

Schelling Architekturpreis 2024:

Landscape architecture as a core discipline of the 21st century

The Schelling Architecture Prize 2024 has demonstrated that landscape architecture will become more important in the 21st century than architecture and urban planning in their conventional professional profiles. Instead of overdeveloping and urbanising landscapes, cities need to be 'renaturalised' in order to maintain and create healthy living conditions despite global warming. The candidates showed how this can be done with excellent examples and research approaches.

The nominees were Teresa Gali-Izard, Barcelona/Zurich, LOLA Landscape Architects, Rotterdam and Bureau Bas Smets, Brussels. The decision was made on 20 November 2024.

After the three presentations, the **prize for architecture** went to

LOLA Landscape Architects

Excerpt from the laudation:

LOLA stands for LOst LANDscapes: designing healthy landscape systems (in terms of the biosphere, not just adding a 'green layer') and creating unique experiences. LOLA brings the hidden layers of the landscape to the surface, working directly from the foundation of the soil. There are few planners who have taken such a broad base and focus on the big picture as LOLA. Many of their projects involve the transformation of disused industrial sites or large sports facilities. As a result, they have increasingly become the driving force behind complex urban redevelopment projects.

The **Audience Award** went to Bureau Bas Smets

Excerpt from the laudation:

Bas Smets, a landscape architect with an office in Brussels, is a seeker of an understanding of the city based on ecology. Smets pursues a new understanding of landscape planning in his work. According to Smets, many things need to be rethought. Landscape planning can play a pioneering role. Smets' goal: to climate-proof local urban environments throughout the year.