



International Biennale of
Architecture Kraków 2015

The Biennale
Regulations

Kraków, April 15th 2015



International Biennale
of Architecture Kraków 2015

Międzynarodowe Biennale
Architektury Kraków 2015

15th-16th October 2015
15-16 października 2015
ICE Kraków Congress Centre

mba2015.sarp.krakow.pl

mba-office@sarp.krakow.pl
+48 12 422 75 40

Plac Szczepański 6
31-011 Kraków
Poland

History of International Biennale of Architecture in Kraków

The MBA Kraków 2015 has been held in Kraków for the past 30 years as a regular event. Each subsequent edition offers an unique forum for exchanging ideas and individual experience among the architects from around the world. A diversity of accompanying events like thematic competitions, exhibitions, presentations and lectures makes it a totally unique event for everyone involved in any way with the domain of architecture in this part of Europe.

During the previous editions of MBA Kraków 2015 the accompanying competitions provided a perfect opportunity for both the beginners and the well seasoned architects from around the world to get noticed by the media. The projects were evaluated by the pre-eminent architects like Wojciech Leśnikowski, Pekka Salminen, Julia Bolles and Peter Wilson, Francesco Purini, Eckhard Feddersen, Günter Schlusche, Hildebrand Machleidt, Armando dal Fabbro and Peter Cook.

The exhibitions and seminars used to be graced by such eminent guests of honour as Frei Otto, architects Herzog & de Meuron, Zvi Hecker, David Mackay, Dietmar Eberle. All the award-winning works would gain international recognition and prominence, being also duly documented by the MBA Kraków 2015 in-house publishing venture.

The uniqueness of this cultural event consists also in its very location. Kraków is a city well recognized throughout Europe. This is owed primarily to its rich historical heritage; its landmark architecture playing a pivotal role. It is in this city that a continuous rivalry between the old and the new, the historic and the modern, the conservative and the avant-garde has gained much prominence. The ever on-going architectural debate seems to be embedded in the very soul of this vibrant city.

Prevalent economic and organisational constraints eventually made it impossible to go on with the originally established Biennale formula, so it was replaced by a Triennale. Through a diversity of organisational formats it has provided an effective platform for a great debate on architecture, also made open to the residents of Kraków.

Presently, the International Biennale of Architecture has been granted a perfect opportunity to reappear on the arena of the city's cultural events in its original organisational form, as a Biennale, i.e. to be held every two years.

A chance to continue the long-established tradition of publicly accessible debate addressing current problems of contemporary architecture is also a perfect opportunity for stirring up a kind of brainstorm which is extremely conducive to raising overall awareness of the need to create a friendly, urban environment. Through continuing the long-established tradition of the MBA Kraków 2015 an arena of diverse interdisciplinary activity would be created, with a view to affecting and shaping up general appreciation of architectural culture across Poland, of heralding its achievements and advances abroad, as well as drawing an inspiration from overall body of experience in this field gained by other countries.





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MBA Kraków 2015 - a keynote reflection

Professor Jan Gehl, a world recognised expert in making the urban spaces more human-friendly, strongly believes that improvement of overall quality of life in the cities is derived from the appearance of their public spaces. For it is in the public spaces that people actually do meet up "to exchange ideas, trade or simply relax. The public area of the city - streets, squares and parks - is both a stage and a catalyst for these activities" (Jan Gehl).

For decades a humanistic dimension in the process of developing cities has been missed out, forgotten, and altogether dismissed. Cars have invaded the cities in huge numbers effectively limiting living space for the residents, i.e. the space indispensable for the residents and visitors alike for actively participating in urban life. Despite numerous adversities, urban development continues to take place. A number of inspiring ideas have appeared that actually envisage moving away from the Modernist concept of urban development, frequently drawing upon the Aristotelian inspiration in their own vision of the new Classicism.

What the city of Kraków actually needs for shaping up its immediate future consists in granting due recognition to its unique history and rich architectural heritage.

Both domestic and foreign Biennale attendees bring tangible hope for an exchange of experiences, all with a view to broadening overall body of experience in the domain, and hope for this to become prospectively instrumental in eliminating any past spatial errors that are difficult to correct. This year's edition of the MBA Kraków 2015 is to be dedicated to the key issues of urban spaces and their overall accessibility to the city residents. It offers an opportunity to pursuing open public discourse on the specific architectural needs of the city of Kraków, in due consideration of its unique history and rich architectural heritage. Principal focus of this year's edition therefore rests firmly upon **HUMAN DIMENSION OF URBAN SPACE**.

