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## **Netherlands Sheep Stable wins Pleasure category at World Architecture Festival Awards 2008**

### **“Building relates architecture and nature, both inside and out”**

The Sheep Stable in Almere, the Netherlands, designed by Dutch/ Swedish practice 70F Architecture, has been named the World’s Best Pleasure Building at the prestigious World Architecture Festival Awards (WAF Awards) 2008.

The WAF Awards took place at the Centre Convencions International Barcelona (CCIB) during the inaugural World Architecture Festival in Barcelona between the 22<sup>nd</sup> and 24<sup>th</sup> October. The biggest architectural awards programme in the world, the WAF Awards are designed to celebrate the work, concerns and aspirations of the international architectural community.

The Sheep Stable was voted for by some of the world’s most distinguished architects and renowned industry experts. It triumphed over fierce competition from a shortlist of 10 entries and was awarded the prize for relating architecture and nature, both inside and out.

The judges said: “The architects had to design a modest building to house a small flock of sheep in a park near the city that could also receive visitors for education purposes. The solution was a very simple form – a wooden tube-shaped pavilion set in a park. The construction uses a clear curved steel structure clad in wood and the building’s form suggests references to the local vernacular and manufacturing techniques. It appears like an artificial element that relates architecture and nature, both inside and out.”

Speaking at the WAF Awards Paul Finch, WAF programme director and editor of Architectural Review, said: “We have seen a huge response to the Awards, which recognise and celebrate international excellence. The quantity and quality of the

entries provides a real showcase of global architecture and highlights how architects change the way we think about buildings. Our congratulations go to 70F Architecture for The Sheep Stable which thoroughly deserves this accolade.”

World Architecture Festival, organised by Emap is one of the most significant dates in the global architectural calendar. It is the biggest architectural event in the world, which looks beyond borders to celebrate the finest work from the world’s greatest architects.

Other category winners included:

- Energy, Waste & Recycling - Landscape Restoration of the Controlled Rubbish Dump “La Vall d’en Joan”, Spain, designed by Batlle & Roig Architects, Landscape Architect, Spain.
- Health – Centre pour le Bien-être des Femmes et la prévention des mutilations génitales féminines ‘G.Kambou, Burkina Faso, designed by FAREstudio, Italy.
- Holiday - Nk’Mip Desert Cultural Centre, Canada, designed by Hoston Bakker Boniface Haden Architects, Canada.
- Nature – Olympic Sculpture Park, Seattle Art Museum, USA, designed by Weiss/ Manfredi Architecture/ Landscape/ Urbanism, USA.
- Learning – Universita Luigi Bocconi, Italy, designed by Grafton Architects, Ireland.
- Civic - GZBICC – Guangzhou Baiyun International Convention Center designed by Buro II.
- Culture – Oslo Operahouse, Norway, designed by SNØHETTA, Norway.
- Housing Development - Mountain Dwellings, Denmark, designed by BIG-Bjarke Ingels Group, Denmark.

- New & Old - Robert and Arlene Kogod Courtyard, Smithsonian Institution, USA by Foster + Partners, UK.
- Office - Duoc Corporate Building, Chile, by Sabbagh Arquitectos, Chile.
- Production - BMW Welt - Event, Exhibition and Automobile Delivery Center, Germany, by Coop Himmelb(l)au, Austria.
- Religion & Contemplation - Dornbusch Church, Germany by Meixner Schlüter Wendt Architekten, Germany.
- Sport - Sports Hall Bale, Croatia, by 3LHD Architects, Hungary.
- Shopping - K:fem, Sweden by Wingårdh Arkitektkontor AB, Sweden.
- Private Houses - Final Wooden House, Japan by Sou Fujimoto Architects, Japan.
- Transport - Nordpark Cable Railway, Austria by Zaha Hadid Architects, UK.

**-Ends-**

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[www.worldarchitecturefestival.com](http://www.worldarchitecturefestival.com)

**Notes to editors:**

**Emap**

The organiser of the World Architecture Festival, Emap, runs a number of other festivals including the World Retail Congress and Cannes Lions International Advertising Festival. It is also publishes The Architectural Review, The Architects' Journal, and Middle East Economic Digest.

**Judging panel**

Raj Rewal, India

Charles Jencks, UK  
Eva Jiricna, Czech Republic  
Hanif Kara, Uganda  
Nabil Gholam, Lebanon  
Cecil Balmond, UK  
Stefan Behnisch, Germany  
Will Alsop, UK  
Margrét Harðardóttir, Iceland  
Luis Mansilla, Spain  
Gert Wingardh, Sweden  
Francine Houben, The Netherlands  
Françoise-Hélène Jourda, France  
Neil Denari, USA  
Fatih Rifki, UAE  
Suha Ozkan, Turkey  
Horacio Torrent, Chile  
Yung Ho Chang, China  
Christoph Ingenhoven, Germany  
Ken Yeang, Singapore  
Richard Burdett, UK  
John Denton, Australia  
Christopher Kelly, New Zealand  
Massimiliano Fuksas, Italy  
Lee Polisano, US  
Michel Rojkind, Mexico  
Niels Torp, Norway  
Shane O'Toole, Ireland  
Marcelo Ferraz, Brazil  
David Mackay, Spain  
Vladimir Plotkin, Russia