



le carré bleu

feuille internationale d'architecture

yearly competition

international call for ideas / an idea for each city

INTRODUCTION Le Carré Bleu - feuille internationale d'architecture – announces the 2008/09 edition of the yearly competition to select urban, landscape and architectural design proposals in real situations, focussed on built and “un-built” spaces, on urban integration, on the relations between space and multiethnic societies; in short, integrating the problems of urban and social mixing.

The Call aims at proposals able to contribute to adopt and give shape to the principles underlying the project of Declaration of Human Duties that the CB submitted on December the 8th, 2008 when celebrating its fiftieth anniversary at the Cité de l'Architecture et du Patrimoine at the Palais the Chaillot in Paris (www.lecarrebleu.eu).

The 2008/09 edition - under the aegis of UNESCO and in cooperation with INARCH – emphasizes in particular environment and sustainability themes in their different facets and in their complexity (energy saving, use of renewable energy sources, water, and so on).

The competition is open to students (at least in the fourth University year) and to young graduates (after 1/01/2007) of the Faculties of Architecture of the European Union, of Switzerland and of Mediterranean Countries.

COMPETITION OBJECTS AND THEMES The proposals will have to concern small and medium-sized towns, not exceeding 200,000 inhabitants, or even a new suburban neighbourhood, which can be singled out as a unit related to an already existing larger town.

The competition calls for ideas and projects on the themes of shaping an urban square - a reference, meeting, socialization place - from a space which is not a square, but has the potential to become a square.

The area will be chosen by each competitor, who will propose a re-design able to trigger a transformation process.

The area to be re-designed has to set a relation with the city centre.

The urban context must be chosen in a European region or in one of the Mediterranean Countries.

The proposal has to include a scheme of urban design feasible in economic and management terms.

The project must consist of the design of the square and its connections with the surrounding urban area, the definition of its dimensions, the physical and immaterial connections, taking into account that the square is the **place of identification**:

- of the city, of society, of populations; or of their meaningful parts.
- of the project feasibility in terms of sustainable development.

The space has to be characterized by the presence of water, either already existing (river, lake, sea...) or designed (fountain, jeux d'eau...); in the second case, water must flow from sources different from the urban aqueduct (rain, aquifer, river, canal, etc...).

COMPETITION PROCEDURES

GENERAL PREREQUISITES The competition is open to students (at least enrolled in the 4th year) and young graduates (who graduated after 01/01/2007) at the Faculties of Architecture of the Countries of the European Union, of Switzerland and of Mediterranean Countries. Competitors must not hold a VAT registration number.

Each group (which will consist of a maximum number of three competitors) will have to appoint one person who will be responsible for the relations with the CB.

APPLICATION Before **March the 31st, 2009**, applicants will have to send a formal application to enter for the competition to “Le Carré Bleu”, filling in the electronic form (Expression of Interest Application) available on the CB web site.

SUBMISSION Competitors will have to submit their proposals by 2D and 3D drawings, at the scale chosen by them. In particular:

- **3 A2 vertical sheets**, including texts, drawings or photos etc.

One of the A2 sheets must include the description of the present conditions of the site and its surroundings, with drawings, photos and/or images, the design programme and a synthesis of the concept description of max 1,000 characters.

The content of the other A2 sheets will be free.

Each sheet must include, on its top, a **2X42 cm. high band** to be found on the CB website, to be completed.

- **An explicative report**, A4 format, of not more than 10,000 Arial Narrow 11 characters, including:
 - a. existing conditions and pinpointing of contexts
 - b. theoretical assumptions and project philosophy, with clear and concise arguments
 - c. relations between the project and contexts (physical, social, economic, etc.); environmental and energy approaches
 - d. description of the project
- **CV** of the authors or of the individual members of the group, max one A4 sheet per person.
- **Duly filled in forms** from the web site

OFFICIAL LANGUAGES : French, English and Italian

E-MAILING OF PROJECTS

Projects can only be e-mailed. The e-mail delivery will have to consist of a single document (format Adobe PDF – max 10 MB- definition 300 dpi), with the 3 documents to be printed in format A2, Report and enclosed sheet to be printed in format A4. The procedure for transmission of competition documents will be operating on the CB web site from **24.06.2009** to **30.06.2009**, final deadline.

THE JURY AND SELECTION CRITERIA The members of the Jury – formed by 3 representatives of the firms hosting the winners and supported by the INARCH Secretariat – will judge according to the following criteria:

- formal and functional qualities;
- innovative aspects, suggestions aimed to sustainable development;
- sociological and economic feasibility.

Considering in particular:

- 1. the idea underlying the project concept** (reference principles and consistency with contexts)
- 2. intervention methods and instruments to implement it**, with particular reference to:
 - 2.1. the ways in which a space-square can be used and interpreted by users (THE VALUE OF USE OF SPACES)
 - 2.2. the project's features concerning the environmental and energy approaches as well as sustainable development
- 3. the project's ability and simplicity to communicate**,

(projects will be read on monitor; after the first selection, the most interesting ones will be printed in A2).

PRIZES At least three prizes will be awarded by the Jury

The selected groups will receive a free subscription to “Le Carré Bleu” for one year.

Some European architects' firms will make at least 3 paid stages available to the selected groups (each of 6 months/ 6,000.00 Euros each). Stages will begin in October 2008. The remuneration of the stages in some countries might be lower in compliance with local legislation. The stages will possibly be organized out of the region where competitors usually live.

QUESTIONS Questions about procedures and contents may be sent to the Competition Secretariat in writing or by e-mail not later than 31. 03. 2009. Not later than 15.04.2009 the answers to the questions will be available to all competitors on the CB web site.

TIMETABLE

- **December 2008 / January 2009** competition announcement
(reviews, web sites, Institutes of Culture, Faculties of Architecture, etc.)
- **31.03.2009** deadline for applications and questions
- **30.06.2009** delivery of projects
- **7.07.2009** technical checking of the competitors' formal compliance with the competition requirements
- **31.07.2009** end of the Jury's work, and announcement of the results

competition official site

www.lecarrebleu.eu

competition secretariat INARCH - Istituto Nazionale di Architettura

via Crescenzo, 16 00193 Roma - Italia

+39.06.68802254 fax +39.06.6868530

segretariat@lecarrebleu.eu

The results of the 2007/08 Competition, the Jury, the Firms which supported the previous edition of the competition, can be found on www.lecarrebleu.eu