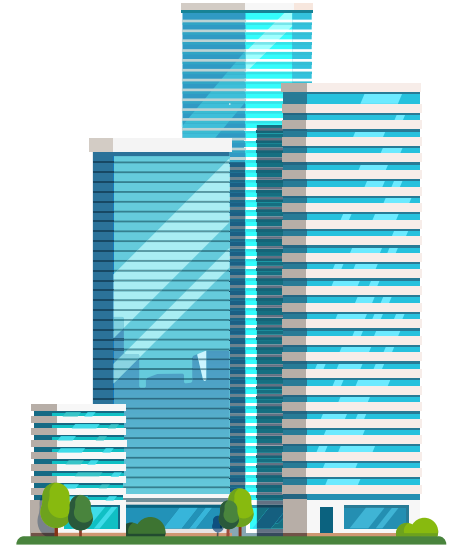
ARCHITECTURE SNAPSHOT

REVENUE

- The global industry was valued at **\$4,456 billion** in 2016
- In 2016, the Architectural Services revenue reached **\$204 billion**, **3% growth** from 2011

RECORD BREAKERS

- **128 skyscrapers**, buildings over **200 metres tall** were completed in 2016. **84** of which were built in China
- The tallest building of 2016 is the Guangzhou CTF Finance Centre in Guangzhou, China which stands at **530 metres (17,739ft) tall**



THE FUTURE - INNOVATION

- **Augmented** and **virtual reality** will play a larger role in designing and rendering projects
- Homes are becoming more integrated and interconnected with **smart home technology**
- **Sustainable structures** are expected to become more prominent, using more **sustainable materials** and reducing their impact on the environment

Sources: Euler Hermes, IBIS World, Dezeen, Metal Architecture, Forbes, Makaan, The Architectural Review

GENDER

- **Male** vs **Female** Pay
 - » **Architectural Assistant** - Male £27K - Female £25.2K
 - » **Architects** - Male £38K - Female £35K
 - » **Associates** - Male £47K - Female £45K
 - » **Associate Directors** - Male £55K - Female £53K
 - » **Directors** - Male £63.5K - Female £50.8K
 - » **Partners/Principals** - Male £150K - Female £95K
- In a survey, asking whether the building industry has fully accepted the authority of the female architect, **20%** answered '**yes**', **60%** answered '**no**' and **19%** answered '**I don't know**'



LONDON POST-BREXIT ARCHITECTURE INDUSTRY

- London's Architectural Industry is worth **£1.7 billion**, growing **7.4%** from the previous year
- London's architecture is **38% bigger** than the product, graphic and fashion design sectors
- **40%** of London's Architects are women, **more** than in industry average
- **28.3%** of undergraduate and **36.7%** of postgraduate architecture students are non-UK nationals
- London contributed **over 42%** of the UK's architecture

WINNER LISTINGS

Architecture Firm - Denmark

ARKITEKTURMINISTERIET / AMPD

Architecture Firm - USA

CUPKOVIC architecture llc

Architecture Firm - Norway

Stinessen Arkitektur

Architecture Firm - Mexico

GOMEZ VAZQUEZ INTERNATIONAL

Architecture Firm - New Zealand

Mason & Wales Architects Ltd

Architecture Firm - Singapore

EZRA Architects

Architecture Firm - Belgium

S+ ARCHITECTURE

Architecture Rehabilitation Expert

Sid Studio Architect

Best Architecture Firm

Myefski Architects

Best Contemporary Architecture Firm

Winn Wittman Architecture

Best In Commercial Architecture

Debbie Flevotomou Architects

Best in Landscape Architecture

RNL

Best Sustainable Architecture Firm

WORKSHOP 1 DUNN + HILLIAM ARCHITECTS

Boutique Design Firm

Cadvis3d (Ltd)

