

Wood Awards Ireland 2016

Wood Marketing Federation – promoting wood as a sustainable and versatile natural material



WOOD AWARDS IRELAND SCULPTURES BY MICHAEL WARREN

Michael Warren was commissioned by the Wood Marketing Federation to create sculptures for Wood Awards Ireland 2014 and 2016 for the overall and category winners. He was the obvious choice as wood has been his main medium in site-specific works in Spain, Korea, Andorra, England, Portugal, Japan, Ecuador, Greece, France, Morocco, USA and Saudi Arabia.

During the past six years alone, Michael Warren has had a number of major national and international exhibitions featuring wood as the main material. Exhibitions include *Unbroken Line*, Centre for Contemporary Art, Carlow (2010); *Gravity*, Crawford Art Gallery, Cork (2011); *One Foot in the Real World*, Irish Museum of Modern Art, Dublin (2013); *Those who go / Those who stay*, Limerick City Gallery of Art (2014); *Predella*, Galerie Weiller (2016) Paris, as well as three exhibitions in the Hillsboro Fine Art Gallery, Dublin.

He has received a number of Irish and international awards including the Macaulay Fellowship (1978), Mont Kavanagh Award for Environmental Art (1980); Utsukushiga-Hara Open-Air Museum Award, Japan (1989), Medalla al Mérito Artístico, Madrid (1991) and Decoration of Cultural Merit, from the Government of Ecuador (1998). Michael Warren was awarded Honorary Membership of RIAI in 2012.



*Wood Awards Ireland Sculpture by Michael Warren, 2016.
Presented to overall winner.
Elm on bronze base (420x100x100mm).*



Wood Awards
Ireland 2016

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Wood Marketing Federation acknowledges the support of the RIAI including Kathryn Meghan, Chief Executive and Dr. Sandra O'Connell, Communications and Publications Manager for their continued help and co-operation. WMF also thanks our sponsors: COFORD (the Programme of Competitive Forestry Research for Development), Department of Agriculture, Food & Marine, Enterprise Ireland, AHEC (American Hardwood Export Council), Enterprise Ireland and Coillte.

Special thanks to the sculptor Michael Warren for creating the magnificent WAI 2016 awards in elm and oak.

The WMF acknowledges the following:

Jury: Ciaran O'Connor, State Architect; Dr. Sandra O'Connell, RIAI; Des O'Toole, Coillte; Simon O'Driscoll, Simon O'Driscoll Furniture; Margaret Walsh, Mike Shanahan & Associates; Seán Harrington, Seán Harrington Architects; John Winslow, Donnelly Turpin Architects; Neil Kerrigan, Enterprise Ireland; Donal Magner (facilitator).

Wood Awards Ireland Advisory Group: Ciaran O'Connor, OPW; Dr. Sandra O'Connell, RIAI; Rocio Perez-Inigo, AHEC; David Venables, AHEC; Paul Harvey, WMF; Neil Kerrigan, Enterprise Ireland; Des O'Toole, Coillte; Dr. Eugene Hendrick, COFORD; Simon O'Driscoll, Simon O'Driscoll Furniture; Donal Magner, WMF.

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RIAI co-ordinator: Dr. Sandra O'Connell

Design: Magner Communications & Grasshopper Graphics

Editorial consultancy: Dr. Sandra O'Connell

Project manager and editor: Donal Magner

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WMF CHAIRMAN

When we originally proposed Wood Awards Ireland in 2013, we were confident that it would succeed due to the encouragement and support from our membership, sponsors and stakeholders such as the RIAI. That's not to say that there weren't doubts expressed including the ability of the awards to attract a sufficient number of quality projects in wood, especially in a country which has a masonry rather than a wood culture.

It is gratifying therefore to claim that the projects submitted justify the awards as they demonstrate a high degree of innovation, skill and diversity in the various categories, especially in large and small-scale buildings, conservation projects, furniture, innovative wood design and international work. The projects demonstrate excellence in wood construction, design and craftsmanship, many of which would not have come to our notice without the awards.

The awards are a key part of our programme which includes publication of literature on wood usage, treatment and design, seminars and our Third Level Student Wood Awards which are now in their twelfth year. These projects reflect the role that wood is playing in sustainable living and help us to realise our vision "to promote wood as a renewable, sustainable and versatile natural material".

Many of the people and practices have been working quietly over the years, using wood as the inherent medium in their projects. However, WAI allows us the opportunity to recognise and reward architects, engineers and designers who are prepared to use wood, our greatest renewable resource, in a wide range of projects and who value this medium for its aesthetic, functional and design qualities.

Essentially, WAI is a partnership, which is why we are delighted that the RIAI is supporting the project again and who have been with us from the start. Likewise we acknowledge the generous support and sponsorship from COFORD and the Programme of Competitive Forestry Research for Development in the Department of Agriculture, Food and the Marine, AHEC (American Hardwood Export Council), Enterprise Ireland and Coillte.

These supporters value wood as a sustainable material which has major potential not only in construction and design but in sectors such as renewable energy.

I wish to thank the jury, chaired by Ciaran O'Connor, State Architect with the OPW, who visited all permanent structures entered for the awards before agreeing a shortlist of 17 projects and eventual winners. We are fortunate that so many architects, designers, engineers and other specialists gave freely of their time on the judging panel. In addition to Ciaran, my thanks to judges Dr. Sandra O'Connell, RIAI; Simon O'Driscoll, Simon O'Driscoll Furniture; Des O'Toole, Coillte; Margaret Walsh, Mike Shanahan & Associates; Seán Harrington, Seán Harrington Architects; John Winslow, Donnelly Turpin Architects; Neil Kerrigan, Enterprise Ireland and project manager Donal Magner.

Finally the Federation appreciates the support of Andrew Doyle TD, Minister of State with responsibility for forestry for his support and encouragement for Wood Awards Ireland and other WMF projects.

Paul Harvey

RIAI PRESIDENT

While difficult to quantify or measure, there is growing belief that our personal well-being is directly connected to the quality of the environment we inhabit. As an increasingly urbanised population, our daily environment is framed and shaped by the buildings we live in, go to work in, and are educated in; the buildings where we socialise and interact with friends and strangers; those where we are entertained, and those where we go for peace and quiet. For most people circulating and occupying the buildings of their everyday lives, they are not intuitively aware of the technical or structural complexities of those buildings, but they respond to the more intimate qualities, particularly the building's surfaces.

