

YAP ISTANBUL MODERN THE JURY'S REVIEW



The president of the jury, Prof. Dr. Suha Özkan:

“The Jury has unanimously selected Sky Spotting Stop by SO? to be implemented in the courtyard of Istanbul Modern.

In the proposal by SO?, the total functioning of the components creatively derives its energy from the site. This energy, taken from the immediate environment, also has the potential to generate additional energy. The project is a celebration of movement and light.

Fragmentation of the canopy into individual circular panels transforms the movement of the reflected light into poetic waves of light and shade. Patches of reflected light dancing in the dark and shadows that float during the day add amazing vitality to the environment. The multiple functions of the fragmented canopy render the project rich, engaging and playful. The continuous movement of the buoyed posts supporting the circular canopies reproduces the sound and image of the ships moored to the quay and establishes an exciting association between the two different types of posts. The harmony of the posts on

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land and sea generates a fascinating dialogue. The project is feasible and carries no financial risks of exceeding the allocated budget. The engagement of local industrial groups and the utilization of local and used materials were noted as positive aspects. The originality of the selected project will contribute to the aesthetic world of architecture and design.”

The Philip Johnson Chief Curator of Architecture and Design at MoMA, Barry Bergdoll:

The outpouring of creative energy of the five teams who competed as finalists in the first edition of the Young Architects Program in Istanbul is a testament to the strength of the design culture in Turkey in this moment of cultural effervescence: “Those five projects will join fifteen others, the finalists in this year’s competitions in New York, Rome, and Santiago (Chile) to make the most exciting exhibition of young architectural talent in recent years. For the site at the Istanbul Modern all of the teams sought to make visible the invisible—whether on the macro-level of making the culture of construction and destruction in the Turkish metropolis into a theme, or in making the presence of the sea under the site palpable. The winning project is a deceptively simple response to this desire to bring the presence of the sea into a site with a wonderful view but a barrier to the actual coastline in the form of the customs zone fence. A small forest of poles swaying not in the wind but with the movement of the waters of the Bosphorus under the Istanbul Modern’s plaza will create a setting for outdoor events and socializing for the museum’s summer—bringing some of the dynamism of the galleries into a public space on the water’s edge waiting to be discovered and used. Here is architecture at its best—a simple gesture transforms a space into an environment and a gathering point. ”

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Senior Curator of Architecture MAXXI, Pippo Ciorra:

“Sky Spotting Spot immediately jumped on me as the possible winner of YAP Istanbul Modern 2013. Among five very good projects and at least a couple of close runners the SO? proposal showed a very convincing attitude to achieve the most with the minimum building effort—an example of ‘sustainable’ sustainability—and to play perfectly both the conceptual and the functional role. I’m sure Istanbul Modern will gain a lot by the presence of such installation in its open space.”