

Barcelona, 28 November 2023

This edition of the International Landscape Architecture School Prize has collected a view of the most advanced academic experiences related to landscape design in a contemporary, global context.

This celebration is possible thanks to Marina Cervera, executive director of this Biennial, Judit Duaigües, Yuan Li, Irma Olivares, Monica MacKay and Aina Puig, the women behind the scenes who are responsible for all of us being here today.

Also, thank you to the dozens of academics, professionals, volunteers and technical staff who make the Prizes and the Symposium run like clockwork every two years.

The edition of the award saw the participation of 72 schools from 26 countries: Italy, Greece, China, Bolivia, Brazil, Spain, Colombia, Philippines, USA, Venezuela, Chile, Norway, Germany, Canada, India, Australia, Israel, Turkey, UK, Argentina, Lithuania, Switzerland, Peru, New Zealand, Poland and Finland.

After reviewing and discussing the projects presented, 10 candidates were nominated as **Finalists**, which were invited to present their work on Friday 24th at the Barcelona School of Architecture: the Technical University of Crete, Pontificia Universidad Católica de Chile, Diego Portales University, The Arctic University of Norway, Istanbul Technical University, Technical University of Munich, Chongqing University, ETH Zurich, Pontificia Universidad Católica del Perú and the School of Arts Design and Architecture of the Aalto University.

As a result of the presentations and after further discussion on the projects presented by each institution, the Jury awarded the title of **Special Mention** to two Schools:

Istanbul Technical University

The entry presents a coherent and structured teaching in historical and ecological knowledge to study new tools for projects integrating climate issues.

The work stands out for the great clarity to the programmes, which are very well articulated, especially in the verbal presentation. The projects, likewise, are strongly developed with robust designs exhibiting multi-scalar complexity, from region to locality, urban to rural, and heat island to climate change. The jury is particularly charmed by this multi-scalar approach to trees—individual trees were encountered by students as personalities interdependent with city and people.

Pontifical Catholic University of Peru

The work of this school presents a strong focus on the cultural dimension of the landscape through its various scales, with a view to innovation and ecological diversity.

The projects presented under the banner of ‘Landscape as a Tool for Coexistence’ shows real dedication to robust and imaginative methodology, resulting in engagement with sites through processes, dynamics, and territories. Not only is the systematic methodology rich and interesting, but so are the designs, the delightful imagery, and the very articulate presentation of the projects and programmes.

Finally, the jury awarded the title of **Winner** of the School Prize of the International Biennial of Landscape, the first named after Ribas Piera, the entry presented by:

UiT Arctic University of Norway

Working across landscapes, seascapes, and cityscapes with an ethic grounded in site-based research, transects, and walking, the Arctic University of Norway creates exceptional studio work. It presents a curriculum anchored in the ecological, cultural and economic reality that draws on history, legislation and evaluation processes to independently identify project issues.

Richly illustrated projects make strong cases for expressive designs, which are also rendered as physical models. The ultimate goal of the studio is to design processes rather than achieve concrete outcomes; building atmospheres that share life and work. The exemplary work in the portfolio presented impressed all the jurors, and the gravitas of the life presentation at the

Barcelona School of Architecture organized by the Biennial convinced us that this was the unanimous favourite.

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Carme Ribas

Laurence Vacherot

Tim Waterman

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