Wood is perhaps the most fundamental of building materials. It was the earliest structural element for the provision of human shelter and, to this day, makes up many component parts of modern building technique. Wood, as a building material, is quintessentially timeless. It continues to be used to construct robust structural frames, and also to decorate and enhance minute interior details. The range of timber varieties provides the architect and furniture designer with an extensive palette of colours and textures from which to combine and blend in accordance with requisite strength and durability.

The shortlist of winners in the Wood Awards Ireland 2016 represents the full spectrum of the versatility of wood, from stand-alone timber structures to a single piece of furniture. It also represents the many diverse and unique qualities of wood, for example, its ease of construction in facilitating temporary buildings, its relevance to sustainable construction particularly passive housing, and its decorative ability both externally and internally. Whether lining the walls and bookcases within the large public spaces of a library or creating gently curving seats along the walls of an intimate prayer room, wood provides the designer with structural versatility at every scale. The subtle tones and hues of natural timber, left natural or enhanced by varnishes, stains or indeed the weather, can be manipulated by the architect to give each building distinctive character.

The most important quality a building can have is meaning for its occupants and users. For many, meaning is achieved through a personal intimacy with the building either in its overall form or from an attachment to a particular nook or corner. This sense of connection contributes directly to a sense of well-being and allows us to feel comfortable in our home, safe in our classroom, and fulfilled by our activities. Our human response to wood evolves from our familiarity with it as a natural material. We trust wood. Architects know its technical strengths, that it can be procured from sustainable sources, and that its versatility as a building material is unique. But the projects on the Wood Awards Ireland 2016 shortlist demonstrate a more fundamental quality. In each case the manner in which the wood has been employed contributes to the well-being of those who encounter it.

I congratulate each of those on the shortlist and commend the organisers for recognising and rewarding excellence in design. I would also like to commend the Wood Marketing Federation for commissioning Michael Warren to design and produce the beautiful sculptures which will be presented to the winners.

Carole Pollard

“
The WAI projects reflect the role that wood is playing in sustainable living and help us to realise our vision "to promote wood as a sustainable and versatile natural material"
”

“
The most important quality a building can have is meaning for its occupants and users
”

FOREWORD

The awards jury were very pleased with the variety and quality of work submitted. Sometimes it was like comparing apples and oranges. We met on a number of occasions, both to shortlist schemes, visit the shortlist and finally to make awards. There was good debate and some close calls. We sought innovation in design and excellence in execution. We tried to avoid partisanship and propaganda.

The Wood Award, like wood itself, is not singular or one dimensional. There are many facets to this inherently sustainable material from solid sections of hardwood and softwood, through plywood, MDF, and timber systems, to veneers. The commended and awarded schemes explore the intrinsic physical properties of wood, while also developing the inherent relationship between form, technology and the brief requirements of the client. Wood has a rich and diverse history both to learn from and to learn about. It requires respect and knowledge as well art and science.

In the large-scale Public Building category there are two awards. The Samuel Beckett Civic Campus at Ballyogan Road Dublin brings urban design to a suburban area, interlinking with a linear park. The designers have integrated sustainability seamlessly into their building and site design. Wood is used in an integrated and knowledgeable way such that there is ingenuity of design and finesse of execution. The second award goes to the Model School, Inchicore, Dublin. This extension of six new classrooms, resource rooms, general purpose hall and staff facilities transforms a previously over-extended and muddled 1853 school. Wood plays its part with brick in giving a strong sense of place. Key to the detail design is the link to existing site trees which are brought into the classrooms, visually and metaphorically, through an integrated timber envelope of rainscreen cladding, windows and fitted furniture.

In the furniture category the OPTICA shop in Dawson Street, Dublin is the award winner. This shop aims at high end merchandising that is matched by high quality design and execution evident in every aspect from wood selection, jointing and craftsmanship to site installation.

The Innovation Award goes to a remarkable sculpture piece called Magnus Celestii. The free form ash spiral starts as a

desk before climbing upwards from floor to ceiling and ending with a large shelf on the side wall of the Artists' House. Vision is combined with ingenuity.

The International Award category had a high standard. Two highly commended projects in Milan and London, respectively were temporary exhibition projects. The award goes to the unique Wind and Rain Bridge in Fujian Province, China. The structure has traditional design roots yet combines digital design methodologies with modern BIM and CNC technologies. This allowed a rapid and complex bridge assemble to be carried out by unskilled labour with basic hand tools at an economic cost.

During the site visits the judges came upon an adjacent project of distinguished merit. Following discussions, it was decided to award this previously unknown recent project a Judges Award. It is the Carmelite Prayer Room in Clarendon Street Priory, Dublin. The Prayer Room in a Protected Structure that has been sensitively remodelled to create a room within a room. It is a space that is both powerful and ephemeral, a place in terms of its identity, and wonder, that you will remember.

The selection of the overall Wood Award was difficult and led to much serious debate. We finally agreed on the Samuel Beckett Civic Campus. It is a project that combines and integrates many facets of the art and science of wood design. The designers have previously developed a vocabulary and repertoire in wood design through the rigorous testing of ideas and empirical observation. They have combined this knowledge with the unique potential of both this building and its site, to give a synthesis that combines habitation with habitat.

CIARAN O'CONNOR FRIAI
STATE ARCHITECT
CHAIRPERSON, WAI JUDGING PANEL



OVERALL WINNER WOOD AWARDS IRELAND 2016

Project: Samuel Beckett Civic
Campus, Ballyogan Rd Dublin

Bucholz McEvoy Architects Ltd.

Suppliers: Cedarlan, Gem

Lead Architects: Bucholz McEvoy
Architects

Civil and Structural Engineers:
Punch Consulting Engineers

M&E Engineers: IN2

Quantity Surveyors: Sweet Group



Samuel Beckett Civic Campus in Dublin is designed as a vibrant new force for a community of diverse user groups, on a 10-hectare site. The ensemble of buildings is organised around a new landscaped civic plaza to accommodate outdoor public events, and embraces a new public linear park.

The primary material of the Civic Campus buildings is wood, endowing a human scale and proportion, as well as a robustness, that is appropriate to their use. Carefully detailed timber was chosen as the primary material for the facades and upper structure of the buildings, allowing it to simultaneously act as the internal finish of the spaces created, imbuing them with the psychologically beneficial warmth, colour and aroma of wood.



NORWAY SPRUCE
Picea abies



EUROPEAN LARCH
Larix decidua



SCOTS PINE
Pinus sylvestris



WESTERN RED CEDAR
Thuja plicata



IROKO
Milicia excelsa



BIRCH
Betula spp.