Boutique Luxury Interior Design Firm

Maurizio Pellizzoni

Design Architecture Firm

Atelier AVO LLP

Full Service Architectural Design Firm

1Architecture, LLC

Heritage Architecture Firm

DPA Architects

Innovation in Architectural Design Services

Soluri Architecture

Innovation in Contemporary Architecture

Edge Design

Innovation in Environmentally-Friendly Urban Planning

LAVA

Innovation in Residential Architecture - Austria

NERMA LINSBERGER ZTGMBH

Innovation in Residential Architecture - New Zealand

Max Capocaccia Architect

Innovation in Rooftop Development

First Penthouse

Innovation in Scandinavian Architecture

Reiulf Ramstad Architects

Interior Design Firm

Ohlab

Interior Planner of the Year

Frank la Riviere Architects Inc.

Luxury Residential Architecture Firm

Brewster McLeod Architects, Inc.



WINNER LISTINGS

Most Outstanding Architectural Practice

MBA

Most Outstanding Business Concept Creation

& Design Bizerba Hellas Project by STIRIXIS Group

STIRIXIS Group

Most Outstanding Design Build Firm

Design/Build by Visner

Most Outstanding Female Architect

Cinearchitecture

Most Outstanding Full Service Architecture Firm

BF Architecture

Most Outstanding in Bespoke Residential Design

Atelier Aitken

Most Outstanding in Building Conversion Services

Nieberg Architect

Most Outstanding in Commercial Architecture

Estudio Ramos

Most Outstanding in Contemporary Private Residential Architecture

Artform Architects

Most Outstanding in Holistic Architecture

tangramGulf

Most Outstanding in Interior Architecture

Virserius Studio

Most Outstanding in Interior Design

Kitzig Interior Design GmbH

Most Outstanding in Multi-Residential Architecture

Studio John Irving

Most Outstanding in Residential Architecture

Adam Knibb Architects

Most Outstanding in Residential Design

Design 1

Most Outstanding in Retirement Home Architecture

Makow Associates Architect Inc.

Most Outstanding in Urban Architecture

Sebastian Irrarrazaval Arquitectos

Most Outstanding Interior Architecture Firm

Concept Consult

Most Outstanding Mixed-Income Architecture Firm

Architecture Workshop PC

Most Outstanding New Build Luxury Residence Designs

Tony Holt M.C.I.A.T

Most Outstanding Public Building Architecture Firm

SMAQ architecture | urbanism | research

Most Outstanding Small Architecture Practice

MKW Architecture LTD

Multi-Disciplinary Architecture Firm

H2M architects + engineers

Multi-Sector Architectural Firm

Align Architecture Ltd

Outstanding Multi-Sector Architecture Firm

Liam Russell Architects

Residential Architecture Firm

Ernest Tsui Architects + Partners

Sustainable Architecture Firm

ROSSETTI+WYSS ARCHITEKTEN

Sustainable Building Company

Dab Den LTD

Sustainable Residential Architecture Firm

Berglund Architects LLC



ARCHITECTURE FIRM OF THE YEAR

Gomez Vazquez International



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Chief Executive Officer

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*GOMEZ VAZQUEZ INTERNATIONAL
has been offering architectural
planning and urban design
services for over 48 years. We are
an International Architecture firm
with greatest presence and prestige
completing more than 1,000 projects
in over 80 destinations worldwide.*



Juan Carlos Gomez is the Principal and CEO of Gomez Vazquez International, a leading and dynamic architectural firm with a prestigious international presence. Through applying ardour, innovation and excellence in every aspect of his professional life, Juan Carlos has enjoyed a long and successful career and has received significant recognition and awards for his professional activity. Drawing on his extensive experience in the tourism and architectural sectors, it is his passion and determination that continues to drive Gomez Vazquez International forward. *Corporate LiveWire* spoke with Juan Carlos to find out more about Gomez Vazquez International's projects and the challenges that the industry faces.

What inspires you architecturally?

I am inspired by the impact and the role of the architect in being able to influence people's life experiences and improving their quality of life whilst at the same time producing emotions based on the spaces we design.

What are the key architectural attributes of your projects?

