

Press Release

Shortlist Announced for Glasgow School of Art Design Competition

The seven practices selected to develop their submissions for the new GSA building to sit opposite the world-famous Mackintosh Building in the Garnethill district of Glasgow, are: (in alphabetical order)

Benson + Forsyth (London, UK)

Elder & Cannon (Glasgow, UK)

Francisco Mangado Architects (Pamplona, Spain)

Grafton Architects (Dublin, Ireland)

Hopkins (London, UK)

John McAslan and Partners with Nord Architects (London and Glasgow partnership)

Steven Holl Architects with JM Architects (New York and Glasgow partnership)

These seven practices emerged from a final longlist of 40, drawn from 153 entries received from all over the world. The judging panel was chaired by David Mackay of MBM Arquitectes and included, amongst others, the Director of the GSA, Professor Seona Reid, the broadcaster Muriel Gray and Professor Christine Hawley, the Dean of the Bartlett, University College London. The judging panel met over two days earlier this week in Glasgow and the judges' decision was unanimous.

Malcolm Reading who managed the GSA competition and previously organised the competitions for King's Cross Square and the British Pavilion for Shanghai World Expo 2010 said:

'This is a rich and varied list for an exceptional project. The selection was extremely careful. These were the names that had life-force, they kept appearing again and again during the deliberations.

Not all the practices are well-known in the UK but they all have a distinctive way of working and projects that show a sense of place and sensitivity to environment.

What distinguished these teams was they had thought deeply about the context of the building and the needs of the client.'

The shortlisted practices now have until mid-July to develop their final submission and the winning architect-led design team will be announced in late September.

The new £50m 11250m² building will replace three existing buildings on the Garnethill site, which include the student union, the Newbury Tower and the Foulis Building. It is planned to be completed by 2013.

For press enquiries about the competition, please phone Malcolm Reading on T: (0) 20 7637 2502.

For press enquiries related to the Glasgow School of Art, please phone Alison Hunter, Media Relations Officer at the GSA on T: (0)141 353 4443

Notes to News Editors:

1. Shortlisted teams websites:
 - www.benson-forsyth.co.uk/ (website under construction)
 - www.elder-cannon.co.uk/ (website under construction)
 - www.fmangado.com/
 - www.graftonarchitects.ie/
 - www.hopkins.co.uk/
 - www.mcaslan.co.uk/ www.nordarchitecture.com/
 - www.stevenholl.com/ www.jmarchitects.net

2. The official UK website for the GSA competition can be found at www.malcolmreading.co.uk/gsa

3. The competition was advertised in the Official Journal of the European Union (OJEU).

4. Malcolm Reading Consultants provides independent advice and support to clients involved in building projects. Founded by Malcolm Reading in 1996, the company specialises in cultural, education and regeneration work in the UK and abroad. MRC is the leading private organiser of architectural competitions in the UK and also works internationally. Recent projects include the competitions for the UK Pavilion for the Shanghai World Expo 2010, King's Cross Square, British Antarctic Survey and Central Park Bridge for the London Olympic site.