MAPLE
Acer platanoides

The primary building structure in the Samuel Beckett Civic Campus is a hybrid system, with concrete to first floor, and timber beams and columns with pre-cast concrete slabs above.

The timber structural members and the facade, the breathing skin of the building, are made from a combination of larch, cedar, iroko and birch; each wood used in locations appropriate to its respective material characteristics. In the view of the judges, wood is used in an integrated and knowledgeable way so that there is ingenuity of design and finesse of execution.

The vision of the Campus was to extend the influence of architecture in the larger suburban domain, creating a new civic place in the landscape, offering possibilities for new uses, new ways of occupying and appreciating the setting at the foothills of the Dublin Mountains in a shared active landscape for all ages.



CATEGORY

LARGE-SCALE PUBLIC BUILDINGS

Open to public and commercial buildings, commissioned by community, public or private clients.

JOINT CATEGORY WINNERS
Bucholz McEvoy Architects Ltd.



Donaghy and Dimond Architects



COMMENDED
Carr Cotter & Naessens Architects

COMMENDED
Gottstein Architects

JOINT WINNER
LARGE-SCALE
PUBLIC BUILDINGS
SAMUEL BECKETT CIVIC CAMPUS

Bucholz McEvoy Architects Ltd.

Design team and species listed page 9

Samuel Beckett Civic Campus in Dublin is designed as a vibrant new forces for a community of diverse user groups, on a 10 hectare site. The ensemble of buildings is organised around a new landscaped civic plaza to accommodate outdoor public events, and embraces a new public linear park.

The phased project comprises a multi-purpose sports building all served by a shared energy centre. Integrated into the landscape masterplan are sports pitches, play and skate areas, recreational pathways and a rainwater attenuation pond.

A sustainable design approach incorporates natural daylighting and ventilation strategies, along with the use of natural materials to create and promote healthy environments.



JOINT WINNER
LARGE-SCALE
PUBLIC BUILDINGS
MODEL SCHOOL

Donaghy + Dimond Architects

Architects: Will Dimond & Marcus Donaghy (Directors), St John Walsh (Project Architect), Maire Kiely, Conal Ryan, Bruno Vidal, Elizabeth Burns

Clerk of Works: Anne Henry

Quantity Surveyor: Lawlor Burns & Partners

Structural & Civil Engineers: Roughan & O'Donovan

Services Engineers: BDP

Completion Contract: K & J Townmore Ltd.

Timber supplier: MTS - Justin Dutton



SWEET CHESTNUT
Castanea sativa



DOUGLAS FIR
Pseudotsuga menziesii





Built in 1853, the former Model School required six new classrooms, resource rooms and staff facilities to relieve pressure in the existing building. A bank of chestnut trees occupies the south edge of the school yard extending over the wall to public pavement and park beyond.

The new building is sited among these trees, set perpendicular to the old school, making a south-east facing entrance courtyard accessed via a gateway cut into the boundary wall. It has a minimal footprint between trees; while a

cantilevered barn of oversailing classrooms reaches over the school wall and sheltering a gradually sloped threshold linking new and old, making both internal and yard spaces universally accessible.

The new floating classrooms are clad in sweet chestnut staves with east-facing glazed timber curtain wall that overlooks street and new entrance. Crosswalls are used for structure and as teaching walls, the fourth wall, with lowered Douglas fir plywood soffit to house services.



COMMENDED DLR LEXICON

The brief was two-fold: first, to reconnect the domains of town and harbour by means of a new public place anchored by a civic landmark; and second, to provide a multi-media library and cultural hub for the whole community.

Inside the building a voluminous concrete shell is rigorously engineered to make the space, lined with oak bookshelves and panels for acoustic modulation. Oak is also used for the floors and staircases; a limited material palette reinforces the understanding of the form and space. The timber used was from sustainably grown forests in central Europe.

Architects: Carr Cotter Naessens
Louise Cotter and David Naessens

C and S Engineers: Horgan Lynch
Project Engineer: Karel Murphy

M and E Engineers: ARUP
Project Engineer: John Burgess

Main Contractor: John Sisk and Sons Holding Limited, Director Ken Aherne

Timber supplier: Giorgio Marin, Italy via Abbeywoods, Ireland and Einer Risor, Denmark



EUROPEAN OAK
Quercus spp.





COMMENDED THE HAVEN

The brief was to design a small hostel building that would sit adjacent to the clients existing hostel facility, located at Bishop's Lane, Killarney.

The backlands site is accessed from the main street and was occupied by a disused, three-storey, stone granery building with modern 1950s extensions and additions.

A column and beam, Douglas fir access deck using generous section sizes provides structural access to the bedrooms and forms a warm backdrop to the internal courtyard space.

The aesthetic of the new building, composed of brick, concrete, Douglas fir and steel, contrasts with the historic building which is rendered with the lime 'harling'.

Birch plywood, finished with a lime wash lacquer, was used innovatively in all bedroom furniture.



DOUGLAS FIR
Pseudotsuga menziesii



BIRCH
Betula spp.

Architects: Achim Gottstein
Gottstein Architects

Engineer: Peter Brunner
Brunner Consulting Engineers

Main Contractor: Griffin Brothers
Contracting Ltd.

Timber Suppliers: Cedarlan



CATEGORY

SMALL-SCALE PRIVATE BUILDINGS

To include privately funded projects for private or community clients. Open to residential properties either new build or extensions

HIGHLY COMMENDED
Donaghy + Dimond Architects

COMMENDED
Lawrence & Long

Gottstein Architects



HIGHLY COMMENDED

GATE LODGE, Tibbradden, Co. Dublin

The evolution of the project through design and construction involved hands-on methods of design and building. Through participation from adventurous clients, builders and craftsmen, it was possible to make a project involving an unusual level of local collaboration where the main materials were sourced mostly from the site and processed nearby with local and new skills.

Sustainable practice underpins the new lease of life for this house. The extended garden wall is made largely of granite rubble excavated from the foundations. The new timber framed walls and roof are insulated with hemp, sheltered behind a new concrete wall of exposed granite sand aggregate.

The structure, cladding and joinery are all built with fragrant and durable Himalayan cedar cut from some expiring trees on the avenue and milled across the road. The project demonstrates how home grown timber if treated with patience by like minded collaborators can be employed in new structures.

