FULTON CENTER AND SKY-REFLECTOR NET WINS IALD AWARD OF MERIT
LIGHTING DESIGN BY ARUP

SAN DIEGO, CA USA, 28 APRIL | Luminaries of the lighting profession gathered at the San Diego Air and Space Museum on 27 April to honor the winners of the 33rd Annual International Association of Lighting Designers (IALD) International Lighting Design Awards. Seventeen projects from eight countries were on display – including religious spaces, memorials, façades, and even a gas station. Taken together, the winners represent some of the most innovative and inspiring work found anywhere in the world of architectural lighting design.

The Fulton Center + Sky Reflector-Net in New York, NY, with lighting design by Arup, took home an IALD Award of Merit, accepted in person by lead lighting designer Matt Franks.

Light and daylight played a critical role in re-envisioning this downtown transit hub serving 300,000 daily commuters. By studying the solar geometry of the site, the team from Arup determined the influence of surrounding buildings on daylight access, informing the location and design of a 50-foot diameter skylight oculus.

The skylight tilts gently towards the south, allowing more direct sunlight to enter and reflect into the space below. Under overcast conditions, diffuse daylight is filtered inward, illuminating the space year round and allowing electric lighting to be dimmed or turned off. During summer months, direct sunlight penetrates two levels below ground, delighting passengers on subway platforms.

“This project displays truly beautiful engineering and mesmerizing geometry,” wrote one judge.

A cable-net structure with custom designed reflective panels surrounds the interior space below the oculus, folding subtle images of the surrounding environment into the space. Glass panels called “parasols” reflect small amounts of direct sunlight onto the interior of the cable-net structure, adding a dynamic sparkle of movement when sunlight enters. The station headhouse building features a transparent street-level façade with excellent daylight access. At street level, the glazed façade helps maintain transparency and connection to the city.

“The architectural form is bold and wins the first impression,” another judge said. “But the lighting study illustrates sophistication and a subtle result that truly supports the architectural design intent and provides a pleasant space below.”

Custom-designed adjustable mounting brackets allowed for precise fixture aiming angles taken directly from 3D modelling software to contract documents, resulting in even illumination of the interior of the cable net structure. The metal halide light sources are energy efficient and relatively easy to maintain from catwalks along the edge of the skylight oculus.

Hidden electric lighting reflects off of the structure’s interior, providing indirect general illumination and resulting in a dramatic, even glow without requiring additional fixtures above the central space.

#MORE#
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.

For complete details and high resolution photos of this year’s award-winning projects, visit iald.org.

The International Association of Lighting Designers (IALD), established in 1969, is an international organization supporting a network of more than 1,250 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.

33rd ANNUAL INTERNATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF LIGHTING DESIGNERS
AWARDS PROJECT CREDITS

FULTON CENTER AND SKY REFLECTOR-NET
NEW YORK, NY USA

LIGHTING DESIGN
Matt Franks
Star Davis
Brian Stacy, IALD
Casey Curbow
Andrew McNeil
Arup

ADDITIONAL CREDITS
ARCHITECTURE
Grimshaw

COLLABORATING ARTIST FOR SKY REFLECTOR-NET
James Carpenter Design Associates

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