Our projects' design is user-orientated, which is the key to success for the development and overall experience. This attribute ensures the client gets the design that they want rather than a project based on the ego or the whim of the architect.

Can you talk us through some of your recently completed projects?

We have recently completed Bosque Real Towers, which is a three tower complex in Bosque Real Country Club in Mexico City. This project consists of 250 luxurious, comfortable and harmonious apartments.

Another project accomplished is Mundo E Shopping Center's renewal, which is now transformed from an entertainment centre to a mixed-use venue that includes clothing stores, ice rinks and a hotel.

Finally, the Rosewood Mayakoba Residences in Playa del Carmen, which features private luxury villas overlooking the lagoon inside the Mayakoba complex that is home to a collection of exclusive resorts coexisting peacefully with the nature of the Mayan Riviera.

Among all the projects that you are involved today, which do you feel the most excited by?

Panama Global City, a complex of 1,500 hectares that will change the way of living and doing business in Panama, as it is a very large area compared to the city. This project will generate a new and innovative market, hence why we are very proud to be a part of this mega complex with our designs.

Another project we feel very excited about is Downtown Bosque Real, a mixed-use of 11 towers that offer

different options for residential, office and commercial needs. This project is opening a new market in the Bosque Real area, in which we designed a car free open space communicated by green spaces, generating a different lifestyle in Mexico City, one of the largest cities in the world.



What are the main challenges currently facing architecture firms and how do you overcome these?

Constantly generating new technologies and finding the talent to operate these technologies in the most creative way.

How is technology revolutionising the industry?

Technology is changing the products that we are used to working with. As an architectural firm, we are very lucky to have been able to work with technologically improved products on a daily basis, as well as new software that has enabled us to deliver more accurate projects with less time and resources. This makes us more accurate and more versatile.

Other than the architecture of the design what are the other key aspects that need to be considered during the planning stage?

The business plan and market research are key aspects, because they are both aligned and in constant communication with the client's needs and our staff in Gomez Vazquez International, therefore the design is more likely to be a success.

Can you talk us through the design process at Gomez Vazquez International from initial contact to point of completion?

Our client is always involved in the design process during a design briefing, where we both choose the project's intention throughout images and words that define the concept. As a result, we define the projects DNA. During the design stage we have two areas: architectural and constructive design. In the first area, the design development (DD) is created, followed by the constructive design to create all the blueprints.

In this step, a specialised team acquires accurate, concise and integrated information that with other specialties generates efficiency to the project. These two areas are creative in their own way. The architectural area is creative when generating an architectural project, while the constructive systems are solved in the most efficient manner. We are always focused on having the construction under supervision, so the design's intention is accomplished.

Finally, can you outline what new trends you expect to see emerge over the coming years and identify how Gomez Vazquez International ensures it stays ahead of the curve?

We particularly observe the trends created by Millennials, since they are the next generation to have real estate purchasing power. The creation of mixed-use buildings where they can have freedom of decision and movement is very important. Therefore, Gomez Vazquez International is creating new places where this market obtains housing for purchase and rent, without schedules and with public spaces where they can work, socialise, and purchase goods all in the same area, without having to move. Another aspect that makes us stand out is our interest in being in constant research of demography, market trends, and technology. As a result, we are able to utilise this knowledge to react and improve our designs.

ARCHITECTURE FIRM OF THE YEAR

CUPKOVIC architecture llc

USA



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Founder

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Having gained more than 30 years of experience, Mr Cupkovic has developed a broad level of expertise in all aspects of architectural service.



CUPKOVIC architecture is an Architectural Design Firm, located in Cleveland, Ohio, established in 2004 by industry veteran Noel L. Cupkovic, AIA, NCARB.

Cupkovic's career started in New York City in 1981 where he worked as an intern under the mentorship of renowned architect Abraham Geller. Geller was best known for his civic buildings and worked in Walter Gropius' American office in the mid 1920's.

