JURY DECISION ON THE NATURE OBSERVATORY OF AMAZONIA (NOA) IN SOUTH AMERICA
ARQUIIDEAS COMPETITION

The Jury

- Teresa Sapey
  Head of Teresa Sapey Architecture Office
- José Castillo
  Principal of arquitectura 911sc
- Beatriz Colomina
  Professor of Architecture at Princeton University
- Diana Wiesner
  Head of Arquitectura y Paisaje EU
- Santiago de Molina
  Professor of Architecture at San Pablo CEU University in Madrid
- Ariadna Cantis
  Architect, critic and architectural curator
- Juhee Han
  Winner of IMOA Atacama architecture competition
Jury Decision

The Jury members of the Nature Observatory of Amazonia (NOA) in South America 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 honorable mentions and 3 winning proposals.

As a group, these proposals represent the values the contest was trying to transmit, providing thoughtful and talented approaches to the set problem.

A natural division is remarkable between projects that are thought as systems and about unitarian, monolithic or ‘single-move’ approaches, with more ‘heavy-handed’ architecture than subtle interventions and focusing more on the ‘viewing’ activity than in interaction and experience.

**FINALISTS**

**NOA 1170**
Laura Mendoza  
Jhonny Félix Vallejos Valarde  
Sarah Regina Morales Quiroga  
*Universidad Mayor de San Simón, Bolivia*

**NOA 1266**
Cameron Suisted  
Nicola Bowman  
*Victoria University of Wellington, New Zealand*

**NOA 1279**
Belén Castelló Ochoa  
Daniel Andrés Vera Villalobos  
*Universidad Politécnica de Valencia, Spain*

**NOA 1459**
Simon Barret  
Victor Arnault  
Cristián Arias  
Hugo Ramos Guerrero  
*Facultad de Arquitectura de Santiago de Chile, Chile | Ecole Nationale Supérieure d’Architecture de Paris-Belleville*
NOA 1496
Tomás Pont
Tomás José Beverina Pages
Stefano Romagnoli
Universidad Nacional de Córdoba, Argentina

NOA 1522
Elena Klinnert
Universidad Europea de Madrid, Spain

NOA 1512
Katarzyna Romanowicz
Anna Orlowska
Technical University of Lodz, Poland

HONOURABLE MENTIONS

NOA 1127
Nicholas Putrasia
Curtin University, Australia

Jury members stand out the proposals delicate reinterpretation of the natural structures of the rainforest, offering various alternatives of experience in the Amazonian environment.

It is considered that these formal interpretations occur in a valuable, unexpected and sensitive manner.

NOA 1163
Chris Green
Julian Ocampo
Massachusetts Institute of Technology, United States

The jury emphasizes the resolution of the program in one simple gesture, by an inclined platform which allows us to understand the landscape; it addresses the multiple ‘natures’ of the Amazon.

A clear introduction is assessed, the metaphor of the fall of a tree generates various possibilities of perception in one system.
NOA 1225

Leonardo Tamargo Niebla
*Escuela Técnica Superior de Arquitectura de Valladolid, Spain*

The jury highlights the value of a quick and simple construction, represented by an elevated wooden walkway in an elegant resolution which avoids formal pyrotechnics and provides a valuable place interpretation without excesses.

The Jury positively considers the minimal environmental and landscape impact of the proposal that can be understood as a system implementation.

NOA 1259

Lisandro Baruzzo
Mauro Pesci
Agustín Serrano
Bruno Turri
*Facultad de Arquitectura, Planeamiento y Diseño, Argentina*

The jury highlighted the presence of a severe, clear and powerful architecture with active geometry, used to value the rainforest in a simple and extraordinarily disciplined way, although implementing such a visual piece in such a fragile environment can be understood simultaneously as attractive and “perverse”.

NOA 1497

Diego Rubén Padilla Meca
*Escuela Politécnica de Arquitectura de Alicante, Spain*

Jury members want to stand out an implantation in formal contrast with the landscape, allowing experiencing several canopies and layers, adding a strong political character to the proposal.

A solution that goes through ecosystems more in a suggestive than in a real way is considered, but with an undeniable ability to evocate.
WINNERS

1st Prize: NOA 1099
José María Ordovás
Alejandro Fernández-Linares García
Universidad Politécnica de Madrid, Spain/Illinois Institute of Technology, United States

The strong poetic language stands out in this proposal, with a simple narrative that manages, with great simplicity, cause the experience the Amazon in an easy construction and minimal impact architecture, conceived as a "system"

Jury members value a given experiential tourism proposal resolved with a funicular architecture of great beauty and adaptability.

The project is exemplary by attitude and used resources, where the floating elements manage to be an unbeatable observatory with minimal impact, in a place treated as something especially delicate.

2nd Prize: NOA 1477
Alex Diebalek
Lisa Geiszler
Technische Universität Wien, Austria

Jury members stand out this contemporary bio-morphologic proposal, which solution raises elements that can become niches and structures of artistic interest within the geographic context, starting from a modest project in its understanding of site, local conditions and even construction procedures to strive for a more ambitious and iconic result.

The Jury considers the pursuit of sustainable tourism, based on indigenous traditions, that empathizes not only with the place but also with its inhabitants.
3rd Prize: NOA 1383

Aida Salán
Universidad Politécnica de Madrid, Spain

Jury members appreciate the experimental nature of the proposal and the proposed interaction with their immediate environment, without neglecting its suggestive character in both the conceptual and constructive aspects.

Project stands for its rigor in the solution, which resolves all requests in a practical and interesting way.

The suspended technology capsule image makes sense of the natural and artificial coexistence in a rich and surprising way.

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, Tectonica-online, ARQ ediciones, 1:100 ediciones, AV Proyectos, Pedacicos Arquitectónicos, Future Arquitecturas and Taller al Cubo for their involvement in the contest.