All Biennale attendees are expected to volunteer and contribute a diversity of points of view and forms of expression, well anchored within the topical issue, while duly taking into account the following issues:

- A new dimension of design of a city**
- A city full of life and bustle**
- A safe city**
- A sustainable city**
- A healthy city**
- A pedestrian-friendly city**
- A city of better designed urban spaces**
- A city of better architecture**

The anticipated outcome of the Biennale is also construed as a more involved community striving to create and develop better quality public spaces, not only in terms of their practical advantages, but also in terms of their overall aesthetic and emotional appeal, frequently of key significance for their ultimate public endorsement as human-friendly urban spaces.

The aforementioned emotional and aesthetic experience of urban space, its positive impact on overall quality of life, physical and intellectual development of man, is also closely linked to the quality of architecture which actually defines public spaces.

The new edition of the Biennale and the accompanying architectural exhibition is meant to inspire reflection and stir up our imagination in the process of designing more beautiful cities.



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MBA Kraków 2015 - Regulations

General Provisions

1. The host of the International Biennale of Architecture 2015 is the City of Kraków
2. The official languages of the Biennale are Polish and English.
3. A full scope of organisational activities pertaining to the International Biennale of Architecture Kraków 2015 shall be assumed by The Association of Polish Architects (SARP), Kraków Branch, pursuant to the terms of the agreement entered into with the Office of the City of Kraków.
4. The Official Patrons of MBA Kraków 2015:
City of Kraków
The Association of Polish Architects (SARP) Main Board
5. The organisational structure of MBA Kraków 2015:
Curator: Mr Romuald Loegler
Commissioner: Mr Marek Kaszyński
Commissioner for Organisational Matters - in charge of the Exhibition of Completed and Conceptual projects: Ms Monika Kozub
Commissioner for Organisational Matters - in charge of the Seminar: Ms Marta A. Urbańska
Secretary for Organisational Management: Mr Marcin Ewý





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The Biennale Competitions

MBA Kraków 2015 shall be held in three disciplines whose principal idea and theme is "**Human dimension of urban spaces**"

A. The Competition - An Exhibition of Completed Designs

In this competition the entries submitted by the Biennale participants, shall be publicly exhibited and assessed by the Jury, i.e. design projects actually completed or approved for completion whose design tasks are fully consistent with the principal theme of the Biennale, i.e. HUMAN DIMENSION OF URBAN SPACES. The competition is aimed at all practicing architects.

B. The Competition - An Exhibition of Conceptual Designs

In this competition the entries submitted by the Biennale participants, shall be publicly exhibited and assessed by the Jury, i.e. conceptual designs, visions, or studies whose design tasks are fully consistent with the principal theme of the Biennale, i.e. HUMAN DIMENSION OF URBAN SPACES. The competition is aimed both at students and the graduates of academic schools of either architectural or artistic profile and practicing architects.

C. The Competition - A Seminar

In this competition the presented papers shall be assessed by the Jury, i.e. any that tangibly contribute to the development of theory of the domain, or offer a hands-on input into the actual practice of shaping up a human-friendly, urban environment.





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A. The Competition of Completed Designs

1. The Competition is aimed at an international community of architects, landscape architects and urban planners.
2. The Biennale participants are expected to present **either the completed projects, or the ones approved for implementation.**
3. In order to take part in the Competition, all entrants must complete the following formalities:
 - a. Submit **by August 16, 2015**, a properly completed application for participation in the Competition, as enclosed with the "Conditions of Participation". All participants must grant their consent to the publication of their works in the attendant materials of the MBA Kraków 2015.
 - b. Submit their works, fully consistent with the scope specified in **Item 4**, by **September 15, 2015**, at the very latest.
4. The works must be delivered in the following manner:
 - a. graphic layout:
 - Maximum 2 boards sized 100 cm x 70 cm vertically laid out, rigidly mounted onto a 3 mm thick foam, presenting and describing the project in English or Polish, containing basic information on the author / authors (given name, surname, country, name of the office – if applicable)
 - b. digital version on CD/DVD/USB Flash Drive:
 - Boards to be submitted in a TIFF format, approx. 300 dpi (high resolution approx. 5000 pixels x 3500 pixels).
 - Any actually used raster materials to be separately recorded (photographs and visualizations) in high definition - approx. 5000 pixels x 3500 pixels
 - Any actually used vector materials to be separately recorded (drawings exclusively in the formats: EPS, DWG, or alternatively, if necessary, vector materials anchored in a PDF format)
5. Applications for participation in the Competition should be sent on electronically to the following e-mail address:

