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THE ANNUAL INTERNATIONAL DESIGN AWARDS WINNERS ANNOUNCED

The IDA Juries have finalized this year's annual Design Awards winners selections

Apr 12 2015

LOS ANGELES, Mar 26 2015 Los Angeles, Jan Vacek, Martin Smid of Czech Republic was awarded: First Prize in Home Interior Products Competition for the KUF Project.

IDA honorary juries examined over 1000 entries submitted by architects and designers of interiors, fashion, products, and graphics from 52 countries throughout the world. After final decisions had been made, the jury rewarded the best professional and emerging designers for their achievements in terms of design, creativity, usability and innovation. Judging was a rigorous process, with winners receiving publication of their work in the International Design Awards Book of Designs. The coveted IDA Trophy will be awarded to all Designer of the Year title winners at the official biennial International Design Awards Ceremony in Los Angeles.

This annual competition recognizes, honors and promotes legendary design visionaries and uncovers emerging talents in Architecture, Interior, Product, Graphic and Fashion Design on global level.

The members of the jury included **Alice Blackwood** Editor, Design Quarterly, **Kahi Lee** - Host, HGTV's "Design on a Dime", Style Network's "My Celebrity Home", **Melissa Sterry** - Interdisciplinary Design Scientist, Founder, Societas, **Josh Rubin** - Editor-in-Chief, Founder, and Publisher, Cool Hunting, **Martin Venzky** - Stalling, Senior Advisor, CMU STeP, **Jeffrey Nemeroff** - Co-Founder, Creative Director, Entra Magazine, **Jordan Landes-Brenman** CEO, Haute House PR & Marketing, **Raj Nandan** - Managing Director, Indesign Group, **William Menking** - Founder, Editor-in-Chief, The Architects' Newspaper, **Nicole Lloyd** - Senior Art Buyer, Deutsch, Inc., **Rebecca Epstein Kong** - Co-founder, Artware Editions, Aaron Kenedi - Editor-in-Chief, Print, **Geraldine Grisey** - Editor, Punky B Fashion Diary.

The Jan Vacek, Martin Smid of Czech Republic, was awarded: First Prize prize in Home Interior Products competition for the KUF project

PROJECT DESCRIPTION

KUF is modular system of decorative lighting components for residential and public spaces The basic module in 500 x 500 mm dimensions can be installed on walls or ceilings as well as an decorative cladding for large surfaces or as an individual lighting. Further use of KUF systém is in various architectural forms or interior components, at reception or information desks, at spatial solitary elements, partitions, screens... Construction and light source The basic module of the KUF system consists of lampshade-plate and original way mounted 16 pieces of large crystal stones made from leaded glass as combination pressed and cut glass. Mounting of the glass stones is done invisibly from inside the module construction. The module is installed as a whole on the underlying surface with the possibility of rectification in all directions. Light source is set of LED strips attached to the base plate of the module. The glass stone The glass stones can be attached to the plate in perpendicular direction or in various angles, can be deployed in regular or irregular forms to create decor, pattern, symbols in symmetrical or assymetrical order... The basic design line of the system is regularly repeating arrangement of stones perpendicular to the lampshade-plate, alternately rotated at 90 degree angle - was inspired by Kufi alphabet (old Arabic alphabet) in perpendicular lines - and therefore is named as KUF. The glass stones can be produced in crystal and also in various colored stones like ruby, amber or smoky colors. Thanks to the technology that was used is KUF glass stone in 120 x 120 mm dimensions the largest industrially manufactured molded part made in the Czech Republic and probably also in Europe. Lampshade and material The future customers will be able to choose material for lampshade plate from a various finishes options like glossy mirror or matt, smooth or coarsened surfaces, gold or silver metals, decorative wood, leather, fabric, stone. The variability of KUF system offers endless design possibilities. Inspiration The basic design line of the system is regularly repeating arrangement of glass stones perpendicular to the lampshade-plate, alternately rotated at 90 degree angle - The vertical and horizontal stones create ornament in regular rythm and in square raster. The inspiration for the design of this pattern stacked stones was by Kufi alphabet - old calligraphy form of letters with longer horizontal and vertical lines. The alphabet was named by Kúfa, this time a town in Iraq and was used in the old Mesopotamia a long time ago. A special

type of Kufi 's calligrams are words written in square shape that can be found in mosaics and in Islamic architecture.

ABOUT Jan Vacek, Martin Smid:

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About IDA

A handful of designers, thinkers and entrepreneurs created the International Design Awards in 2007 as a response to the lack of recognition and celebration for smart and sustainable multidisciplinary design. The International Design Awards (IDA) exists to recognize, celebrate and promote legendary design visionaries and to uncover emerging talent in Architecture, Interior, Product, Graphic, and Fashion Design. IDA aspires to draw attention to the iconoclasm of design world wide, conceptualizing and producing great work.

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