

DesignLoft V2.0

Competitions, Events, News

Slant Awards Spring 2012 Competition



kingsam_editor · Tuesday, March 13th, 2012

ARTICLE VIEWED : Slant Awards Spring 2012 Competition times

The main idea behind SLANT is to provide an opportunity to recognise, reward and promote contemporary works right across the entire spectrum of design, and we propose that one of the best ways of achieving this aim will be through the medium of international competitions.

Overview of Competition

Welcome to the third SLANT competition and this competition is open to all, with the challenge being to design a concept plan for a city sector which is undergoing urban renewal. As in our previous competitions we want you to have as free a hand as possible when designing this project; therefore we are keeping the brief flexible and the entry requirements to a minimum.

The city in question is not a real city, it has been designed solely for this competition, and its location is not being specified. It is a generic city that could be almost anywhere in the world and you are free to choose the country in which you would like this imaginary city to be located. The 'blanks' or 'options' in the brief are deliberate, and the opportunity on offer to the entrants is that they can fill in the blanks in any way that they choose. For example you decide the country, the climate and who the citizens are likely to be.

We hope that by adopting this approach that you will feel free to demonstrate to the judges not only your planning skills, but also, equally importantly, your creative talents. As you will see, the site in question is made up of five distinct but linked zones and you are being

asked to propose a design for the entire site.

Note: You are not obliged to design ever sqM of the site, but equally your design must remain within the site boundary. However there is an exception to this rule and it is that, in the area of the shoreline you are welcome to design any structures that you feel are appropriate, and which stretch out into and/or above the lake water.

As before, we are proposing this project as a project of the imagination, for the imagination.

Site Details

Background: The 'City' which has a population of 750,000 has been selected by a prestigious international foundation to be the location for a new and important museum. It is intended that this museum will house collections of local, national and international origins and the foundation is confident that the museum will be seen as an important development for the city and at the same time that it will help to foster the educational and cultural activities for which the foundation is internationally known and respected. There has been a settlement in this region of the city for many centuries and evidence of this has been found which dates back over two thousand years. Obviously the city has developed in stages over this time, but it is believed that people first started to settle in this particular area which is close to the lake shore and to the mouth of the river. For many years there was a strong tradition of fishing, and the area around the Old Market Square was at one time the main centre of this activity. At one time the square itself was the site of a thriving open air fish market, and later a covered market with some warehouses grew up on what will now to become the museum grounds. The fish market was closed in the 1970's and subsequently the site and its buildings had a variety of uses, mainly storage, but by 2008 it had become semi derelict and was acquired by the city council. The citizens of the city are naturally delighted that their city has been chosen as the location for this new museum and as part of the deal they have agreed, through their city council, to undertake certain additional public works which are intended to breathe new and sustainable life in to this sector of the city.

The key features of this ambitious programme of urban renewal will include: ? A new underground car park beneath the Tram Plaza, (formerly cars were parked on the surface). ? The Old Market Square to be pedestrianised. ? Access to the underground rail link to be provided in The Old Market Square. ? To create a public park in the grounds of the Museum which will be accessible from a number of different points, including from the Museum itself. ? The Waterfront Park was first developed in the 1980's but is now in need of renewal. ? The Lakeshore is very popular; however it lacks proper public facilities.

Description of Site

The site covers an area of 27 ha+/- and is located next to a lake. We have broken down the site into five zones, but remember you do not need to fill every sqM, (unless you want to) and we are thinking in particular here of Zones D & E.

Zone A: Tram Plaza. Zone B: Old Market Square. Zone C: Museum Grounds. Zone D: Waterfront Park. Zone E: Lakeshore.

[caption id="attachment_537" align="alignnone" width="300" caption="Architecture-Competitions - slant-awards-spring-2012-competition @ Design Loft.com"][/caption]

Zone A: Tram Plaza This plaza covers an area of some 2.9 ha+/- and is open to traffic by both public and private transport. There is a tram line which passes through, and this includes a tram stop which is located outside a large shopping centre on the SE side of the plaza. To the NW you will find a block which contains a mixture of offices and apartments and beside this in the corner to the North is a theatre. The buildings along the NE side of the plaza are all shops, and to the SW you will find a fast food café, a coffee shop and a hotel. There will be a underground car park beneath the Plaza and you will need to provide access as part of your design. This is therefore a busy commercial centre with lots of movement and diverse activity. In the Western corner of the plaza you will find a pedestrian street which leads to the Old Market Square.

Zone B: Old Market Square. This area is approximately 1.5 ha and in contrast to The Tram Plaza it is to be fully pedestrianised. Deliveries will be allowed outside of normal trading hours so you will need to allow for this in your design. We are suggesting that this area is more relaxed than the Tram Plaza, and that it will therefore become a much more social area. The square is surrounded by a mixture of shops and food and drink outlets, and there is a Place of Worship on the SE side, a Police Station to the N, and on the NE side is the main entrance to the Museum. Further along there is a pedestrian access point to the Museum Grounds. **NOTE: The location and designation of buildings which have been given a specific label, such as ?Hotel?, ?Restaurant,? etc cannot be altered, however buildings which have been given the generic title of ?shop? or ?business premises? may, if you wish, be given a more specific designation**