mba-competition@sarp.krakow.pl

6. Mode of signing the entries:
 - a. All the entries (boards) should be sent to the following address:
The Association of Polish Architects - Kraków Branch
Plac Szczepański 6, 31-011 Kraków, Poland
and duly annotated: **MBA Kraków 2015 Competition A**
 - b. All the boards should be signed with the name and surname of the author / authors, should contain the date of completion / foreseen completion of the structures and their location (address).

Entries may also be delivered by the entrants in person to the Office of the SARP Kraków Branch – please note the office hours at:

www.sarp.krakow.pl

7. Please send questions regarding the competition of completed designs to:

mba-competition@sarp.krakow.pl



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B. The Competition - Exhibition of Conceptual Designs

1. The Competition is aimed particularly at the international community of young architects and designers whose projects focus on the transformation of urban spaces.
2. The Biennale participants are expected to present their own projects and reflections well anchored within the principal theme of the Biennale - new ideas, new trends, and visions of the future. **Theoretical works and study contributions are also admissible as entries, as well as any other competition entries not approved and endorsed for implementation.**
3. In order to take part in the Competition, all entrants must complete the following formalities:
 - a. Submit by **August 16, 2015**, a properly completed application for participation in the Competition, as enclosed with the "Conditions of Participation". All participants must grant their consent to the publication of their works in the attendant materials of the MBA Kraków 2015.
 - b. Submit their works, fully consistent with the scope specified in **Item 4**, by **September 15, 2015**, at the very latest.
4. The works must be delivered in the following manner:
 - a. Graphic layout:
 - Maximum 2 boards sized 100 cm x 70 cm, vertically laid out, rigidly mounted onto a 3 mm thick foam, presenting and describing the project in English or Polish
 - b. Digital version on CD/DVD/USB Flash Drive:
 - Boards to be submitted in a TIFF format, approx. 300 dpi (high resolution approx. 5000 pixels x 3500 pixels).
 - Any actually used raster materials to be separately recorded (photographs and visualizations) in high definition - approx. 5000 pixels x 3500 pixels
 - Any actually used vector materials to be separately recorded (drawings exclusively in the formats: EPS, DWG, or alternatively, if necessary, vector materials anchored in a PDF format)
5. Applications for participation in the Competition should be sent on electronically to the following e-mail address:

mba-competition@sarp.krakow.pl

6. Mode of signing the entries:
 - a. All the entries (boards) should be sent to the following address:
The Association of Polish Architects - Kraków Branch
Plac Szczepański 6, 31-011 Kraków, Poland
and duly annotated: **MBA Kraków 2015 Competition B**
 - c. All the boards should be signed with the name and surname of the author / authors, and have a clearly expressed title.

Entries may also be delivered by the entrants in person to the Office of the SARP Kraków Branch – please note the office hours at:

www.sarp.krakow.pl

7. Please send questions regarding the competition of completed designs to:

mba-competition@sarp.krakow.pl



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C. The Competition - A Seminar

1. The competition is intended for an international creative community, both architectural and academic.
2. The participants are expected to present their ideas, reflections and theoretical considerations in the form of a short public lecture, scheduled for **10 minutes**. The presentation may be delivered either in **English or in Polish** - in both cases it shall be translated simultaneously into one of the official languages of the Biennale.
3. The organisers reserve the right to freely select the presentations to be delivered in public, without further explanation of the reasons of their choice.
4. In order to take part in the Competition, all entrants must complete the following formalities:
 - a. Submit by **August 16, 2015**, a properly completed application for participation in the Competition, as enclosed with the "Conditions of Participation". All participants must grant their consent to the publication of their works in the attendant materials of the MBA Kraków 2015.
 - b. Submit their works, fully consistent with the scope specified in **Item 5** – full text of the presentation (9000 characters with spaces) and the brief abstract of the presentation (max. 900 characters with spaces), by **September 8, 2015**, at the very latest.
 - c. The Commissioner shall duly inform the authors of the works which were qualified for their public presentation – no later than by **September 15, 2015**.
 - d. In case of qualification, confirm one's attendance in the seminar Competition upon the day of the lecture, whereas in the event of receiving the Jury's decision on admission to public presentation by means of personal verbal delivery (i.e. public speech), although no later than by **October 3, 2015**.
5. The full text of the presentation (9000 characters with spaces) limited in size by the allocated time (max. 10 min.) should be written in Times New Roman 12 point font, using 1.5 line spacing; and the brief abstract of the presentation (max. 900 characters with spaces). All foreign language terms and expressions, as well as titles of articles and books should be written in italics (italics) as a clear information for the conference interpreters.
6. The entrants may use multimedia presentations. Due to the strict time limits, all the presentations must be delivered electronically no later than October 3, 2015. There is no possibility to use speakers' own computers. Proportions of the image of the presentation are 16:9. Suggested formats *.ppt, *.pptx, *.pdf, *.jpg. The organisers shall not disseminate the presentations any further, apart from the public presentation by the respective authors on the day of the Seminar.
7. All applications for the participation in the Competition, enclosed with the text of the actual presentation, accompanied with a brief summary, as well as the presentations qualified for public speech should be sent on electronically to the following e-mail address:

mba-seminar@sarp.krakow.pl
8. Please send all the questions regarding the Seminar to the following e-mail address:

mba-seminar@sarp.krakow.pl



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The Jury

The works in their respective categories shall be assessed by a 7-person Jury, made up of architects and urban planners.

1. Mr Romuald Loegler (Poland) - Chairman of the Jury
2. Ms Marta A. Urbańska (Poland) - Seminar Reporting Judge
3. Mr Piotr Lewicki (Poland) - Exhibition Seminar Reporting Judge
4. Mr Peter Butenschøn (Norway)
5. Mr Giovanni Multari (Italy)
6. Mr Claudio Nardi (Italy)
7. Mr Christopher Sharples (USA)

Prizes

1. The Prizes shall be awarded on the 16th of October, in the evening hours, during the closing ceremony of the Biennale.
2. The Prizes shall be awarded to the Biennale participants whose works have been selected by the Jury.
3. The Biennale financial prizes in the Competition of Completed Designs shall be awarded in the following amounts:
 - 1st Prize - PLN 12 000.00
 - 2nd Prize - PLN 8 000.00
 - 3rd Prize - PLN 5 000.00
4. The Biennale financial prizes in the Competition of Conceptual Designs shall be awarded in the following amounts:
 - 1st Prize - PLN 12 000.00
 - 2nd Prize - PLN 8 000.00
 - 3rd Prize - PLN 5 000.00
5. The Biennale financial prizes in the Competition - Seminar shall be awarded in the following amounts:
 - 1st Prize - PLN 10 000.00
 - 2nd Prize - PLN 6 000.00
 - 3rd Prize - PLN 4 000.00
6. The Biennale Organisers, in consultation with the Jury, reserve the right to an alternative allocation and award of the prizes, as well as to granting, whenever deemed appropriate, the honourable mentions.
7. The Biennale prizes may either be handed over during the actual announcement of the competition results, or transferred directly into the respective winner's bank accounts, although not later than within two weeks of the official announcement of the competition results. The amounts indicated in the Items 2, 3 and 4 are to be construed as gross. All prizes are subject to statutory taxation in line with general principles.
8. It also falls within the prerogatives of the Jury to award a one-off, special Grand Prix MBA Kraków 2015 accolade to one of the 3 top winning works - entrants in the aforementioned Biennale Competitions.



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Publications

All works actually entered in the Biennale Competitions shall subsequently be published in the in-house Biennale official catalogue.

In view of the above, all Biennale participants entering their works in the respective Competitions are obligated to have them enclosed with their informed consent to the subsequent publication of their works in the above referenced Biennale official catalogue, as well as in any other media releases and/or publications related to the Biennale.

The final provisions

1. All competitions remain open. Principles of anonymity do not apply.
2. All Biennale Competitions shall be conducted in full compliance with the principles applicable to architectural competitions, originally developed by The Association of Polish Architects.
3. All official entrants in the Biennale Competitions, i.e. **"The Competition - Completed Projects"**, **"The Competition - Conceptual Designs"**, shall develop and deliver their works at their own expense and risk.
4. Participation in the presentation **"The Competition - A Seminar"** shall also be pursued at entrants' own expense.
5. Any questions and/or queries regarding organisational matters, should be directed to the Office of The Polish Association of Architects (SARP):

mba-office@sarp.krakow.pl

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