Having gained more than 30 years of experience, Mr Cupkovic has developed a broad level of expertise in all aspects of architectural service. He has designed large format retail developments and mixed-use projects. Over the years his corporate headquarters designs – both architectural and interior – have gained significant industry recognition.

The Cleveland, Ohio-based firm's current work includes mixed-use projects consisting of retail, office, institutional and residential components. CUPKOVIC architecture recognise and embrace the demographic shift toward urban redevelopment, smart growth and sustainable design. Their experience has helped to shape the firm around this new revolution in development, redevelopment and construction, through an in-depth understanding all components that make up these complex projects.

Current projects include Celebration Pointe in Gainesville, FL, near the campus of University of Florida. The project is located on 130 acres adjacent to I-75 in West Gainesville and consists of retail and entertainment anchors, residential and office, both Corporate and Multi-tenant. CUPKOVIC architecture is the overall masterplan architect as well as the Design Architect and Architect of Record for multiple buildings within the development.

The Celebration Pointe site is designed to meet LEED for Neighborhood Development. The Infotech Corporate Headquarters Office Building at Celebration Pointe designed by CUPKOVIC architecture, recently opened in June of 2017, and is pursuing LEED Silver status, as defined by USGBC.

CUPKOVIC architectures involvement in the re-development of Northway Mall in Pittsburgh, PA, which opens in August of 2017, includes a Phase 2 mixed use development with office, retail and multifamily residential buildings. The resurrected Mall is opening all portions of the Phase 1 development as "THE BLOCK – NORTHWAY". The new project includes retail anchor tenants, entertainment tenants and restaurants, all new to the market.

ARCHITECTURE FIRM OF THE YEAR

Stinessen Architecture

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Stinessen uses the design brief to ensure his creative vision aligns with that of the client whilst also offering close interaction and a detailed service along every step of the way.

Stinessen
Arkitektur

Stinessen Architecture was founded in the Norwegian city of Tromsø by Snorre Stinessen in 2005. For more than a decade, Stinessen Architecture has provided a full range of services including site planning, architectural design, interior design and custom furniture design.

The studio delivers tailor-made projects and products with a fundamental approach to each project of an integral design process and a strong conceptual framework. Stinessen uses the design brief to ensure his creative vision aligns with that of the client whilst also offering close interaction and a detailed service along every step of the way.

The Corporate LiveWire judging panel was particularly impressed with the recently completed Manshausen Island Resort. Situated in the Steigen Archipelago off the coast of Northern Norway, Manshausen Island Resort was built for polar explorer Borge Ousland to provide a base for Arctic Circle explorers on hiking, fishing, skiing and diving trips. Stinessen was tasked with creating a unique design concept which incorporates the topography and scenic natural beauty of the sites remote setting whilst at the same time offering modern and comfortable accommodation that adhere to the guest's functional needs.

Following the design brief, Stinessen masterfully created three partially cantilevered glass and timber holiday cabins overhanging the Barents Sea, as well as a fourth cabin precariously perched on a natural shelf on the rocky formations above the others. In addition to earning plaudits for its aesthetics, this project also highlights the extensive level of detail Stinessen imparts in his work. Stinessen carefully considered the unique challenges of its location by conducting extensive research to calculate for wind-force, severe weather factors, durability, and wave heights, amongst other factors. The project was then undertaken using carefully selected wood (that could remain untreated), glass with sufficient insulation values, and toughening aluminium roof cladding that could withstand the salty and wet environment and the harsh weather conditions.

Stinessen is currently engaged in projects in Norway, Germany, Italy, Spain and New Zealand on projects varying from cabins to villas, apartment buildings to office complexes, resorts to hotels, furniture design and interior design. The studio has received a number of prestigious international awards for their projects both in architecture, design and interior design, including Architecture of the Year, Best of Best in Architecture, Commercial Building Award, Hotel and Resorts awards and award for Best Retreat.

BEST IN COMMERCIAL ARCHITECTURE

Debbie Flevotomou Architects



Debbie Flevotomou

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Architecture should have a poetic dimension in order to contribute to peoples' well-being, teach new generations about this point in time and develop a potential social agenda.



