

## DUTCH JURY REPORT

### **DIVERSITY**

The jury of the 11<sup>th</sup> Concrete Design Competition was impressed with the diversity of the entries. To comprehend the diversity and the impact of these 40 entries - most of them had two posters – the jury recognized common themes or type of application that were seen in the student ideas.

There were quite some ideas on green façades, which is a theme we see often revisited in the Concrete Design Competition. Further hybrid details of columns and structures in the combination concrete with wood. There was a diverse group of entries that discussed structural functions, playful landscape additions, façade elements and elements for a pavilion or garden open structured wall or roof. And a group of ideas that specifically focused on the architectural study of the theme PRESENCE. These were all wonderful ideas beautifully presented. But the jury needed to choose nominations and then the winners.

In the first round the jury members studied all the posters and came with a personal top five. These were combined and discussed in depth to come to the eight nominees. Out of those the winners were chosen.

### **PRESENCE**

The theme of the 11<sup>th</sup> edition is PRESENCE. PRESENCE can be interpreted as how an object, a building, a bridge, a piece of furniture is perceived and experienced. How the use of material supports its functional purpose. PRESENCE shows how an object presents itself and comes across. It escapes interpretations as good and bad, beautiful or ugly. When an object has presence, it just is. There is no need to wonder why it is as it is. It is clear and understood. Timeless. Durable.

### **Honorable mention**

*BT732 Playground of the future* is about modular, 3D printed concrete blocks that stimulate the fantasy of children in playgrounds. As a close runner-up the jury decided to award this idea with an honorable mention. As the only idea that used 3D printing of concrete, they also saw this mention as a stimulus to the development of this building technique. The jury liked the idea of vandal-proof elements that can be reused and regrouped to other formations and at other locations. They also appreciated the fact that sustainability was taken into account and the combination with bamboo. The jury made the remark and suggestion for

further development to embrace the potential of the 3D printing technique to more diversify the modular system (in details).

### **Third Place**

*SC111 Skycrete* presents beautiful curved concrete shapes to form a roof and provide a spectacular illumination of the space beneath. The jury appreciated the joining of the elements to span larger spaces, some smart construction techniques were proposed in the idea. They especially mentioned the presence of the curved shape and how it effects the experience of the space. The jury didn't buy into the idea of waterproofing the roof with the details provided, but this could be a good further development of the idea to ensure it's usability.

The jury awarded third place with € 800,- in prize money.

### **Second Place**

*FS001 Fabric[ating] Strength* shows the idea of structural use of Concrete Canvas: two layers of fabric with dried cement mixture in between that hardens when hydrated and cured. The jury liked the idea and the possible variations in shape of the column created, also the reduce of material needed. But they doubted if the product and design would be able to be used as structural elements. They looked up the Concrete Canvas info and gave this idea the benefit of the doubt because of the great presence these columns can give at indoor spaces.

The jury awarded second place with € 1000,- in prize money and three students are invited to join the Concrete Design Masterclass.

### **First Place**

*HW004 HydroWall* presents a modular façade panel system that collects and stores rainwater. Due to the difference in permeability of the concrete structure the water can be collected in the more open parts of the sleekly designed elements. The jury appreciated the nifty internal overflowing water system and the fact that within this grid plants and mosses have the ability to start growing, while the frame stays clear of staining from dirt. They wondered if the back of the panel would be enough watertight, but decided that this was easy to accomplish by choosing the right concrete mixture.

The jury awarded first place with € 1200,- in prize money and three students are invited to join the Concrete Design Masterclass.

### **Nominated Ideas**

As explained, eight ideas were nominated, below the nominees that weren't awarded are mentioned – in alphabetical order:

#### *BB666 Capitello di Cemento e Legno*

The spectacular design of the column capital in concrete to fit the wooden beam was called poetic, timeless design, realistic, although complex. Some jurors were very smitten by this idea, others thought its usability and impact being too low.

#### *SL527 Stack 'N Lock*

This complex locking system of stackable column elements was regarded by the jury possible to build with, but not very likely to be practically feasible. They appreciated the locking system, but didn't see the presence of these columns adding much character to an indoor space.

#### *TT069 Unbound Boundaries*

Although not a product or intended for practical application, the jury appreciated the architectural quality of this sculptural structure, just for its presence.

#### *XP386 X-Plants*

The façade element was regarded as being able to go into production tomorrow, it is the most furthest developed idea of all, although seen by the jury as just to fit this building. They appreciated the design of the hexagons on front, but doubted the watering system.

### **THE JURY**

We thank the members of the jury of the 11<sup>th</sup> edition of the Concrete Design Competition 2023-2024 for their time and dedication:

- Pim Peters – IMd raadgevende ingenieurs
- Albert Herder – Studioninedots
- Arjen Ketting - MVRDV
- Paul Stavert – Powerhouse Company
- Jan de Koning – De Jong Beton