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Top 5 Designs

September 2016 marked the unveiling of MasonryWorx's first ever design competition at the University of Waterloo, school of architecture. The competition was geared towards having students use progressive masonry materials to design a modern masonry concept on one of the three identified sites that was posted online. How well the design integrated and complemented the surrounding neighbourhood was a consideration in judging and entries had to:

• incorporate brick, block and stone in design [no thin veneer].

• be predominately masonry.

• illustrate a mid-rise (6-12 floors) multi use building with retail space at street level.

• provide 90-120 suites ranging in size – minimum 46 M² to 10.5 M².

• have minimum 2.7 m ceilings.

• include amenities for residents.

• assume parking to be underground, given space restrictions and by-laws, esp. in Toronto.

• base the structure in one of three recommended locations.

• image must be prepped for landscape-oriented panel, 18 x 24 (2 max).

With over 15 entries, the results which were judged by a panel of renowned architects and industry partners saw great details and progressive designs, however the results were ultimately narrowed to the best.

These are the top five designs (8 finalists).

ELSA TANG & DANIEL SHEN

Design : 2952 Dundas West



Elsa Tang is currently completing her Masters of Architecture at the University of Waterloo. She has previously practiced in architecture offices in Canada, China and Germany. Her design & research interests explores the relationship between food consumption practices and urban change, as well as the extended operational landscapes of contemporary urban life. Elsa's present

research, titled "Troubled Waters", examines how coastal communities can be developed to better support sustainable fisheries activities within the framework of urban metabolism and ecological urbanism.

Daniel Shen is currently a Masters of Architecture candidate at the University of Waterloo. He has practiced architecture for three years in Los Angeles after compeleting his Bachelors of Architectural Studies degree at the University of Waterloo, prior to this he has also worked in architectural offices in Canada, US, and China. His current research is concerned with the agency of design in

processes of contemporary urbanization and the spatial transformation of state power.

2952 Dundas West, is the team's entry for the MasonryWorx Design Competition, which presented an opportunity for them to reimagine masonry brick as a material able to bridge characteristics the historical of а neighbourhood with contemporary architectural aesthetics. The design project masonry demonstrates how can be applied to high-density housing developments in Toronto in order to create buildings that are well-integrated into their surrounding urban context.



Scaled sample of 2952 Dundas West

RUI HU Design : Junction Commons

Rui Hu is currently a student in his final term of undergraduate studies at the University of Waterloo, school of architecture. His motivations for studying and designing architecture always came from both the process of conceiving spaces with its programmatic relationships, as well as representing those conceptions through diagrams and representational drawings. Rui notes that his future aspiration is seeing one of his designs represented in the real world with real materials. "While working through the designs of this competition, I wanted to make something that is sensible, contextual, and realistic to the Junction neighborhood. The final design should be a place that one can imagine themselves living in or living with comfortably. The use of brick here in methods of construction that are

proven and attainable was crucial to realizing my original goals of achieving a harmonious relationship with the site. From this competition, I hope to demonstrate the simplicities in creating pleasant architectural qualities with off the shelf brick products and solutions."



Scaled sample of the Junction Commons

SOO JUNG WOO & RICHARD MUI

Design : Masonry Junction

Born in Seoul South Korea, Soo Jung Woo's interest in Architecture began with her love of building block toys as a child. "I was fascinated with the creation of imaginary spaces. Through my architectural education, I have come to appreciate how a building's materials can contribute as much to a space as its tectonics. I have an interest in how the materials of the buildings we inhabit in our everyday lives affect our emotions and this is what I would like to explore in my designs and research." Masonry is a material of great significance to human history she notes, it has been the prevailing building material for much of civilization for thousands of years. Only in the last hundred years, after modernism, has it fallen out of favour as the primary material of most urban mixed use buildings. Soo Jung Woo thinks the Masonryworx competition is an opportunity to look



at the characteristics of masonry and revaluate its application to contemporary architecture, which is why she decided to enter with her team mate, Richard Mui.

Scaled sample of the Masonry Junction

Born in Mississauga, Richard Mui's interest in Architecture began at a young age when he was peering through the architecture portfolio of his uncle. What Richard saw in the drawings resonated with him and as such, saw architecture as a way to apply his creativity to something that would benefit the larger society. Flash forward to today,Richard thinks that one of the ways that architects can apply their skills to the benefit of society is in the field of sustainability. Although the design and construction of a building is a very complex process requiring input from a wide range of

> professionals, he believes that the architect has the greatest power to make choices that impact the sustainability of a building. "Our current requirement for high performance buildings is often at odds with the prevailing glass tower aesthetic of contemporary Canadian architecture. I saw the Masonryworx competition as a unique chance to reimagine the contemporary mixed use midrise with a solid masonry facade."

JAROSLAV DEDIC

Design : Wellington 's New City Fabric

Jaroslav Dedic is a 24-year old student of architecture from the Czech Republic exploring the world. "My life is consisting of architecture, nature, music, and sport. I believe in freedom. I am just finishing the Faculty of Architecture of CTU in Prague, Czech Republic and I decided to broaden one's horizons with studying this year in the Faculty of Architecture at the University of Waterloo in Canada." Jaroslav states that it is extremely important for him to combine architectural theory with praxis to discover the overlaps. He believes that architecture and

design have the power to influence many people and bring happiness into lives. "The society is always changing and every single person is different, therefore architecture must be the

mirror of every single person to be successful. I like to be part of this process and that is the reason for my enthusiasm for the architecture." Jaroslav notes that "to succeed in this competition means little bit more for me as usual. This year was the first time for me in Canada, the big world far away from Europe. I started from the beginning and I am working harder than ever before. It is really satisfying to succeed in this big country and in such a great University such as Waterloo."



Scaled sample of Wellington's New City Fabric

CHRISTOPHER CHAN & JOEL PIECOWYE

Design : Arc Tower



Project abstract*

Arc Tower is a 12 storey multi-use building situated at 227 King Street, Kitchener. The building takes strong cues from the historical context of brick and stone buildings in Kitchener, especially from southern Ontario's historic Fieldstone building material and Kitchener's iconic yellow bricks.

Many buildings along Kitchener's King Street are predominantly composed of brick and stone facades, where historical and some modern buildings have arched entryways or windows on the upper levels. This proposal extracts the pure geometry of the arch typology and uses it as a unifier for the building to the public streetscape. Communal spaces on the ground and amenity levels are granted vistas of perspectival arches. This is paired with the warmth and attractiveness of the brick material, providing spaces that are reminiscent of ancient architecture.

In addition to the aesthetics, the brick serves a utilitarian purpose. The compressive strengths of

brick are demonstrated in the geometry of the arches, dispersing load down into the columns of the building, creating a normalized grid framework an organized building layout.

Disclaimer: Featured in this publication are the top 5 contestants of the 2017 MasonryWorx Design Competition. The contestants are not listed in any specific order and the top 3 winners will be announced in Fall 2017 at the MasonryWorx Design Competition Awards Ceremony.



Scaled sample of the Arc Tower