Founded in 2011, Debbie Flevotomou Architects is an award-winning practice (6 international Awards in 2017) based in the prestigious Mayfair district of London.

The company's main focus is on parametric design. Based on algorithmic thinking with a capacity for futuristic formmaking, parametric design is widely associated with legendary architect Zaha Hadid, yet it is still very much in its infancy as a relatively new trend in architecture. By embraced this design concept ahead of the curve, Debbie Flevotomou Architects has successfully established itself as a market leader in this field.



Over the years, Debbie Flevotomou Architects has specialised in designing landmarks and luxurious developments. Building types have included hotels, restaurants, schools, offices, underwater villas, museums, residential properties and country manors. The boutique architectural firm possess an impressive portfolio of designs from plans for the renovation of Tower 42, London's third tallest skyscraper, to the completion of the 800-room award winning corporate hotel Hilton Istanbul Bomonti.

The clients are individuals or companies that want to make a difference. They would like to put their stamp on the world by creating a building that breaks free from the simple boxes with windows in favour of a concept which people love living, working, or even looking at. Beyond that, the projects represent the creation of any landmark that is the making of an area. It is the best way to kick-start the area regeneration and draw in more investment. It benefits the local people and the wider public, and this is the on-going focus for the company going forward.



Debbie Flevotomou Architects was founded by Debbie Flevotomou, an architect, ballet dancer currently performing with London Performance Company, an artist and an aspiring choreographer. Debbie finds inspiration for architecture in dance choreographies that she creates. The dance is flowing and the design is getting unfolded.

Prior to starting her own company, she joined Foster + Partners where she was involved with large projects of innovative nature, including an airport in Kuwait, a university campus in Africa and mixed use schemes in Europe to name but a few. She departed from the company in order to develop her own parametric design architecture.



Debbie's architectural philosophy is that "architecture should have a poetic dimension (irrelevant from proportions and scales) in order to contribute to peoples' well-being, teach new generations about this point in time and develop a potential social agenda. It should excite, motivate and enlightened people."



FULL SERVICE ARCHITECTURAL DESIGN FIRM OF THE YEAR

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Shelby Navarro founded 1Architecture in 2005 with the intention of producing inspirational architecture that is both sustainable and functional.



1Architecture, based in Tulsa, Oklahoma, has one ambition: to make the world better. Through design, they aspire to improve the lives of those who inhabit their spaces, because they believe that it makes a difference and that healthy environments are good not just for your body, but for your soul. 1Architecture recognise that most of us spend 24 hours a day, seven days a week, 365 days a year surrounded by the built environment, yet we put very few resources into crafting that environment. It is their goal to provide public and private spaces that foster health and wellbeing, spaces that speak to the soul, and spaces that give back more than they take. 1Architecture want to change the world for the better, and they believe they can do it through great design.

1Architecture is a unique breed of Tulsa architects whose commitment to sustainability is as strong as their dedication to meeting the needs of clients. They create exciting architectural designs that are relevant to the way we work, play, and live today. 1Architecture has three core philosophies which they rigidly adhere to in everything they do: putting the client first, getting to know their values, goals and expectations and then exceeding them; creativity, with design that boasts timeless strength and purpose; and sustainability, making every structure energy conscious, healthy and low maintenance. Our judges were impressed with the firm's commitment to these beliefs, but also with the



wide range of projects that 1Architecture works on. In particular, their focus on healthcare buildings and experience-based design, as well as their recognition of core Native American values and cultural sensitivity in Native projects was a standout highlight for us.

Shelby Navarro founded 1Architecture in 2005 with the intention of producing inspirational architecture that is both sustainable and functional. His professional experience has included internationally known architectural firms in both Denver, Colorado and Tulsa, Oklahoma, where he acquired his experience as a designer and project manager on projects ranging from several thousand to multi-million dollar building and master-planning projects. As a Native American, he is especially proud of his Tribal work, which holds special meaning for him. He is committed to providing the excellent service that the tribes deserve in the areas of specialisation that they require with special sensitivity to the proper expression of cultural significance.