Architects: Donaghy and Dimond Architects

Directors: Will Dimond & Marcus Donaghy

Project Architect: St John Walsh, Conal Ryan, Bruno Vidal

Structural & Civil Engineers: Downes Associates, Liam Keogh

Contractors: R and U Construction
Rostyslav Ischuk (Main Contractor)
Gerry Farrell Joinery (Windows and Doors,
Finishing of Structure and Claddings)

Kiln Dried Hardwoods: Neil Willis
(Sawmill and Kiln-drying)

Period Design: PJ Brady (Fitted Furniture)



HIMALAYAN CEDAR
Cedrus deodara



COMMENDED FARMHOUSE WING

The aim of the project was to create two courtyards and the building which are set out according to a geometry of pure squares, relating back to the front wall of the farmhouse.

Courtyards responded to different elements of the brief, one being agricultural, while the other courtyard was more domestic. Care was taken with detailing the components, where large oak sliders with wicker doors move across the south facing elevation, where the proportion of the components are either squares or golden sections. Oak shutters provide ventilation.

Designers: Lawrence & Long Architects

Lead Architect: Helen Kelly

Lead Engineer: Paul McGrail

Main Contractor: Martin Oaks - Oaks Contracts

Subcontractors: Glenfort (columns); Callaghan's Joinery (sliding screens); Ballyheashill Joinery (interiors)



EUROPEAN OAK
Quercus spp.

COMMENDED PALMERSTON CLOSE

Architect: Achim Gottstein,
Gottstein Architects

Engineer: Ian Connolly,
Downes Associates

Main Contractor: Charlie
Gallagher, Elmleaf Construction

Timber suppliers: Matthew O'Malley

The brief was to extend and refurbish an existing brickwork and masonry residence located at Palmerston Close, Dublin.

An exposed timber structure in glulam and Douglas fir expresses as a living and vital part of the design. The glulam structure, in turn, creates and frames the openings between the existing living room, the extension and garden space in a clear tectonic expression. The detailing of the large glazed joinery sliding screen and solar reflective glazing further reinforces the reading of structure between inside and out and brings a mimetic /hermetic quality to the extension and its garden space.





The kitchen and utility is formed by kitchen cabinetry, restrained and minimal in its detailing, free standing below the warmth and smell of the oiled Douglas fir ceiling with attention given to the inlay of Douglas fir around the tactile parts of the cabinetry.



DOUGLAS FIR
Pseudotsuga menziesii



AMERICAN BLACK WALNUT
Juglans nigra



AMERICAN WHITE OAK
Quercus alba



CATEGORY

RESTORATION AND CONSERVATION

Open to public and private projects that emphasise the creative use of wood in conservation, restoration, renovation and repair.

HIGHLY COMMENDED
GKMP Architects

COMMENDED
John McLaughlin Architects

HIGHLY COMMENDED GEORGIAN ACUPUNCTURE

Architects: GKMP Architects

Project Manager/Lead Architect:
Grace Keeley and Michael Pike

Engineer: David Maher & Associates

Main Contractor: M J Duncan & Sons Ltd.

Joinery: Kelly Design



AMERICAN WHITE OAK
Quercus alba

The project involves the refurbishment of a four-storey over basement Georgian townhouse in the centre of Dublin as a private residence and office. A series of oak fittings were designed and inserted into the existing rooms in order to make it suitable for contemporary living and working.

The conservation approach adopted was to protect the existing layout and fabric and to retain all original decoration. All of the new joinery elements are free-standing and held clear of the existing joinery at dado and skirting levels. The new insertions are designed as pieces of furniture rather than permanent fixtures.



COMMENDED RECONCILIATION ROOMS ST. TERESA'S CHURCH

This project was to convert an old sacristy into two reconciliation rooms in a listed 18th century church in Dublin city centre. The church is tightly integrated into the fabric of the main shopping district. The reconciliation rooms face a lively narrow pedestrian street so the challenge was to bring daylight into the rooms while insulating against the noise from buskers and shoppers outside. To do this we refurbished the original round-headed wooden sash windows.

There are latticed oak screens within the rooms which allow penitents to choose between an anonymous or a face to face encounter with the priest. The dimensions of the lattice were carefully tested to preserve anonymity and a break in the weave allows mute penitents to pass notes through the screen. Chairs and tables were specially designed and handcrafted in matching oak which links the modern furniture to the traditional oak pews and parquet floors within the church itself. The golden light passing through the oak screen warms the cooler colours of the terrazzo and the plaster.

