



Information about the Amsterdam Architecture Prize

The annual Amsterdam Architecture Prize, an initiative of the Amsterdam architecture centre ARCAM, was established in 2008. The procedure followed for awarding the prize is always the same. Each year in January an inventory is drawn up of all the new buildings completed in the previous year. Between 25 and 30 buildings are then chosen and are included in a publication. The following are involved in this selection process: the entire ARCAM team, namely the executive board, programme committee and staff, as well as outside experts specially invited for the occasion. ARCAM then appoints a jury, consisting of an architect, an architectural theorist and an architecture critic. This jury is asked to go and view the crop of new buildings and to single out one project for the prize, the 'Golden A.A.P.' The prize is emphatically intended for the project's architect and client: both receive a medal.

Each year the prize focuses attention on the very best of architectural output within the city's boundaries. The prize is awarded to the project that is the most visually appealing, or is the most exemplary of the current situation in Amsterdam, or is the most daring and innovative, or ideally, all of these.

When selecting the 25 to 30 buildings, the following aspects are considered: is the building in question of a high quality architecturally (from concept to detail), is it exemplary of its type, is it in itself, and/or in the Amsterdam context, groundbreaking, and does it meet the brief and the available budget.

The ultimate aim of the prize is to stimulate public debate about architecture in Amsterdam.

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