HERITAGE ARCHITECTURE FIRM OF THE YEAR

DPA Architects

NEW ZEALAND



Dave Pearson

Director

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DPA Architects has the capability to undertake medium sized projects and currently has a staff of eight including architects, architectural graduates and technicians and support staff.



DPA Architects was founded by Dave Pearson in 1996, following a period of employment at the Ministry of Works and Development and the Auckland Education Board.

The Devonport-based practice was established specifically to provide expertise in heritage architecture and has become one of New Zealand's foremost architectural practices specialising in that area. DPA Architects has since completed close to 150 conservation plans and heritage assessments making it one of the most prolific producers of conservation plans in New Zealand.

The Corporate LiveWire judging panel particularly wanted to highlight the recent work DPA Architects has completed for the Arts Centre of Christchurch. The oldest buildings within this Gothic Revival complex date back to the 1860s and were designed by notable architects including Benjamin Mountfort, Samuel Hurst Seager, William Armson and Collins and Harman.

Due to damage suffered during the earthquakes, both in 2011 and 2016, DPA Architects were tasked with completing extensive strengthening, repairing and restoration work as part of a \$290 million project. This included restoring the Great Hall to its former grandeur whilst also retaining original features such

as the timber ceilings and reinstating a large stained glass Memorial Window dating from 1938.

Over the years, DPA Architects has developed a high level of technical expertise through involvement with a large number of contemporary projects ranging from large commercial developments to small domestic alterations. Building types have included restaurants, churches, early childhood, educational facilities, town halls, railway stations, dwellings, historic military buildings, museums, theatres, office buildings, community facilities, cemeteries, old hotels, and courthouses.

Clients are wide ranging and have included the Department of Justice, Department of Conservation, The Lake House Trust, the Church Property Trustees, Housing New Zealand Corporation, Christchurch City Council, Wellington City Council, and Thames-Coromandel District Council and the Auckland Regional Authority.

DPA Architects continues to strive for excellence in architecture and seeks to provide the best possible outcome for its clients. As a result, the practice has received a number of architectural and heritage awards which have included UNESCO International Asia-Pacific Awards and awards from the New Zealand Institute of Architects.

INNOVATION IN ARCHITECTURAL DESIGN SERVICES

Soluri Architecture

USA



Andre Soluri

Founder & Managing Director

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Soluri Architecture has developed a completely unique, collaborative and client-focused design process



Soluri Architecture is an award-winning, boutique firm based in New York City and London that provides integrated, client-focused design services.

Since being established in 2005 by Andre Soluri, the firm has completed more than 120 new builds and renovation projects. This includes a wide range of design projects in and around New York – most recently the Harlem Condo Building and Birchbox office expansion. The firm has also completed projects around the world including a residential project in the upmarket London neighbourhood of Kensington.

As a small, high-performing firm, Soluri Architecture works with agility and efficiency in a wide range of design-oriented projects for clients who tend to be progressive, outside-the-box thinkers. The typical client is not interested in cookie-cutter design or blending in; they seek design that reflects their unique values, mission, and lifestyle. Because of this, the firm's portfolio includes tech company offices, high-end residential renovations, a new city hall, dental offices, spas, retail buildings, stores, hospitality projects, new boutique residential buildings, showrooms, and larger scale master planning.

Soluri Architecture believes that extraordinary buildings and spaces don't "just happen" – they are created through an integrated and in-depth process

where the architect comes to truly understand the client, their vision, and their needs--and then integrates this information into an extraordinary design that transcends the specs. To do this, Soluri Architecture has developed a completely unique, collaborative and client-focused design process that starts with an in-depth analysis phase, where they work with the client to understand the often-complex processes that occur within organisations or an individual's lifestyle, focusing on their performative aspects – the activities, relationships and movements that occur on a day-to-day basis. By understanding them as a series of dynamic processes, Soluri Architecture develops performative diagrams that visually illustrate the flows and organisational structures that occur. Once these are clearly defined, we constantly refer to these diagrams; they act as a customised roadmap that maintains the flows, elements, and relational structures, regardless of a project's, size, budget or style.