Zone C: Museum Grounds. For the purpose of this competition we are leaving the exact detail of the Museum building open and so this is an opportunity for you to have your say, and to influence a suitably integrated design. **Note: What we are showing you by way of the Museum?s footprint, its basic internal layout and its volume cannot be altered in anyway. The position of the Main Entrance and its forecourt cannot be altered. You are however free to suggest the position and nature of external windows and doors, along with the external rendering for the entire building (i.e. choice of material and colour).** The irregular shape of the Museum

site was in part a factor in the design of the building itself, but the Architects aspiration was to create a building which would represent a timeline which would connect the modern city with its origins and in particular its earliest links with the lake. The galleries are on two floors and the main hall is intended to be a flexible space which will be used for temporary exhibitions/installations. It is also planned that this hall will be used as an auditorium for live shows, conferences, video presentations etc. Light, both artificial and natural will be tightly controlled right throughout the building, with windows in the galleries being kept to the minimum. However larger windows in the main hall, with views to the lake could be an important consideration. We are also suggesting that there could be a large amount of glazing used in both the bookshop and the restaurant. We believe that some of the important opportunities from a landscape design point of view arise from the following: ? The angular shape of the building, (this does not necessarily mean that your design needs to be angular, the choice is yours.) ? The existence of two courtyards, one between the main building and the bookshop/admin section, and the other between the main building and the restaurant, ? The public will have free access to the grounds without having to go through the Museum building, however the Museum and its grounds will be closed over night and the perimeter will need to be secure. ? Part of the perimeter of the Museum Grounds is shared by the Waterfront Park, and the Waterfront will remain open at all times. ? The Museum Grounds cover approximately 2.7 ha.

Zone E: Waterfront Park. This is one of the two large zones included in this challenge and it runs to some 9.5 ha. This park is an obvious and important link between the city and its lake and will, we expect, provide lots of opportunity for leisure activities.

Zone D: Lakeshore.

It is up to you to decide the topography of the Lakeshore. In other words it could be all sand or all rock or a combination of both. It could include natural vegetation or none. What we can say is that the water quality is excellent and that the lake is renowned as a safe place to swim and is ideal for all manner of water sports and activities. But we can also say that it is totally underdeveloped and lacks even the basic amenities. You are free, should you so choose, to design any manner of structures both on the shore itself, but also beyond the waterline. The area of the Lakeshore is 9 ha+/-.

Summary We see this as a great opportunity for you to come up with a concept/master plan for this exciting project and the clients are very open to your suggestions, however they are asking for a design that will be people centred and in keeping with the fabric of the city, and don't forget that you can decide a lot of what that fabric might be.

Note: The layout of the streets cannot be altered in any way; however the height and appearance of the buildings may be determined to suit the character of your ?virtual city?.

Levels: You are free to decide the contours of this site including making it level throughout.

Eligibility

This is a worldwide competition open to all those who have an interest in landscape design and urban planning. Everyone from whatever background and level of experience is welcome to enter and previously we have had submissions from Landscape Architects, Architects, Engineers, Planners, and Artists. Students of all disciplines and at all levels of study are especially encouraged to enter. The official language of the competition is English.

Submissions

? Poster/s ? Written Project Description ? Entry Form and Declaration of Consent/Authorship ? Entry Fee

Posters:- Submissions may be made either in digital format, or if you prefer your drawings may be sent in via standard mail.

Digital submissions: (e.g. pdf, jpg etc) must have a combined file size no greater than 12MB and containing a maximum of five posters. Please ensure that your registration number is clearly displayed on each poster. Please email your digital submissions to mail@slant.eu to arrive no later than midnight GMT on **11 June 2012**.

Paper submissions: You may send up to five drawings with a maximum page size of A2, although we suggest that a page size of A3 should be more than adequate.

Paper submissions must be sent postmarked no later than the **11 June 2012** to: Hugh Ryan, Slant Organisation, Kilballyowen, Aughrim, Co. Wicklow. Ireland Postage must be pre-paid and at no cost to the recipient. Incomplete submissions may be rejected so please ensure that you have everything in order.

Project Description: Please include a written description of your proposal of up to 1000 words in support of your design, again ensuring that your registration number and not your name is clearly displayed.

Submission Check List: ? Poster/s ? Written Project Description ? Entry Form and Declaration of Consent/Authorship ? Entry Fee

Awards

1st Prize Euro 1,000

2nd Prize Euro 600

3rd Prize Euro 400

In addition to the cash prizes the award winners will also receive a certificate signed by the judges, along with a critique of their design. Award winners will have their projects prominently displayed on **slant.eu** and on the Slant Facebook Page.

Up to six additional projects will be awarded a certificate of "High

Commendation", and these projects will also be published on the Slant website and on the Slant Facebook Page.

Dates

01.march.2012: Launch of Slant Awards Spring 2012.

13.april.2012: Last day to avail of discounted entry fee.

11.june.2012: Deadline for completed submissions.

09.july.2012: Publication of Long list

13.august.2012: Publication of Short list.

September: Announcement of Slant Award Winners Spring 2012

This entry was posted on Tuesday, March 13th, 2012 at 1:45 pm and is filed under [Architecture](#), [Competitions](#), [Design](#)
You can follow any responses to this entry through the [Comments \(RSS\)](#) feed. You can leave a response, or [trackback](#) from your own site.