

Interior Excellence: Learning from the 2011 AIA Interior Architecture Honor Awards
2011 AIA National Convention

Submitted by Brian Malarkey, FAIA, LEED AP
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Moderator: Susan S. Szenasy, Metropolis Magazine

Panelists:

John Ronan, AIA – John Ronan Architects (jury chair)
Brian M. Malarkey, FAIA – Kirksey
Margaret Kittenger, AIA – Beyer Blinder Belle Architects

The session began with an introduction by Susan Szenasy followed by a few words from the jury chair, John Ronan about the process by which the jurors selected the award recipients. Each juror then introduced several projects, commenting on the jury's deliberation and project highlights. Unique to this kind of awards presentation, Susan Szenasy contacted several of the project designers and interviewed them about the projects and their practice before the session. She was able to comment on the use of technology present in the projects and how this was shaping the designers' practice. BIM technology and digital fabrication has allowed more experimentation, and modeling techniques for energy, daylighting and audio analysis has informed the design process. Susan kept the conversation open with the panel, addressing additional themes that resonated within the projects such as creativity and theatricality on a modest budget, traditional preservation vs. adaptive preservation, and context rich design.

The jury for the 2011 Institute Honor Awards for Interior Architecture includes: John Ronan, AIA, (chair), John Ronan Architects; Jaime Canaves, FAIA, Florida International University; Margaret Kittenger, AIA, Beyer Blinder Belle Architects; Bryan Lewis, The Capital Group Companies and Brian Malarkey, FAIA, Kirksey.

Award Recipients:

The Academy of Music - KlingStubbins
Alchemist - Rene Gonzalez Architect
Armstrong Oil and Gas - Lake | Flato Architects
Conga Room - Belzberg Architects
FIDM San Diego Campus - Clive Wilkinson Architects
John E. Jaqua Center for Student Athletes - ZGF Architects LLP
Moving Picture Company - Patrick Tighe Architecture
The Power House, Restoration/Renovation - Cannon Design
Registrar Recorder County Clerk Elections Operations Center - Lehrer Architects
Vancouver Convention Centre West - LMN Architects; DA/MCM
Washington Square Park Dental - Montalba Architects, Inc.