



Winning projects of Kaira Loro Competition for a Cultural Center in Senegal

A tribute to African cultures

Hundred-years old cultures give birth to Communities, being transmitted through rhymes of those who are narrating it and interpreting the past through wisdom. Human's accomplishments are the result of rituals and metamorphosis, bonding the human being to its own roots through dance, history, music, colours, flavours, materials and landscapes. From this concept the participants took inspiration for the design process of a Cultural Center in Sedhiou, Senegal.

“[Kaira Loro Competition 2018 - Cultural Center](#)” is the second edition of the International Architecture Competition Kaira Loro, whose project theme for this year is the design of a Cultural Center in the city of Sedhiou, Senegal, with the aim of conserving and passing on secular traditions, currently endangered by globalization and migratory phenomena.

Kaira Loro, that in Mandingo language means "Architecture for Peace", is not just architecture, but it also represents a link to culture, spirituality and research of interiority. The main idea of the competition is to develop a deep research in the field of design in developing countries and for emergencies, but especially to give opportunities and visibility to young promises of the international architectural scene.

The competition is organized by the [Nonprofit Organization “Balouo Salo”](#) with the collaboration of the University of Tokyo, Kengo Kuma & Associates, Sedhiou Region and other international partners.

Winning projects have been nominated by an internationally renowned jury made up of: [Kengo Kuma](#), Toshiki Hirano (University of Tokyo), [Agostino Ghirardelli](#) (SBGA), [Azzurra Muzzonigro](#) (Stefano Boeri Architetti), [René Bouman](#) (Mohn+Bouman Architects), [Camillo Magni](#) (ASF), Angelo Ferrara, Pilar Diez Rodriguez, [Rainer Kasik](#) (X Architekten), Sebastiano D'Urso (University of Catania), [Giuseppe Mazzaglia](#) (Kaan Architects), [Ignazio Lutri](#) (In/Arch), [Raoul Vecchio](#) (Balouo Salo).

On 20th may 2018, the jury nominated 25 awarded projects: 1st, 2nd and 3rd prize, 2 honorable mentions nominated by Kengo Kuma, 5 mentions and 15 finalists. First prize is a cash prize and an internship at Kengo Kuma & Associates in Tokyo. All awarded project will be published in Kaira Loro official book, hosted in exhibitions and published on articles and magazines.

The first prize of the second edition of Kaira Loro Competition goes to the project developed by the Italian team composed by Giacomo Spanio, Sergiu Cernea, Paolo Reali, Nicola Puppini. The second prize goes to another Italian team made up of Giulia Grazioli and Giulia Cascioli. A Spanish project by Sergio González Torres, Ana Méndez Garzom and Santiago Cañete Sánchez won the third prize. Others awarded teams come from Brazil, China, France, Kosovo, Norway, Mexico, Portugal, Canada, Poland, Romania and Greece. Last year, the first edition of Kaira Loro Competition (“Sacred Architecture”) was won by a Polish team.

Also this year the entire proceeds, derived from the registration fees of the participants, were entirely donated to the humanitarian organization Balouo Salo, which operates in Africa to solve the social and environmental problems that afflict local communities.

This year, as the last one, the competition received an exceptional participation from all over the world with over 500 competing projects from over 50 different countries. The proposals showed considerable sensitivity to the theme of the competition and to the context of intervention. The event thus becomes a promoter of architectural research issues for particular social and environmental contexts, as well as a witness to humanitarian initiatives.

The winning projects are available online on the official website of the competition and will be transmitted to the international media of the sector. Moreover, a dedicated book "Kaira Loro Architecture Competition - Cultural Center" will be published with all the winning projects, and, also in this case, the proceeds will be donated for humanitarian purposes.

Website with awarded projects:

http://www.kairaloro.com/competition_culturalcenter/competition.html



Kaira Loro International Architecture Competition

Cultural Center for Africa

[Official web site](#) | [Facebook page](#)

Competition Contacts

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