John McLaughlin Architects

Architect: David Maher

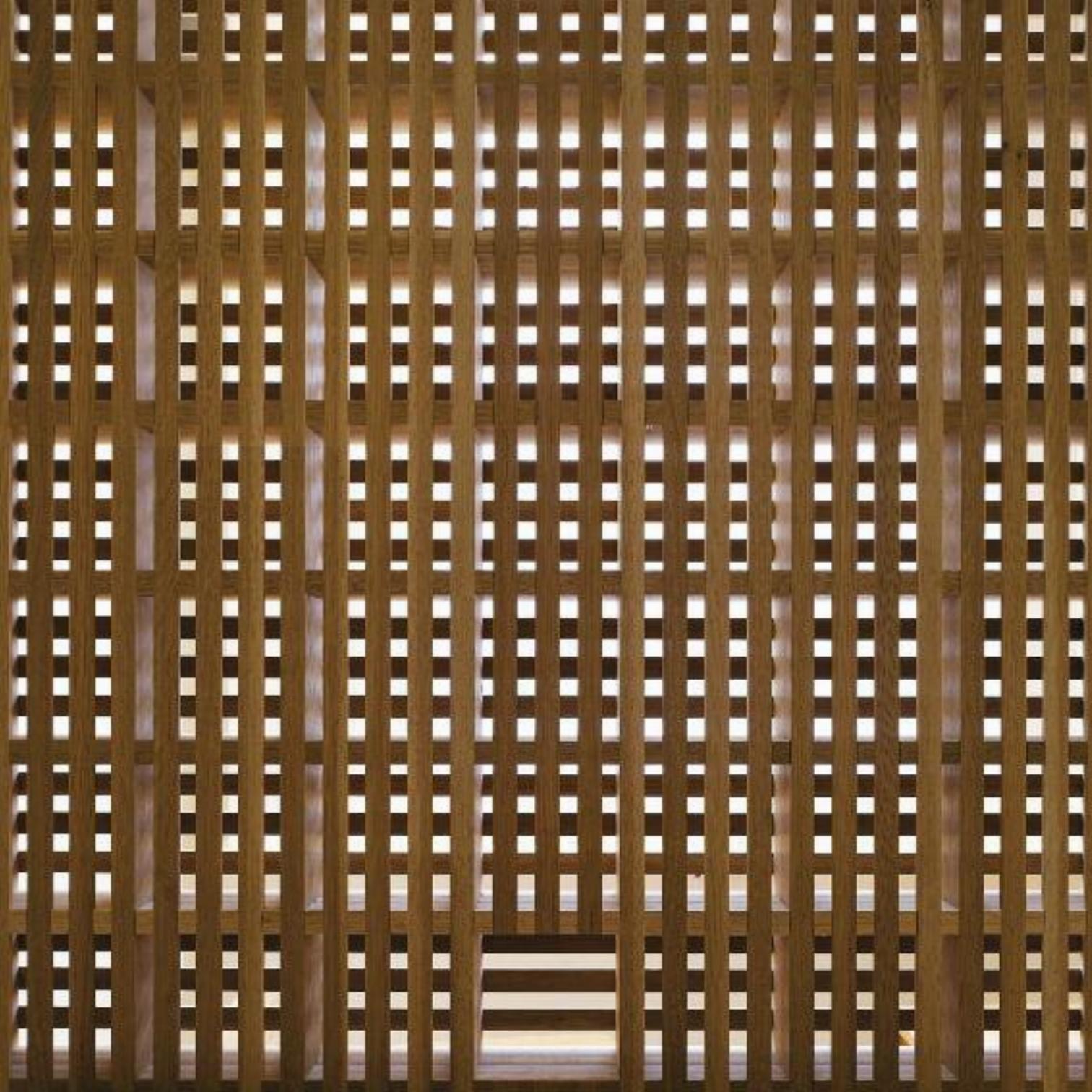
Engineer: Sheehan and Loughnane

Furniture Contractor: Oikos Ltd.



EUROPEAN OAK
Quercus spp.





CATEGORY
FURNITURE

Projects accepted from designers, furniture makers and collaborations between designers and makers of: bespoke furniture, to include one-off pieces; and production furniture to include single or ensemble pieces produced in commercial quantities.

CATEGORY WINNER
Ryan Connolly
Connolly & Company

HIGHLY COMMENDED
Knut Klimmek
Klimmek Furniture

WINNER FURNITURE OPTICA

Connolly & Company

Designer and maker: Ryan Connolly

Supplier: Morgans Timber and Philippe Hetier

The original commission grew from a single chair and desk to two reception desks (one on each floor), a consultation desk, seven chairs, six stools, twelve display trays, four mirrors and the re-fit/restoration of a vintage display unit to house their precious eyewear collection.

The seven chairs are all shaped by hand and are very tactile, there is one walnut chair with arms and the other six are a mix between oak and walnut with a mix of brown, pink and grey calf skin leather.

The stools are also a mix of walnut and oak and have upholstered Donegal tweed seat pads.





The tall walnut reception is in solid 50mm American black walnut. The front facade is lined with dark brown leather and on the top surface there is a small leather lined and branded display case.

The walnut consultation desk has an angled profile which hides three leather lined drawers from the customers view. The drawers are made from ash and are constructed using dovetail joints.

The basement reception desk is made using stack laminated 50mm oak, the form was built using large sections of solid oak and then hand carved to reveal its elegant curves. The front facade is upholstered in grey calf skin leather, and the oak is finished in a pigmented white oil.



AMERICAN BLACK WALNUT
Juglans nigra



EUROPEAN OAK
Quercus spp.



HIGHLY COMMENDED MUTABLE

Klimmek Furniture

Design and manufacture: Knut Klimmek

Timber supplier: Wilfried Koch KG

MuTable is a height adjustable table that has been designed in reaction to the current trends in workplace design for a more active work environment. The base hides the active mechanism and acts as a cable conduit for power and data connection points in the top. Its central location and size allows people to sit or stand at all sides.

The fundamental styling and materials such as solid oiled European cherry add a tactile and visual styling which is intended to blur the lines between workplace and home. The table is intended for meeting rooms and offices but will work just as well in a small apartment kitchen/dining room where the height adjustability allows it to work as extra counter space and as a breakfast bar, dining table or desk.



EUROPEAN CHERRY
Prunus avium



CATEGORY INNOVATION

Internal and external functional and non-functional works push the boundaries in creative and innovative wood design. Shortlisted projects explore new uses for wood in construction, design and other aspects of sustainable living. This category is open to new and traditional wood usage and design including permanent and temporary projects.

CATEGORY WINNER
Joseph Walsh Studio

HIGHLY COMMENDED
Emmet Kane

COMMENDED
Wain Morehead Architects Ltd.

WINNER INNOVATION
MAGNUS CELESTII

Designer: Joseph Walsh

Design Technician: Russell Jacob

Master Maker: Remy Berr

Maker: Benjamin Lebouch

Engineer: Peter Flynn (ARUP)

Timber Suppliers: Danzer

*The title of the piece derives from the Latin -
- Magnus (large/great) and Celestii
(heavenly). Here, Joseph Walsh is conscious
of the viewers experience in the gallery while
adhering to the creative language of
collaboration between man and material.*

*The large, free form sculpture is made from
layers of ash, spiralling upwards from floor to
ceiling. Emerging out of a desk form, the
sculptural work expands outwards to wrap
the entire one-roomed space of the Artist's
House, coming to rest with a large shelf
hanging on the side wall of the gallery.*



ASH
Fraxinus excelsior

The work presents an opportunity for Walsh to address the relationship between form and function, as well as the artist's challenge to encourage viewers to see and experience the piece from different perspectives.

The Magnus large scale work represents a significant departure for the studio and workshop as Joseph Walsh sought to manipulate and shape the material on a vast scale.

The piece, exhibited at Roche Court New Art Centre (below), is a culmination of many years work and marks out new territory the studio intends to continue exploring.



HIGHLY COMMENDED A JOURNEY

Emmet Kane, Woodturner/Artist

Timber suppliers: Graiguecullen Saws, Carlow, Midland Tree Service's Ltd, Co. Laois and local land owners

In January 2015, the National Museum of Ireland – Decorative Arts and History, Collins Barracks opened an exhibition of the work of woodturner Emmet Kane, curated by Dr Jennifer Goff, curator of Furniture and the Eileen Gray collection.

