



RA

RA Architecture Awards 2020

Royal Academy Architecture Prize Royal Academy Dorfman Award

Our annual architecture awards recognise those who push the idea of what architecture can and should be, and its place in the world.





Cristina Iglesias,

Tres Aguas, 2014. [More](#)

Town Hall Square, Toledo.

Royal Academy Architecture Prize 2020

For three years, the Royal Academy Architecture Prize has been awarded to an individual whose work inspires and instructs the discussion, collection or production of architecture in the broadest sense.

Winner: Cristina Iglesias

The winner of this year's Royal Academy architecture prize – Cristina Iglesias – invites us to look, not just at buildings, but at the spaces between them.

With cities home to more and more people, generous public space is increasingly necessary for reflection and respite. Iglesias's works exist in dialogue with the buildings around them, but go further in inviting their audiences – city dwellers – to contemplate their surroundings through the introduction of running water and naturalistic imagery reminiscent of fallen leaves.

Works by Cristina Iglesias

She has had the opportunity to work with some of the most important architects of the late 20th and early 21st centuries, creating sympathetic works that reward sustained reflection.

At the Centro Botin, her work *Desde lo Subterráneo* (2017) circles [Renzo Piano's](#) dramatic 2017 building. In Toledo, she takes on a dramatically different context with *Tres Aguas* (2014) sitting within a reclaimed water tower, a convent and the town hall square respectively. And in Madrid, *Threshold-Entrance* (2006-7) establishes a new dynamic between public space and the interior of the Prado Museum.

These interventions are representative of a body of work that is carefully and compellingly reshaping the way city inhabitants experience their urban environments. Her work inspires new ways for thinking about architecture, wherever they emerge.

[The 2019 winner was Elizabeth Diller and Ricardo Scofidio](#)

[The 2018 winner was Itsuko Hasagawa](#)

“Successive generations of urbanists and artists have enhanced open civic spaces with public art in the form of statuary and fountains. The Royal Academy Architecture Prize pays homage to that enduring and vital tradition in its choice of Cristina Iglesias.”

Norman Foster RA

Works by Cristina Iglesias



Cristina Iglesias,
Desde lo Subterráneo, 2017.

Centro Botín, Santander.



Cristina Iglesias,
Desde lo Subterráneo, 2017.

Centro Botín, Santander.



Cristina Iglesias,
Deep Fountain (Diepe Fontein), 1997-2006.
 Leopold de Waelplaats, Antwerp.



Cristina Iglesias,
Threshold-Entrance, 2006-2007.
 Museo Nacional del Prado, Madrid.



Cristina Iglesias,
Tres Aguas, 2014.
 Town Hall Square, Toledo.



Cristina Iglesias,
Tres Aguas, 2014.



Cristina Iglesias,
Tres Aguas, 2014.

Convent of Santa Clara, Toledo.



Cristina Iglesias,
Forgotten Streams, 2017.

Bloomberg, London.



Royal Academy Dorfman Award

The Royal Academy Dorfman Award champions new talent in architecture.

It is awarded to an emerging architect, practice or collective who is reimagining the future of architecture and whose work demonstrates sensitivity to local and global contexts.

Our four finalists are **AAU Anastas**, **AOR Architects**, **BCKJ Architects**, and **WHBC Architects**. Read on to find out more about each of their diverse practices.

RA Dorfman Award finalists

The work of AAU Anastas

AAU Anastas was founded in 1979 by George, Pauline and Jalal Anastas, who passed the business on to their sons Elias and Yousef 12 years ago. Based in Bethlehem, Elias and Yousef have expanded the business to include furniture through their company *Local Industries*. They are passionate about promoting Palestinian heritage and making it compatible with cutting edge contemporary digital fabrication. They have also founded Scales, a research arm that investigates the uses for local stone.



The Stonesourcing Space

AAU Anastas, Bethlehem, Palestine, 2013.

