



AWARDS

13 projects bid for Scots prize

The RIAS Andrew Doolan award for the 'best building in Scotland' has revealed its shortlist of 13 schemes in the running for the £25,000 prize – the largest sum offered in a British architecture competition

The AJ can exclusively reveal the 13-strong shortlist in the running for the largest cash prize contest in British architecture; this year's RIAS Andrew Doolan Best Building in Scotland Award.

Past winners of the £25,000 prize, organised by the Royal Incorporation of Architects in Scotland (RIAS), include Archial

Architects' Small Animal Hospital (2009) and Elder and Cannon's Shettleston Housing Association offices (2010), both in Glasgow.

The jury at the shortlisting stage was chaired by Andrew MacMillan and included RIAS president Sholto Humphries, Sandy Robinson, principal architect at the Scottish

government's Architecture and Place division, and Jonathan Speirs of Speirs + Major Associates.

RIAS secretary and treasurer Neil Baxter said: 'The names may not be as well known as those that recur in other major architectural awards, but there is no question that there is as much

thought and ingenuity in these Scottish projects as there is in the best European architecture.

'That most entries are modest in scale is indicative of the commissioning climate and the fact that so much is channelled through contractors, so that the emphasis on architectural quality is reduced.' *Richard Waite*

1. 10 Pearce Street, Govan
Austin-Smith: Lord
2. Glentress Peel visitor centre, Gaia Architects
3. Phoenix Flowers, 7N Architects
4. The Houl, Simon Winstanley Architects
5. University of Edinburgh Business School, LDN Architects
6. Dundee House, Reich and Hall Architects
7. Gróidians, Richard Gibson Architects
8. Hillcrest Housing Association HQ, Nicoll Russell Studios
9. National Museum of Scotland, Gareth Hoskins Architects
10. Hillhead Primary School, JM Architects
11. Linlithgow Burgh Halls, Malcolm Fraser Architects
12. Centre for the Scottish War Blinded, Page\ Park Architects
13. The Brochs of Coigach, SBA Architects

COMMENT

'The late Andrew Doolan was a friend of mine, and we often discussed the condition of Scottish architecture over a bottle of wine in his Edinburgh hotel. In many ways, his award has captured the zeitgeist; independent of the Stirling Prize and the RIBA Awards, it obliges Scotland to stand on its own two feet, and prove that it has the talent that is so often overlooked by down south.'

'This year's list is not as strong as previous years, but nonetheless it contains some crackers. Perhaps the shortlist is simply not short enough. For top awards like the Doolan, I'm inclined to consider the degree of difficulty and the economic context behind a project, as well as its underlying architectural quality, and there are several substantial projects that would be RIBA winners in any year.'

Rab Bennetts, co-founder of RIBA Stirling Prize 2011 shortlisted practice Bennetts Associates and winner of the 2008 Doolan prize

1/KEITH HUNTER 2/MICHAEL WOLCHOVER 3/16/11/DAVE MORRIS 4/8/9/10/12/ANDREW LEE 5/PAUL ZANRE 7/RICHARD GIBSON ARCHITECTS 13/REINER LUTKEN