The exhibition explores Kane's remarkable journey of development as an artist and woodturner from 1988 and features a huge array of work: from functional vessels and bowls, wall hangings, artistic pieces and recent small-scale intimate works from 2014 to 2016.

Self-taught, Kane creates thin-walled hollow forms which defy the difficulties of the medium and whose use of colour is more readily associated with ceramics or glass. Today, Kane's works predominantly in native hardwoods, citing a particular fondness for Irish oak, which he textures and ebonises, gilds and colours.

The exhibition's interpretative style is deliberately designed to help communicate to visitors the story and skill of Kane's artistry and craft in a totally accessible and understandable way, through the objects themselves, augmented by images.



OAK
Quercus spp.



PINE
Pinus spp.



HOLLY
Ilex aquifolium



EKKI
Lophira alata



ELM
Ulmus procera



EUROPEAN CHERRY
Prunus avium



APPLE
Malus spp.



COMMENDED INNOVATION KILKILLEEN PASSIVE HOUSE

Architect: Wain Morehead Architects Ltd.

Lead Architect: John Morehead

Assistant Architect: Shane Fenton

Engineers: Construct Engineering, Conor Coburn

Main Contractor: Chom Construction

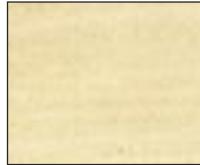
Timber Suppliers: Glulam beams, Weuerhaeuser, Dan Casey; BCI beams, Weuerhaeuser; Timber Frame, OSB, Malaysian WBP and Gutex, Murphy & O'Connor; External Treated Battens, Cork Builders Providers; Spruce and Siberian larch: Wood Component Company; Door Frames, Bantry Bespoke Joinery; Bamboo Floor and Decking, Germany



SIBERIAN LARCH
Larix sibirica



NORWAY SPRUCE
Picea abies



POPLAR
Populus spp.



BAMBOO
Phyllostachys pubescens



REDWOOD
Sequoia sempervirens

A bespoke dwelling located on a very exposed site at the eastern end of Roaring Water Bay in West Cork. The design is a direct response to the unique climate enjoyed in this particular area where the client was desirous of having Passive House levels of performance.

At first floor level the lateral force resisting system is constructed with plywood shear walls. On both levels the building loads are distributed to the lateral walls using plywood diaphragms.

The closed wall timber frame system was all constructed on site and with temporary protection proving to be able to address the hostile weather conditions. The walls are vapour controlled air tight and permeable with ventilated Siberian larch and fibre cement rain-screens.

Internally the use of bamboo was selected for the majority of the finishes and fittings including, flooring, built in furniture, stairs and kitchen components, whereas poplar was chosen for painted areas where superior finishing was required.



CATEGORY EMERGING PRACTICES/MAKERS

Open to recently established companies specialising in wood construction, design, restoration and research.

COMMENDED
Nós Workshop



COMMENDED ARDÁN AURIVO

Architect: Nós Workshop

Structural Engineer: CST Group Consulting Engineers

Joiner: Dennis Durcan Carpentry

Timber Supplier: Murray Timber Group

Team: Mullane Plant Hire, Aurivo Co-Op, Scaffolding Hire,
Brooks Hardware

Ardán Aurivo is a temporary stage produced for the Fleadh Cheoil na hÉireann - the world's largest traditional Irish music festival - which was hosted by Sligo Town in August 2015. The brief was to design a unique and striking stage to the forecourt of Sligo Town Hall.

By selecting timber, we could build in one material both as the main structure while remaining versatile enough to be used as the cladding system to provide shelter.

The principal structure - a series of 225 x 440mm Sitka spruce planks which were doubled up to create eight trusses to directly express a fanlike space. Each truss differs slightly to create a gradual rise towards the spectators, resulting in a large funnel transmitting music. The truss design is a nod to traditional musical instruments like the rhythm of the bellows of an accordion.



SITKA SPRUCE
Picea sitchensis



CATEGORY: BEST INTERNATIONAL PROJECT

Open to international projects in construction, furniture design and restoration. Entries also invited for functional and non-functional (temporary or permanent) innovative projects installed overseas.

CATEGORY WINNER
Donn Holohan

HIGHLY COMMENDED
OPW

Architects: Clancy Moore, TAKA &
Steve Larkin

WINNER BEST INTERNATIONAL PROJECT WIND AND RAIN BRIDGE

Design: Donn Holohan / The University of Hong Kong (engineering support)

Construction: Peitian Community Craftsmen

Funding: Supported by the Gallant Ho Experiential Learning Fund, HKU

Project Team: Jiang, Hejia (Team Leader) Man Ho Kwan, Rosalia Leung, Chang Liu, HKU Architecture Students

Timber supplier: Peitian Community Government

Covered walkway, shelter, and meeting place Peitian Village, Fujian Province, China.

Situated on the outskirts of Peitian Village, and designed to be constructed without the use of mechanical fasteners, “Wind and Rain Bridge” is a reciprocal interlocking timber structure which draws on the long tradition of wooden buildings native to the region. Each of the bridge’s 265 elements is unique and integral, assembled under the supervision of traditional carpenters, who number some of the few remaining exponents of their craft.

This project seeks to offer an alternative mode of community redevelopment that references local crafts and traditions, and utilises sustainable materials and methods, to create both social and physical infrastructure.





Critical to this process was the integration of parametric digital design methodologies with more traditional construction techniques. BIM and CAD allowed for the planning and testing of complex assemblies before any handwork took place. CNC technologies was used to then create jigs and tools to enable rapid construction with unskilled labor and basic hand tools.

In the past the high level of training and labor associated with these assemblies has been a barrier to the continued viability of complex, long-span, timber structures in China and other developing and transitioning economies. This project aims to show through a synergistic approach that we may improve the hand process without supplanting it.