Corporate LiveWire firmly believe that this innovative approach to architectural design services could transform the industry as a whole. Our judges are delighted to see this forward-thinking method has not gone unnoticed with Soluri Architecture achieving numerous awards, which in 2016 and 2017 have included a total of five Architecture Awards from "Build" and a 2017 SARA-NY Design Award.

MOST OUTSTANDING BUSINESS CONCEPT CREATION & DESIGN

STIRIXIS Group

GREECE



Alexander Athanassoulas

President & Managing Director

www.stirixis.com

+30 210 6138 312



*Our judges were impressed
with the concept created
and designed by STIRIXIS
Group for Bizerba Hellas
Offices, in three different
regions in Greece*



STIRIXIS Group is an internationally awarded strategy-through-execution consultancy firm. It creates, designs and manages business concepts globally in the Retail, Food and Beverage, Hospitality and Leisure industries. STIRIXIS Group provides practical strategic advice aimed at maximising the client's ROI via its refined executional skills stemming from a profound understanding of the business environment. It brings to the table valuable experience and unrivalled capabilities gained over the past 21 years from 550 projects in 22 countries in Europe, the Middle East, and Africa. Today STIRIXIS Group has offices in London, Athens, and Bucharest.

STIRIXIS Group is committed to supporting the creation, optimization, growth and evolution of business concepts. Working together with the client, STIRIXIS Group defines a realistic business plan regarding his needs, designs the space and operations, brings the business idea to life, and manages the concept implementation thereafter. Since 1996 it has been assigned multiple projects from all over the world, in areas as diverse as the UAE, Russia, Scandinavia, Nigeria, and the Balkans. The pool of clients that trust STIRIXIS Group contains large multinational organisations, local up-and-coming businesses, as well as disruptive start-ups and entrepreneurs. STIRIXIS Group operates globally but can also meet client's needs locally, whatever the market.

STIRIXIS Group believes that every business can be prosperous and sustainable. One needs to find its true core value, provide a nurturing context, and constantly optimise it to ensure its long-term success. Its approach is based on Systems Thinking: from start to finish, they proactively align all components in order to create emergent values, optimise output of the system and ensure sustainable growth. Its experienced professionals implement project excellence tools and constantly ensure that the client's strategic goals are preserved. Budgets, time, quality, cash flow, relationships, and risks are continuously addressed and managed, as they have a pivotal role for success.

Our judges were impressed with the thorough nature of STIRIXIS Group, which works closely with clients from the initial steps right through to the final execution and beyond. STIRIXIS Group believes that no detail is to go unaddressed. Every piece of the concept must be considered, constantly refined, and managed in order to ensure sustainability. STIRIXIS Group's latest project, the new Bizerba offices created in Athens, Thessalonica, and Crete, is a testament of the company's philosophy to create concepts that are easily adaptable and adjustable to different spaces worldwide. The concept was planned, developed, and executed efficiently and effectively leaving one more satisfied customer with the potential for future collaboration open.

MULTI-DISCIPLINARY ARCHITECTURE FIRM OF THE YEAR

H2M architects + engineers

USA



Richard W. Humann, P.E.

Chief Executive Officer

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Their commitment to the communities they serve is shown in their support for various charitable, educational and community-based causes and organisations.



H2M architects + engineers is a multi-disciplined professional consulting and design firm, proud of its long history of client service and consistent ability to meet tough architectural, engineering and environmental challenges head-on. H2M is a New York State Design Professional Corporation, licensed by the NYS Department of Education to provide professional engineering architectural and surveying services in New York. Since 1933, H2M has helped design and build many communities: from treatment facilities to firehouses, from land surveying to road reconstruction, from site assessment to remediation. Since the firm's early roots, its focus has remained steadfast: to provide quality service with sound judgment and to serve as an honest professional resource to its clients. H2M offers a practical approach, with creative results.

