

arquideas

JURY DECISION ON THE INTERNATIONAL MUSEUM OF ASTRONOMY (IMOA) ATACAMA ARQUIDEAS COMPETITION

The Jury

- **Cazu Zegers**

Head of Cazu Zegers Architecture Studio

- **Adrian Welch**

Editor in Chief of e-architect

- **Maria Langarita**

Lecturer in Architectural Projects at ETSA Madrid and EPS Arquitectura of Universidad de Alicante

- **Pola Mora**

Editor in Chief of Plataforma Arquitectura

- **Viktor Nilsson**

Winner team member of the IGC Brussels competition

- **Pierre Maccario**

Winner team member of the IGC Brussels competition

Jury Decision

The Jury members of the International Museum of Astronomy (IMOA) in Atacama architecture competition, having carefully considered all the submitted proposals, made their evaluation in two stages in order to unify opinions finding a fair verdict.

The Jury, considering the evaluation criteria specified in the Terms and Conditions, such how clearly the ideas of the project are transmitted, the quality of the architectural proposal, the settlement criteria, as well as the dialogue between the proposal and the landscape, the solutions provided for the proposed program of uses and sustainability and energy efficiency, after the first phase of evaluation, 15 proposals come out as finalists.

In second evaluation phase the Jury selected 5 honourable mentions and 3 winning proposals.

As a group, these proposals represent the values the contest was trying to transmit, providing different answers to a same problem.

FINALISTS

IMOA 1285

Carlos Castillo Gallego
Rafael Zamora
Universidad de Granada, Spain

IMOA 1399

David Carrasco
Elena López
Escuela Técnica Superior de Arquitectura de Madrid, Spain

IMOA 1547

Alfredo Peclat
Roberta Coelho
Gabriela Chow
Sammy Bork
Universidade Presbiteriana Mackenzie, Brazil

IMOA 1550

Diego Almarza
Universidad Diego Portales, Chile

IMOA 1591

Carlos Rubio Zugadi
Escuela Técnica Superior de Arquitectura de Madrid, Spain

IMOA 1649

Pablo Resa Abad
*Escuela Técnica Superior de Arquitectura de
la Universidad de Navarra, Spain*

IMOA 1880

Ángel Menéndez
Lahyani Alexandre
*Escuela Técnica Superior de Arquitectura de
Madrid, España / Ecole Nationale Supérieure
d'Architecture de Paris la Villette, France*

HONOURABLE MENTIONS

IMOA 1067

José Bigott
Venezuela

The Jury appreciates dreamy atmosphere they developed in this proposal. Limiting the indoor space in order to give more importance to the outdoor is an excellent point of view. This vertical elements give power to these in-between space.

There is something about circular geometry that connects us to astronomy, obviously the sphere of planets, but also the typically spherical observatory buildings dotted across the earth. This proposal has strong geometry and imagery, but one wonders about integration of purely practical issues that such a building would have to perform.

IMOA 1292

Nimitchai Amornprasertsri
Prap Chaiwattana
Politecnico di Milano, Italy

The light touch of this matrix on the desert floor is appealing and the soffit to the large spaces below is attractive. The idea of this field of lanterns with the interior undulating skies, reflected as stalactites, is beautiful but, at the same time, the brilliance of the concept is itself the biggest drawback with light contamination of the observation area.

IMOA 1441

Romain Guillot
Arthur Thelliez
Ecole Nationale Supérieure d'Architecture de Paris Malaquais, France

The proposal aims to be part of the geographical context starting from its tectonic geometry. The architectural design shows the scale of the proposal and the program of uses within, highlighting the observation spaces from inside the building.

It's a futuristic and gently angular styling building that suggests a protective carapace that rises slowly towards the centre of the building and opens subtly to the sky, however the circular centrepiece seems tucked under the solid envelope. This suggests the focus of the building is towards the horizon rather than up to the stars.

IMOA 1909

Ioannis Karras

Department of Architecture of the University of Thessaly, Greece

The Jury appreciates the contemplative space in this design and also the simple and elegant plan, the use of a monomaterial intervention that suggests premature archeology. Although the parti eschews the popular circular themes connected with astronomy there is a good feeling about both the layout of the spaces and the overall focus on light and contemplative space. The small plan of the desert floor with these simple cuts taken out for access and light is delightful and the minimal restraint of the building's unadorned planes works well.

IMOA 1989

Julian Ocampo

United States

It is a landscape intervention more than a building that incorporates the huge scale of the sky and the desert. A large path exceeds the utilitarian scale to become a memorable experience. This is a captivating design, a simple undulating line that ripples across the hot surface of the Atacama desert. The form has a light touch that is admirable but doubts arise about where the programmatic elements of an International Museum of Astronomy would be located, the utilitarian functional elements that would be needed to support the more contemplative spaces. The illustrations are smooth and attractive, but a little more detail is missing.

WINNERS

1st Prize: IMOA 1409

Juhee Han

Ecole Nationale Supérieure d'Architecture de Paris Malaquais, France

The Jury highlights the use of a simple and modest geometry, in accordance with the site and generating a minimal impact on the geographical environment and how it incorporates programme within the architectural gesture, in part, without wrapping around the whole circle and rising in an asymmetric section focused towards the large and empty central space in an attractive way. The very spaced out programme entails slow movement between spaces are appropriate in a building for “lovers of Astronomical Tourism” suggesting a more relaxed use of space in which too learn and observe the sky.

It is also very interesting and poetic the way the reflective surfaces and the artificial lake are used to open the landscape and sky perspective, without framing the views but giving the visitors the liberty to spot every pieces of our celeste ceiling.

2nd Prize: IMOA 1214

Potemkowski Paweł
Urszula Chomiak
Westpomeranian University of Technology, Poland

The jury appreciated the neatness, the scale and the poetic depth of the ring, the geometric simplicity of the proposal that makes a difference with respect to landscape, a pure circle resting on the undulating ground surface, as a recognizable landmark in the vastness of the desert, but maintaining a scale relevant to the visitor. It connects the stillness of the desert with the pureness of the universe through, it encourages deep reflection by removing complexity of programme below the surface and leaving only the notional circular frame.

Is remarkable that within and outside the circle the same sky is seen but, perhaps, surrounded by this circular wall, the sky takes another dimension, promise of liberty and escape.

The strength and clarity of the proposal is lost in the programme below the surface that seems is not solved with the same subtlety.

3rd Prize: IMOA 1830

Luigi Savio
Italy

This project looks strong in both the main image, plan and axonometric – it presents an intriguing and robust design, protecting people from the harshness of the desert. The circular forms that are dotted across the desert floor are very attractive, like elements sinking and emerging upwards out of the sand. The surface textures are also attractive and relate to the roughness of the desert habitat. These circular forms also remind visitors of astronomy observatories and therefore create a psychological connection to stars and their observation. The relationship of the ircular elements to the rectangular plan feels balanced and appropriate. The Jury also highlights the interesting sustainable treatment of the building and the interior spaces that are achieved with the cylinders and light.

Acknowledgments

Arquideas would like to thank all the participants for their effort and dedication in this contest and congratulate them for the quality of the proposals that were presented.

Arquideas would also like to thank the members of the Jury of this contest for their cooperation and dedication and the collaborating businesses Plataforma Arquitectura, WA Wettbewerbe Aktuell, paisea, edgardonzalez.com, Taller al Cubo and Ottagono for their involvement in the contest.



The Arquideas Team,