CHINESE
RED PINE
Pinus massoniana



HIGHLY COMMENDED IRISH PAVILION MILANO EXPO 2015

Lead Architect: Ciaran O'Connor - Office of Public Works

Designers: Ciaran O'Connor, Ger Harvey
Architectural Graduates Niall Donnelly, Olivia Rusk & Michael Flynn

Project Manager: Elizabeth Francis – Atelier Francis

Lead Engineer: Maurizio Milan – Milan Ingegneria

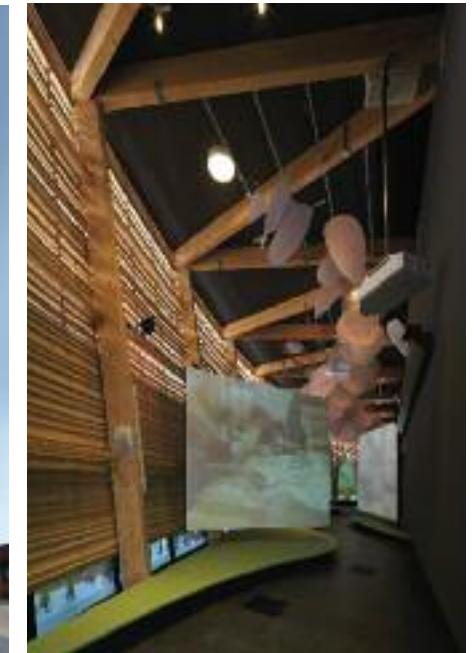
Site Architects: BMMC

Main Contractor: Tonon S.P.A.

Timber supplier: Xlam Dolomiti



EUROPEAN LARCH
Larix decidua



The philosophy of the Milan Expo was sustainability, respect for the environment and the future of food production, 'Feeding the Planet, Energy for Life'. 'Origin Green' was the theme of the Ireland exhibition exploring Irish food production and landscape.

In the same way that Irish food is hand crafted, sustainable and made to modern standards the Irish pavilion is an architectural abstraction of these same goals. The curved shaped pavilion is set within a water pool with a curved wooden boat-like construction.

Delicate and ethereal light is modulated by the water pool and small gaps in the curved structure, such that the strong Italian light is softened like Irish light. A roof garden gave views over the whole Expo campus while also providing a sheltered rooftop event space.

HIGHLY COMMENDED BIG RED

Architects: Clancy Moore, TAKA & Steve Larkin

Curators: Nathalie Weadick & Raymund Ryan

Lead Architects: Alice Casey, Andrew Clancy, Cian Deegan, Steve Larkin, Colm Moore,

Engineers: Casey O'Rourke

Timber Contractors; Mathew O'Malley Timber

Main Contractors: SISK

Timber Supplier: Glennons, Coillte Panel Products

Materials: SmartPly (Oriented Strand Board), spruce lumber, corrugated fibre cement; precast concrete pipes (filled), red paint.

As part of the London Festival of Architecture 2015 Ireland was selected as the international country of focus. This honour coincided with the Irish Year of Design 2015 and we were chosen as one of the Irish representatives to make a series of exhibitions in London.

We decided that timber was the most appropriate material, both for its flexibility and its ability to lend itself to modular and pre-fabricated techniques. This would allow us achieve a considerable scale in a very tight timeframe, both in design and construction.

We started by thinking about the facade as a public space. The facade is the place where the relationship between the individual and the collective is made most explicit. We thought of the facade as a theatrical backdrop to Cubit Square, with props to the north to hold it up. We elaborated these props to make a room, sheltered under a roof.



SITKA SPRUCE
Picea sitchensis



CATEGORY

WAI JUDGES SPECIAL AWARD

The judges special award is presented to practices and individuals who create projects in wood which demonstrate the highest standards of excellence in design and construction. Outside the scope of the category awards, it requires unanimous agreement of the judging panel.

CATEGORY WINNER
Niall McLaughlin Architects

WAI JUDGES SPECIAL AWARD WINNER CARMELITE PRAYER ROOM

Lead Architect: Niall McLaughlin Architects

Lead Engineer: Max Fordham

Main Contractor: GEM Joinery

Timber supplier: Dinan Timber

The intention of the proposal is to retain the use of the prayer room while creating a warm and welcoming space that is conducive to collective prayer and song, as well as private contemplation. It will not only improve the quality of the daily lives of the friars but will help conserve and protect an important part of the heritage and built fabric of St. Teresa's Priory.

The brief set out that the room be reorganised in layout so as to relate the altar and seating in a more satisfactory way, allowing greater proximity and intimacy between the celebrant and the community.

This requirement involved reducing the amount of seating currently located around the periphery of the room.

The proposal seeks to improve the characteristics of the existing prayer room by modifying the quality of light, improving the layout and using materials appropriate to the Protected Structure. The resultant remodelling sensitively responds to the brief and to the nature of the existing building.





AMERICAN ASH
Fraxinus americana

A new space is created that is, in effect, a room within a room. It is structurally non-intrusive and could feasibly be removed without structural damage to the existing fabric.

The table in the middle is permanently surrounded by 12 fixed chairs, suggesting the presence of the disciples who gathered at the last supper with Jesus. The screen behind the chairs is of oak planks, alluding to St. Bernard's description of an early Irish church which was made from 'polished boards, firmly and tightly fastened together - an Irish work, as beautiful as you could wish (opus Scoticum pulchrum satis).



POSTSCRIPT

SPONSORS

ORGANISER AND
SUPPORTER

POSTSCRIPT

While nobody knows for certain what we will be doing with timber and timber products in the future, we can be sure that we will be doing things differently with this great renewable resource. Few would believe even a few years ago that high rise buildings up to 20 storeys would be constructed in timber, but it's happening.

Despite a wide range of new developments in engineered wood products internationally, Irish timber processors have largely stayed with tried and trusted traditional sawn products, which have served them well, but this is likely to change. The Irish panel board sector continues to develop new innovative engineered products which are exported around the world.

Architects, engineers, designers and woodworkers who enter Wood Awards Ireland explore traditional and contemporary timber products. While solid sawn timber application was the preferred medium, a number of entrants used engineered wood products. This reflects global architectural, engineering and design trends in wood usage.

While, engineered wood products are widely used in North America and much of Europe, it is encouraging to see our specifiers exploring this medium including cross laminated timber (CLT). CLT is an engineered wood building system which has high strength and dimensional stability and can be used with or as an alternative to concrete, masonry and steel. It is finding expression in many building types such as the 18-storey Brock Common student residence in Vancouver, Canada, which was erected in nine weeks.

Wood Awards Ireland and our Third Level Student Wood Awards are vehicles to support innovative wood construction and design among existing practitioners and the new wave of designers who can build a better and sustainable future using CLT and other engineered wood products.

While research in engineered wood products is in its infancy in Ireland there are opportunities as illustrated by COFORD - the National Council for Forest Research and Development. Its report *Engineered Wood Products in Ireland* maintained that engineered wood construction can be obtained without expensive research as the technology is available.

The wood resource will also be available as roundwood supply from our forests and woodlands is forecast to double from four million cubic metres at present to eight million cubic metres by 2035, representing the largest increase in log supply in Europe.