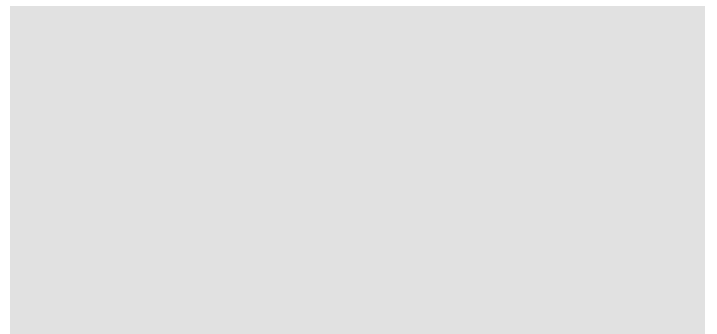
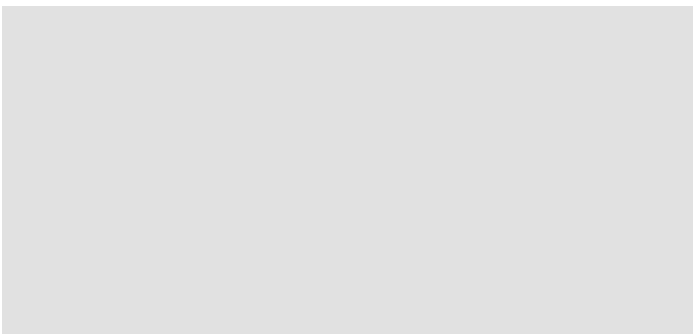


Stone Matters

AAU Anastas, Jericho, Palestine, 2017.

The work of AOR Architects

Helsinki-based AOR Architects specialise in public buildings and wood construction. Founded in 2015 by Finnish architects Erkki Aarti, Arto Ollila and Mikki Ristola, the practice has evolved into an office of ten people with a focus on designing complex public buildings in demanding urban settings. AOR's overarching ethos is to combine and transform practical, social, aesthetic, economic and ecological demands into memorable architecture harmonious to its context.





Jatkasaari School

AOR Architects, Helsinki, Finland, 2019.



Monio High School and Community Centre

AOR Architects, Tuusula, Finland, 2018.

The work of BCKJ Architects

BCKJ Architects is located in Beijing, China and was founded by Dong Mei and Liu Xiaochuan in 2004. They are passionate about the environment and many of their projects, nestled into Chinese peri-urban areas, take great pains to not disturb their local settings, building around trees and only using local materials. They understand architecture as a

social resource that mediates between the natural environment, communities, cultures and places.



Badaling Forest Experience Center

BCKJ Architects, Beijing, 2014.



Black Tiger Primary School

BCKJ Architects, Mao County, China, 2010.



Clove Valley ECO-hotel

BCKJ Architects, Beijing, China, 2017.



Polus International College Students Apartments

BCKJ Architects, Chengdu, China, 2014.

The work of WHCB Architects

WHBC is a two-person office based in Malaysia consisting of BC Ang and Wen Hsia Ang, founded in 2007. For them architecture is at its best when it comes from a diversity of sources and so they stay purposefully small, working with different collaborators on different projects. Their built work ranges from beautifully detailed private houses to temporary pavilions that showcase indigenous building methods. What unifies their projects however is a commitment to local and re-used materials and a playful, unique engagement with context.



Tropical Box House

WHBC Architects, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia, 2015.



Durian Shed

WHBC Architects, Negeri Sembilan, Malaysia, 2012.





Thank you to all our nominators

Amr Abdel Kawi, Xenia Adjoubei, Brit Andresen, Renata Becerril, Rana Beiruti, Aaron Betsky, Adelia Borges, Basma Bouza, Fernanda Canales, Adam Caruso, Alice Casey, Frederick Cooper-Llosa, Ang Chee Cheong, Minsuk Cho, Cian Deegan, Marina Engel, Kristin Feiress, Marcela Ferreira, Angelika Fitz, Yvonne Franquinet, Maria Garcia Holley, Kaye Geipel, Felipe González, João Guarantani, Stefan Gzyl, Harriet Harriss, Hanna Harriss, Itsuko Hasegawa, Manuel Henriques, Martyn Hook, Francesca Hughes, Sarah Ichioka, Mariam Kamara, Justyna Karakiewicz, Kabage Karanja, Asif Khan, Laura Mark, Niall McLaughlin, Anh-Linh Ngo, Maria Isabel Pena, Penelope Plaza, Boonserm Premthada, Raymund Ryan, Eric Schuldenfrei, Nasrine Seraji, Neil Spiller, Ellie

Stathaki, Fernando Tapia, Jeremy Till, Elisa Valero, Veronika Valk, Dirk van den Heuvel, Fleur Watson, Austin Williams.

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