THE HAN SHOW THEATRE IN WUHAN CITY, CHINA, HONORED WITH IALD RADIANCE AWARD
BUME PERFECT ILLUMINATION LIGHTS A LANTERN FOR THE ARTS IN HUBEI

NEW YORK, NY USA, 5 MAY 2015 | Fifteen award winners representing architectural lighting design projects from six countries comprise the winners of the 32nd Annual International Association of Lighting Designers (IALD) International Lighting Design Awards, recognized at a presentation held 5 May at Gotham Hall in Las Vegas, NV USA. Of the fifteen projects recognized, one entry earned a Special Citation, ten earned Awards of Merit and four earned Awards of Excellence.

The highest point score winner across all categories, in addition to receiving an Award of Excellence for their project, receives the IALD Radiance Award for Excellence in Lighting Design. The award was accepted in person by the team from BUME Perfect Illumination Design & Engineering Company for THE HAN SHOW THEATRE in Wuhan City, Hubei, China.

At the edge of East Lake, the Han Show Theater glows, a vivid performance space set against the dramatic backdrop of Wuhan City. Inspired by the structure and luminescence of red Chinese lanterns, the striking theater conjures up impressions of the Han dynasty, the Chu state, and Wuhan City itself.

This massive cylindrical building has a plane diameter of 110 meters and a height of 63.3 meters. The external surface of the building is made up of 18,665 individual red aluminum alloy roundels. In creating a lighting plan for this complex modern structure, the lighting design team at BUME Perfect Illumination was inspired by the indirect glow of paper lanterns.

To achieve the desired effect, the team installed twenty five hundred Kelvin floodlights in the internal aluminum curtain; yellow light glows from the lantern “wick,” forming a gradation of light and shadow. Underneath, 3000K floodlights are adopted to balance the rhythm of the lantern “fringe.”

“The lighting of this civic theater is well integrated into the iconic building design and truly transforms it into a 21st century Chinese lantern, making it a centerpiece of the city,” one judge praised of the project. “The dynamic exterior lighting creates a theater within a theater, and an illuminated billboard for the venue.”

L-E-D lamps reflect light from the center onto the roundels themselves, forming four gentle light spots. Each ray pixel can be controlled by a single D-M-X system; the video images created by this approach seem to move vividly and flexibly across the many-faceted surface of the lantern – or can remain static to allow the lantern to emit an understated glow.

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“Poetry is the gift light brings to this dense urban area,” one judge wrote of the project. “By using only reflected light, each calotte works as a small lantern. The observer can either see a thousand lanterns as in a magic ensemble, one huge glowing lantern, or even an animated lantern with the use of preprogrammed effects.”

Through repeated optical simulations, tests, and multiple rounds of design, the technical parameters of each roundel lamp and the overall illuminance of the structure carefully cleave to Chinese illumination standards. The LED red light lamps clock in at a special wavelength of 620-635 nm, organically overlaying with the colored roundels to create the most evocative, traditional Chinese red.

“A very unique take on the common ‘building façade as digital display’ concept!” one judge exclaimed. “In this case the details are what make the design so compelling and appropriate. Every elevation and architectural component is thoughtful and considerate. The culturally relevant lantern theme works at every scale.”

The IALD Lighting Design Awards program, established in 1983, honors lighting projects that display high aesthetic achievement backed by technical expertise. Additionally, projects can also be submitted for consideration in the sustainable design award category, which means the project undergoes an additional round of judging keyed solely to the fulfillment of sustainable design principles. A panel of award-winning lighting designers, architects and interior designers review the projects.

The International Association of Lighting Designers (IALD), established in 1969, is an international organization supporting a network of 800 lighting design professionals who satisfy its rigorous qualification process. Its members are distinguished by a unique blend of aesthetic and technical expertise, and operate at the highest level of integrity to create a better world through leadership and excellence in lighting design; to cultivate the universal acknowledgement and appreciation of the Power of Light in human life.

END OF ITEM
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32ND ANNUAL INTERNATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF LIGHTING DESIGNERS
AWARDS PROJECT CREDITS

THE HAN SHOW THEATRE
WUHAN CITY, HUBEI, CHINA

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STUFISH ENTERTAINMENT ARCHITECTS

STEVEN CHILTON STUDIO

ADDITIONAL CREDITS
PROGRAM PLANNER
WANDA CULTURAL TOURISM PLANNING & RESEARCH INSTITUTE

THEATER ARCHITECTS
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LIGHTING CONCEPT
STEVEN CHILTON STUDIO

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ANIMATION
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