Despite some predictions that increased afforestation will lead to a glut of timber in Europe, the opposite is the case. In Ireland the timber-processing sector has demonstrated that it has the capacity to utilise all the available logs on the island and to increase exports in a hugely competitive international marketplace.

Ireland is now self sufficient in softwood, but as the Wood Awards Ireland project demonstrates, we do not have an adequate supply of hardwoods. This situation is likely to remain as the high percentage of broadleaved planting in recent years won't mature until the end of this century. In the meantime, the Wood Marketing Federation promotes hardwood sourced in sustainably managed forests in Ireland and overseas in accordance with the EU Timber Regulation, which counters the trade in illegally harvested timber.

Entrants to the Wood Awards have complied with this condition as timber and timber products used in the various projects originated in sustainably managed forests around the world; from China to Ireland and from France to the United States.

While wood has been the international medium of choice for construction and fuel over the centuries, we are only beginning to maximise its potential in Ireland. Countries such as Austria, Sweden and Denmark as well as maximising their wood resource for construction, furniture and other uses, have also ambitious renewable energy programmes built around wood biomass.

Denmark, for example aims to be the first country in the world, to become a green growth economy by 2050, entirely independent of fossil fuels. Bioenergy from biomass will be the main renewable energy source in this ambitious programme. Backed by a government strategic plan to increase Irish forest cover from 11% to 18% during the same timeframe, Ireland has the potential to also aim for a green economy.

We are fortunate to receive support from partners such as COFORD, RIAI, AHEC, Coillte and Enterprise Ireland for projects such as Wood Awards Ireland which are essential in achieving the Wood Marketing Federation mission: to promote wood as a renewable, sustainable and versatile natural material. The awards acknowledge the efforts of architects engineers and designers who have kept faith with wood and the role it plays in sustainable living.

Donal Magner

SPONSORS OF WOOD AWARDS IRELAND 2016

AHEC – AMERICAN HARDWOOD EXPORT COUNCIL



The American Hardwood Export Council is committed to presenting an unequivocal case to use more wood in design and architecture by celebrating its versatility as a material, and highlighting its environmental benefits.

AHEC showcases how American hardwoods can contribute to great design. At the core of our programme is the belief that architects and designers can unlock the potential of the material we promote, and that this creative input is essential to help optimise the use of sustainable timbers.

We are pleased to be key supporters of Wood Awards Ireland because we want to inspire others who strive for great design.

www.americanhardwood.org

COFORD – PROGRAMME OF COMPETITIVE FORESTRY RESEARCH FOR DEVELOPMENT



COFORD - the Programme of Competitive Forestry Research for Development – is based in the Research Division of the Department of Agriculture, Food & Marine. Established in 1993, it is funded by the Irish Government under the National Development Plan. COFORD's mission is to:

- Establish and strengthen links between research and industry.
- Determine forest research and development needs to optimise international competitiveness, sustainable employment, innovation and environmental harmony.
- Evaluate R&D progress and transfer technology to ensure maximum benefit.

COFORD is responsible for the development of national forest R&D policy and priorities, the formulation and implementation of programmes that address these priorities, and transferring the knowledge generated into practice.

www.coford.ie

COILLTE



Coillte is a state-owned commercial company operating in forestry, land based businesses, renewable energy and panel products. Established in 1988, the company employs over 1,000 people to manage its businesses and 445,000-ha estate. It supplies 2.3 million cubic metres of logs annually to Irish sawmills and its own board mills Coillte Panel Products who produce:

- Medite – the most recognised brand of quality medium density fibreboard (MDF) in Europe.
- SmartPly – oriented strand board (OSB), a quality, cost effective and environmentally friendly alternative to other board products.
- Medite Tricoya – represents one of the biggest advances in panel products since the 1980s because of its durability and versatility.

www.coillte.ie

ENTERPRISE IRELAND



Enterprise Ireland's mission is to accelerate the development of world-class Irish companies to achieve strong positions in global markets resulting in national and regional prosperity. Our priority is helping companies develop innovative market-led products and grow and develop new export markets. We also provide assistance for international companies who are searching for world-class Irish partners. Enterprise Ireland works with Irish timber processors, to maximise their impact by supporting them to:

- Develop and implement strategies
- Access new international markets
- Invest in R&D
- Compete through productivity
- Build strong management teams
- Finance growth and innovation

Enterprise Ireland is committed to supporting innovation in the Irish forest products industry.

www.enterprise-ireland.com

ORGANISER AND SUPPORTER OF WOOD AWARDS IRELAND 2016

WOOD MARKETING FEDERATION (WMF)



WMF was founded in 1989 to promote wood as a renewable, sustainable and versatile natural material. The WMF programme promotes wood in construction, design and treatment from traditional applications to product innovation.

Projects include:

- Publication of *Woodspec – A Guide to Designing, Detailing and Specifying Timber in Ireland* hosted by COFORD (www.woodspec.ie).
- Wood Awards Ireland, aimed at architects, engineers and designers using wood as the inherent medium in their projects.
- Third Level Student Wood Awards – aimed at students of architecture, engineering and design who incorporate wood in their projects.
- Conferences and symposiums on wood usage and design.
- Wood promotional and educational initiatives including literature, posters, website and *Talking Timber* series on wood treatment and standards.
- Irish Timber Information Centre hosted by NUIG.

www.wood.ie

THE ROYAL INSTITUTE OF THE ARCHITECTS OF IRELAND (RIAI)



Founded in 1839, the Royal Institute of the Architects of Ireland supports and regulates the Architectural profession. Support services are also provided to Architectural Technologists. The RIAI promotes the value that architecture brings to society for everyone's benefit and engages with government, the professions, industry, clients and the public to deliver quality and sustainability in the built environment.

As the official registration body under the Building Control Act 2007, the RIAI is committed to discharging its obligations to administer the Register of Architects in Ireland.

Find out about our extensive programme of public events and our publications by signing up for our free monthly public newsletter on www.riai.ie. Visit the RIAI Bookshop – Ireland's largest architectural and design bookshop – on 8 Merrion Square, Dublin 2 (open 9am-5pm, Mon-Fri).

www.riai.ie

WAI receives funding from COFORD – the Programme of Competitive Forestry Research for Development – Department of Agriculture, Food and the Marine, Enterprise Ireland, AHEC – American Hardwood Export Council – and Coillte.



Wood Awards Ireland Sculpture Series by Michael Warren. Presented to category winners and recipient of Judges Special Award. Oak on bronze base (210x100x40mm).

