

Museum or Exhibition Space

WINNER

LAURENSCHURCH, ROTTERDAM

BY KOSSMANN.DEJONG

Kossmann.dejong faced the challenge of transforming one of Rotterdam's oldest buildings into an exhibition space that told the stories of the landmark while still respecting its sanctity as a church.

Laurenschurk has played a key role in the everyday lives of people in Rotterdam for centuries and the tales of what has happened in and around the church have been represented in a permanent exhibition. To ensure the regular activities of Laurenschurk could continue without interference, the exhibition spaces were limited to the chapels. Kossmann.dejong used the church's architecture as the canvas and only added few visual elements and murals so that the white walls remained visible. The designers mixed various types of media and disciplines together to make the visual exhibition into an interactive one by adding audio. Using a specially created audio book and headphones that is designed to resemble a bible, visitors are invited to engage with the displays so that they can gain in-depth knowledge of the space and ask questions. 'The result is an exhibition in which the various chapels tell stories about different aspects of the area: the past and the present, life and death, the city's bombing and its reconstruction as well as its silence,' say the designers at Kossmann.dejong.

This project also won an FX Award in the Public Space category.

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Photo: Thijs Wolzak

FINALISTS & JUDGES COMMENTS



SOUTH LONDON GALLERY
by 6a Architects
'Transformation of a traditional space into something unexpected, drawing the visitor in.'



WIM CROUWEL: A GRAPHIC ODYSSEY
by 6a Architects and Spin
'Beautifully modern with striking simplicity.'



A STORY OF ISLAMIC EMBROIDERY
by Colin Morris Associates
'Clever design and lighting helps tell the story.'



WEDGE-1
by Collaborative Architecture
'Eye-catching and exciting.'



MYSTERIOUS FOREST
by LASVIT
'Fantastically captured mystery through colours and shapes.'



CHOPIN MUZEUM, WARSAW
by Migliore + Servetto Architetti Associati
'A classic theme approached in a very modern way.'

Public Space

WINNER

LAURENSCHURCH, ROTTERDAM

BY KOSSMANN DEJONG

Laurenschurch is one of the oldest buildings in Rotterdam, and is more than just a place for worship, as it is regularly used for concerts, readings, and other cultural events. Kossmann.dejong was given the task of designing a public space that manifests the stories of Laurenschurch and respects the church as a monument, while still providing plenty of space for activities. The design studio – based in Amsterdam – decided to limit the areas for public exploration to the chapels, allowing churchgoers to worship in peace, while a specially developed audio book – complete with headphones – has been created to offer visitors an in-depth history of the church, while still continuing the disturbance-free theme.

The characteristic white walls remain intact, but thought-provoking exhibition pieces line these walls, marrying the old with the new, and offering the opportunity for discussion. Modern exhibitions featuring comic-book-style history lessons sit beside a more traditional part of Laurenschurch – the Chapel of Library, which is filled with darkwood shelving, furniture and beautiful old books. Spiritual areas, such as the Chapel of Prayer, provide a striking and fitting area to sit and reflect.

This is the second FX Award for this project, which also won the Museum or Exhibition Space category. This double win was put first in both categories by different judges.


SPONSORED BY: 



Photo: Thijs Wolzak

FINALISTS & JUDGES COMMENTS



Photo: Atkins

OXFORD CIRCUS STREETScape IMPROVEMENTS AND DIAGONAL CROSSINGS
by Atkins; West One Infrastructure
‘Created a modern basis in this area, changing the experience for the better.’



WALDORF HILTON RECEPTION
by designLSM
‘A touch of glamour that is in keeping with the tradition of the establishment.’



Photo: Tim Crocker and Hilton - Crow

CORBY CUBE
by Hawkins\Brown
‘Innovative project with beautiful interiors that clearly demonstrates ambition and creativity.’



Photo: James Medcraft

PLATFORM 5
by Jason Bruges Studio
‘Maximising an under-utilised ‘gallery’ space and captured audiences.’



Photo: Mattia Boero - City of Turin

TURIN 2011 – LOOK OF THE CITY 150TH ANNIVERSARY OF ITALIAN UNIFICATION
by Migliore + Servetto Architetti Associati
‘Clever use of simple dressing to inform and entertain.’



Photo: Ian Bruce Photography

DUBLIN AIRPORT TERMINAL 2
by Pascall + Watson architects
‘Simple and modern approach gives it a clean, spacious atmosphere.’