Initially oriented towards the planning and design of municipal infrastructure projects, H2M's capabilities have since grown to include a full range of professional services, some of which include: architecture, planning, civil/site engineering, survey, structural engineering, mechanical engineering, electrical engineering, sanitary engineering, environmental engineering, forensic cause & origin, interior design, sports development, water supply management, wastewater management, full environmental services, industrial hygiene, solid and hazardous waste management and GIS/mapping.

H2M prides itself on the breadth of its comprehensive in-house service capabilities. With a diverse staff of more than 360 engineers, architects, scientists, planners, surveyors, technical and support specialists, H2M offers its clients the benefits of a full consulting network, keeping the clients' focus on their business while H2M coordinates the logistics involved in achieving a successful final product. H2M's staff includes 73 licensed professional engineers, 44 registered architects, two licensed landscape architects, six professional planners, one licensed land surveyor, 35 LEED accredited professionals, eight LEED green associates, environmental scientists, certified geologists and hydrogeologists, groundwater professionals, construction inspectors, GIS and CADD designers, certified asbestos and lead inspectors and managers, and sewage and water treatment plant operators. With over 80 years in the industry, H2M has gained both the breadth and depth of knowledge you would expect of a much larger, more impersonal firm, yet it is this combined expertise and approachability that makes H2M a worthy winner of our *Multi-Disciplinary Architecture Firm of the Year* award. Not only that, H2M's awareness of their social responsibility extends far beyond the job at hand. Their commitment to the communities they serve is shown in their support for various charitable, educational and community-based causes and organisations.

SUSTAINABLE RESIDENTIAL ARCHITECTURE FIRM OF THE YEAR

Berglund Architects

USA



Hans Berglund

Managing Director

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The firm specialises in designing luxury single family residences but also provides multifamily & commercial architectural design, tenant finish design, master planning, and a wide range of architectural design services for urban and warm weather resort environments.

BERGLUND ARCHITECTS, LLC

Berglund Architects, founded in 2004, creates architecture based on its client's dreams and budget that is rooted to its place, responds to the natural environment and merges with the landscape. Using a palette of regional natural materials, the firm creates buildings that are rich with color and texture, durable, intelligent, artful and highly crafted. Borne out of their "love of the land," informed by extensive building technology research and utilising energy modeling software, they act as stewards of the natural environment and their client's resources as they create sustainable designs that artfully respond to each site's unique context and opportunities.

The firm is led by Hans Berglund, who for over 20 years has created beautiful timeless architecture that has the ability to give pleasure and insight, to comfort, and to restore the human spirit. Berglund Architects specialises in new luxury single-family residential design, additions/remodels of single family homes, condominium remodels, multi-family residential and mixed-use commercial architectural design for the mountain environment. The firm also provides interior design, tenant finish design, master planning, and a wide range of architectural design services for urban and warm weather resort environments. The firm's portfolio of projects is characterised by innovative, high quality architecture blending local architectural vernacular designs and natural materials

with contemporary influences.

Berglund Architects fosters a creative learning environment that encourages open minded collaboration among the firm's designers, clients and consultants. This passion of shared ideas and intuitive insights drives the creation of the firm's distinctive work. Through its continuous creative exploration, Berglund Architects seek an artful integration of the site opportunities with the client's vision. It strives to create architecture which has the power to positively affect life experiences, bring people together and make them more in touch with their surroundings. Our judges were impressed with the firm's commitment to providing and promoting environmentally responsible design, by incorporating a range of energy efficient, sustainable and healthy indoor building practices, such as rain water harvesting, passive solar heating, super insulation and triple glazed windows. They also further strive to minimise their impact on the environment by donating to environmental causes. Throughout the whole architectural process, from design and planning to building and construction, sustainability is at the forefront of Berglund Architects' business practices.

Acknowledgements

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